

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 9, 2008

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: March 25, 2008

Subject: 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment, Central Corridor

Proposed Action:

That the Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include the 2008 New Starts funding appropriation E-2008-NWST-031 of \$10,192,000 for Central Corridor Light Rail pre-construction activities.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

There was no discussion of this topic since the committee was aware of these funds and the necessity of adding them to the TIP.

Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

Hearing no objection, M. Hill Smith stated that this item could go to the full Council as a Consent Item.

Transportation Committee

Business Item

Item 2008-87

Meeting date: March 24, 2008

Council meeting: April 9, 2008

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	March 19, 2008
Subject:	2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment, Central Corridor
District(s), Member(s):	All Districts and Members
Policy/Legal Reference:	TAB Recommended Action (TAB Action 2008-08)
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651-602-1754) Amy Vennewitz, Dep. Dir. Finance & Planning MTS (651-602-1058) Carl Ohrn, Planning Analyst MTS (651-602-1719)
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include the 2008 New Starts funding appropriation E-2008-NWST-031 of \$10,192,000 for Central Corridor Light Rail pre-construction activities.

Background

The Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2008 allocated \$10,192,000 to the Central Corridor Light Rail project for pre-construction activities. The Federal Transit Administration requires that the funds be included in the TIP and STIP. Amending the Current TIP will enable the pre-construction phase of the project to continue without interruption.

Rationale

In order to use Federal Transportation funds, they must appear in the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Funding

The Federal Funds are to be matched with \$2,548,000 of local funds.

Known Support / Opposition

The Metropolitan Council and its Central Corridor Partners support this action. No opposition was made known during the TAC/TAB process.

Transportation Advisory Board

of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

Donn R. Wiski
Chair

March 19, 2008

County Commissioners

Dennis Berg
Anoka County
Tom Workman
Carver County
Paul Krause
Dakota County

Linda Koblick
Hennepin County

Tony Bennett
Ramsey County

Jon Ulrich
Scott County

Myra Peterson
Washington County

Municipal Officials

Dick Swanson
Blaine City Council

Liz Workman
Burnsville City Council

Julia Whalen
Champlin City Council

James Hovland
Mayor of Edina

Wendy Wulff
Lakeville City Council

Robert Lillgren
Minneapolis City Council

Sandy Hewitt
Plymouth City Council

Russ Stark
St. Paul City Council

William Hargis
Mayor of Woodbury

Citizen Members - Precinct

Steven Schulte - A

Vacant - B

James Meyers - C

Chuck Haik - D

Bart Ward - E

Donn Wiski - F

Jill Smith - G

Ken Johnson - H

Agency Representatives

Peggy Leppik
Metropolitan Council

Khani Sahebjam
Minnesota DOT

Vacant
M.A.C.

David Thornton
M.P.C.A.

Modal Representatives

Richard Mussell
Transit

Glenn Olson
Transit

Ron Have
Freight

David Gepner
Non-motorized

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

Mr. Bell:

On March 19, 2008, the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) voted to amend the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include the 2008 New Starts funding appropriation E-2008-NWST-031 of \$10,192,000 for Central Corridor Light Rail pre-construction activities.

The TAB forwards this action to the Metropolitan Council for concurrence along with additional information described in TAB action transmittal 2008-08.

Sincerely,



cf Donn Wiski, Chair
Transportation Advisory Board

kjr/kjr

Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

ACTION TRANSMITTAL

No. 2008-08

DATE: March 19, 2008
TO: Metropolitan Council
FROM: Transportation Advisory Board
SUBJECT: 2008-2011 TIP Amendment for Metropolitan Council Central Corridor Light Rail Transit.

MOTION: That the TAB amend the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include the 2008 New Starts funding appropriation E-2008-NWST-031 of \$10,192,000 for Central Corridor Light Rail pre-construction activities.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: The Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2008 allocated \$10,192,000 to the Central Corridor Light Rail project for pre-construction activities. The Federal Transit Administration requires that the funds be included in the TIP and STIP. Amending the current TIP will enable the pre-construction phase of the project to continue without interruption.

Additional background material is attached.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	February 21, 2008
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	March 5, 2008
TAB Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	March 19, 2008
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	March 19, 2008
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence	



February 12, 2008

Tim Mayasich, Chair
 TAC Funding & Programming Committee
 Metropolitan Council
 390 Robert Street
 St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Amendment to the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Twin Cities, Minnesota Metropolitan Area

State Project Number: E-2008-NWST-031 (Federal appropriation number); New State Project

Dear Mr. Mayasich:

Please amend the Minnesota 2008 – 2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Twin Cities, Minnesota to include the 2008 New Starts funding appropriation (E-2008-NWST-031) of \$10,192,000. This appropriation was received to support the Central Corridor Light Rail Project for pre-construction activities in accordance with the Federal Transit Administration's New Starts guidance.

The project is being submitted with the following information:

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

STATE FISCAL YEAR	ATP	DIST	ROUTE SYSTEM	PROJECT NUMBER (S.P. #) (Fed # if available)	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION include location, description of all work, & city (if applicable)	MILES
2008	M	M	BB	New	Metropolitan Council	Central Corridor Light Rail Transit connecting Minneapolis and St. Paul.	11 miles

PROG	TYPE OF WORK	PROP FUNDS	TOTAL \$	FHWA \$	AC \$	FTA \$	TH \$	OTHER \$
TR	Transit	FTA 5309 New Starts	12,740,000			10,192,000		2,548,000

PROJECT BACKGROUND (INCLUDE REASON WHY AMENDMENT IS BEING REQUESTED):

- 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).

The Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project is part of the approved 2030 Transportation Policy Plan. In March

A service of the Metropolitan Council

2007, Met Council submitted a request to members of the Minnesota congressional delegation. On January 28, 2008, the U.S. Department of Transportation, through its Federal Transit Administration, announced that the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 allocates an additional \$10,192,000 to the Central Corridor Light Rail.

The funds are intended to support the Central Corridor Light Rail Project's activities leading up to receipt of a full funding grant agreement from the FTA. The project is strongly supported by local agencies, policymakers, the business community and the general public. It provides a cost-effective solution to improving mobility in a major transportation corridor in the Twin Cities that has experienced increasing traffic congestion, major redevelopment and transit ridership growth.

FTA requires the funds be included in the 2008 TIP/STIP prior to the submission of the application to FTA which requires an amendment to the 2008 TIP/STIP. The availability of these funds in the current year will enable the project to continue its work during the preconstruction phase of the project.

MAINTENANCE OF FISCAL CONSTRAINT (CHECK ONE)

- New Money X
- Anticipated Advance Construction
- ATP or MPO or Mn/DOT Adjustment by deferral of

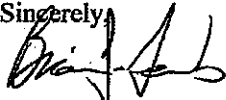
AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

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

*Exempt Project Category # 02 Per Section 93.126 of the Conformity Rules
(O2: Engineering to assess social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed action o alternatives to that action)

CONSISTENCY WITH MPO LONG RANGE PLAN: The Metropolitan Council's regional 2030 Transportation Policy Plan, adopted December 15, 2004, identifies the Central Corridor as a tier one priority for early implementation.

We are requesting approval of this TIP amendment at this time. If you have any questions, please call Mark Fuhrmann, Central Corridor LRT Project Director at 651-602-1942 or Susan Stensland, Grants Manager at 612-349-7063.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Lamb
General Manager
Metro Transit

cc: Marv Lunceford, MN/DOT
Sherry Narusiewicz, MN/DOT
Susan Stensland, Metro Transit

Tom Weaver, Metropolitan Council
Mark Fuhrmann, Metro Transit
Arlene McCarthy, Metropolitan Council