

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 9, 2017

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of January 11, 2017

Subject: Approval of an administrative amendment to the 2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: FAST Act

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

Steve Peterson, Manager of Highway Planning and TAC/TAB Process, 651-602-1819

Amy Vennewitz, MTS Deputy Director for Planning & Finance, 651-602-1058

Division/Department: Transportation, Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve an administrative amendment to the 2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to incorporate a Federal Transit Administration grant for Transit Oriented Development planning along Blue Line Extension station areas.

Background

Every year the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is recommended through the TAC and TAB committee structure before adoption by the Metropolitan Council and approval from MnDOT and the Federal Highway Administration. This document establishes activities for which MTS will use federal planning funds in the coming calendar year.

Since the UPWP is written six months before the year begins, occasionally work items emerge during the year that were not anticipated during its creation. MnDOT and FHWA require administrative amendments to document changes to the UPWP after it has been adopted.

Metro Transit was awarded TOD station area planning funds from FTA in the fall of 2016. A UPWP amendment needs to be completed before Metro Transit can begin working with Hennepin County to engage a consultant for this work. There is a \$1,200,000 federal share and \$652,500 local match through Hennepin County and Metro Transit.

Task B-1, page 11 of the UPWP will be modified to add "Blue Line Extension Station Area Planning" under the "Products" heading. Edits are also proposed on the appropriate budget pages (pages 20 and 29).

Rationale

The main purpose of the UPWP is to serve as an application to the US DOT for federal transportation planning funds and to ensure coordination of planning activities among the various agencies involved in the transportation planning process. The purpose of this administrative amendment is to reiterate our compliance.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This administrative amendment is neutral on Thrive outcomes.

Funding

This resolution reflects an increase in federal transportation planning funds to the region for the purposes of TOD planning at Blue Line Extension station areas.

Known Support / Opposition

This item passed through the Executive Committee of the Technical Advisory Committee through the streamlined amendment policy, and the Transportation Advisory Board. There is no known opposition.