

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: July 24, 2017

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 26, 2017

Subject: 2017-2020 TIP Amendment: MnDOT Hardman Ave Rail Gates

District(s), Member(s): 13 -- Kramer

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 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to install rail gates at Hardman Avenue in South St. Paul.

Background

This amendment is needed to add a project to state fiscal year (SFY) 2018 of the 2017-2020 TIP. The project is in SFY 2018 of the draft 2018-2021 TIP, but will likely be let before that TIP is approved by the United States Department of Transportation. The project will add railroad crossing gates at the Hardman Avenue (MSAS 152) intersection with the UP Rail line. Funding source for the project is Highway Rail Grade Crossing & Rail Safety (MnDOT programmed) funds.

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 railroad safety.

Funding

The project is fully funded with federal and local funds.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.

Please amend the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the following project in program year 2018. This project is being submitted with the following information:

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

SEQ #	STATE FISCAL YEAR	A T P	D I S T	ROUTE SYSTEM	PROJECT NUMBER (S.P. #) (Fed # if available)	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION include location, description of all work, & city (if applicable)	MILES
-	2018	M	M	MSAS 152	19-00147	MNDOT	UP RR, INSTALL GATES AT MSAS 152, HARDMAN AVE, SOUTH ST PAUL, DAKOTA COUNTY	0.0

PROG	TYPE OF WORK	PROP FUNDS	TOTAL \$	FHWA \$	AC \$	FTA \$	TH \$	BOND	OTHER \$
SR	RAILROAD SIGNALS	RRD	\$325,000	\$292,500	-	-	-	-	\$32,500

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 needed to add a new rail project into SFY2018 of the 2017-2020 TIP. This project will be let before the draft 2018-2021 STIP is approved.

- How is Fiscal Constraint Maintained as required by 23 CFR 450.216 (check all that apply)?
 - New Money
 - Anticipated Advance Construction
 - ATP or MPO or MnDOT Adjustment by deferral of other projects
 - Earmark or HPP not affecting fiscal constraint
 - Other

This project will receive anticipated August redistribution federal funds the State of Minnesota receives. MnDOT allocated \$1,000,000 to the rail program for three projects: SP 19-00147 (SEQ. # A2056) for \$292,500 in Dakota County, and two other projects in Greater Minnesota. Therefore, fiscal constraint is maintained.

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
- N/A (not in a nonattainment or maintenance area)

*Exempt Project Category S-8: Railroad/highway crossing warning devices per Section 93.126 of the Conformity Rules