

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: December 11, 2017

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of January 10, 2018

Subject: Memorandum of Understanding Between the Metropolitan Council and the Minnesota Department of Transportation

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: FAST-Act

Staff Prepared/Presented: Katie White, Senior Planner, 651-602-1716

Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director of MTS,

Nick Thompson, Director of MTS

Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council adopts the attached Memorandum of Understanding with the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Background

Federal regulations require that the mutual transportation planning responsibilities of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the state, and the public transportation operator be incorporated into a written agreement, or Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU is signed by the Council as both the MPO and the public transit operator, and MnDOT.

In November 2016 the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration conducted a Transportation Management Area Certification Review, which is a routine activity occurring every four years to ensure that the MPO activities of the region comply with federal requirements.

One of the recommendations from the TMA Certification Review was that the Metropolitan Council and MnDOT update their memorandum of understanding. The current MOU was signed in December of 2008 and there have been changes in federal law and regulation, as well as planning activities, since that date. This updated MOU includes language to acknowledge those changes, and better reflects the regional planning process currently being conducted.

Rationale

The MPO MOU is a requirement of the TMA Certification Review completed by FHWA and FTA in November 2016. The final report in early 2017 provided a deadline of March 2018 to complete this item.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action has no impact on the Thrive outcomes.

Funding

There is no funding attached to this action.

Known Support / Opposition

This item passed through the TAB and its TAC subcommittees. There is no known opposition.