

**NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002**

**RESOLUTION ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2015-2020 TRANSPORTATION
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) THAT IS EXEMPT FROM THE AIR QUALITY
CONFORMITY REQUIREMENT TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR THE METROPOLITAN BRANCH TRAIL
PROJECT, AS REQUESTED BY THE DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DDOT)**

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), which is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington Region, has the responsibility under the provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act for developing and carrying out a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process for the Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, the TIP is required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as a basis and condition for all federal funding assistance to state, local and regional agencies for transportation improvements within the Washington planning area; and

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2014 the TPB adopted the FY 2015-2020 TIP; and

WHEREAS, in the attached letter of September 1, 2016, DDOT has requested that the FY 2015-2020 TIP be amended to include \$5.7 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program funding for construction in FY 2016 and \$220,000 in federal demonstration funding for planning and engineering in FY 2016 for the Metropolitan Branch Trail project that runs from Union Station to the District line, as described in the attached materials; and

WHEREAS, this project is exempt from the air quality conformity requirement, as defined in Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Transportation Conformity Regulations as of April 2012;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Steering Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board amends the FY 2015-2020 TIP to include \$5.7 million in CMAQ program funding for construction in FY 2016 and \$220,000 in federal demonstration funding for planning and engineering in FY 2016 for the Metropolitan Branch Trail project, as described in the attached materials.

Government of the District of Columbia

Department of Transportation



d. Policy, Planning and Sustainability Administration

September 1, 2016

The Honorable Tim Lovain, Chairperson
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street N.E., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002-4290

Dear Chairman Lovain,

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) requests that the FY 2015-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) be amended to add funding for the Metropolitan Branch Trail project.

The proposed amendment would add approximately \$6 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program funds and \$300,000 in Demonstration funds in FY 2016 for the construction of the section of the Metropolitan Branch Trail near the Fort Totten Metrorail station. The Metropolitan Branch Trail project will provide a 6.25-mile bicycle/pedestrian trail from Union Station north to the District Line along the railroad right-of-way. This trail will connect at the District line with a route continuing into Silver Spring MD. This project is intended to serve both recreational users and commuters to meet Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) and air quality objectives.

The project does not add additional capacity for motorized vehicles and does not require conformity analysis or public review and comment. The funding sources have been identified, and the TIP will remain fiscally constrained. Therefore, DDOT requests that the TPB Steering Committee approve this amendment at its September 9, 2016 meeting.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Should you have questions regarding this amendment, please contact Mark Rawlings at (202) 671-2234 or by e-mail at mark.rawlings@dc.gov. Of course, feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

James Sebastian

Acting Associate Director, Planning and Sustainability Administration (PSA)

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
CAPITAL COSTS (in \$1,000)**

FY 2015 - 2020

Source	Fed/St/Loc	Previous Funding	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	Source Total
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DDOT

Bike/Ped

Metropolitan Branch Trail

TIP ID: 3228 Agency ID: AF073A, ZU024A Title: Metropolitan Branch Trail Complete: Total Cost: **\$7,432**

Facility: Union Station District Line	CMAQ	80/20/0	400 a		10,100 c	3,300 c			13,400
From:									
To:	DEMO	80/20/0	732 a	500 a	660 a	300 a			2,660
				1,200 c					

Total Funds: 16,060

Description: The Metropolitan Branch Trail project will provide a 6.25-mile bicycle/pedestrian trail from Union Station north to the District Line along the railroad right-of-way. This trail will connect at the District line with a route continuing into Silver Spring MD. This project is intended to serve both recreational users and commuters to meet Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) and air quality objectives.

- a. L & M St.
- b. Ft. Totten

Amendment: Increase FY 16 Construction **Requested on: 9/9/2016**
 Increase FY 16 Construction from \$4.4 Million CMAQ to \$10.1 Million CMAQ and Increase from \$400 to \$660 Thousand DEMO for a total FY 16 amount of \$10.8 Million