

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 8, 2007

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	January 2, 2007
Subject:	2007-2009 contracts with the regional Transportation Management Organizations (TMOs)
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Transportation Policy Plan policies 6c, 10a and 10b
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Julie Johanson, Assistant General Manager, 612-349-7514 Bruce Howard, Director of Marketing, 612-349-7694
Division/Department:	Metro Transit/Marketing

Proposed Action/Motion

To authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts with the five regional Transportation Management Organizations (TMOs) for the pass through of federal CMAQ funds for Transportation Demand Management activities for the period of April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2009 in an amount not to exceed \$2,044,479.

Issue(s)

- The current contracts with the TMOs expire March 31, 2007.
- The Metropolitan Council is the authorized recipient of 2007-2009 federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds of \$5.5 million. Under Metropolitan Council policies above and as approved by the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB), a portion of these funds are allocated to support the operations of the TMOs in the region.
- The TMOs receive reimbursement of up to 80% for most allowable operating expenses while supplying 20% local match. A few expenses are 100% reimbursable.
- Each contract will include performance expectations and individual sales and outreach goals corresponding to the allocation of CMAQ funds to each TMO for the two-year contract period. A potential 5% increase in funding, assuming there are qualifying expenses, is also available the second year of the contract for exceeding sales and outreach goals. The two-year base allocations are as follows:

Minneapolis TMO	\$645,656
I-494 Corridor Commission	\$550,000
Anoka County TMO	\$320,000
St. Paul TMO	\$286,958
Midway TMO	<u>\$192,000</u>
Total	\$1,994,614

Overview and Funding

The federal CMAQ grant funds a collection of Transportation Demand Management programs and strategies aimed at reducing single occupant vehicle miles traveled in the region for the purpose of reducing congestion and air pollution. Activities include carpool and vanpool ridesharing, employer education and outreach, transit marketing, incentive programs, biking and pedestrian activities and demonstrations of transportation alternatives.

The TMOs represent a local level of involvement and coordination with the Metropolitan Council/Metro Transit's bus, train and rideshare marketing efforts. TMOs have been promoting regional programs such as ridesharing, VanGo, Metropass, Transitworks, U-Pass and others for the past 15 years, as well as local initiatives tailored to their service area.