# **Transportation Committee**

Meeting date: April 23, 2018

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 9, 2018

Subject: 2018-2021 TIP Amendment: MnDOT Railroad Crossing Signal Equipment Replacement

District(s), Member(s): 2 - Schreiber and 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 add two railroad crossing signal replacement projects.

# **Background**

This amendment is requested to add two projects to the 2018-2021 TIP. The first (SP# 19-00149) is replacement of railroad signal crossing equipment at CSAH 43 (Lexington Avenue) in Eagan. The second project (SP# 27-00324) is replacement of railroad signal crossing equipment at Broadway Street in Osseo. The federal funding for the Eagan project is provided by savings from another rail project (a rail crossing on Energy Park Drive, St. Paul). Savings from the same project also helped fund the Osseo project, which will be programmed for fiscal year 2019, but let before the 2019-2022 TIP is approved.

#### 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 safety.

### **Funding**

The project is fully funded with federal, state, and local funds.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

No known opposition.



Please amend the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include this project in program year 2018. This project is being submitted with the following information:

#### **PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:**

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#### PROJECT BACKGROUND:

1. 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 two projects to the 2018-2021 TIP. One project is in 2018 and the other is in 2019, and will let before the draft 2019-2022 TIP will be approved.

- 2. 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

19-00149 is funded with savings from another rail project, SP 62-00214. That project was authorized for \$185,382 (\$166,844 federal) leaving \$35,656 federal funds available. This project will use \$5,000 of these federal funds and additional state funds.

27-00324 is funded by savings from the same above project, BSNF funds, and bond funds from 2014 for rail grade crossing safety. A number of projects that were awarded these bonds funds had lower final costs, releasing some funds back into this appropriation. The funds expire at the end of calendar 2018. This project will also use \$18,000 of savings from SP 62-00214, mentioned above.

#### **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 T-1: Operating assistance to transit agencies per Section 93.126 of the Conformity Rules