

ACTION TRANSMITTAL

No. 2012-33

DATE: October 12, 2012
TO: Transportation Advisory Board
FROM: Bill Hargis, TAB Chair
REQUESTED BY: TAB Membership
PREPARED BY: Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator (651-602-1728)
SUBJECT: Suspending TAB Policy and Programming Committee meetings for a six-month trial period.
MOTION: To suspend the TAB Policy and Programming Committee meetings for a trial period of six months and conduct all TAB business at one monthly TAB meeting, but the TAB Executive Committee has the power to appoint ad hoc committees to address emergency issues or special projects.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: During the one-on-one visits between TAB Chair Hargis and the TAB members earlier this year, several members asked to the Board to consider eliminating the standing subcommittees, the TAB Policy Committee and the TAB Programming Committee, and having all discussion and action take place at the full TAB as a Committee of the Whole. The reason for this request is mainly because much of the discussion at the subcommittee meetings is repeated at full TAB meeting. Chair Hargis agreed to discuss and directed staff to develop a format for a Committee of the Whole structure and list of advantages/disadvantages for discussion at the August 15 TAB meeting. Due to time constraints, this item was carried over to the September TAB meeting and discussed then.

A motion was passed at the September TAB meeting to suspend the TAB Policy and Programming Committee meetings for a trial period of six months. Members asked that staff research the TAB Bylaws to determine if anything prevented the TAB from conducting this trial. Members also asked that staff look into having the TAB meetings streamed and recorded so members could watch the meeting if they could not attend.

The TAB Coordinator consulted with staff from the Metropolitan Council's Office of the General Counsel regarding the question of potential conflict with the TAB Bylaws. General Counsel concluded that the TAB Bylaws do not require the Policy and Programming Committee to meet and the full TAB could still conduct business as required, and the TAB could suspend the subcommittee meetings during this trial period.

The TAB Coordinator consulted with staff from the Metropolitan Council's Communications Office regarding the streaming and recording of TAB meetings so members could watch meetings they could not attend. Communications staff pointed

out that only certain meetings are streamed and recorded, and they are done for access by the general public, not Council members. The Council's Deputy Regional Administrator agreed to allow TAB meetings to be streamed and recorded during the six month trial period, but the Council and TAB would evaluate the benefits of doing so after the trial period.

RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY: There is no direct relationship to regional policy. The Metropolitan Council, in conjunction with the TAB, is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area. The TAB can still perform all its duties under a format where the Policy and Programming subcommittee meetings are suspended.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
Transportation Advisory Board	Review Approve	
Metropolitan Council	Information	