

S.F. No. 521 – MnDOT Project Selection Modifications

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S.F. 521 amends several existing project selection processes used by the Department of Transportation. The bill also requires the department to adopt project selection process policies for a variety of programs.

Sections 1-3 amend various project selection processes used by the Department of Transportation. These sections require the commissioner of transportation to publish the requirements on the department's website. The commissioner must also publish on the department's website a list of all projects that were considered for funding and identify which were selected for funding. For each project that was not selected for funding, the commissioner must include the reason why it was not selected for funding. **Section 1** relates to the Safe Routes to School Program. **Section 2** relates to the Local Bridge Replacement Program. **Section 3** relates to the Local Road Improvement Fund Program.

Section 4 requires the commissioner of transportation to develop and implement a project selection process for every program or process the commissioner uses to evaluate, prioritize, or select capital projects; award grants for capital projects; or allocate funding or resources for capital projects, including trunk highway and general obligation bonds. The commissioner must consult with relevant stakeholders before developing and implementing a policy. The commissioner must adopt the policy by November 1, 2021, and publish it on the department's website. The commissioner must report to the legislature by February 1, 2023, on the policy. This section is effective the day following final enactment.