

Transportation Committee

Business Item

Item: 2008-201

Meeting date: July 28, 2008

Metropolitan Council: August 13, 2008

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	July 21, 2008
Subject:	2008-2011 TIP Amendment: Add SP#TRLF-08-02, elevated pedestrian walkway from Ramp A to the Twins Ballpark over 7 th Street N in Minneapolis (TAB Action 2008-21)
District(s), Member(s):	District 6 – Leppik; District 7 - Meeks
Policy/Legal Reference:	TAB Action
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651-602-1754) Amy Vennewitz, Dep. Dir. Planning & Finance MTS (651-602-1058) Carl Ohrn, Planning Analyst (651-602-1719)
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a Transportation Revolving Loan Fund (TRLF) project for elevated pedestrian walkway from Ramp A to the Twins Ballpark over 7th St. N in Minneapolis.

Background

This amendment is needed to identify \$3,375,000 in TRLF funding to construct a new elevated pedestrian walkway to serve additional pedestrian flow that is anticipated with the opening of the new Twins Ballpark. The walkway will directly connect Ramp A to the Twins Ballpark by crossing over 7th St. North at 3rd Ave. North.

Rationale

In order to use the TRLF Funds the project must be in the current TIP.

Funding

These are new funds so the fiscal balance of the TIP is maintained.

Known Support / Opposition

The City of Minneapolis and MnDOT submitted this request. There is no known opposition.

Transportation Advisory Board

of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

Donn R. Wiski
Chair

July 21, 2008

County Commissioners

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Anoka County

Tom Workman
Carver County

Paul Krause
Dakota County

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Hennepin County

Tony Bennett
Ramsey County

Jon Ulrich
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Blaine City Council

Bethany Tjornhom
Chanhassen City Council

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Burnsville City Council

Julia Whalen
Champlin City Council

James Hovland
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Lakeville City Council

Robert Lilligren
Minneapolis City Council

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Plymouth City Council

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Bart Ward - E

Donn Wiski - F

Jill Smith - G

Ken Johnson - H

Agency Representatives

Peggy Leppik
Metropolitan Council

Khani Sahebjam
Minnesota DOT

Vacant
M.A.C.

David Thornton
M.P.C.A.

Modal Representatives

Richard Mussell
Transit

Glenn Olson
Transit

Ron Have
Freight

David Gepner
Non-motorized

Peter Bell, Chair
Metropolitan Council
390 Robert Street No.
St. Paul, MN 55101

Mr. Bell:

On July 16, 2008, the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) voted to amend the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include SP# TRLF-08-02 in program year 2009. This project includes construction of an elevated pedestrian walkway from Ramp A to the Twins Ballpark over 7th Street No. in Minneapolis.

The Transportation Revolving Loan Fund (TRLF) operates much like a commercial bank, providing low-interest loans and other types of financial assistance on a competitive basis to governmental entities for eligible transportation projects.

The TAB forwards this action to the Metropolitan Council for concurrence along with additional information described in TAB action transmittal 2008-21.

Sincerely,



DR Donn Wiski, Chair
Transportation Advisory Board

kjr/kjr

Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

ACTION TRANSMITTAL

No. 2008-21

DATE: July 21, 2008
TO: Metropolitan Council
FROM: Transportation Advisory Board
SUBJECT: 2008-2011 TIP Amendment for SP#TRLF-08-02 elevated pedestrian walkway from Ramp A to the Twins Ballpark over 7th Street N in Minneapolis.

MOTION: The TAB amended the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a Transportation Revolving Loan Fund (TRLF) project for elevated pedestrian walkway from Ramp A to the Twins Ballpark over 7th Street No. in Minneapolis.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION:

This amendment is needed to identify \$3,375,000 in TRLF funding to construct a new elevated pedestrian walkway to serve additional pedestrian flow that is anticipated with the opening of the new Twins Ballpark. The walkway will directly connect Ramp A to the Twins Ballpark by crossing over 7th St. North at 3rd Avenue N.

Additional background material is attached.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	June 19, 2008
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	July 2, 2008
TAB Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	July 16, 2008
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	July 16, 2008
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence	



Minnesota Department of Transportation

Metro District
 1500 west County Road B-2
 Roseville, MN 55113

Office Telephone: (651) 234-7793
 Fax: (651) 234-7786

June 19, 2008

Tom Johnson, Chair
 TAC Funding and Programming Committee
 Metropolitan Council
 230 East Fifth St.
 Mears Park Centre
 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Re: Amendment to the Twin Cities 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 State Project Number: TRLF-08-02

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Please amend the 2008 – 2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include this project in 2009. This project is being submitted with the following information:

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

STATE FISCAL YEAR	ATP	DIST	ROUTE SYS	PROJECT NUMBER (S.P. #) (Fed # if available)	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION include location, description of all work, & city (if applicable)	MILES
2009	M	M	RL	TRLF-08-02	MnDOT	Elevated Pedestrian Walkway from Ramp A to the Twins Ballpark over 7 th St. N in the City of Mpls.	0.0

PROG	TYPE OF WORK	PROP FUND S	TOTAL S	FHWA Target	HPP \$	Earmark \$	FHWA Target AC \$	HPP AC \$	TH \$	OTHER \$
RL	Grade and Surface	TRLF	\$3,375,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$3,375,000 (TRLF)

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

1. Briefly describe why amendment is needed (e.g., project in previous STIP but not completed; illustrative project and funds now available; discretionary funds received; inadvertently not included in STIP).

This amendment is needed to add a new project to the 2008-2011 STIP in SFY 2009.

In 1992, the FHWA, MnDOT and City of Minneapolis completed the I-394 facility. This was the first interstate project in the United States to include high occupancy vehicle lanes, transit facilities, parking ramps and skyways. This integrated approach was selected to mitigate the potential environmental effects of traffic. The purpose of the ramps was to provide an incentive to commuters who carpool or ride the bus on I394 into downtown Minneapolis.

A new elevated public walkway will be constructed to serve additional pedestrian flow that is anticipated with the opening of the new Twins Ballpark. The walkway will directly connect Ramp A to the Twins Ballpark by crossing over 7th St. N. at approximately 3rd Ave. N. Accommodating a large percentage of crossing pedestrians at the second level would greatly reduce pedestrian-vehicle conflicts along the street level. Travel time should be significantly reduced for vehicles traveling on 7th Street North due to greatly reduced pedestrian interaction. Pedestrians will also have a safe, direct link to and from the ballpark which connects to the downtown skyway system and should result in safety benefits at many intersections throughout downtown by reducing pedestrian interactions with vehicles.

2. How is Fiscal Constraint Maintained as required by 23 CFR 450.216 (check all that apply)?

- New Money * X
- Anticipated Advance Construction
- ATP or MPO or Mn/DOT Adjustment by deferral of other projects
- Earmark or HPP not affecting fiscal constraint
- Other**

*Funding is identified as 100% Transportation Revolving Loan Funds. The loan will be repaid using Ramp ABC net revenues.

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

- Subject to conformity determination _____
- Exempt from regional level analysis*..... Yes ___
- Exempt from project level analysis**..... Yes ___
- Exempt by virtue of interagency consultation..... _____
- N/A (not in a nonattainment or maintenance area)..... _____

* Exemption Code- AQ-2, Bike and Pedestrian Facilities

Tom Johnson
June 19, 2008
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CONSISTENCY WITH MPO LONG RANGE PLAN:

This amendment is consistent with the Metropolitan Council Transportation Policy Plan, adopted on December 14, 2005, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on February 1, 2005.

We are requesting approval of this TIP amendment at this time. If you have any questions, please contact me at 651-234-7793.

Sincerely,



Sherry Narusiewicz
Transportation Program Coordinator
Metro Program Management

cc: Marv Lunceford, Metro Program Management
Mike Sachi, City of Minneapolis
Darryl Anderson, City of Minneapolis
Mike Sobolewski, Metro Program Management
Susan Thompson, MnDOT Office of Investment Management