



# Protect County Transportation Funding

Washington County urges the Minnesota Legislature to protect the current formula for distributing Transportation Advancement Account (TAA) funds and Regional Transportation Sales and Use Tax (RSUT).

## Issue At-A-Glance

- The Transportation Advancement Account (TAA) and Regional Transportation Sales and Use Tax (RSUT), established in 2023, are currently funded by sales taxes and delivery fees in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.
- The TAA and RSUT funding stream is essential to maintain and improve local transportation systems. It supports road rehabilitation, active transportation (walking and biking), transit, and climate-friendly projects. The formula was carefully negotiated and ensures that counties receive funding based on both population and financial need.
- This funding is critical for Washington County to keep up with growth, maintain aging infrastructure, and provide safe, accessible transportation options for all users. Counties are responsible for nearly one-third of Minnesota's roads and over 40% of its bridges. In Washington County, many of these roads are part of the state aid system and serve as major connectors for freight, transit, and daily travel.
- State law requires metropolitan counties to use TAA and RSUT funds as follows:
  - 41.5% for active transportation and transportation corridor safety studies.
  - 41.4% for repair, preservation and rehabilitation of transportation systems and roadway replacement without expansion.
  - 17% for transit, complete streets and greenhouse gas mitigation.
- Under the current funding structure, Washington County is expected to receive approximately \$7 to \$8 million annually.

## Support

- Anoka County
- Carver County
- Dakota County
- Hennepin County
- Ramsey County
- Scott County

## Previous Considerations

No previous consideration.

## No Action

Washington County plans to fund almost 30 separate transportation projects in the next five years with TAA and RSUT funds. If the formula to distribute transportation funds is changed, these critical safety, pedestrian, preservation, and capacity projects would be canceled or delayed.

## Financial Implications

Changing the TAA formula would affect Washington County's ability to plan and fund important projects, shifting more costs to local taxpayers. The current system is inclusive, effective, and reflects the real responsibilities counties have to keep Minnesota moving. The Legislature should preserve the TAA formula and ensure that counties continue to receive the funding they need to invest in safe, reliable, and future-ready transportation solutions.

