

WILMAPCO Council

Action Item Summary Sheet

Meeting Date: March 9, 2023

Action Item #11: To Amend the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Description/Summary of Item: Cecil County has requested that the TIP be amended to include revised funding for the Mechanics Valley Road over CSX bridge. Prior funding in the FY 2020-2023 TIP was FY 2020 Construction, \$8.12 million FHWA and \$2.03 million County (\$11.238 million). Funds have shifted to FY 2024 and are now \$8.675 million FHWA and \$2.35 million County (\$11.025 million).

Summary of Action Taken by PAC: The PAC did not take action on this agenda item.

Summary of Action Taken by TAC: The TAC recommended Council approval at their February 16 meeting.

Summary of Action Taken by Subcommittee/Task Force (if applicable): The AQS recommended Council approval at their March 2 meeting.

WILMAPCO Staff Recommendations: WILMAPCO staff recommends Council approval.

DRAFT

RESOLUTION

BY THE WILMINGTON AREA PLANNING COUNCIL (WILMAPCO)

WILMAPCO Council:

John Sisson, Chair
*Delaware Transit Corporation
Chief Executive Officer*

David L. Edgell
*Delaware Office of State Planning
Coordination, Director*

Danielle Hornberger
Cecil County Executive

Michael Kline
Mayor of North East

Nicole Majeski
*Delaware Dept. of Transportation
Secretary*

Matthew Meyer
New Castle County Executive

Heather Murphy
*Maryland Dept. of Transportation
Director, Office of Planning and
Capital Programming*

Michael S. Purzycki
Mayor of Wilmington

Eric Scott Thompson
Mayor of Elsmere

WILMAPCO Executive Director
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AMENDING THE FY 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, CECIL COUNTY ELEMENT

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO) has been designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Cecil County, Maryland and New Castle County, Delaware by the Governors of Maryland and Delaware, respectively; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Regulations of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Metropolitan Planning Requirements, require that, in air quality non-attainment areas, the MPO, in cooperation with participants in the planning process, develop and, at least every four years, updates the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS, the WILMAPCO TIP format incorporates a four-year period for the listing of priority projects to be implemented, as well as a list of program development projects; and

WHEREAS, the amendment to the FY 2023-2026 TIP has undergone appropriate community and technical reviews; and

WHEREAS, the amendment to the TIP has been determined to be air quality conforming in accordance with IIJA and Clean Air Act and Amendments (CAAA) of 1990 requirements; and;

WHEREAS, the amendment to the FY 2023-2026 TIP have been found to be financially constrained, as directed by 23 CFR 450.326, and consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wilmington Area Planning Council does hereby amend the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program to include updated funding for the Mechanics Valley Road Bridge over CSX project.

Date:

John Sisson, Chairperson
Wilmington Area Planning Council



Partners with you in transportation planning

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM SUBMISSION/AMENDMENT FORM

This form must be completed and all questions must be answered in order to process this request.

Date of Submission: _____ **TIP to be Amended:** FY 2023-2026 _____

Sponsoring Agency: Cecil County, Maryland _____

Project Name: Replacement of Bridge CE0042 Mechanics Valley Road over CSX _____

Project Category: System Preservation _____

Project Description:

The project will replace the existing bridge with a new, modern bridge on a new alignment that will also improve the intersection of Mechanics Valley Road with Bouchelle Road

Project Justification:

Bridge is in poor condition and is functionally obsolete

Funding:

Federal 80% (STBG) State _____ Local 20% Total 100%

Funding Source	Phase	Current Estimate Total	FY_2024_	FY_____	FY_____	FY_____	Total
FHWA		8675	8675				8675
Local		2350	2350				2350
Total		11025	11025				11025

\$s x 1,000

1. Does this project require a new conformity determination? No
(Section 93.104(c)(2)) "A TIP amendment requires a new conformity determination for the entire TIP before the amendment is approved by the MPO or accepted by DOT, unless the amendment merely adds or deletes exempt projects listed in § 93.126 or § 93.127".

2. Is this project regionally significant? Yes
(Section 23 CFR 450.326 (f)) "The TIP shall contain all regionally significant projects requiring an action by the FHWA or the FTA whether or not the projects are to be funded under title 23 U.S.C. Chapters 1 and 2 or title 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 (e.g., addition of an interchange to the Interstate System with State, local, and/or private funds and congressionally designated projects not funded under 23 U.S.C. or 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53). For public information and conformity purposes, the TIP shall include all regionally significant projects proposed to be funded with Federal funds other than those administered by the FHWA or the FTA, as well as all regionally significant projects to be funded with non-Federal funds."

3. Has this project had the opportunity for public comment? Yes
(Section 450.328(a)) "The MPO(s) shall use public participation procedures consistent with § 450.316(a) in revising the TIP, except that these procedures are not required for administrative modifications."

4. Has this project been found to be financially constrained? Yes
(Section 450.326(k)) "The TIP shall include a project, or a phase of a project, only if full funding can reasonably be anticipated to be available for the project within the time period contemplated for completion of the project...."

Please indicate funding sources by agency:

Cecil County
Federal Aid Bridge Replacement Program

5. Is this project consistent with the WILMAPCO Regional Transportation Plan? Yes
(Section 450.326i) "Each project or project phase included in the TIP shall be consistent with the approved metropolitan transportation plan."

If not, is there a resolution to amend the Regional Transportation Plan?

6. Does the project include complete streets elements (i.e. pedestrian, bicycle, or transit improvements)? Please describe: No. It is a bridge replacement

7. Please provide any additional pertinent information below:



Transportation Improvement Program Submission/Amendment Description of Public Participation

Project Name: Cecil County Bridge CE-0042, Mechanics Valley Road over CSX Railroad

Which techniques were used to seek public comment (please use additional pages if needed).

Public workshops/meetings

Number of public workshops/meetings: 1

Format: Open Information Meeting with display boards and multiple representatives from the County answering questions from the attendees

Location(s): North East Fire Hall, North East, Maryland

Number of attendees: 30 signed the attendance sheet, however estimated a total of 45 attendees

Main issue raised: Length of construction; proposed detour and length; will the intersection site distance be improved

Consensus of meeting: Significant majority of attendees in favor of the project since it will improve the intersection of Mechanics Valley Road and Bouchelle Road

Overall, the public support for the project was (check one):

Strong support, few concerns

Some opposition, many concerns raised

Some support, but some concerns raised

Strong opposition, major problems identified

Mixed, equal support and opposition

Unresolved issues identified: _____

Citizen Advisory/Steering Committee

Survey

Number surveyed: _____

Results: _____

Elected officials briefings

Other The County installed multiple static signs in the project area informing the public of a public informational meeting with the date and time identified

How was the public notified about the project?

Web page

Publications

Distribution: _____

Legal notice

Newsletter/brochure

Videos

Flyers

Radio/television

Other _____

How has the project changed as a result of public comments?

No significant changes resulted from the public comments

Comment further on the quantity and quality of the public participation:

