
Sponsor: Public Works

Meeting Date: 8/19/2025

Title: Transit Impacts Research Program Presentation and 2025
Funding Request

File Number: 2025-275

Background and Rationale:

The Transit Impacts Research Program (TIRP) studies the economic and community impacts of transitway projects. The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority (RCRRA), an active participant in the program since 2008, along with other local governments, and the University of Minnesota support various research initiatives through the TIRP. The 2025 TIRP funding request to RCRRA is in the amount of \$30,000 to help support a research project called "Workers as Co-designers of Workforce Development: Lessons for Transit Workforce Planning." This research aims to assist regional transit agencies in improving hiring, retention, and leadership promotion through worker-informed co-design processes. It establishes a foundation for agencies to involve frontline workers, such as drivers and mechanics, as continuous partners in the co-creation and evaluation of evolving transit workforce solutions.

On November 12, 2024, Professor Jason Cao of the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs presented to the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority on recent research funded by TIRP.

Continued research will take advantage of skills at the University of Minnesota to provide useful information for decisions on transitway development. Additional information about the Transit Impacts Research Program can be found on their website:

<https://www.cts.umn.edu/programs/tirp>

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority resolved to:

Approve the expenditure of \$30,000 for Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority's share of the Transit Impacts Research Program for 2025.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Xiong, seconded by Commissioner Miller.

Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

By: _____



Jason Yang, Chief Clerk - County Board