

T **Transportation Committee**
For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 10,
2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date
Prepared: October 26, 2010

Subject: 2011-2014 TIP Amendment: Include MnDOT SP#0280-66: I-35W North Mitigation and Design Feasibility/Study from Downtown Minneapolis to I-35E Intersection (TAB Action 2010-60)

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 MnDOT SP#0280-66: I-35W North Mitigation and Design Feasibility Study from downtown Minneapolis to I-35E intersection.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Carl Ohrn, MTS Planning Analyst, presented this item to the committee.

Steffen questioned how long the study would be valid, and clarification that this study is another opportunity to identify projects that are needed but not in the fiscally constrained plan. Ohrn answered that Environmental Studies sunset, but that this study would not, and that the Managed Lane Vision in the Plan allows for some planning and analysis on future projects.

Arlene McCarthy added that the plan includes a list of projects to study in case new funding becomes available, and that past UPA money for projects may not have been realized if those projects had not been planned and ready.

Steffen reminded the committee that there are MOUs with Mn, DOT, Counties and cities now with studies, and the Metro Council keeps adding more studies. A new administration may direct staff to go in a different direction and build general purpose lanes. She stated that \$15 M has been spend in Anoka County to buy right-of-way for general purpose lanes as instructed in the past.

Motion by Hilker, seconded by Leppik and passed unanimously.

Hearing no objection, Chair McFarlin stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

Business Item

T Transportation Committee

Item: 2010-363

Meeting date: October 25, 2010

Council Meeting: November 10, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: October 21, 2010
Subject: 2011-2014 TIP Amendment: Include MnDOT SP#0280-66: I-35W North Mitigation and Design Feasibility/Study from Downtown Minneapolis to I-35E Intersection (TAB Action 2010-60)
District(s), Member(s): Districts 7–Meeks; 8-Wittsack; 10-Sanda; 11-Hilker
Policy/Legal Reference: TAB Action
Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director (651-602-1754)
Amy Vennewitz, Dep. Dir. Planning & Finance (651-602-1058)
Carl Ohrn, Planning Analyst (651-602-1719)
Division/Department: MTS

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 MnDOT SP#0280-66: I-35W North Mitigation and Design Feasibility Study from downtown Minneapolis to I-35E intersection.

Background

MnDOT received \$950,000 federal funds to do a congestion mitigation construction project on I-35W. Due to time restriction, the funds will instead be used for a MnPASS feasibility study. These funds needed to be authorized by Sept 30; however, FHWA allowed authorization prior to completing the TAB/Council process in this case.

Rationale

In order to use Federal Transportation funds, they must be accurately described in a current TIP.

Funding

These funds were previously included in the TIP, but the purpose needs to be changed.

Known Support / Opposition

No opposition was presented at the TAC or TAB.

Transportation Advisory Board

of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

Bill Hargis
Acting Chair

October 21, 2010

County Commissioners

Dennis Berg
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

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

Mr. Bell,

On October 20, 2010, the Transportation Advisory Board voted to amend the 2010-2013 TIP to include MN/DOT SP#0280-66: I-35W North Mitigation and Design Feasibility Study from downtown Minneapolis to I-35-E intersection.

Municipal Officials

Dick Swanson
Blaine City Council
Steve Lampi
Mayor of Brooklyn Park
Bethany Tjornhom
Chanhassen City Council
Dan Gustafson
Burnsville City Council
Julia Whalen
Champlin City Council
James Hovland
Mayor of Edina
Becky Petryk
Hugo City Council
Robert Lillgren
Minneapolis City Council
Russ Stark
St. Paul City Council
William Hargis
Mayor of Woodbury

This TIP amendment is needed because the FHWA has recently informed MN/DOT that these funds will expire at the end of September 2010 and will not be extended. Since that does not provide enough time for a construction project, MN/DOT requested a scope change to FHWA to instead do a MnPASS feasibility study between downtown Minneapolis to the I-35W/I-35E intersection.

The TAB forwards the TIP amendment action to the Metropolitan Council along with additional information described in TAB action transmittal 2010-60.

Sincerely,



for Bill Hargis,
Acting Chair

Citizen Members - Precinct

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

Agency Representatives

Peggy Leppik
Metropolitan Council
Scott McBride
Minnesota DOT
Lisa Peilen
M.A.C.
David Thornton
M.P.C.A.

Modal Representatives

Richard Mussell
Transit
Matthew Craig
Transit
Ron Have
Freight
David Gepner
Non-motorized

Transportation Advisory Board
of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

ACTION TRANSMITTAL

No. 2010-60

DATE: October 21, 2010
TO: Metropolitan Council
FROM: Transportation Advisory Board
SUBJECT: TIP Amendment Request for MN/DOT SP#0280-66: I-35W North Mitigation and Design Feasibility Study from downtown Minneapolis to I-35-E intersection

MOTION: The TAB adopted an amendment to the 2010-2013 TIP to include MN/DOT SP#0280-66: I-35W North Mitigation and Design Feasibility Study from downtown Minneapolis to I-35-E intersection.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: Congress appropriated \$950,000 in Interstate Maintenance funds for congestion mitigation on the 35W north corridor. This project is identified in the 2010-2013 TIP as I-35W North Congestion Mitigation and Design north bound Lake Drive to 95th Street in Blaine. The intent was to construct an auxiliary lane at this location. FHWA has recently informed MN/DOT that these funds will expire at the end of September 2010 and will not be extended. Since that does not provide enough time for a construction project, MN/DOT requested a scope change to FHWA to instead do a MnPASS feasibility study between downtown Minneapolis to the I-35W/I-35E intersection. FHWA agreed to allow this amendment so long as it is accepted by the Funding & Programming Committee. Due to the short amount of time before the end of Federal Fiscal Year 2010, some parts of the Metro Council TAB/TAC process will occur after the project has been authorized by the FHWA. TAB was informed of this situation at its September 15 meeting.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	September 16, 2010
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	October 6, 2010
TAB Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	October 14, 2010
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	October 20, 2010
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence	



Minnesota Department of Transportation

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

Office Telephone: (651) 234-7788

Fax: (651) 234-7786

September 16, 2010

Karl Keel, Chair
 TAC Funding and Programming Committee
 Metropolitan Council
 390 N. Robert St.
 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Re: Amendment to the Twin Cities 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 State Project Number: 0280-66 I-35W N. Mitigation and Design

Dear Mr. Keel:

Please amend the 2010 – 2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include this project in SFY 2011. 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
2011	M	M	I35W	0280-66 IMD 0353(315)	MnDOT	I-35W N. Mitigation & Design – Feasibility Study from 3 rd /4 th St. in Minneapolis to I35W/I35E split in Forest Lake	24.0

PROG	TYPE OF WORK	PROP FUNDS	TOTAL \$	FHWA Target	Earmark \$	FHWA Target AC \$	FTA \$	TH \$	OTHER \$
PL	Planning	FFM	1,055,555	950,000	0	0	0	105,555	0

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

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

*Exemption Code # O-1 Specific activities which do not involve or lead directly to construction, such as: Planning and technical studies, Grants for training and research programs, Planning activities conducted pursuant to titles 23 and 49 U.S.C.

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.

We are requesting approval of this TIP amendment at this time. If you have any questions, please contact me at 651-234-7788.

Sincerely,

Brian Isaacson, Director
Investment Management
Metro District

C: Cindy Krumsieg, Metro Program Coordinator