

Regional Solicitation for Transportation Projects

Transportation Committee
May 13, 2019



What is the Regional Solicitation?

The process to allocate federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to locally-initiated projects that meet regional transportation needs.

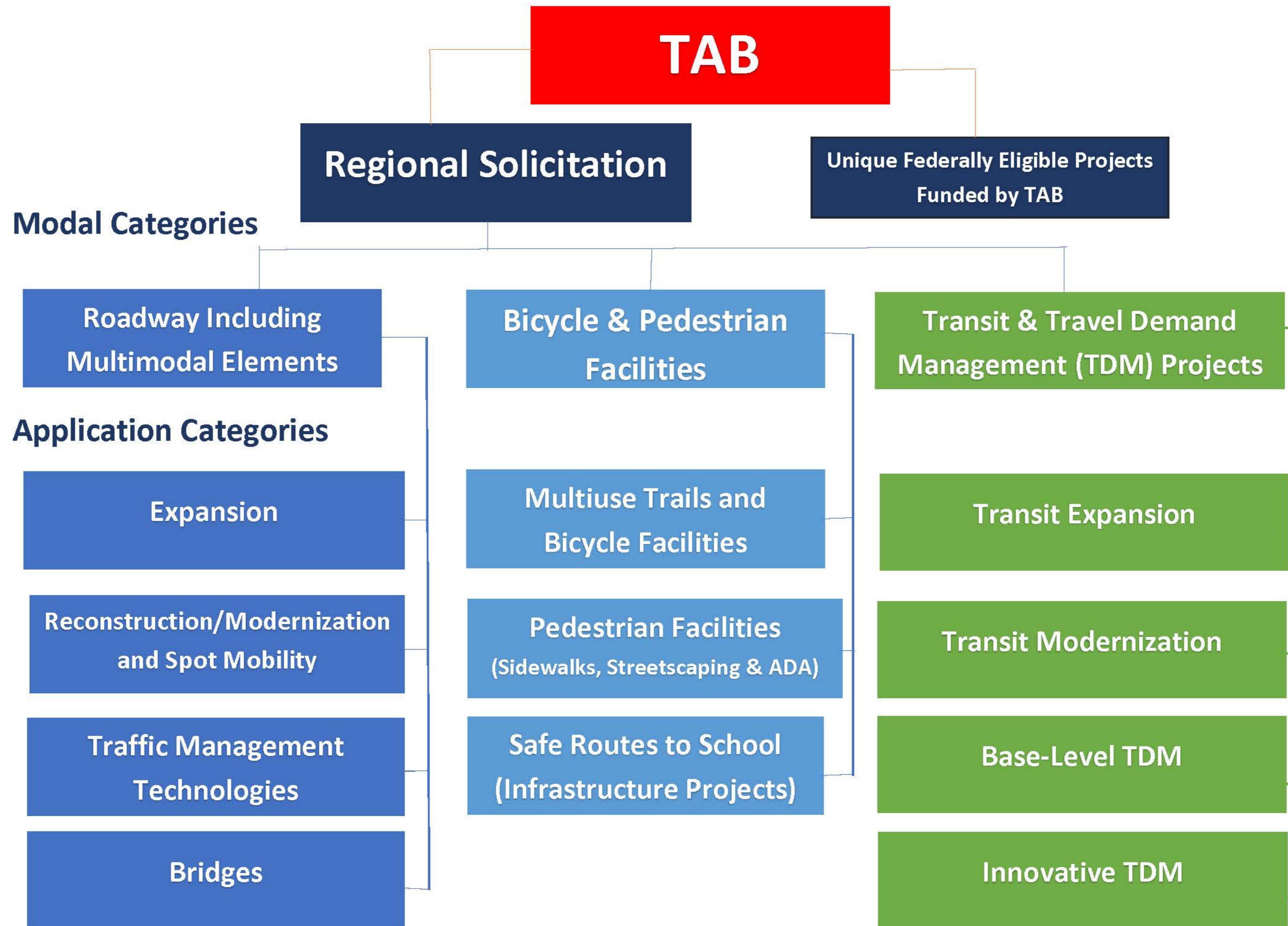
- Solicit projects every two years for roughly four-to-five years into the future (e.g., 2020 Regional Solicitation will fund projects in 2024 and 2025)
- Use a transparent and technically-driven scoring system to select projects
- Federal awards pay for up to 80% of total project cost

Strong Linkage to Regional Policy



Qualifying criteria also ask applicants to document consistency with regional policy

Application Categories



2018 Regional Solicitation

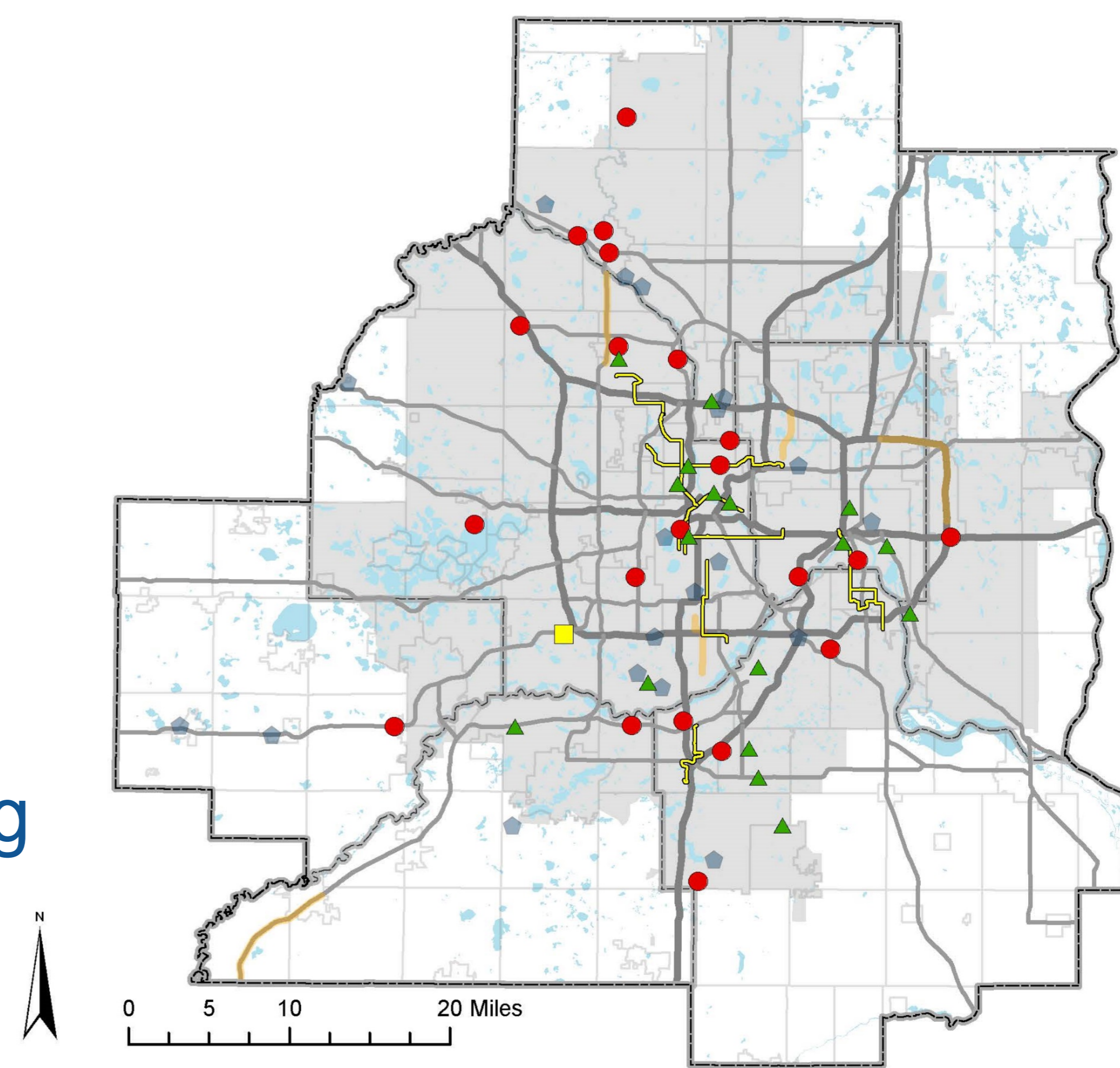
- 57 projects funded out of 137 submitted (42%)
- \$200M funded out of \$419M requested (48%)
- \$200M of federal funds will leverage \$207M in local funds, totaling \$407M of projects

Unmet Need:

- The \$419M requested overall would have leveraged \$344M in local funds, totaling \$763M

2018 Regional Solicitation

- 57 Projects
- Projects in all 7 counties
- Projects in 37 different cities and townships
- 2 Unique Projects
 - Saint Paul's Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and Carsharing Vehicles
 - Council's Regional Model/Travel Behavior Inventory



Reference Items

- Interstate Highways
- State, US Highways and County Roads
- County Boundaries
- City Boundaries
- Lakes and Rivers
- Urbanized Area

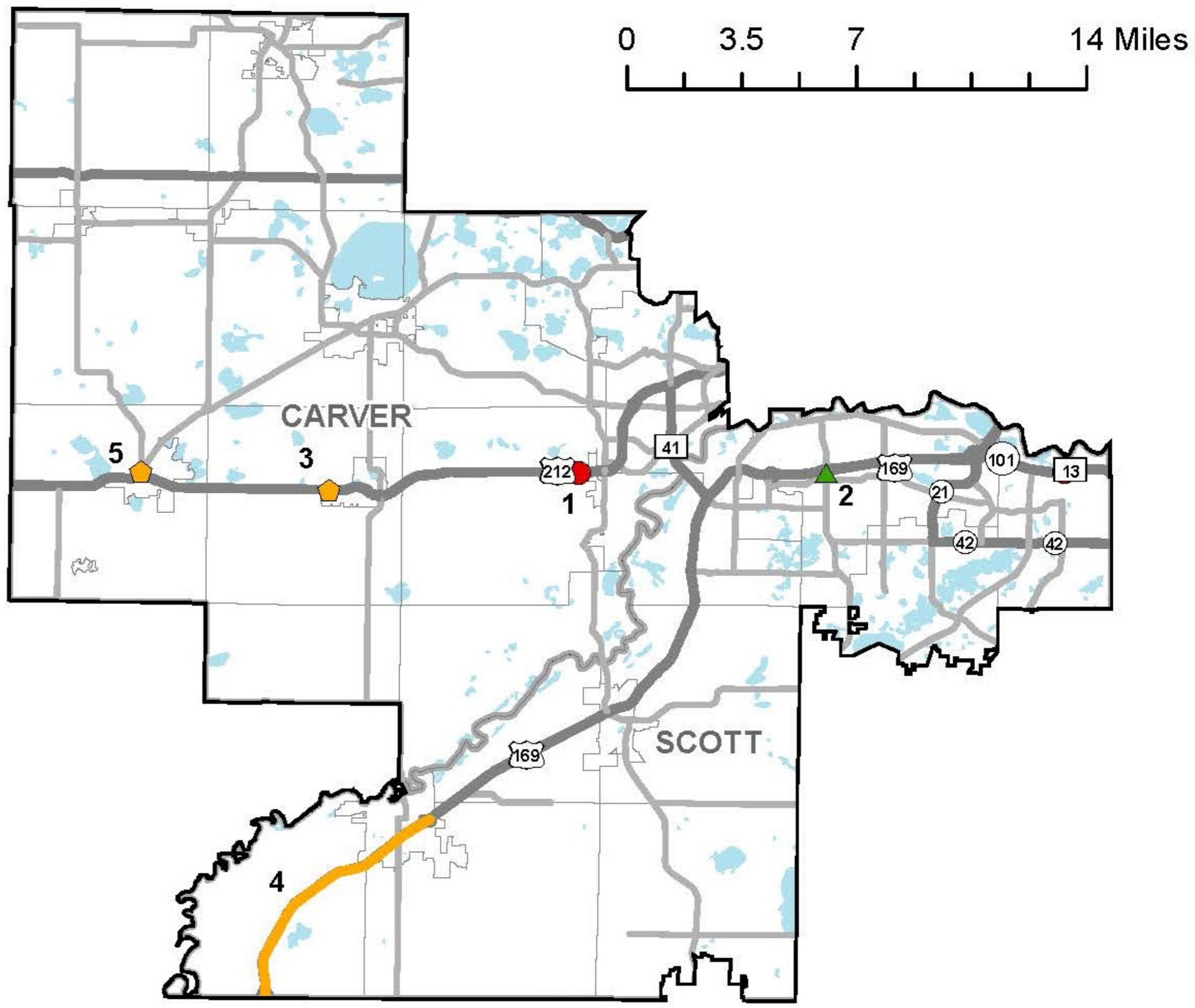
Modal Funding Category

Type

- Roadways
- ▲ Bicycle and Pedestrian
- Transit
- Transit Project Corridors
- HSIP Projects
- HSIP Project Corridors

Maps by Council District Available

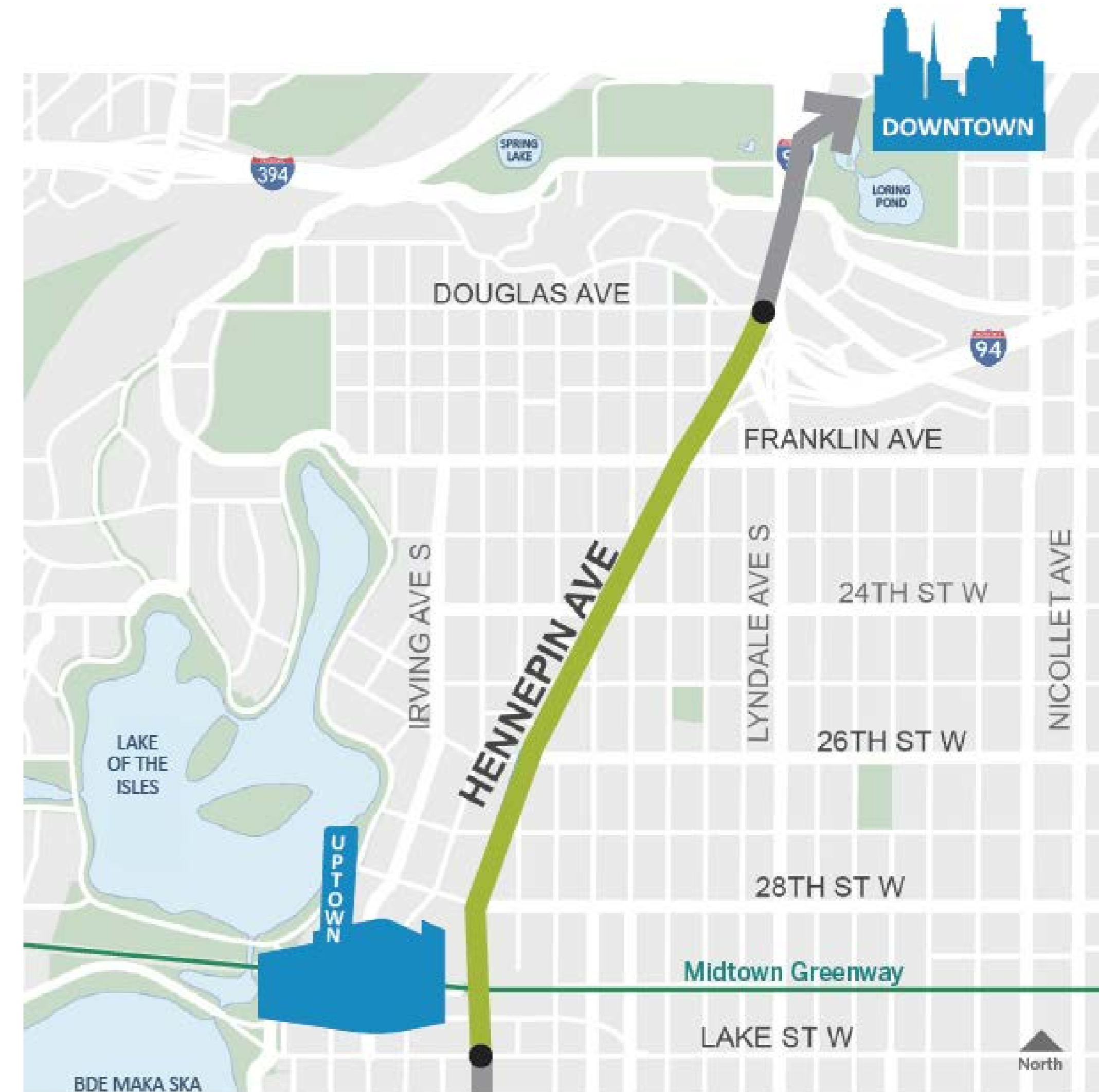
Location of 2018 Regional Solicitation and HSIP Projects Approved by the Transportation Advisory Board: District 4



- Roadways
- ◆ HSIP Projects
- City and Township Boundaries
- ▲ Bicycle and Pedestrian
- HSIP Project Corridors
- County Boundaries
- Principal Arterial
- A-Minor
- Lakes and Rivers

Hennepin Avenue in Minneapolis

- \$7M award (\$17M total project)
- Multimodal reconstruction that will make improvements for all modes of travel
- Metro Transit also received a separate award for this corridor (Route 6)



Highway 13 in Scott County

- \$5.75M award (\$26M total project)
- New overpass at Dakota Ave into the Ports of Savage and adjacent industrial area



Orange Line Connector Project

- Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) award for \$2.7M (\$3.4M project)
- New local service in Burnsville connecting to the Burnsville Transit Station and Orange Line terminus



Apple Valley Safe Routes to School

- \$200,000 award (\$250,000 project)
- High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) to improve safety for students crossing busy road to get to Greenleaf Elementary

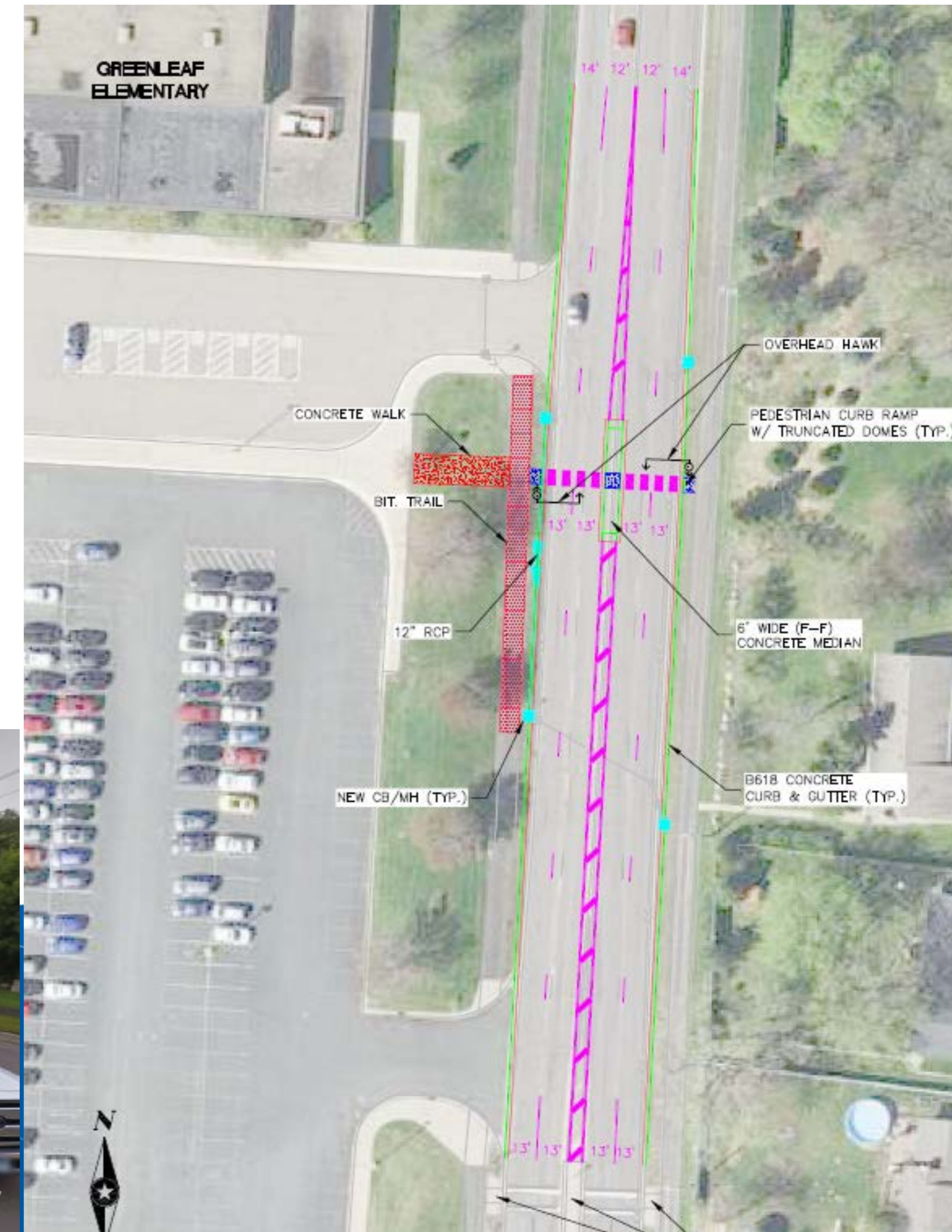


Photo: Google Street View

Modal Funding Ranges

	Roadways	Transit and TDM	Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities	Total
2018 Solicitation Ranges	48%-68% \$96M-\$136M	22%-32% \$44M-\$64M	10%-20% \$20M-\$40M	100% \$200M

Prioritizing Criteria

The most common prioritizing criteria are:

- Role in the Regional Transportation System & Economy
- Usage
- Equity and Housing Performance
- Infrastructure Age
- Congestion Reduction and Air Quality
- Safety
- Multimodal Elements and Connections
- Risk Assessment
- Cost Effectiveness



Scoring Process

- Scoring committees made up of 50 technical experts representing agencies throughout the metro
- Scoring of projects is an open, transparent, and data-driven process
- Applicants had an opportunity to appeal their scores in front of the Funding & Programming Committee

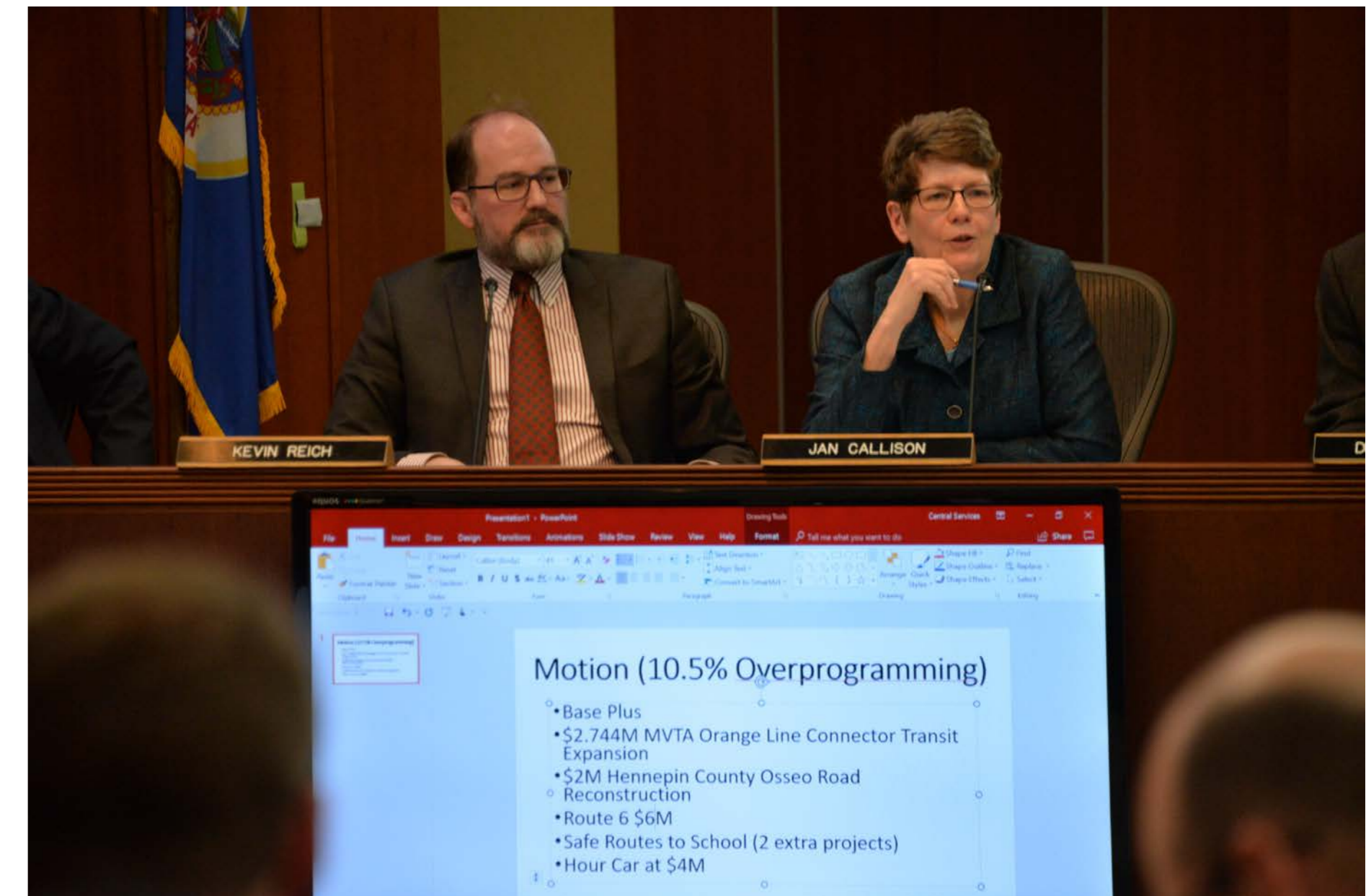


Funding Decisions

- Technical Committees create funding options for TAB, using ranked list of projects
- Select projects based on project score
- Demand within categories is considered
- Applicants may appeal the scoring decision of an individual measure
- In final project selection, geographic balance and applicant distribution are also considered
- TAB and Council approve the final program of projects

TAB & Council Roles

- Input on application-both TAB and Council
- Approval of application packet-TAB approves and Council concurs
- Input on funding scenarios-both TAB and Council
- Approval of projects List-TAB approves and Council concurs
- Approval of Transportation Improvement Program (includes Regional Solicitation projects)-TAB approves and Council concurs



Inputs for Changes to the Regional Solicitation

- Sensitivity Analysis
- Before & After Project Analysis
- Surveys
- Scoring Committee Suggestions
- Committee Meeting Discussions
- Policymaker Work Group (Council and TAB members) and Technical Work Groups

2020 Regional Solicitation Schedule

- September 2019: Application released for public review
- Nov/Dec 2019: Application packet finalized
- Jan/Feb 2020: Application released
- April 2020: Applications due
- Nov/Dec 2020: Projects approved

Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

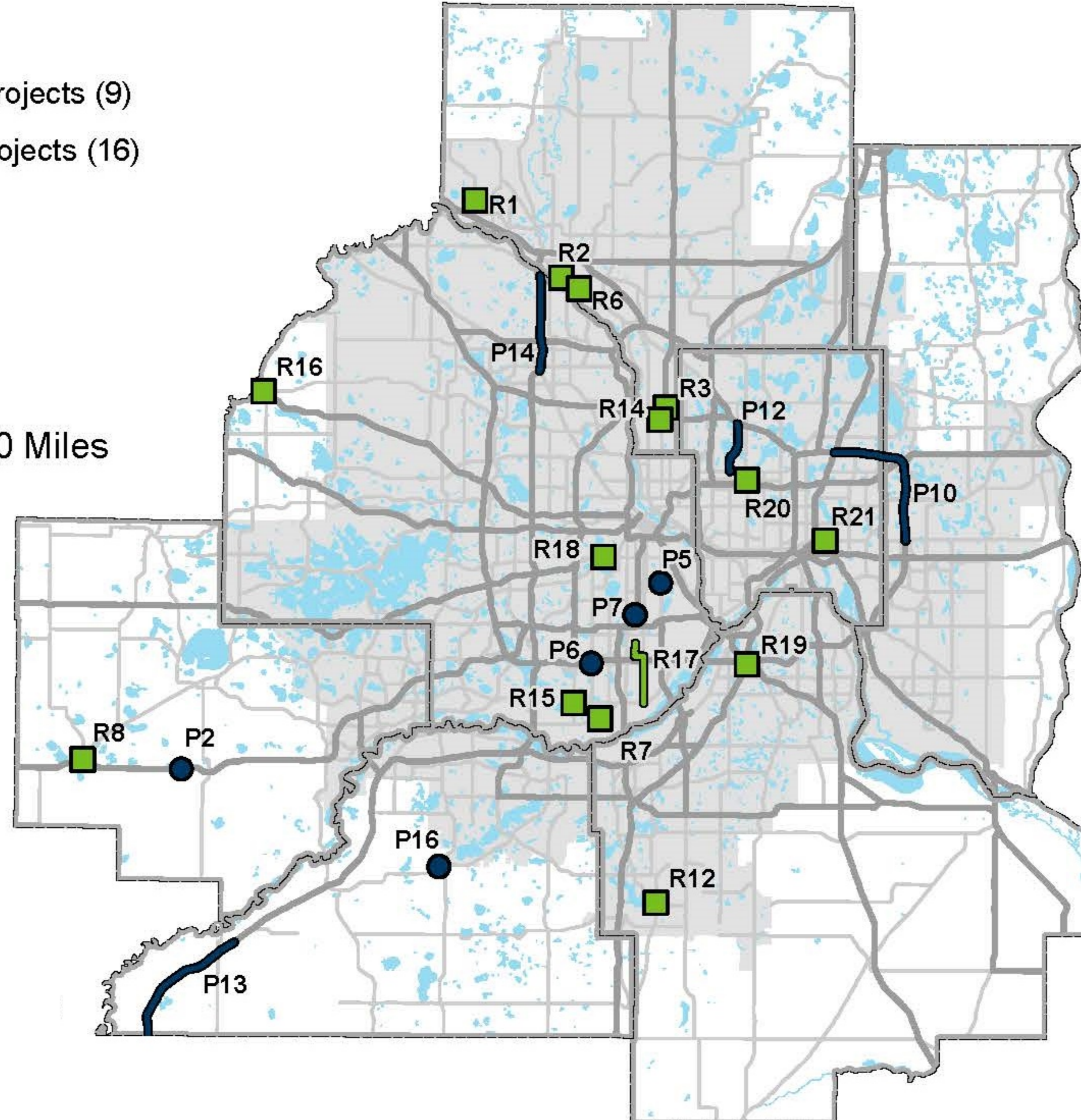
- Allocated \$25M to 25 safety projects in early 2019
- Funding administered by MnDOT but connection to Council
- Improved pedestrian crossings
- Lighting at intersections in rural areas
- Cable median barriers on the freeway
- Flashing yellow arrow traffic signals
- Roundabouts

Approved HSIP Projects for 2022-2023

Reference Items:

- Proactive Safety Projects (9)
- Reactive Safety Projects (16)
- Principal Arterials
- A-Minor Arterials
- Lakes And Rivers
- Urbanized Area

0 5 10 15 20 Miles



Questions

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