

**T** Transportation Committee  
Meeting date: September 24, 2012

Metropolitan Council meeting: October 10, 2012

**ADVISORY INFORMATION**

Date: September 19, 2012  
Subject: CTIB 2013 Project Grant Applications Consistency with the 2030 TPP  
District(s), Member(s): All  
Policy/Legal Reference: M.S. 297A.992; Regional Transportation Policy Plan  
Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director 651-602-1754  
Amy Vennewitz, Dep. Director 651-602-1058  
Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council finds the eight project grant applications (summarized in the Attachment) for CY 2013 Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) funding to be consistent with the Council's 2030 Transportation Policy Plan adopted November 2010.

**Background**

The 2008 state legislation which authorized the quarter cent sales tax for transitways capital and operating purposes specified that a grant award for a transit project located within the metropolitan area may be funded only after the Metropolitan Council reviews the project for consistency with the transit portion of the Transportation Policy Plan.

For the 2012 grant process, six project grant applications were submitted to the CTIB on September 7 and two grant applications (Northstar Commuter Rail Anoka County Station and Bottineau Transitway Project Development) will be submitted on October 9, all to receive funding during CY 2013. The attached table lists the project name, grant applicant, funding requested, provides a short description of the project and a recommendation regarding the project's consistency with the 2030 TPP. It is recommended that all of the applications be found consistent with the plan.

Washington County, which receives a guaranteed amount of 3% of the sales tax revenues, did not submit a project application for 2013 and asked that the earned amount be deferred for programming until next year. In addition, it was determined that the Southwest LRT project, which received CTIB grants in 2010 for \$7,000,000, in 2011 for \$12,200,000 and in 2012 for \$13,562,000 for preliminary engineering activities, would not require additional CTIB disbursements for these activities during 2013. It is the Council's intent to request later this fall that CTIB provide a future commitment for \$23 million for the remainder of CTIB's 60% share of preliminary engineering activities.

**Rationale**

Under state law, the projects cannot be funded until a determination has been made by the Council regarding the project's consistency with the transit portion of the Council's Transportation Policy Plan. The consistency finding will allow the CTIB to award grants to the project applicants for CY 2013.

**Funding**

None required. The amount of the Bottineau request is being finalized by Council staff and will be reported at the October 10 Council meeting.

**Known Support / Opposition**

No known opposition.

**Business Item 2012-XXX Attachment**

**Summary of CTIB CY 2013 Project Grant Applications**

	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Applicant</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Recommendation on Consistency with the 2030 TPP</b>
<b>Operating Projects</b>					
1	Hiawatha LRT Operations (Blue Line)	Metropolitan Council	\$11,473,089	This project requests 75% of the net cost to operate Hiawatha LRT from Jan. 2013 – June 30, 2013 and 50% of the net cost from July 1, 2013 – Dec. 31, 2013.	Consistent: Hiawatha LRT is a completed transitway.
2	Northstar Commuter Rail Operations	Metropolitan Council	\$7,871,876	This project requests 75% of the net cost for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area’s share to operate Northstar Commuter Rail from Jan. 2013 – June 30, 2013 and 50% of the net cost from July 1, 2013 – Dec. 31, 2013.	Consistent: Northstar is a completed transitway.
3	Cedar Avenue Lakeville and Cedar Grove BRT Express Operations	Metropolitan Council	\$367,421	This project requests 75% of the net cost to operate BRT express service from the Lakeville Cedar park-and-ride and the Cedar Grove transit center on the Cedar Avenue BRT line from Jan. 2013 – June 30, 2013 and 50% of the net cost from July 1, 2013 – Dec. 31, 2013. Also included are the operations and maintenance costs of the facilities.	Consistent: The 2030 TPP identifies Cedar Avenue BRT as a transitway that is complete/in construction/final design/preliminary engineering. Elements of the project are presently under construction, with some BRT express service operating in the corridor.
4	Cedar Avenue BRT Station to Station Service (Red Line)	Metropolitan Council	\$1,393,947	This project requests 75% of the net cost to start up station-to-station BRT service from March 2013 – June 30, 2013 and 50% of the net cost from July 1, 2013 – Dec. 31, 2013. The service will serve five stations in the Cedar Ave. BRT corridor. Also included are the facility operations and maintenance costs for the 140th and 147th Street Station stops.	Consistent: The 2030 TPP identifies Cedar Ave. BRT as a transitway that is complete/in construction/final design/preliminary engineering.
5	I-35W South BRT Express Operations	Metropolitan Council	\$148,936	This project requests 75% of the net cost to operate BRT express service from the Lakeville Kenrick Avenue park-and-ride on the I-35W BRT corridor from Jan. 2013 – June 30, 2013 and 50% of the net cost from July 1, 2013 – Dec. 31, 2013..	Consistent: The 2030 TPP identifies I-35W BRT as a transitway that is complete/in construction/final design/preliminary engineering. Elements of the project are presently constructed, with some BRT express service operating in the corridor.

	Project Name	Project Applicant	Funding Request	Project Description	Recommendation on Consistency with the 2030 TPP
<b>Capital Projects</b>					
6	I-35W South BRT Express bus purchase	Metropolitan Council	\$840,000	This project requests capital funding to purchase five coach buses for express bus BRT operations in the I-35W south corridor.	Consistent: The 2030 TPP identifies I-35W BRT as a transitway that is complete/in construction/final design/preliminary engineering. Elements of the project are presently constructed, with some BRT express service operating in the corridor.
7	Northstar Commuter Rail Anoka Station	Anoka County RRA	\$2,000,000	This project requests capital funding to complete a total \$9,392,500 project which will construct a structured parking facility at the Anoka Station along the Northstar Commuter Rail Line. It will include 333 structured parking spaces and a pedestrian overpass between the parking facility and the outbound platform.	Consistent: The 2030 TPP identifies Northstar as a transitway that is complete/ in construction/final design/preliminary engineering. A station currently exists at the Anoka location.
8	Bottineau Transitway Project Development	Metropolitan Council	TBD	This project requests capital funding to begin conducting project development activities including environmental work and preliminary engineering in the Bottineau corridor. It is anticipated that a letter requesting entry into project development will be submitted to the FTA early summer 2013 and project development activities will begin in the second half of 2013.	Consistent: The 2030 TPP identifies the Bottineau Transitway as a corridor to be developed as LRT/Busway/BRT. It is anticipated that the TPP will be amended early 2013 to include a preferred mode and alignment for the corridor, after which permission to enter the project development phase will be requested from the FTA.