

2040 TRANSPORTATION POLICY PLAN ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATION TRANSITWAY ADVANCEMENT POLICY

Adopted June 14, 2023

Introduction

In order to fulfill the goals and objectives of this Transportation Policy Plan (TPP), it is necessary for the region to plan and implement transitways in an effective and coordinated manner. The Metropolitan Council has two primary roles in regional transitway projects: it has a role as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) leading regional transportation planning and it has a role in transitway implementation and operations. The Metropolitan Council's decisions regarding transitway planning are influenced by both roles as transitway projects advance. When projects are not intended to be developed or operated by the Council or with Council assistance, only the MPO roles applies.

To aid the Council's consideration to adopt or amend a project in the TPP the following information is required from each transitway's originating local planning agency:

- **Documentation of transitway mode, alignment and station locations and selection process**
- **Resolutions of support from relevant government bodies and agencies**
- **Documentation of fiscal constraint, and**
- **Documentation of public engagement and feedback.**

The information is necessary for the Metropolitan Council to assist in evaluating the project against the TPP's goals and standards and to ensure the plan maintains fiscal constraint through the lifecycle of existing and new transitway assets. Metropolitan Council staff will work with originating local planning agencies to obtain and summarize project information for the purposes of this review. This review will occur when new or amended projects are considered for adoption into the TPP.

Metro Transit typically partners with originating local planning agencies in developing, implementing, operating and maintaining transitways within the region. For projects initiated by local sponsors, if Metro Transit is the intended project developer and operator, Metro Transit will lead coordination with local project sponsors during the planning phase to inform sponsor-led activities. If another transit agency is the planned operator of a transitway, early coordination and ongoing planning are expected to ensure operations and maintenance for the project's lifecycle are considered through the project's planning.

Transitway Advancement Requirements

Documentation of Transitway Mode, Alignment, and Station Locations and Selection Process

Originating local planning agencies will have to provide transitway mode, alignments, and station locations and documentation of the process for selecting the preferred transitway mode, alignment, and station locations along the transitway. Documentation of these processes is typically found in locally preferred alternative reports, corridor plans, and/or station area plans. Station location can shift some without amending the TPP, but adding or removing any planned stations requires a TPP amendment and proper documentation.

Resolutions of Support from Relevant Government Bodies and Agencies

Originating local planning agencies are required to provide resolutions of support from cities, counties, and government agencies that are directly impacted by the proposed transitway. Directly impacted includes stations or alignments passing through a community or using or altering another entity's infrastructure.

Documentation of Fiscal Constraint

Originating local planning agencies will provide documentation of planned capital, operating, and lifecycle costs as well as revenues for the transitway and assumptions of funding commitments for the construction, maintenance, and operation for the proposed project.

Documentation of Public Engagement and Feedback

Originating local planning agencies are required to provide documentation of the public engagement efforts engaged in each phase of the transitway project development process and provide the feedback that resulted from those efforts. Documentation of public engagement can be provided in the form of a public engagement report or excerpts from alignment and/or station location selection reports. This summary is typically included in a locally preferred alternative report.