

Transportation Advisory Board
of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

ACTION TRANSMITTAL

No. 2011-39

DATE: April 14, 2011
TO: Transportation Advisory Board
FROM: Technical Advisory Committee
SUBJECT: TIP Amendment Request for Metro Transit Pilot Project for Two Hybrid-Drive Buses
MOTION: That the TAB adopts an amendment to the 2011-2014 TIP that adds a Metro Transit TIGGER funded pilot project for two hybrid-drive buses.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: Metro Transit received funding through the competitive TIGGER program for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This project is a pilot to operate and test the performance of two hybrid electric buses with hybrid drive systems and electric accessories. This pilot will allow Metro Transit to test the feasibility of operating vehicles exclusively using electric power for short times especially indoors during layover and maintenance, which should cut down on the energy used to heat bus garages. This is new money and is exempt from air quality conformity analysis. Additional background material is attached.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	March 17, 2011
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	April 6, 2011
TAB Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence	

February 17, 2011

Karl Keel, Chair
TAC Funding & Programming Committee
390 North Robert Street
St. Paul MN 55101

Re: TIP/STIP Amendment to add FTA funds for TIGGER II grant for the purchase of two hybrid buses with electric accessories

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	NEW Discretionary Award	Met Council – Metro Transit	Purchase two hybrid drive buses with fully electrified accessories (TIGGER II Funds)	0.0

PROG	TYPE OF WORK	PROP FUNDS	TOTAL \$	FHWA \$	AC \$	FTA \$	TH \$	OTHER \$
B3	Bus Grant Capital Improvement	FTA	\$1,440,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,200,000	\$0	\$240,000

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 discretionary funds as part of a TIGGER II grant. These funds will enable Metro Transit to purchase two hybrid buses with series hybrid drive systems and electric accessories. The buses will allow Metro Transit to demonstrate the feasibility of operating vehicles exclusively under electric power for short time periods, especially inside buildings.

Mary Gustafson, Metro Transit
Brian J. Lamb, Metro Transit
Jan Homan, Metro Transit