

**Transportation Committee**

Meeting date: October 23, 2017

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 25, 2017

**Subject:** 2018-2021 TIP Amendment: I-35W Traffic Management System and I-494 Median Barrier

**District(s), Member(s):** 5 – Elkins; 8 – Letofsky; 15 – Chavez

**Policy/Legal Reference:** TAB Action

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director, Finance & Planning (651-602-1508)  
Steve Peterson, Manager of Highway Planning and TAB/TAC Process (651-602-1819)  
Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner (651-602-1705)

**Division/Department:** Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to increase the cost of a traffic management system project on I-35W (SP # 8825-614) and to amend a project to replace a median barrier on I-494 (SP # 2785-423).

**Background**

These projects were a part of the 2017 Minnesota Legislature’s transportation funding package of fiscal year 2018 projects. The two projects in this amendment will:

- Increase the cost of, and replace changeable signage along, a traffic management system project on I-35W and
- Replace a cable median barrier with a concrete median barrier on I-494.

*Other Projects from the 2017 Legislative Funding Package*

Along with the two projects being amended, the Legislature’s transportation funding package included:

- A temporary lane re-striping on I-394 and MN 62. This is a separate, regionally significant TIP amendment request that will be before TAB in November.
- Rehabilitation of the Irene Hixon Whitney Memorial Pedestrian bridge over I-94. This project was included in the Draft 2018-2021 TIP (SP # 2781-496)
- Addition of the I-35W over 106<sup>th</sup> St. bridge to the I-35W bridge project in Bloomington. This was reflected in the Draft 2018-2021 TIP (SP#1981-124).
- One dozen MnDOT-sponsored, state-funded projects that are not required to be included in the TIP and will be placed via administrative modification. They are shown in the table at the bottom of this business item.

This amendment is requested to be approved pending approval of the 2018-2021 TIP by the USDOT. The 2018-2021 TIP was approved by the Metropolitan Council on September 27, after which time it will be provided to MnDOT and then in federal review. This amendment will not be official until after that approval is granted.

**Rationale**

The Transportation Advisory Board approves formal amendments to the TIP and the Metropolitan Council concurs with the action of the TAB. The project is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) and meets fiscal constraint because the federal and state funds are sufficient to fully fund the project. The Minnesota Interagency



Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee determined that the project is exempt from air quality conformity analysis. This TIP amendment is using the streamlined process adopted by TAB on April 19, 2014.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

This action promotes *livability* by enhancing efficiency on a highly-travelled corridor and safety along another.

### Funding

The project is fully funded with federal and state funds.

### Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.

### State-Funded Projects to be Added Through Administrative Modification

Route	Project Number	Description	Work Type	TH Funds	Project total
8	TBD	Replacement of flume attached to rock wall, Chisago County	Appurtenances	\$300,000	\$300,000
21	7008-115	US169 at Jct MN21. Install pier infill wall for two piers on BR 6804.	Bridge Rehab	\$600,000	\$600,000
62	2775-28	34th Ave BR 27522 over MN62, 1.2M E OF Jct MN77. Install infill wall at Pier 2, new crash strut and concrete surface repair of pier cap. Grading for new crash strut.	Bridge Rehab	\$500,000	\$500,000
35E	6280-395	I35E, from W. Grace St. tunnel to West James Ave. in St. Paul – Tunnel repair	Appurtenances	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
35W	2782-350	I35W/I35, from Jct 150 <sup>th</sup> St. W (Crystal Lake Rd) in Burnsville to Jct 42 <sup>nd</sup> St. in Minneapolis. Replace static MnPASS signs.	Traffic control devices	\$500,000	\$500,000
35	0283-33	I35. SB and NB from Jct I35E/I35W/I35 to just S of Jct 11 <sup>th</sup> Ave. Replace fencing	Landscaping	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000
District -wide	Numerous-TBD	Replace fencing (6-7 negotiated maintenance contracts)	Landscaping	\$600,000	\$600,000
District -wide	Numerous-TBD	Noise wall replacements; 2-3 projects	Noise abatement	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
District -wide	8825-652	Metrowide. Replace sign structures	Traffic control devices	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
District -wide	6212-185	Lighting system replacement along TH 36 and I-35E	Traffic control devices	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
District -wide	2775-29	MN62/MN77. Jct of MN62 and MN77. Replace two culverts, structures and aprons. One crossing MN62 and one crossing MN77.	Appurtenances	\$800,000*	\$800,000
District -wide	Numerous-TBD	Guardrail – Replacing low-tension with plate beam; 3-4 projects	Median Barrier	\$500,000	\$500,000

\* Bond Funds

Please amend the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to modify the following projects in program year 2018.

**PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:**

SEQ #	STATE FISCAL YEAR	ATP	DIST	ROUTE SYSTEM	PROJECT NUMBER (S.P. #) (Fed # if available)	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION include location, description of all work, & city (if applicable)	MILES
1502	2018	M	M	I-35W	8825-614	MNDOT	**17NEW**CHAP 3**I35 FRM CRYSTAL LK RD IN BURNSVILLE TO I35/35W/35E SPLIT AND ON I35W FRM SPLIT TO E 42ND IN MPLS - TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	12.0
1448	2018	M	M	I-494	2785-423	MNDOT	**17NEW**CHAP 3**I494 FROM E BUSH LAKE RD TO W BUSH LAKE RD IN BLOOMINGTON – REPLACE CABLE MEDIAN BARRIER  **17NEW**CHAP 3**I494 FROM E BUSH LAKE RD TO W BUSH LAKE RD IN BLOOMINGTON - REPLACE MEDIAN BARRIER	2.0

PROG	TYPE OF WORK	PROP FUNDS	TOTAL \$	FHWA \$	AC \$	FTA \$	TH \$	BOND	OTHER \$
TM	TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES	NHPP	\$350,000 \$600,000	280,000 480,000	-	-	70,000 120,000	-	-
SH	MEDIAN BARRIER	NHPP	355,000 \$2,700,000	319,500 2,430,500	-	-	35,500 -	0 270,000	-

**PROJECT BACKGROUND:**

- Briefly describe why amendment is needed (e.g., project in previous TIP but not completed; illustrative project and funds now available; discretionary funds received; inadvertently not included in TIP).

This amendment is to add funds received by two projects from the 2017 Minnesota Legislature Transportation Funding package to state fiscal year (SFY) 2018 of the 2018-2021 TIP. This includes a cost increase to State Project # 8825-614 and use of a concrete median barrier, instead of a cable median barrier, for State Project # 2785-423.

These projects are not regionally significant. They were selected by MnDOT-Metro District as projects that address the District’s safety and roadside infrastructure needs that could be easily developed and delivered in a short time period. In addition to these projects, there is another project that will go through the full amendment process because it is regionally significant, adding temporary lanes on I-394 and MN 62 as mitigation during the I-35W/Lake Street project. The 2018-2021 TIP was approved by the Metropolitan Council on September 27, and was subsequently provided to MnDOT. It is now in federal review. Should this amendment be approved by the Metropolitan Council prior to federal approval of the 2018-2021 TIP, it will not be official until after federal approval is granted.

The transportation package gave MnDOT additional general obligation (GO) state funds, bonds for State Road Construction (SRC), and bonds for a Corridors of Commerce program. The projects in this amendment have state, bond funds, and federal funds. The federal funds are part of MnDOT’s federal allocation. The remaining

new funding from the 2017 transportation package for projects in years 2019-2022 will be incorporated into the development of the 2019-2022 TIP.

Both projects are in the 2018-2021 TIP, and are being upscoped with the new funding. SP 8825-614 (SEQ 1502) is a traffic management system project to replace MnPASS changeable signage along I-35W in the South Metro, and is being upscoped to include additional signage in that corridor. SP 2785-423 (SEQ 1448) is being amended to the 2018-2021 TIP because the scope of the project is changing from a cable median to a concrete median barrier.

In addition to the projects with federal funds, there are a number of MnDOT projects that will only have state or bond funds that will be added to the STIP via an administrative modification.

2. How is Fiscal Constraint Maintained as required by 23 CFR 450.216 (check all that apply)?

- New Money X
- Anticipated Advance Construction
- ATP or MPO or MnDOT Adjustment by deferral of other projects X
- Earmark or HPP not affecting fiscal constraint
- Other

SP 8825-614 will receive state funds from the new 2017 transportation package and federal funds. SP 2785-423 will receive bond funds from the new 2017 transportation package and federal funds. The federal funds for both of these projects are made available due to additional federal funds received by MnDOT. In SFY 2017, Minnesota received \$54.3M of federal funds from August Redistribution. These funds were used to fund AC paybacks and 2018 projects. Because of this, SFY 2018 has additional funds that have become available to use on other projects.

**CONSISTENCY WITH MPO LONG RANGE PLAN:**

This amendment is consistent with the Metropolitan Council Transportation Policy Plan, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on January 14, 2015, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on March 13, 2015.

**AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:**

- Subject to conformity determination
- Exempt from regional level analysis X\*
- N/A (not in a nonattainment or maintenance area)

\*Exempt Project Category S-7: Traffic control devices and operating assistance other than signalization Projects and S-9: Guardrails, median barriers, crash cushions and per Section 93.126 of the Conformity Rules