Transportation Committee

Meeting date: March 14, 2011

Metropolitan Council meeting March 23, 2011

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: February 18, 2011

Subject: 2011-2014 TIP Amendment Metro Transit: TIGGER II

Section 5309 Funds to Install Geothermal

Heating/Cooling System in O&M Support Facility

District(s), Member(s): District 8 - Duininck

Policy/Legal Reference: TAB Action

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director (651-602-1754)

Amy Vennewitz, Dep. Dir. Finance & Planning 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 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include a Metro Transit project that will use federal TIGGER II Section 5309 funds to install a geothermal heating/cooling system in the Hiawatha LRT operations and maintenance support facility.

Background

Metro Transit was awarded a TIGGER II grant (Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction) based on a national competitive program solicitation. This project for a total of \$1,500,000 (\$1,200,000 federal, \$300,000 local) will allow Metro Transit to install a geothermal heating system for the expanded Hiawatha LRT Operations and Maintenance Support Facility. The expansion is needed to accommodate the addition of the three–car train LRT service.

Rationale

The project must be in the current TIP in order to use federal transportation funds. The TAC and TAB have reviewed the project and recommend it to the Council for approval.

Funding

This project will utilize new Federal Section 5309 TIGGER II funds and local match using Regional Transit Capital (RTC) funds.

Known Support / Opposition

No opposition was presented at the TAC or TAB meetings.

Transportation Advisory Board

of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

Bill Hargis

County Commissioners
Andy Westerberg
Anoka County
Randy Maluchnik

Carver County
Paul Krause

Dakota County
Jan Callison
Hennepin County

Tony Bennett Ramsey County

Jon Ulrich Scott County Dennis Hegberg Washington County

Municipal Officials Dick Swanson Blaine City Council

Bethany Tjornhom Chanhassen City Council Julia Whalen

Champlin City Council James Hovland

Mayor of Edina Becky Petryk Hugo City Council

Will Rossbach Mayor of Maplewood

Robert Lilligren Minneapolis City Council

Russ Stark St. Paul City Council

Citizen Members - Precinct
Andrew Reinhardt - A
Thomas Heffelfinger - B
James Meyers - C
Chuck Haik - D
Bart Ward - E
Bill Hargis - F
Jill Smith - G
Ken Johnson - H

Agency Representatives Peggy Leppik Metropolitan Council

Scott McBride Minnesota DOT Lisa Peilen

David Thornton M.P.C.A.

M.A.C.

Modal Representatives Richard Mussell Transit

Matthew Craig Transit Ron Have

Freight

David Gepner

Non-motorized

March 8, 2011

Susan Haigh, Chair Metropolitan Council 390 Robert Street No. St. Paul, MN 55101

Ms. Haigh,

On February 16, 2011, the Transportation Advisory Board voted to amend the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program to include TIGGER II Section 5309 Funds to install a geothermal heating/cooling system in the Hiawatha LRT Operations & Maintenance and Support Facility.

TIGGER stands for the Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER) Program. Managed by FTA's Office of Research, Demonstration and Innovation in coordination with the Office of Program Management and Regional Offices, the TIGGER Program works directly with public transit agencies to implement new strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions or reduce energy usage from their operations. These strategies can be implemented through operational or technological enhancements or innovations.

The TAB forwards the TIP amendment action to the Metropolitan Council along with additional information described in TAB action transmittal 2011-18.

Sincerely,

Bill Hargis,

Kerin Rogenbuck

ACTION TRANSMITTAL

No. 2011-18

DATE:

March 8, 2011

TO:

Metropolitan Council

FROM:

Transportation Advisory Board

SUBJECT:

TIP Amendment Request for Metro Transit: TIGGER II Section 5309

Funds to Install Geotherrmal Heating/Cooling System in O&M and

Support Facility.

MOTION:

The TAB adopted an amendment to the 2011-2014 TIP to include Metro

Transit: TIGGER II Section 5309 Funds to Install Geothermal

Heating/Cooling System in O&M and Support Facility.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: Metro Transit was awarded a TIGGER II grant to install a geothermal heating and cooling system in lieu of a more typical gas combustion system. The geothermal system will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the facility. This project is funded with new funds and is exempt from air quality conformity analysis.

TIGGER stands for the Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER) Program. TIGGER II is the second round of grant awards in the Federal Register on January 31, 2011. Twenty-seven (27) projects consisting of a wide range of technologies in localities across the country have been selected for implementation. These projects encourage the use of wayside energy technologies; electric bus operations, geothermal installations, and other energy saving enhancements to assist transit agencies manage their energy usage.

Additional background material is attached.

ROUTING

ТО	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED	
TAC Funding & Programming	Review & Recommend	January 20, 2011	
Committee			
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	February 2, 2011	
TAB Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	February 16, 2011	
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	February 16, 2011	
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence		



January 13, 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 Hiawatha Light Rail Transit O&M and Support Facility

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	ATP	DIST	ROUTE	PROJECTNU	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION	MILES
FISCAL			SYSTEM	MBER(S.P. #)			
YEAR							
2011	M	M	ВВ		Met	Section 5309: Hiawatha LRT -	0
					Council -	Install geothermal	
					MT	heating/cooling system in	
						O&M and Support Facility	
						(Tigger II Funds)	

PROG	TYPE OF	PROP	TOTAL	FHWA	AC	FTA	ТН	OTHER
	WORK	FUND	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	·	S						
В3	Bus Grant Capital	FTA	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,200,000	\$0	\$300,000
	Improvement							

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 TIGGER II grant. These funds will enable the project to install a geothermal heating and cooling system in lieu of a more typical gas combustion system. The geothermal system will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the facility.

A service of the Metropolitan Council

2.	How is Fiscal Constraint Maintained as required by 23 CFR 450.216 (check all that apply)?
	 New Money- FTA Tigger II Grant Funds Anticipated Advance Construction
	ATP or MPO or Mn/DOT Adjustment by deferral of other projects

These funds are in addition to the regular federal formula funding. Therefore, fiscal constraint is maintained.

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

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

CONSISTENCY WITH MPO LONG RANGE PLAN:

This amendment is consistent with the Metropolitan Council Transportation Policy Plan, adopted on January 14, 2009, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on September 16, 2009. The amendment is also consistent with the 2030 Policy Plan update adopted by the Metropolitan Council on November 10, 2010 and transmitted to MnDOT on November 22, 2010 for transmittal to USDOT for a conformity determination.

We are requesting approval of this TIP amendment at this time. If you have any questions, please call me at (612) 349-7689. Metro Transit staff will be available for questions at your January meeting.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. Thorstenson

Director, Engineering & Facilities

cc: Sherry Narusiewicz, Mn/DOT Mary Gustafson, Metro Transit Brian Lamb, Metro Transit James Andrew, Metropolitan Council

^{*}Exempt Project Category #T11 - Construction of new bus or rail storage/maintenance facilities categorically excluded in 23CFR771 per Section 93.126 of the Conformity Rules