

Twin Cities Metropolitan Area

2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program and Public Comment Report

September 13, 2021

Transportation Committee



What is a TIP?

- Four-year list of transportation projects funded in whole or part with federal funding
- Must include all projects funded with federal transportation funds and projects that affect air quality prioritized by year
- Required for all Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)
- Incorporated into MnDOT's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

Projects Included in the TIP

- Transit projects programmed by providers with FTA formula funds
- Roadway projects programmed by MnDOT with federal and state funds
- Regional Solicitation projects programmed by the Council
- Projects in small portion of Sherburne and Wright counties included in the urbanized area

Council approval is for all project types in the TIP

Key Criteria for TIP and Amendment Approvals

- Fiscally balanced (consistent with expected funding levels)
- Consistent with Regional Transportation Plan (TRP)
- In conformity with Clean Air Act requirements
- Opportunity for public input

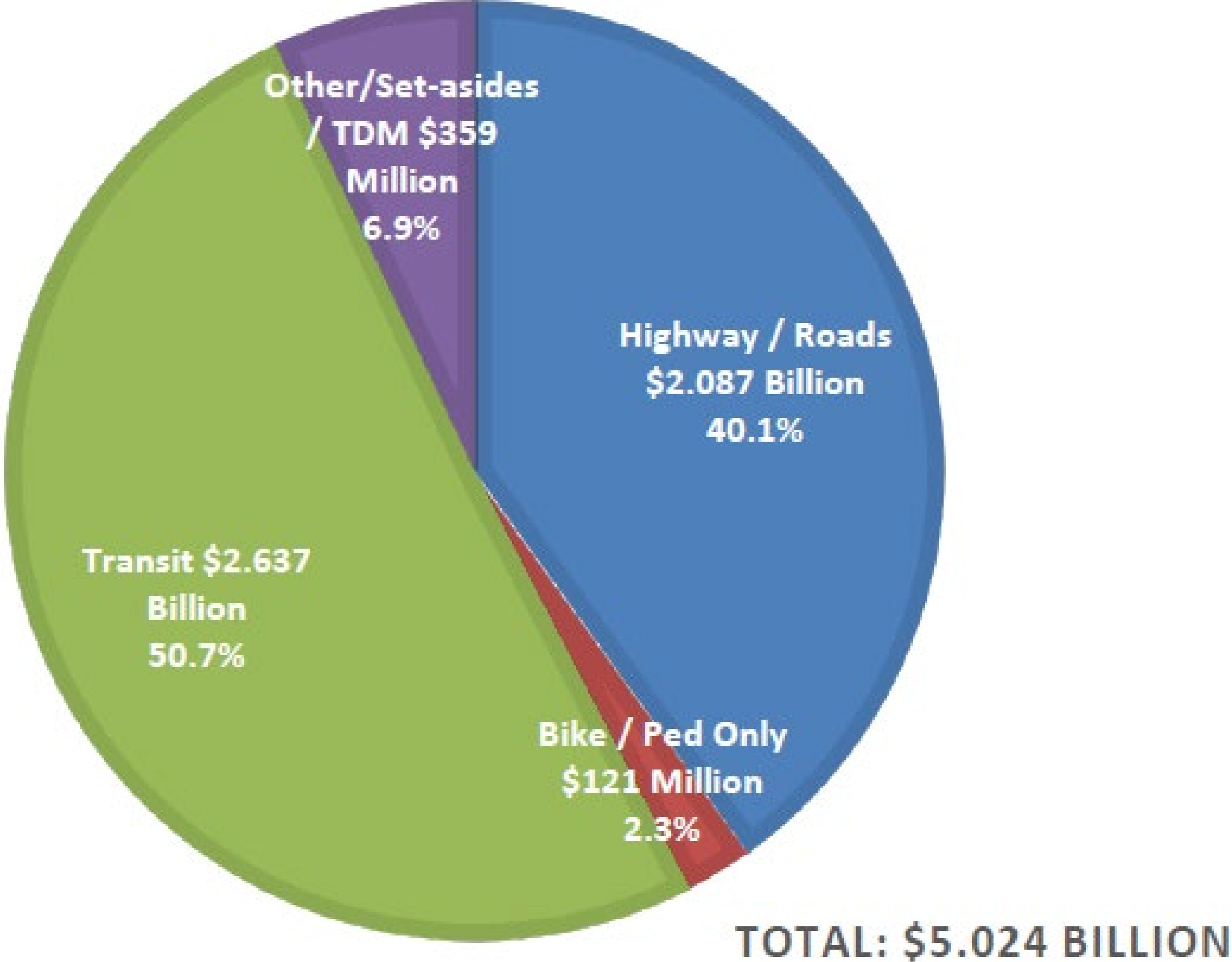
Schedule for 2022-2025 TIP

- TAB release draft for public review – May 19, 2021
- Public review/comment period ends – July 6, 2021
- TAB considers comments, recommends approval – August 18, 2021
- **Transportation Committee – September 13, 2021**
- Metropolitan Council approval – September 22, 2021
- MnDOT inclusion into STIP – September/October 2021
- Federal approvals – November/December 2021

Source of Funds; Four-Year Summary

- Federal Highway – \$1.3 Billion
- Federal Transit – \$1.5 Billion
- Property Tax and State Taxes – \$1.8 Billion
- Trunk Highway – \$530 Million
- Total – \$5.0 Billion

Funding by Mode; Four-Year Summary



Public Comment Report

People engaged

- Web pages – 861 unique visitors
- Facebook people reached – 1,108 [post 1] 361 [post 2]
- Facebook engagement – 48 actions [post 1] 5 actions [post 2]
- Twitter engagement – 4 actions [tweet 1] 12 actions [tweet 2]

Stakeholders involved

Nearly 150 commentors over 475 comments 357 comments from Sierra Club

Meetings/interactions

Public meeting

- 26 attendees, 1 speaker

Interest groups and agencies engaged

- Anoka County Board of Commissioners
- Carver County
- City of Minneapolis
- Fresh Energy
- Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate
- Hennepin County
- Metropolitan Council
- Minnesota Association of Railroad Passengers
- Minnesota Department of Transportation
- Move Minnesota
- Prairie Lutheran Church
- St. Anthony Park Community Council/District 12

Methods used

- Web announcement and web page notice
- GovDelivery email announcement
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Star Tribune classified advertising
- Public meeting

Comments received through

- Email
- Mail
- Public meeting

Themes

- Acknowledge climate change
 - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
 - Avoid new highway expansion
 - Promote racial economic equity
- Prioritize and expand
 - Transit
 - Travel demand management
 - Bike and pedestrian projects

Themes

- Transition diesel buses to electric
- Prioritize
 - Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
 - Quicker adoption of electric vehicles
 - Electric bus deployment in poor air quality areas
- Reduced vehicle miles traveled
- Accelerate reducing traffic deaths and serious injuries through more aggressive safety targets

History and Impact of Public Comments

- Prior to the 2021-24 TIP, 5 to 15 comments were typically received
- For the past two TIP (and 2018 and 2020 TPP updates) public comment processes, over 100 commenters have made 300+ comments around the themes shown on the previous slides
- Comments tend to be “big picture”; it is difficult to remove a specific funded project from the TIP based on broad, high-level feedback
- Feedback is heavily used to identify subsequent policy/planning studies that will assist the region in developing policies and actions around the identified themes
- Public feedback also influences project selection criteria and scoring in the Regional Solicitation

Ongoing and Future Planning Studies Related to Public Comment Themes

- A Path to Accelerate Electric Vehicle Adoption in the Region (ongoing)
- Regional Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (ongoing)
- Regional Travel Demand Management Study (fall 2021 start)
- Equity Evaluation of Regional Transportation Investment (fall 2021 start)
- BIPOC Populations Master Engagement Contract (2022 start)
- Transportation Attitudes and Needs Assessment (2022)
- Regional Transportation and Climate Change Measures (2022 start)
- TPP Goals and Strategies Update (including a review of the regional approach to congestion and highway investment) (late 2022 start)
- Regional Safety Study (late 2022 start)