

**Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)**

Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 North Robert St., St. Paul

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Hovland, James, Chair	McGuire, Mary Jo	Goins, William
Bigham, Karla	Wosje, Jeff	Parsons, Rolf	Reich, Kevin
Villella, Sam	Laufenburger, Denny	Hamann-Roland, Mary	Maluchnik, Randy
Ulrich, Jon	Callison, Jan	Sanger, Sue	Thornton, David
Dugan, Peter	Christensen, Carrie	Fawley, Ethan	Rodriguez, Katie
Petryk, Becky	Anderson, Doug	Sandahl, Suzanne	Hansen, Gary
Staples, Jamez	McBride, Scott	Gaylord, Kathleen	
Hollinshead, Matthews (alt)			
ABSENT:	Look, Matt	McKnight, Kenya	Crimmins, Carl
	Swanson, Dick	Tolbert, Chris	Van Hattum, David
	Tabke, Brad		
LIAISON/STAFF PRESENT:	Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB Coordinator		

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was present when Chair Hovland called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:38 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15, 2017.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Hamann-Roland, seconded by Gaylord to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

Invitation to the public to address the Board about any issue not on the agenda. There were no members of the public present to address the TAB at today's meeting.

IV. REPORTS

1. TAB Chair's Report

Hovland reported that the TAB Executive Committee met today prior to the TAB meeting. The Exec. Committee discussed the action items on today's agenda. They also discussed the information item about the Principal Arterial Intersection Conversion Study. The study will help with beginning discussions about the tweaking of Regional Solicitation scoring and the philosophy for prioritizing projects in the region (in April, May, June).

The Exec. Committee also discussed the upcoming agenda for March, and potential information items for future TAB meetings. Koutsoukos will share the list of possible information items with the TAB members. Hovland welcomed feedback from TAB members about subjects that they would like to hear about in a future information item at TAB. He also stated that the TAB Exec. Committee has named Mary Hamann-Roland as Vice Chair and Denny Laufenburger as 2nd Vice Chair.

2. Agency Reports (MnDOT, MPCA, MAC and Metropolitan Council)

MnDOT: Scott McBride – encouraged members to attend the play “The Highwaymen” showing at Minnesota History Theater. The play is about the I-94 project through the Rondo neighborhood.

McGuire asked McBride if he had insight about funding at the federal level. McBride said he does not, and that MnDOT previously submitted three projects for FAST Lane funds and is waiting to hear the outcome, with no indication about when to expect a decision.

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MPCA: David Thornton – reported that MPCA has scheduled public meetings to get input about how to spend the Volkswagen settlement money - \$47M (2/23 in St. Paul, 3/06 in Minneapolis, and 3/19 in Brainerd). Information is available on the MPCA website.

MAC: Carl Crimmins – was not present.

Hovland stated there are a few new commissioners to the MAC, one being Katie Clark-Seiben.

Metropolitan Council: Katie Rodriguez – answered a question from TAB Executive Committee about the number of Metro Transit Police officers – Metro Transit has 111 full-time police officers. She also answered a question from Sanger as to the timeline for the SWLRT full funding agreement – middle of the year, around June.

CTIB Update. Bigham reported that CTIB has begun discussions to dissolve. Each of the county boards must pass an affirmative resolution for dissolution. There will be a special meeting on March 3rd where the resolution to dissolve will be deliberated. There are many details to sort out in order to “un-do” the 2008 statute creating CTIB.

3. Technical Advisory Committee

TAC Chair Steve Albrecht had no report as all of the items are on the TAB agenda today.

V. CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Bigham, seconded by Reich and carried to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2017 TAB meeting.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

1. 2017-06: Program Year Extension: St. Paul Parks and Recreation
TAC Chair Steve Albrecht presented this item
Motion by Gaylord, seconded by Hamann-Roland:
That the Transportation Advisory Board approve the program year extension request to move the Harriet Island to South St. Paul Regional Trail project (SP# 164-090-014) to 2018.
Motion passed.
2. 2017-07: Streamlined TIP Amendment: 5307, Metro Transit Police Facility
TAC Chair Steve Albrecht presented this item.
Motion by Anderson, seconded by Wosje:
That the Transportation Advisory Board adopt the amendment to the 2017-2020 TIP add construction of a Metro Transit Police facility (SP# TRS-TCMT-17F).
Motion passed.

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Principal Arterial Intersection Conversion Study
Metropolitan Transportation Services Manager Highway Planning & TAB/TAC Process Steve Peterson, MnDOT Project Manager Paul Czech, and Bolton Menk Project Manager Doug Abere presented this item. Below are some of the comments, questions and answers pertaining to the presentation:

What are the cost ranges between High, Medium, Low to perform grade separation - High = \$20M +, Medium = \$5-10M, Low = \$500,000-\$1M, depending on the forms of investments chosen for the solution. Was cost a factor in the prioritization of projects – it was more the ranking of the problems than the cost of the solution.

How many high priorities have transit lines that cross each other at grade, any rating of pedestrian access to adjacent commercial property or TOD – looked at how transit and pedestrian access was incorporated with the RBTN in scoring for H/M/L for grade separation.

Comment specific to Hiawatha corridor and buses delayed at intersections - with input from Hennepin County and other stakeholders, the corridor was eliminated from Phase II study, the context drove keeping at grade for the time being.

Describe the outreach at the (8) meetings, i.e. what kind of participation & input and whether it influenced the outcomes of the ratings – if there was recent planning done, then it influenced; relied on the locals for their input.

Was each & every city contacted – after 91 projects were picked, then reached out to locals for more clarification about projects.

Will these decisions influence economic development & land use – the plan will/can guide what land use may be in the future; the study will be incorporated into the TPP update and gives a guide to what the land use may be in the future.

If the locals did not have input at meetings, is the document dynamic and can it be adjusted – input is still being taken, the study will be part of the TPP Update.

Comment that this study will be helpful in tweaking the Regional Solicitation scoring system. Comment that safety should be considered as part of the scoring in the Regional Solicitation.

2. Regional Highway Spending Study

Metropolitan Transportation Services Planning Analyst Tony Fischer presented this item. There were no questions or comments from committee members.

3. The Air We Breath

Amanda Jarrett Smith - Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, presented this item.

Below are some of the comments, questions and answers pertaining to the presentation:

Would MPCA be interested in playing a role & sharing information with individual cities in their Comprehensive Planning – yes, definitely.

Describe the success or level of usage of the charging stations that were funded by TAB years ago – current usage is less than expected because of the charge range of the vehicles, but newer vehicles have a longer range per charge, over the next few years there is a need to focus on longer range.

Does MPCA have base data for local governments to use – MPCA can generate that information.

Does MPCA get into future predictive modeling & impacts of more vehicles – MPCA is developing some modeling capabilities, have not done forecasting in the past but would like to.

Comment about the slide that compares the pollution between 1 old truck to 30 new trucks and what can be done – the Volkswagen settlement could help fund change-outs and retrofits of old trucks.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS

Goins reported that he attended CTS meeting and awards luncheon and mentioned 2 awards given at the luncheon: 1) William K. Smith Award (distinguished service award in the area of Freight Transportation and Logistics) – given to Vonta Coda II, and 2) Public Leadership Award – given to Mike Beard.

Bigham request for timeline about when the TAB looks at scoring in the Regional Solicitation, and evaluation of the last solicitation. Surveys are being sent to applicants with the findings to be presented in May. Work on the scoring & ranking for the next solicitation will be during the spring & summer.

IX. ADJOURNMENT - Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.