

SAFETEA-LU TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL SUMMARY

The SAFETEA-LU Technical Corrections Bill (HR 1195) was enacted on June 6, 2008 (P.L. 110-244). The Bill can be found at:

http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h1195enr.txt.pdf

The Bill contains the following highlights for Minnesota:

Surface Transportation Program (Eligibility for Minor Collectors)– The Corrections Bill extends eligibility for minor collectors. The original TEA-21 provision that extended this eligibility was not continued by SAFETEA-LU. This provision permits obligation on minor collectors of up to 15% of a State's sub-allocation of STP funds for areas of less than 5,000 population.

Federal Repeat Offender (Sec. 164) Sanction – The Corrections Bill changes the minimum penalties required for repeat DWI offenders. This change might bring Minnesota's repeat offender penalties into compliance with federal law, which could eliminate the sanction imposed on Minnesota federal highway formula funding. Currently under the sanction, about \$12 million/yr. of the state's highway funding is transferred to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. Mn/DOT and DPS work together to use this funding to implement the state's Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

NHTSA Safety Funding – The Corrections Bill provides a small increase in funding to NHTSA programs, which are administered by DPS in Minnesota. This funding increase will result in a small decrease in federal highway formula funding.

New Starts Program – The Corrections Bill requires the Federal Transit Administration to give "comparable, but not necessarily equal" weight to each of the New Starts project justification criteria. This language may prompt FTA to change the weight it gives to the Cost Effectiveness Index in analyzing and approving potential New Starts projects such as the Central Corridor LRT line between Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Research Program – SAFETEA-LU over committed the funding available to the Research Program. The Technical Corrections Bill corrects this issue by moving the funding source for the Future Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2) from the Research Title of SAFETEA-LU to the Highway Title. This will allow SHRP2 to be funded as well as the remainder of the Research program. This funding shift will result in a small decrease in federal highway formula funding.

Federal Study on Highway Capacity - The Corrections Bill requires USDOT to conduct a study on the impacts of converting left and right highway shoulders to travel lanes, and report to Congress on the results of the study within one year.

Earmark Project Description Changes – The Corrections Bill changes the descriptions of many SAFETEA-LU earmarks. The changes to projects in Minnesota are as follows:

HOUSE PROJECTS

HPP #	Previous Project Description	HPP \$'s	New Description
98	Lyndale Avenue Bridge, Richfield	13,000,000	R/W acquisition and construction for the 77th Street reconstruction project, including the Lyndale Avenue Bridge over I-494, Richfield
154	Construct recreational visitor center on the Mesabi Trail, City of Virginia	1,300,000	Construct recreational visitor center on the Mesabi Trail, City of Eveleth
259	Corridor study, EIS, and ROW acquisition for a future highway and bridge over the Mississippi River, City of Brainerd	800,000	Design and construction of the Clair Nelson Intermodal Center in Finland, Lake County
655	Environmental studies and right of way acquisition for Trunk Highway 55 Corridor Protection Project	4,000,000	Environmental studies, safety improvement construction, and right-of-way acquisition for Trunk Highway 55 Corridor Protection Project
813	TH 36—Stillwater Bridge; cut-and-cover approach to river crossing	400,000	Preliminary design and study of long-term roadway approach alternatives to TH 36/SH 64 St. Croix River Crossing Project
1015	Right-of-way acquisition for Mississippi River Bridge connecting I-94 and U.S. 10 between U.S. 169 and TH 101	800,000	Mississippi River Crossing connecting I-94 and US 10 between US 160 and TH 101, MN* (*This description incorrectly identifies US 169 as US 160 – this error should not create any issues for utilizing the funding.)
1501	Construction and widening of TH 241 in the city of St. Michael, MN	1,600,000	Construction and R/W acquisition of TH 241, CSAH 35 and associated streets in the City of St. Michael

HPP #	Previous Project Description	HPP \$'s	New Description
1810	Design, engineering, and ROW acquisition to reconstruct TH 95 bridge, North Branch	7,120,745	Design, engineering, R/W acquisition, construction and construction engineering for the reconstruction of TH 95, from 12th Avenue to CSAH 13, including bridge and approaches, ramps, intersecting roadways, signals, turn lanes, and multiuse trail, North Branch
1824	Environmental review for improvement along the entire US 10 corridor	1,040,000	US Route 10 Expansion in Wadena and Ottertail Counties
2166	Design and right-of-way acquisition for I-35 and CSAH 2 interchange in Forest Lake, MN.	2,400,000	Design, R/W acquisition and construction for I-35 and CSAH 2 Interchange and CSAH 2 corridor to TH 61 in Forest Lake
3188	I-494 U.S. 169 Interchange Reconstruction, Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, Minnesota.	4,000,000	I-494/U.S. 169 Interchange Reconstruction, including U.S. 169/Valley View Road Interchange
3251	Corridor design work, I-94 and Radio Drive, Woodbury, MN	400,000	I-94 and Radio Drive Interchange and frontage road project, design, ROW acquisition, and construction, Woodbury
3447	Construct 4th Street overpass grade separation crossing a BNSF Rail Road, City of Carlton	159,835	Carlton, 4th Street Railroad Crossing Improvement Project: Construct a safe, at grade crossing of the railroad and necessary bridge, connecting the community's educational and athletic facilities.
3456	Phase II/part II - CSAH 15 to East of Scenic Highway 7 (1.2 miles)	2,272,000	Completion of Phase II/Part I of a project on Elizabeth Avenue in Coleraine to west of Itasca County State Aid Highway 15 in Itasca County

SENATE PROJECTS

4355	Design, engineering, and ROW acquisition to reconstruct Trunk Highway 95 bridge in North Branch.	750,000	Design, engineering, R/W acquisition, construction, and construction engineering for the reconstruction of TH 95, from 12th Avenue to CSAH 13, including bridge and approaches, ramps, intersecting roadways, signals, turn lanes and multi use trail, North Branch
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HPP #	Previous Project Description	HPP \$'s	New Description
4357	Design , construct, and expand TH 241 in the city of St. Michael	2,500,000	Design, construct, R/W, and expand TH 241 and CSAH 35 and associated streets in the City of St. Michael
4360	Planning and Pre-Design for Twin Cities Bioscience Corridor in St. Paul	3,000,000	Planning, Design, and Construction for Twin Cities Bioscience Corridor in St. Paul
4362	I-494 U.S. 169 Interchange Reconstruction, Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, Minnesota.	2,000,000	I-494/U.S. 169 Interchange Reconstruction including U.S. 169/Valley View Road Interchange, Twin Cities Metropolitan Area
4365	34th Street Realignment and Interchange at 34th Street and I-94 in Moorhead	4,000,000	34th St. realignment and 34th Street and I-94 interchange, including retention and reconstruction of the SE Main Ave/CSAH 52 interchange ramps at I-94, and other transportation improvements for the City of Moorhead including the SE Main Ave GSI and Moorhead Comprehensive Rail Safety Program
4369	Reimbursement of 8th Street North in St. Cloud	2,000,000	Construction of 8th Street North, Stearns C.R. 120 to TH 15 in St. Cloud
4371	Construction and widening of TH 241 in the city of St. Michael, MN	2,500,000	Construction and R/W of TH 241, CSAH 35 and associated streets in the City of St. Michael

Wisconsin HPP Projects

676	Reconstruct and rebuild St. Croix River Crossing, connecting Wisconsin State Highway 64 in Houlton, Wisconsin to Minnesota State Highway 36 in Stillwater, Minnesota	5,600,000	St. Croix River crossing project, Wisconsin State Highway 64, St. Croix County, Wisconsin, to Minnesota State Highway 36, Washington County
5132	Reconstruct and rebuild St. Croix River Crossing, connecting Wisconsin State Highway 64 in Houlton, Wisconsin to Minnesota State Highway 36 in Stillwater, Minnesota	7,500,000	St. Croix River crossing project, Wisconsin State Highway 64, St. Croix County, Wisconsin, to Minnesota State Highway 36, Washington County

Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program

<p>Sec. 106</p>	<p>The Secretary shall establish and carry out a nonmotorized transportation pilot program to construct, in the following 4 communities selected by the Secretary, a network of nonmotorized transportation infrastructure facilities, including sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and pedestrian and bicycle trails, that connect directly with transit stations, schools, residences, businesses, recreation areas, and other community activity centers:</p> <p>(1) Columbia, Missouri. (2) Marin County, California. (3) Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota. (4) Sheboygan County, Wisconsin.</p>	<p>25,000,000</p>	<p>The Secretary shall establish and carry out a nonmotorized transportation pilot program to construct, in the following 4 communities selected by the Secretary, a network of nonmotorized transportation infrastructure facilities, including sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and pedestrian and bicycle trails, that connect directly with transit stations, schools, residences, businesses, recreation areas, and other community activity centers:</p> <p>(1) Columbia, Missouri. (2) Marin County, California. (3) Minneapolis, Minnesota. (4) Sheboygan County, Wisconsin.</p>
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