

S.F. No. 3133 – Pavement life-cycle cost analyses

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Section 1 [§174.185; Pavement life-cycle cost analysis] amends the requirements relating to pavement life-cycle cost analyses.

Subdivision 1 [Definitions] defines amends the definition of “life-cycle cost analysis” and provides new definitions for “minimum requirements,” “pavement,” “rounded value,” “shoulder,” “substantial plan development,” and “superfluous materials.”

Subdivision 2 [Required analysis] requires the commissioner of transportation (“Commissioner”) to perform a lifecycle cost analysis for any project with 15,000 or more square yards of paving. The commissioner must document the chosen pavement strategy. The commissioner must complete the life-cycle cost analysis prior to substantial plan development.

Subdivision 2a [Excess fuel consumption calculation] provides the calculation for determining excess fuel consumption, which is a factor that must be considered in the analysis.

Subdivision 2b [Public review and collaboration] requires the commissioner to post a draft of the life-cycle analysis and draft pavement selection on the department’s website before finalizing a pavement selection. The commissioner must allow the public to submit questions and comments. The commissioner must respond to each comment or question. After the public review period closes, the commissioner must revise the life-cycle cost analysis in response to the questions or comments received. If the commissioner changes the type of pavement selected, the commissioner must re-post for another public review period.

Subdivision 2c [Selection] requires the commissioner to select a pavement strategy and prepare a document of justification after the public review period. The commissioner must submit the analysis and document of justification to a licensed professional engineer for review. For each project that began construction on or after January 1, 2022, the commissioner must store the analysis and document of justification on the department’s

website. After certification by the engineer and posting the documents on the website, the commissioner may advance the project to substantial plan development.

Subdivision 3 [Report] requires the existing annual report to the legislature to include the results of the public review and the final selection and documents of justification.

The bill is effective July 1, 2022, and applies to life-cycle cost analysis started on or after that date, except that the subdivision on public review and collaboration is effective July 1, 2023.