

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: September 10, 2018

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 26, 2018

Subject: 2019 Unified Planning Work Program

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MAP-21

Staff Prepared/Presented: Nick Thompson, Director MTS 651-602-1754

Amy Vennewitz, Dep. Dir. Finance & Planning, 651-602-1058

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Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Adopt the proposed 2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) with a budget of \$7,537,966.
- Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for a planning grant under MAP-21.
- Authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into agreement with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation, for distribution of FHWA and FTA planning funds.

Background

The UPWP is a program required by federal law through which Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) receive federal funds to conduct transportation and land use planning activities. It includes work proposed by the Metropolitan Council, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), and Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC). There are six planning activities in the proposed 2019 UPWP with an overall budget of \$7,537,966.

Structural changes to this document were incorporated following feedback from FHWA and FTA recommendations from the 2016 Transportation Management Area Certification Review. Conversations were held with stakeholders in early 2018 to identify these changes. These organizational changes make the document easier to read and understand. Furthermore, additional cost estimates have been provided for consultant studies.

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.

Funding

The proposed UPWP is based on the assumption that \$4,230,082 will be available in 2019 from the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration for the proposed Council work. If the final approved grant amounts are different, the Council reserves the right to reconsider the work program. The Council is proposing to overmatch the federal funds in order to facilitate more long-range planning work for the region in 2019.

Page 26 of the document also shows additional federal dollars being used in 2019 beyond the allocated UPWP dollars for the Travel Behavior Inventory. The FHWA and FTA require the Council to show these funds in the UPWP.

Known Support / Opposition

The 2019 UPWP was reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee and approved by the Transportation Advisory Board on August 15, 2018. Information items about the revised document have been presented to TAC-Planning, TAC, and the TAB. There is no known opposition.

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
390 Robert Street North, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1805

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-09

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION, FOR A CONSOLIDATED PLANNING GRANT
UNDER THE MOVING AHEAD FOR PROGRESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY
(MAP-21)

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to make grants for mass transportation projects and transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, including the provision by it of the local share of project costs; and

WHEREAS, it is required by the U.S. Department of Transportation in accord with the provisions of the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance under the Federal Transit Act of 1991, as amended, the applicant give an assurance that it will comply with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the U.S. Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

WHEREAS, Title 23, U.S. Code requires that a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative (3-C) transportation planning process be carried out between the state and local governments in urbanized areas; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Council is eligible to receive Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration grant funds for the 2019 transportation planning work program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Regional Administrator is authorized to file an application with the Minnesota Department of Transportation, on behalf of the Metropolitan Council, for a consolidated planning grant to aid in financing the Council's 2019 transportation work program;
2. THAT the Metropolitan Council enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation, for distribution of Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration Planning Funds;
3. THAT the Regional Administrator is hereby authorized to execute the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation agreement(s) and amendment(s) for Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration planning funds;
4. THAT the Regional Administrator is authorized to furnish such additional information as the Minnesota Department of Transportation or the U.S. Department of Transportation may require in connection with applications, projects, or agreements.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2018.

Alene Tchourumoff, Chair

Emily Getty, Recording Secretary