

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 8, 2018

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 24, 2018

**Subject:** Accept Public Comment Report and Adopt Final 2040 Transportation Policy Plan

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** M.S. 473.399 & 23 CFR 450.104; MAP 21

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Nick Thompson, Director MTS (651.602.1754); Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director MTS (651.602.1058)

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

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council accept the attached Public Comment Report on the draft update to the *2040 Transportation Policy Plan* and adopt the revised final update of the *2040 Transportation Policy Plan*.

### Background

The Council and its partners began the process of updating the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan in February 2017. Regional transportation partners were represented on the TAC Planning committee, Technical Advisory Committee and Transportation Advisory Board. These groups reviewed and commented on portions of the draft document throughout its development. In addition, Council staff met with the technical staff and policy boards of each of the seven metropolitan counties, cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, and representatives of the urbanized portions of Wright and Sherburne counties. Additional meetings and discussions were held with the Council's Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee and Land Use Advisory Committee, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux community and staff from the Department of Transportation, Metropolitan Airports Commission and regional parks agencies.

In May 2018, TAB recommended that the Council approve the release of the draft update for public comment. The Council approved and released the draft update to the 2040 TPP on June 27<sup>th</sup>. A public hearing was held on August 1st and the public comment period closed on August 13th.

The Council received comments from 150 individuals, organizations and local units of government via letters, e-mails, and public testimony. About 300 total comments were received. The Council provided policy direction on some of the overarching comments at its September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Recommended revisions in response to the comments and other minor text edits have been incorporated into the plan. A Public Comment Report documenting the comments, Council responses and proposed changes to the draft TPP in response to comments is available on the Council's website.

The proposed final 2040 Transportation Policy Plan and Public Comment report can be found at:

<https://metro council.org/Transportation/Planning-2/Key-Transportation-Planning-Documents/Transportation-Policy-Plan/2018-Transportation-Policy-Plan-Update.aspx>.

### Rationale

The TPP is required by state law to guide long term investment in the metropolitan transportation system. Federal law requires the metropolitan

planning organization to update and adopt a long range transportation policy plan at least once every four years. This update to the *2040 Transportation Policy Plan* will meet that requirement, thus allowing continued expenditure of federal transportation funds within the metropolitan planning area boundary.

### **Thrive Lens Analysis**

The draft *2040 Transportation Policy Plan* addresses all of the *Thrive MSP 2040* outcomes and principles. The plan establishes six transportation system goals along with objectives and strategies that align and coordinate with the Thrive outcomes and principles. The plan Overview and first chapter, Transportation System Vision and Performance-Based Planning, describe and contain a matrix demonstrating the relationship between Thrive MSP 2040 and the plan's goals and objectives.

### **Funding**

The action does not directly require or involve funding. However, under federal law regionally significant transportation projects and the expected funding for the projects must be identified in the fiscally constrained long range plan before being included in the region's Transportation Improvement Program and moving forward with implementation.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

Comments indicating support and opposition to sections of the draft plan, along with revisions incorporated in response to the comments, are contained in the TPP Public Comment Report. In addition, the Transportation Advisory Board voted in support of adoption of this document at its September 19, 2018 meeting.