

RESOLUTION #2025-14

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (NWARPC) 2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP) TO INCLUDE NEW FEDERAL FUNDING PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, U.S. Department of Transportation regulations require an areawide multi-modal transportation plan and a continuing planning process for urbanized areas; and

WHEREAS, said mandated planning process, known as the “3C” (Continuing, Cooperative and Comprehensive) planning process, must be carried out by a designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and is necessary for transportation projects to qualify for federal transportation funds; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC), as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR-MO urbanized area, is responsible for the development of a long-range, multi-modal transportation plan for the area and its future environs; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan was approved on March 24, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program provides credit assistance for qualified projects of regional and national significance and many large-scale, surface transportation projects - highway, transit, railroad, intermodal freight, and port access - are eligible for assistance.; and

WHEREAS, NWARPC, in conformance with federal requirements, has prepared an amendment to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to incorporate the federal TIFIA funding program into the long-range plans.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

That the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Chapter 9. Transportation Projects and Funding, Summary of Federal Aid Programs and Funding, is hereby amended as shown in Exhibit A.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

Mayor Doug Sprouse, Chairman
Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission

ATTEST: _____

EXHIBIT A

NWARPC 2045 MTP AMENDMENT #2

PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO CHAPTER 9 – CHANGES SHOWN IN RED

CHAPTER 9. TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND FUNDING SUMMARY OF FEDERAL AID PROGRAMS AND FUNDING

(ADD FUNDING SOURCE DESCRIPTION)

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION ACT (TIFIA) LOAN PROGRAM

The Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Loan Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation, provides credit assistance for eligible surface transportation projects to accelerate investment in critical infrastructure. TIFIA offers low-interest, long-term loans and other credit instruments to support large-scale transportation projects that may otherwise face delays due to funding constraints.

Eligible projects include highway, transit, intercity passenger rail, intermodal freight, port, and certain airport infrastructure projects. Rural infrastructure and transit-oriented development projects are also eligible. TIFIA financing can cover up to 49% of eligible project costs, helping to attract private investment and leverage other funding sources. The program is designed to improve mobility, enhance economic competitiveness, and strengthen the nation's transportation infrastructure.

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(MODIFY – PAGE 9-10)

CONSTRAINED PROJECT LIST

Significant work went into past long range transportation plans to identify and program future projects and many of these projects are still regional priorities. In developing the 2045 MTP Constrained List, identified projects have been adjusted for inflation and projects that are already completed have been removed. The FFY 2021-2024 current Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Study (NARTS) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) provides the listing of the first four years of projects and is considered to be part of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan constrained project listing.