

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: August 22, 2011

Council meeting date: August 24, 2011

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	August 18, 2011
Subject:	2011-2014 TIP Amendment Request from Metropolitan Council for Central Corridor Light Rail Construction (TAB Action 2011-54)
District(s), Member(s):	8 – Duinick, 13 – Kramer, 14 – Commers
Policy/Legal Reference:	TAB Action
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director (651-602-1754) Amy Vennewitz, Dep. Dir. Finance & Planning ((651-602-1058) Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator (651-602-1728)
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 \$45 million in Section 5309 New Starts Allocations for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) Construction in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Background

The Metropolitan Council received \$45 million in 5309 discretionary funds as part of the Federal Transit Administration's apportionment of the Fiscal Year 2011 Capital Investment (New Starts and Small Starts) program funds. These funds will support construction of the Central Corridor LRT line, the purchase of light rail vehicles, and design and installation of a fare collection system.

Rationale

Metro Transit intends to submit a grant application to the Federal Transit Administration in FY 2011 to begin spending the awarded funds. FTA will only accept this application if it is in a current and approved TIP and STIP.

Same week action is being requested to expedite this TIP amendment to enable the Council to draw the federal funds sooner to lessen the Council's cash flow borrowing costs for CCLRT.

Funding

A combination of funding sources will be used for this \$90 million phase of the project, including \$45 million from FTA Section 5309 funds and \$45 million in match provided by the Counties Transit Improvement Board (\$27 million), State of Minnesota (\$9 million) and Regional Rail Authorities (\$9 million).

Known Support / Opposition

No opposition was noted at either the TAC or the TAB meetings.

Transportation Advisory Board

of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

Bill Hargis
Chair

August 18, 2011

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

Steven Gallagher
Newport City Council

Sue Sanger
St. Louis Park City Council

Russ Stark
St. Paul City Council

Citizen Members - Precinct

Andrew Reinhardt - A
Thomas Heffelfinger - B
James Meyers - C
vacant - D
Bart Ward - E
Bill Hargis - F
Jill Smith - G
Ken Johnson - H

for

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

Ms. Haigh,

On August 17, 2011 the Transportation Advisory Board voted to amend the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program to include the Section 5309: New Starts allocation for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit construction in program year 2011.

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.

The TAB forwards the TIP amendment action to the Metropolitan Council for concurrence along with additional information described in TAB action transmittal 2011-54.

Sincerely,


Bill Hargis,
Chair

kjr/kjr

Agency Representatives

Adam Duinick
Metropolitan Council

Scott McBride
Minnesota DOT

Lisa Peilen
M.A.C.

David Thornton
M.P.C.A.

Modal Representatives

Richard Mussell
Transit

vacant
Transit

Ron Have
Freight

David Gepner
Non-motorized

Transportation Advisory Board
of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

ACTION TRANSMITTAL

No. 2011-54

DATE: August 18, 2011
TO: Metropolitan Council
FROM: Transportation Advisory Board
SUBJECT: 2011-2014 TIP Amendment for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit

MOTION: The TAB adopted 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	August 11, 2011
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	August 17, 2011
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

2011 to begin spending these funds. These funds must be in an approved TIP/STIP before Metro Transit can use these funds.

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

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

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

- Subject to conformity determination_____ X _____
- 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)....._____

This project has already been included in the conformity analysis for the Transportation Improvement Program and Transportation Policy Plan.

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 (651)602-1942. CCLRT Project staff will be available for questions at your August meeting.

Sincerely,



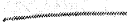
Mark W. Fuhrmann
Deputy General Manager and Program Director for New Start Rail

- cc:
- Sherry Narusiewicz, MnDOT
 - Mary Gustafson, Metro Transit
 - Brian J. Lamb, Metro Transit
 - James Andrew, Metropolitan Council
 - CCPO Document Management Center

Taylor, Anne

From: Taylor, Anne *AT*
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 9:33 AM
To: Fuhrmann, Mark
Cc: Berger, Gary
Subject: Follow up ... RE: TIP/STIP Amendment Schedule and Process
Attachments: CC_TIPAmendment_\$45MM_CCLRT_20110705.docx

Mark,

- Attached is*
- A. ~~I've delivered~~ the TIP/STIP letter for your review and signature (attached for your reference). TAB staff (James Andrew and Kevin Roggenbuck) provided technical comments on this draft, and Steve Honigman confirmed the funding match.
 - B. Follow up regarding expediting the scheduling of the TAB actions on the late-August TC and Met Council agendas:
 1. The TAB staff are on board with helping get a Business Item on the 8/22 TC agenda following the 8/17 TAB meeting. I'll work with TAB staff to get the Business Item drafted. Typically Arlene or Amy approve these TAB Business Items.
 2. Advocating for getting a same week Business Item on the 8/24 Met Council agenda. Dawn Hoffner said that typically, Brian Lamb requests the same week item at the Executive Management meeting prior to the Council meeting. On August 18, Executive Management will prepare the agenda for the 8/24 Met Council meeting. Since this item is "owned" by both the CCLRT Project and the TAB staff, Brian and/or Arlene could advocate for this same week item. I added this to the schedule table below. 

I have all but the 8/17 meetings on my calendar to be available to attend these meetings as back up. I'll be on vacation the week of 8/15.

Anne Taylor
651-602-1449

From: Fuhrmann, Mark
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 3:12 PM
To: Taylor, Anne
Subject: RE: TIP/STIP Amendment Schedule and Process

Anne,

Given the magnitude of the CCLRT federal dollars of \$45 MM, I much prefer the faster Aug/Sept track than the Sept/Oct track. Please advocate for the fast track option and let me know if Brian Lamb or I need to advocate for same week treatment for a business item at the committee and Council.

Thanks, Mark

From: Taylor, Anne
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 2:55 PM
To: Fuhrmann, Mark
Cc: Berger, Gary; Gustafson, Mary
Subject: TIP/STIP Amendment Schedule and Process

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 66962; 65 FR 78256; 66 FR 16311; 67 FR 17102; 68 FR 13360; 70 FR 12265; 70 FR 14747; 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*; 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

METRO TRANSIT

DATE: July 8, 2011

Department – Central Corridor Project
DOCUMENT ROUTING

Letter for Signature: Request TIP/STIP amendment for \$45MM FTA allocation.

Project # 65701

NAME	ACTION
Anne Taylor, Management Analyst/Grants	Initiate/Review <i>AT</i>
Gary Berger, Administration Manager	Review/Initial <i>GB</i>
Mark Fuhrmann, Program Director	Review/Approve <i>MF</i>

Looks great!

PLEASE RETURN TO:

Anne Taylor for delivery to TAB staff – DUE by Friday, July 15, 2011.