

Action Transmittal

Transportation Advisory Board



Committee meeting date: October 7, 2026

Date: September 30, 2026

Action Transmittal: 2026-39

Program Year Extension Request: Three Rivers Park District Shingle Creek Regional Trail Reconstruction Active Transportation Pilot Project

To: TAB Technical Advisory Committee
From: TAC Funding & Programming
Prepared by: Joe Widing, Planning Analyst, 651-602-1822

Requested action

Three Rivers Park District Shingle Creek Regional Trail Reconstruction project, a 2024 Active Transportation pilot project, requests a program year extension from 2026 to 2027.

Recommended motion

Recommend that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend approval of the program year extension request to shift the program year from 2026 to 2027 for the Three Rivers Park District Shingle Creek Regional Trail Reconstruction project.

Background and purpose

In 2024, the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) awarded \$19 million in regional sales tax funds for 17 pilot projects in the 2024 Regional Solicitation. As part of the pilot round, the TAB requested communities accelerate their project delivery timelines to bid projects by the end of 2026.

Applicants who indicated that was possible were selected for the pilot round. The TAB also approved policy-level grant requirements ([AT 2024-42](#)) for the pilot projects, which included a modified program year policy for the projects. This modified policy required project sponsors to release projects for bid by the end of 2026. Nine projects began the construction process before the accelerated program year deadline. However, the policy indicated that if projects were not able to meet the accelerated timeline, project start dates may be extended an additional year beyond 2026 with TAB approval. This request must be approved by the end of 2026.

Three Rivers Park District Shingle Creek Regional Trail Reconstruction project proposes to improve 0.84 miles of substandard regional trail from a concrete sidewalk to a 10-foot multiuse trail. However, due to unforeseen right-of-way acquisition needs that became apparent during detailed project design, Three Rivers Park District requests a program year extension from 2026 to 2027. The project sponsor is coordinating with Hennepin County to acquire the land needed to construct the improvements and anticipates the project to be bid in May and begin construction in summer 2027.

Relationship to regional policy

The TAB adopted the Program Year Policy in April 2013 (last updated in February 2025) to assist with management and timely delivery of transportation projects awarded federal funding through the Regional Solicitation. The 2024 active transportation pilot projects had a different program year requirement established due to the unique nature of the projects. With the accelerated

timeline to begin by the end of 2026, projects were granted a provision to request a one-time, one-year extension to develop the projects. The project sponsors are requesting this one-year extension to finalize project development and begin construction of the awarded projects in 2027. All projects will still be completed earlier than initially applied for in the 2024 Regional Solicitation, which had program years of 2028 and 2029.

Staff analysis

This project is one of the first program year extension requests for the active transportation pilot projects. As part of the pilot approval process, all selected projects were required to begin project bidding by the end of 2026. As all these projects initially applied for federal funding with program years beyond 2026, it was anticipated that some projects may not be able to meet the shorter project delivery timeline. Of the 17 selected projects, 6 have requested extensions into 2027 to begin bidding for construction of their projects. This request is due to unforeseen right-of-way acquisition needs for the project that were discovered during advanced project design. The applicant has noted that they are coordinating with Hennepin County to acquire the needed land and are anticipating releasing the project for bidding in May for construction to begin in 2027.

Typically, program year requests are required to include information on negative impacts from the requested delay or interim steps to mitigate issues from delaying a project. However, the active transportation pilot projects were selected for an accelerated timeline and even with the program extension will still be under construction earlier than the earliest program year for 2024 projects (2028).

Additionally, as the program year for active transportation projects follows the calendar year and not federal fiscal years, as is the case for typical Regional Solicitation projects, projects that are released for bid, on time, by the end of 2026 or the winter of 2027 are to be under construction at the beginning of the 2027 construction season and so the impact of a program year extension would be minimal from an implementation perspective. The Shingle Creek Regional Trail Reconstruction project is anticipated to be on schedule for construction.

Finally, the program year policy was developed for federally funded projects to ensure that selected projects maintained programmed schedules to limit complications or funding shortfalls for future federal funding. With the active transportation funded projects, this risk is not present. Funding for the pilot projects has already been collected and allocated to the specific projects. Program year extensions will not impact future project selection or implementation.

Given these considerations and the accelerated nature of the pilot projects, staff recommends approval of Three Rivers Park District's program year extension from 2026 to 2027.

Committee comments and action

At its September 24, 2026, meeting, the TAC Funding & Programming Committee recommended approval of the program year extension request to shift the program year from 2026 to 2027 for the Three Rivers Park District Shingle Creek Regional Trail Reconstruction project. The motion was approved by a vote of 20 to 0.

Routing

To	Action Requested	Date Completed (Scheduled)
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review and recommend	September 24, 2026
Technical Advisory Committee	Review and recommend	<i>October 7, 2026</i>
Transportation Advisory Board	Review and adopt	<i>October 21, 2026</i>





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July 23, 2026

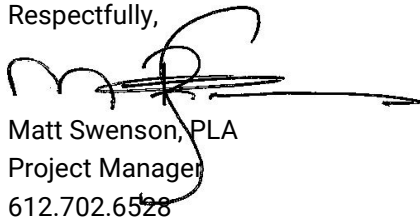
Dear Ms. Knutson,

On behalf of Three Rivers Park District, I am writing to request an amendment to the agreement that was recently executed for **Grant SG-25M-AT-16: Shingle Creek Regional Trail – Reconstruction**.

Paragraph **7.02 Project Commencement** states that a formal solicitation for bids must be advertised by December 31, 2026. Through our design process, we have discovered that some intersection improvements required for this trail reconstruction project have minor encroaches into private property. Hennepin County, a partner on this project who owns the right-of-way that this trail project falls within, is leading the effort to acquire these land rights. They have indicated that this process typically takes up to a year and have asked us to plan for final land acquisition by May 2027. While we may have the confidence to advertise prior to obtaining these land rights, we would feel more comfortable if the date in the agreement aligned more closely with the timeline for land acquisition. For this reason, we are requesting that the date indicated in paragraph 7.02 be revised to May 31, 2027.

We appreciate your consideration of this request. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Respectfully,



Matt Swenson, PLA
Project Manager
612.702.6528

matt.swenson@threeiversparks.org