

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 28, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 13, 2019

Subject: 2018 Regional Solicitation Funding Decision

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Transportation Advisory Board (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)

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

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to include \$200 million in federal funding to 57 projects evaluated through the Regional Solicitation in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program.

Background

Early in 2018, the Council released its semi-annual Regional Solicitation to award federal transportation funding to roadway, transit, and bicycle/pedestrian projects. Through this process, 137 applications were submitted. The projects were scored in an open and transparent process by over 60 technical expert volunteers representing agencies through the metropolitan area. At its January 16, 2019, meeting, TAB approved \$200 million in federal funds for 57 projects (see attachment for project details and locations). The federal funds will leverage an additional \$207 million in local matching funds for a total investment of \$407 million.

The 57 projects selected for funding include locally-led projects in all seven counties throughout the region, including projects that will make improvements within 37 different cities and townships.

Rationale

The Regional Solicitation is a key responsibility of the TAB. Through this process, federal funds can be directed to a variety of locally-initiated projects that address transportation problems and help implement regional transportation and development policies. The Regional Solicitation is part of the Metropolitan Council's federally required continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action promotes:

- stewardship by leveraging federal dollars to supplement local investment
- prosperity by funding key access projects that will move people and goods through the region more efficiently
- equity by incorporating an equity scoring measure that encourages projects to be developed with an equity lens
- livability by enhancing travel choices and improving access and travel times
- sustainability by funding key transit corridors and non-motorized transportation options

Funding

These projects are funded with a combination of federal, state, and local funds.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.