

TO: Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Brian Gibson, Executive Director
RE: Amendment to 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program
DATE: Sept 29, 2021

The proposed amendment makes the following changes to the approved 2022 work plan:

1. **Deletes the Saint Joseph Birch Street Redevelopment Study** – This change is being made at the request of the City of Saint Joseph. The Federal funds (\$20,000) would be redistributed to the Opportunity Drive Operations Review (see #3 below).
2. **Redistributes resources based on staff changes and post-Census tasks** – Associate Planner Fred Sandal has left the APO for a non-profit organization. I have promoted Planning Technician Alex McKenzie into the Associate Planner position and we are currently searching for a new Planning Technician. These staff changes result in about \$22,000 less needed for staff. The Federal funds no longer needed for staff will also be redirected into the Opportunity Drive Operations Review (#3 below). Additionally, the 2020 US Census will result in two additional tasks: 1) a re-evaluation of the APO's planning boundaries, and 2) MnDOT will be re-evaluating all roadway functional classifications. I have shifted some hours around in order to better accommodate those tasks.
3. **Opportunity Drive Operations Review** – Using the Federal funds from the Birch Street Redevelopment Study and the staffing changes, the APO would support an operational review of Opportunity Drive including the I-94 interchange. The study budget would include \$40,000 in Federal funds plus \$40,000 in local funds provided by the City of Saint Cloud, for a total budget of \$80,000. This project came to us from St. Cloud city staff based on a discussion by the City Council. Jurisdictional assessments would NOT be increased. Our request for Federal funds would not be reduced.

Suggested Action: Recommend Approval