

# Business Item

Metropolitan Council



For the Metropolitan Council: June 22, 2022

## Business Item: 2022-178

2050 Transportation Policy Plan Advisory Work Group

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Bylaws, 2040 Transportation Policy Plan and Public Engagement Plan

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Charles Carlson, Executive Director MTS, 651-602-1761  
Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director MTS, 651-602-1058  
Cole Hiniker, Multimodal Planning Manager, 651-602-1748

**Division/Department:** Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

### Proposed Action

That the Council approve Chair Zelle’s recommendation to:

1. Establish a 2050 Transportation Policy Plan Advisory Work Group to advise and guide Council staff throughout the development of the 2050 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP). Representation on the Work Group would include the following:

Representation
One TAB member from Hennepin or Ramsey counties
One TAB member from Carver, Dakota, or Scott counties
One TAB member from Anoka or Washington counties
One TAB member from Minneapolis or Saint Paul
Two TAB members from suburban cities
Three TAB members from modal or citizen representatives
One Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)
One Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
Four Metropolitan Council members
One Minnesota Council on Disability
One Metro Transit
One Suburban Transit Association

2. Appoint the following Metropolitan Council members to serve on the Work Group: Deb Barber, John Pacheco Jr., Francisco J. Gonzalez

## Background

Under federal transportation planning law, the Council is required to develop a long-range transportation plan that is updated at least every five years. The plan must be multimodal and identify transportation system goals and investment priorities over at least a 20-year period. The plan is required to identify regionally significant transportation investments that will be implemented within the timeframe of the plan and must maintain fiscal balance between anticipated project costs and projected available funding. The Transportation Advisory Board is an important partner in developing and recommending the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) for approval.

The 2050 TPP will be a major update as part of the decennial development of the region's development guide and will include the consideration of new policy directions. This Work Group will serve to review elements of the 2050 TPP as they are developed and provide direction and guidance to Council staff on how to proceed on issues that are policy in nature, as well as giving direction and guidance to technical staff reviewing the 2050 TPP from partner agencies. The Work Group is intended to be informal and use a variety of engagement techniques to gather policy feedback, consistent with the Council's Public Engagement Plan and its Transportation Addendum. The Work Group will also identify which issues should be brought forward to the Metropolitan Council, its standing committees, and the Transportation Advisory Board for broader discussion. The Work Group will be advisory only and will have no decision-making authority.

Metropolitan Transportation Services will staff this Work Group, including preparing meeting agendas, materials, and notes and making them available on the Council's website. Except for the appointment of Council members, MTS staff will (in consultation with the Council Chair, Regional Administrator, Transportation Advisory Board Chair) designate representatives from the list above to serve as Work Group members and fill any vacancies that may occur on this Work Group. The Work Group will expire when the Council adopts the 2050 TPP.

## Rationale

The development of the 2050 Transportation Policy Plan will require consideration of new or revised policy direction that requires engagement with policymakers. The Work Group will allow collaborative discussion between the Council, TAB, and other important stakeholders in a dedicated meeting that would otherwise be ineffective to accommodate in existing meetings.

## Thrive Lens Analysis

The *2040 Transportation Policy Plan* supports the Thrive outcomes of Stewardship, Sustainability, Equity, Prosperity, and Livability through its goals, objectives, and strategies. This Work Group reflects the Council's commitment to principles of collaboration and accountability.

## Funding

This Work Group can be staffed and supported within the existing MTS budget through 2024.

