

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 25, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 11, 2019

Subject: 2019-2022 / 2020-2023 TIP Amendment for SouthWest Transit: Eden Prairie to Mall of America Connector Service

District(s), Member(s): 3 – Ferguson; 5 – Cummings

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

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve an amendment to the 2019-2022 and 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) to change the type and number of buses for SouthWest Transit's Eden Prairie to Mall of America Connector Service.

### Background

This amendment is needed to change in number and size of vehicles from the originally submitted eight 35'-40' cutaway vehicles to 10 cutaway vehicles, including required ancillary equipment, with minimum seating capacities of 10 passengers. The need for smaller-than-requested vehicles is due to the service needing to potentially access locations that are not easily accessed by 35'-40' vehicles. The need for more vehicles than originally requested is to ensure enough capacity remains for the service and to ensure a sufficient spare fleet exists for the service.

The draft 2020-2023 TIP was approved by the Council on September 25, 2019 but will not be the active TIP until USDOT approves the Minnesota State Transportation Program (STIP), the date of which is unknown. Therefore, this amendment will be reflected in the (current) 2019-2022 TIP and the (pending) 2020-2023 TIP. This action will immediately be reflected in the 2019-2022 TIP and will be reflected in the 2020-2023 TIP once approval for that program is granted.

### Rationale

The Transportation Advisory Board and the Metropolitan Council approve formal amendments to the TIP. The project is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) and meets fiscal constraint because the federal and local funds are sufficient to fully fund the project. The Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Committee determined that the project is exempt from air quality conformity analysis.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

This action promotes stewardship by improving the bus stock for a transit route.

### Funding

The project is fully funded with local and federal funds.

### Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.

Please amend the 2019-2022 and 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to amend this project in program year 2020. This project is being submitted with the following information:

**PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:**

Fiscal Year	ATP/ Dist	Route System	Project Number (S.P. #)	Agency	Description	Miles
2020	M	BB	TRS-TCMT-20B	SouthWest Transit	<del>Purchase eight 35-40 foot cutaway vehicles and operate service for connector service between Eden Prairie and Mall of America</del> Purchase 10 cutaway vehicles and operate transit service between Eden Prairie and the Mall of America	No Change

Prog	Type of Work	Prop Funds	Total \$	FHWA \$	Other \$
TR	Transit	CMAQ	\$7,004,381	\$5,603,505	\$1,400,876

**PROJECT BACKGROUND:**

- 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).

The purpose for this TIP amendment is to request a change in number and size of vehicles from the originally submitted eight 35'-40' cutaway vehicles to ten cutaway vehicles, including required ancillary equipment, with minimum seating capacities of 10 passengers. The need for smaller than requested vehicles is due to the service needing to potentially access locations that are not easily accessed by 35'-40' cutaway vehicles as part of the originally planned deviated fixed route service. The need for more vehicles than originally requested is to ensure enough capacity remains for the service and to ensure a sufficient spare fleet exists for the service. The change in vehicle number and size does not require a change in the capital budget that was proposed as part of the original application.

This change does not involve any changes in service delivery or type. The service that was submitted under the original application is the service that is planned to be operated.

- 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 X

The federal funding remains the same, therefore fiscal constraint is maintained.

**CONSISTENCY WITH MPO LONG RANGE PLAN:**

This amendment is consistent with the Metropolitan Council Transportation Policy Plan, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on April 24, 2019 with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on May 9, 2019.

