

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 25, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 27, 2021

Subject: 2021-2024 TIP Amendment: SouthWest Transit Electric Buses and Charging Stations

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: 3 – Ferguson, 4 – Barber, 7 – Lilligren, 8 – Muse

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 (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2021-2024 TIP to add a new project to fund the purchase of two battery electric buses and two charging stations with associated electrical upgrades for SouthWest Transit.

Background

MnDOT requests the inclusion of a new project, funded through Clean Transportation Grants, into the TIP.

Rationale

The Metropolitan Council approves formal amendments to the TIP. The projects are consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) and meet fiscal constraint because the federal, state, and local funds are sufficient to fully fund the projects. The Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee determined that the projects are exempt from air quality conformity analysis.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action promotes *livability* through promotion of transit and electrification.

Funding

The project is fully funded with federal and local funds.

Known Support / Opposition

This proposed action was reviewed and recommended by the Transportation Advisory Board. No known opposition.

Please amend the 2021-2024 and 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to change this project in program year 2022. This project is being submitted with the following information:

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

Seq #	State Fiscal Year	ATP / Dist	Route System	Project Number	Agency	Description
TBD	2022	M	NA	TRS-TCMT-22G	MNDOT	Southwest Transit; Purchase two (2) battery electric buses and two charging stations with associated electrical upgrades

Miles	Prog	Type of Work	Prop Funds	Total \$	FHWA \$	Other \$
0.0	TR	TRANSIT	CMAQ	295,088	236,071	59,017

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

1. 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).

This amendment is needed to add a new federally funded project into SFY 2022

2. 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

This is a Clean Transportation Grant in Metro area being delivered by MNDOT Central Office. MNDOT Central office and locals will be providing the funding and will be converting STP federal budget authority to our available CMAQ appropriation 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 November 18, 2020 with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on December 4, 2020.

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

- Subject to conformity determination
- Exempt from regional level analysis
- N/A (not in a nonattainment or maintenance area)

*Exempt Project Category T-10: Purchase of new buses and rail cars to replace existing vehicles or for minor expansions of the fleet per Section 93.126 of the Conformity Rules.