

Action Transmittal

Transportation Advisory Board



Committee meeting date: October 7, 2026

Date: September 30, 2026

Action Transmittal: 2026-44

Program Year Extension Request: The City of Arden Hills Old Highway 10 Safe Routes to School Active Transportation Pilot Project

To: TAB Technical Advisory Committee

From: TAC Funding & Programming

Prepared by: Joe Widing, Planning Analyst, 651-602-1822

Requested action

The City of Arden Hills Old Highway 10 Safe Routes to School 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 City of Arden Hills Old Highway 10 Safe Routes to School 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. 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.

The City of Arden Hills Old Highway 10 Safe Routes to School project proposes to construct new and improve 1.3 miles of bicycle and pedestrian facilities with a 10-foot multiuse trail and accessibility improvements along Old Highway 10. However, Arden Hills requests a program year extension from 2026 to 2027 to coordinate with Ramsey County on the County's updated cost sharing policy, which takes effect in 2027. The project is expected to bid in January 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 Arden Hills looking to further coordinate the project with Ramsey County as the county updates its cost sharing policy in 2027. The proposed project is located along Ramsey County Road 76 and the city has requested the program year extension to bid the project out in January 2027 instead of 2026 to coordinate with Ramsey County as they implement the new cost sharing policy. The project anticipates construction in summer 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 in the fall 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. Old Highway 10 Safe Routes to School 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, selected project's funding is already collected and identified to fund the 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 Arden Hill'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 City of Arden Hills Old Highway 10 Safe Routes to School project. Committee members asked about the nature of the request coordinating with Ramsey County cost share policy changes. Staff replied that the request will not result in an actual delay in the implementation of the project and that the program year policy for active transportation projects will be reviewed to avoid similar issues in the future. 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	October 7, 2026
Transportation Advisory Board	Review and adopt	October 21, 2026





CITY OF ARDEN HILLS

Celebrating 75 Years

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To: TAC Funding and Programming
From: City of Arden Hills
Date: 9/9/2026
Subject: Program Year Extension Request – Old Highway 10 Trail SRTS Improvements SG-25M-AT-01

Project Background

The City of Arden Hills is requesting a minor bidding year extension for the Old Highway 10 Trail SRTS Improvements project. The project will improve pedestrian and roadway safety along Old Highway 10, including trail construction, roadway modifications, crossing improvements, ADA ramps, sidewalk construction, and other related safety improvements.

The City was awarded \$1,000,000 through the Regional Transportation Sales and Use Tax program in 2024. The total project cost identified in the grant agreement is \$3,679,000. The project was originally planned for construction in 2026. During project development, the City identified an opportunity to postpone construction and potentially take advantage of a more favorable County cost share program. The change shifted construction to the 2027-2028 construction season.

Project Progress

The project continues to advance toward bidding and construction.

Action	Target Date
City Council Approves Plans and Specs and Authorizes Advertisement for Bids	January 2027
City Receives and Opens Project Bids	January/February 2027
City Council Considers Award of Contract	February/March 2027
Start Project Construction	March-April 2027
Construction Substantially Complete	June 2028

The City expects to complete environmental and right-of-way requirements in the fall of 2026. Bidding is expected shortly after the current project commencement deadline of December 31, 2026.



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Justification for Extension

The extension is needed to complete final design after schedule adjustments made to potentially respond to changes in the County cost share policy and bid the project in early 2027. The City expects to need no more than two additional months. This will provide a more favorable bidding window and better align bidding with a typical construction start in spring 2027.

Without an extension, the City would either need to accelerate final design to meet the current deadline or risk cancellation of the grant award.

The short extension will not delay construction. Work is still expected to begin in spring 2027, with substantial completion in June 2028, before the grant agreement expires on December 31, 2028.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Swearingen".

David Swearingen, Public Works Director / City Engineer
