

Transportation Advisory Board
of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

ACTION TRANSMITTAL

No. 2011-54

DATE: August 10, 2011
TO: Transportation Advisory Board
FROM: Technical Advisory Committee
SUBJECT: 2011-2014 TIP Amendment for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit

MOTION: That the TAB adopt an amendment to the 2011-2014 TIP to include the Section 5309: New Starts Allocations for Central Corridor Light Rail Construction.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: A TIP Amendment is required to identify this project in the current TIP, which has received FTA 5309 discretionary funds as part of the Federal Transit Administration's apportionment of the FY 2011 Capital Investment (New Starts and Small Starts) program funds. These funds will support the construction of the Central Corridor LRT line, purchase of Light Rail Vehicles, and design and installation of a Fare Collection System. The Central Corridor Light Rail Transit project received its Full Funding Grant Agreement on April 26, 2011. Since Metro Transit intends to submit a grant application to FTA in FY 2011 to begin spending these funds, they must be identified in the current TIP and STIP.

Additional information is attached.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	July 21, 2011
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	August 3, 2011
TAB Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence	

July 15, 2011

Karl Keel, Chair
TAC Funding & Programming Committee
390 North Robert Street
St. Paul MN 55101

Re: TIP/STIP Amendment to add FTA Sect 5309 Discretionary Award Funds for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project

Dear Mr. Keel:

Please consider this formal request from Metro Transit to amend the Minnesota 2011 – 2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Twin Cities, Minnesota. This project is being submitted with the following information:

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

STATE FISCAL YEAR	ATP	DIST	ROUTE SYSTEM	PROJECT NUMBER (S.P.#)	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION	MILES
2011	M	M	BB	CCLRT - 03	Met Council - MT	Section 5309: New Starts Allocations	0

PROG	TYPE OF WORK	PROP FUNDS	TOTAL \$	FHWA \$	AC \$	FTA \$	TH \$	OTHER* \$
B3	Construction	FTA	\$90,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$45,000,000	\$0	\$45,000,000

* OTHER funds to be provided by Counties Transit Improvement Board (\$27,000,000); State of Minnesota(\$9,000,000) and Regional Rail Authorities (\$9,000,000).

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 project has received FTA 5309 discretionary funds as part of the Federal Transit Administration's apportionment of the FY 2011 Capital Investment (New Starts and Small Starts) program funds. These funds will support the construction of the Central Corridor LRT line, purchase of Light Rail Vehicles, and design and installation of a Fare Collection System.

Congress appropriated funds in FY 2011 which FTA allocated to existing and pending Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) projects, which included the CCLRT Project. The CCLRT Project received its FFGA on April 26, 2011.

Metro Transit intends to submit a grant application to the Federal Transit Administration in FY

accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each of the 24 applicants has satisfied the entry conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirements (64 FR 40404; 64 FR 66932; 65 FR 78256; 66 FR 16311; 67 FR 17102; 68 FR 13360; 70 FR 12265; 70 FR 14741; 70 FR 25878; 70 FR 30997; 70 FR 17504; 71 FR 63379; 72 FR 1050; 72 FR 8417; 72 FR 11426; 72 FR 21313; 72 FR 27624; 72 FR 32703; 72 FR 34062; 72 FR 36099; 73 FR 6242; 73 FR 16950; 74 FR 7097; 74 FR 8302; 74 FR 15584; 74 FR 19267; 74 FR 19270; 74 FR 20523; 74 FR 26464; 74 FR 26466; 74 FR 26471; 74 FR 28094). Each of these 24 applicants has requested renewal of the exemption and has submitted evidence showing that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the standard specified at 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) and that the vision impairment is stable. In addition, a review of each record of safety while driving with the respective vision deficiencies over the past two years indicates each applicant continues to meet the vision exemption standards. These factors provide an adequate basis for predicting each driver's ability to continue to drive safely in interstate commerce. Therefore, FMCSA concludes that extending the exemption for each renewal applicant for a period of two years is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption.

Request for Comments

FMCSA will review comments received at any time concerning a particular driver's safety record and determine if the continuation of the exemption is consistent with the requirements at 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315. However, FMCSA requests that interested parties with specific data concerning the safety records of these drivers submit comments by July 25, 2011.

FMCSA believes that the requirements for a renewal of an exemption under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 can be satisfied by initially granting the renewal and then requesting and evaluating, if needed, subsequent comments submitted by

interested parties. As indicated above, the Agency previously published notices of final disposition announcing its decision to exempt these 24 individuals from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10). The final decision to grant an exemption to each of these individuals was made on the merits of each case and made only after careful consideration of the comments received to its notices of applications. The notices of applications stated in detail the qualifications, experience, and medical condition of each applicant for an exemption from the vision requirements. That information is available by consulting the above cited Federal Register publications.

Interested parties or organizations possessing information that would otherwise show that any, or all, of these drivers are not currently achieving the statutory level of safety should immediately notify FMCSA. The Agency will evaluate any adverse evidence submitted and, if safety is being compromised or if continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA will take immediate steps to revoke the exemption of a driver.

Issued on: June 13, 2011.

Larry W. Minor,
Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2011-15926 Filed 6-23-11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Capital Investment Program—New Starts and Small Starts Program Funds

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the apportionment of the FY 2011 Capital Investment (New Starts and Small Starts) program funds. The funds will be used for construction of new fixed

guideway systems, or extensions to existing fixed guideway systems, or corridor based bus systems to promote livable communities, improve mobility by providing alternatives to automobile, and reduce the impact on the environment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general program information on the New Starts, contact Eric Hu, Office of Program Management, at (202) 366-0870, e-mail: Eric.Hu@dot.gov mailto; for project specific issues, contact Elizabeth Day, Office of Planning and Environment, at (202) 366-5159, e-mail: Elizabeth.Day@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In FY 2011, \$1,596,800,000 was appropriated for the Capital Investments Grant Account, which includes the New Starts and Small Starts programs. After a one percent oversight takedown, the total amount allocated for New Starts and Small Starts is \$1,580,832,000. The funding is allocated to eight existing Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) projects, four pending FFGA projects, six projects recommended for future FFGAs, and nine Small Starts funding recommendations. Funding is also provided to the Denali Commission Alaska and Alaska and Hawaii ferry projects authorized in law. Project allocations are shown in Table 1, which accompanies this announcement. Project identification numbers are assigned to each project and must be used in the grant application submitted through the Transportation Electronic Award Management system. Pre-award authority is granted as of February 8, 2011, the publication date of the FTA Fiscal Year 2011 Apportionments, Allocations, and Program Information notice, and projects are subject to the conditions described in that notice. Funding announced in this notice will be available for obligation until September 30, 2013.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 21st day of June, 2011.

Peter Rogoff,
Administrator.

BILLING CODE 4910-57-P

Table 1
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

FY 2011 SECTION 5309 NEW STARTS ALLOCATIONS			
State	Earmark ID	Project Location and Description	Allocation
AK	D2011-NWST-001	Denali Commission	\$4,990,000
AK/HI	D2011-NWST-002	Alaska/Hawaii Ferries	\$14,970,000
CA	D2011-NWST-003	San Francisco, Central Subway LRT	\$20,000,000
CA	D2011-NWST-004	San Francisco, Van Ness Avenue BRT	\$15,000,000
CA	D2011-NWST-005	Oakland, East Bay BRT	\$15,000,000
CA	D2011-NWST-006	San Bernardino, E Street Corridor sbX BRT	\$42,630,000
CA	D2011-NWST-007	Riverside, Perris Valley Line	\$23,490,000
CO	D2011-NWST-008	Denver, East Corridor	\$40,000,000
CO	D2011-NWST-009	Denver, Gold Line	\$40,000,000
CO	D2011-NWST-010	Denver, West Corridor LRT	\$40,179,000
CO	D2011-NWST-011	Roaring Fork Valley, BRT Project	\$24,163,000
CO	D2011-NWST-012	Fort Collins, Mason Corridor BRT	\$5,450,573
CT	D2011-NWST-013	Hartford, New Britain - Hartford Busway	\$45,000,000
FL	D2011-NWST-014	Orlando, Central Florida Commuter Rail Transit - Initial Operating Segment	\$40,000,000
HI	D2011-NWST-015	Honolulu, High Capacity Transit Corridor Project	\$55,000,000
MN	D2011-NWST-016	St. Paul-Minneapolis, Central Corridor LRT	\$45,000,000
NY	D2011-NWST-017	New York, Long Island Rail Road East Side Access	\$215,000,000
NY	D2011-NWST-018	New York, Second Avenue Subway Phase I	\$197,182,000
NY	D2011-NWST-019	New York City, Nostrand Ave BRT	\$28,398,554
TX	D2011-NWST-020	Dallas, Northwest/Southeast LRT MOS	\$86,249,717
TX	D2011-NWST-021	Houston, North Corridor LRT	\$75,000,000
TX	D2011-NWST-022	Houston, Southeast Corridor LRT	\$75,000,000
TX	D2011-NWST-023	Austin, MetroRapid BRT	\$24,229,796
UT	D2011-NWST-024	Salt Lake City, Mid Jordan LRT	\$100,000,000
UT	D2011-NWST-025	Salt Lake City, Weber County to Salt Lake City Commuter Rail	\$80,000,000
VA	D2011-NWST-026	Northern Virginia, Dulles Corridor MetroRail Project Extension to Wiehle Ave.	\$96,000,000
WA	D2011-NWST-027	Seattle, University Link LRT Extension	\$110,000,000
WA	D2011-NWST-028	King County, West Seattle BRT	\$21,274,000
		Unallocated	\$1,625,360
Total 2011 Allocations			\$1,580,832,000

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

FY 2011 Discretionary Sustainability Funding Opportunity Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER) Program and Clean Fuels Grant Program, Augmented With Discretionary Bus and Bus Facilities Program

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of availability of FTA environmental sustainability program funds: Solicitation of project proposals.

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the availability of discretionary funds in Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 for the Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER) program and Clean Fuels Grant program,

augmented with Section 5309 Bus and Bus Facilities program funds. These discretionary program funds will be distributed in accordance with the mission of each program and in support of the U. S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) environmental sustainability efforts.

This notice includes priorities established by FTA for these discretionary funds, the criteria FTA will use to identify meritorious projects for funding, and describes how to apply for funding under each discretionary program. This announcement is available on the FTA Web site at: <http://www.fta.dot.gov>. FTA will announce final selections on the Web site and in the **Federal Register**. Additionally, a synopsis of each funding opportunity will be posted in the FIND module of the government-wide electronic grants Web site at <http://www.grants.gov>.

DATES: Complete proposals for both the Clean Fuels/Bus and Bus Facilities and TIGGER discretionary grant programs must be submitted by August 23, 2011.

All proposals must be submitted electronically through the GRANTS.GOV APPLY function. Any agency intending to apply should initiate the process of registering on the GRANTS.GOV site immediately to ensure completion of registration before the submission deadline. Instructions for applying can be found on FTA's Web site at <http://fta.dot.gov/tigger> and <http://fta.dot.gov/cleanfuels> and in the "FIND" module of GRANTS.GOV.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact the appropriate FTA Regional Administrator (Appendix A) for proposal-specific information and issues. For general program information on the TIGGER program, contact Walter Kulyk, Office of Mobility Innovation, (202) 366-4995, e-mail: walter.kulyk@dot.gov. For program information on the Clean Fuels/Bus and Bus Facilities Program; contact Vanessa Williams, Office of Program Management, (202) 366-4818, e-mail: vanessa.williams@dot.gov. A TDD is available at 1-800-877-8339 (TDD/FIRS).