

Metro Cities News November 21, 2017

Metro Regional & Policy Adoption Meeting is Next Wednesday!

Metro Cities' Policy Adoption meeting and the Metro Regional Meeting hosted by the League of Minnesota Cities and Metro Cities is approaching next Wednesday, November 29 at the Crowne Plaza in Plymouth. Please plan to attend! <u>Click here</u> to register.

<u>Draft 2018 Legislative Policies</u> are online for review. Policies were recommended by four committees and approved by the Metro Cities Board. Draft policies and the policy adoption protocol were mailed to city administrators/managers.

Comments or questions should be directed to <u>kimberly@metrocitiesmn.org</u>. We hope to see you next Wednesday!

State Revenues Update

State net revenues for the month of October are \$35 million, or 2.1%, more than forecast. The uptick is largely due to higher than anticipated corporate tax receipts. Following the September revenue update showing receipts at \$66 million less than forecast for 2018, receipts for fiscal year 2018 are now \$31 million less than forecast. The next complete forecast will be released in early December.

TAB Approves Regional Solicitation for Public Comment

The Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) has approved a draft 2018 Regional Solicitation for public comment. The Regional Solicitation is the method by which federal transportation dollars from the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality program are allocated within the metro area. The funding is distributed among roadway, transit and travel demand management, and bicycle and pedestrian projects. The board adopted new criteria and measures as part of the draft solicitation at their meeting last week.

These changes include the creation of a \$10 million Bridge Rehabilitation/Replacement category, a mandate stipulating sponsoring agencies with 50 or more employees complete Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plans, the flexibility of scoring committees to deviate from scoring guidance in consultation with the TAB Funding and Programming Committee, and a requirement of applicants to show a project's independent utility, with points being awarded for project improvements. The draft also includes an increase to the maximum award for Travel Demand Management (TDM) from \$300,00 to \$500,000. A requirement that an applicant fully commit to funding a project should all funding sources not be realized that was included in an earlier draft, was not adopted.

The draft Regional Solicitation continues to fund at least one roadway project from each functional classification, maintains historic funding ranges for mode classifications, and will use 2018 cost estimates without inflation adjustments.

Comments can be submitted now through 5 p.m. on Friday, December 8, by the following methods:

• Email <u>public.info@metc.state.mn.us</u>

- Record a message at 651.602.1500
- Mail comments to 390 Robert Street North, St. Paul, MN 55101-1805

The Metropolitan Council will review public comments and evaluate changes for final adoption by the TAB on January 17, 2018, in preparation for releasing the formal 2018 Regional Solicitation.

To view the Regional Solicitation, click <u>here</u>. For more information on the Regional Solicitation, click <u>here</u>.

Questions? Please contact Steve Huser at steven@metrocitiesmn.org or 651-215-4003.

ADA Training and Regional Solicitation

The Center for Transportation Studies will host Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) training sessions in December to guide local agencies in completing required ADA transition plans. The sessions will also cover minimum ADA requirements and best practices. The current draft Regional Solicitation includes a requirement that agencies with 50 or more employees show they are working to complete Transition Plans.

Sessions will be held across the state, with two being held in the metropolitan area that are listed below. Sessions will be held from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

December 8, 2017—Ramsey County Public Works Facility, Marsden Room, 1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive, Arden Hills, MN

December 18, 2017—Continuing Education and Conference Center, Room 42, 1890 Buford Ave, St Paul, MN 55108

For more information and to register, click here.

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