

T Transportation Committee
Metropolitan Council meeting of March 24, 2010

Date
Prepared: March 23, 2010
Subject: Authorization to Submit Grant Application for Minnesota
Department of Transportation Trunk Highway Transit
Improvements (Chapter 152)

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to submit four grant applications for Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Trunk Highway Transit Facility Improvements in the amount of \$15,000,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

After a brief staff presentation, the proposed action was moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

T Transportation Committee
Meeting date: March 22, 2010

For Metropolitan Council: March 24, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: March 1, 2010
Subject: Authorization to Submit Grant Application for Minnesota Department of Transportation Trunk Highway Transit Improvements (Chapter 152)
District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-2-2 Income Grants
Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager 612-349-7510
Tom Thorstenson, Director Engineering & Facilities (612)349-7689
Charles Carlson, Facilities Planner (612)349-7639
Division/Department: Metro Transit Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to submit four grant applications for Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Trunk Highway Transit Facility Improvements in the amount of \$15,000,000.

Background

Minnesota Laws Chapter 152, passed by the State Legislature in 2008, establishes \$50 million of new Trunk Highway bonds for transit improvements. Of this total, \$30 million has been allocated to future projects on I-35W in Burnsville and on I-94 in St. Paul and Minneapolis. In January 2010 MnDOT announced the availability of the remaining \$20 million for competitive solicitation of transit improvements along the Trunk Highway system. Project solicitations are due to MnDOT on March 31, 2010. Transit projects may receive up to \$6 million each for bondable improvements.

Metro Transit and Metropolitan Council staff evaluated many candidate projects based on program eligibility and prioritization criteria and determined several feasible projects described below.

Rationale

Projects sought for funding are included in the *2030 Transportation Policy Plan* as well as the Draft *2030 Park-and-Ride Plan*. Funding for these eligible projects would increase total available transit capital funding and would be used to leverage federal funding.

Funding

The grant program does not require local match. All projects are included in the adopted *2010-2015 Capital Improvement Program*, and are programmed to be supported by other Federal, State, and Regional funding sources. Funding would become available upon anticipated award in July 2010.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition. Transit providers and local governments are also eligible to apply.

Proposed Projects for Funding	Project Funding	
	Estimated Total Project Capital Cost	Chapter 152 Requested Funding
Two I-35E Park-and-Rides (Vadnais Heights, Lino Lakes) Consolidates leased facilities into two surface lots directly adjacent to I-35E without service expansion.	\$6,500,000	\$4,000,000
I-94 and Manning Avenue (Woodbury) Park-and-Ride A 550-space structured park-and-ride in eastern Woodbury, with supporting service expansion. Matches potential federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) award. Awarded CMAQ funds will provide demonstration service funding.	\$10,900,000	\$4,500,000
Highway 36 and Rice Street (Roseville) Park-and-Ride Provides for future growth and alternate options if Rosedale Park-and-Ride lease ends 2012. Service expansion is not required.	\$2,620,000	\$2,000,000
Highway 62 and Penn Avenue (Richfield) Park-and-Ride A 300-space structured park-and-ride to support ridership increases on 35W BRT corridor without service expansion.	\$6,200,000	\$4,500,000