

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 Robert Street North, Saint Paul

Committee Members Present:

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Hovland, James (Chair)	Christensen, Carrie	Hamann-Roland, Mary
Anderson, Doug	Foster, Amity	Gaylord, Kathleen	Maluchnik, Randy
Dugan, Peter	Fox, Nickolas	Goins, William	Look, Matt
Karwoski, Stan	Hollinshead, Mathews	Parsons, Rolf	Windschitl, Mark
Bailey, Myron	Petryk, Becky	Barber, Deb	Staples, Jamez
McGuire, Mary Jo	Hansen, Gary	Jabr, Amr	Wosje, Jeff
Villella, Sam	Tolbert, Chris	Reich, Kevin	Ulrich, Jon
Crimmins, Carl	Sandahl, Suzanne	Biewen, Todd (Alt)	
Goettel, Debbie (Callison, Jan)	Swanson, Dick (Jeppson, Julie)	Gorecki, Bruce (Eiden, Mark)	
ABSENT:			
LIAISON/STAFF PRESENT:	Koutsoukos, Elaine TAB Coordinator	Freese, Lisa TAC Chair	Thompson, Nick MTS Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Hovland called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:32 p.m. on Wednesday, January 16, 2019.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Hamann-Roland, seconded by Reich, to approve the agenda of the January 16, 2019, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

III. PUBLIC FORUM

Invitation to the public to address the Board about any issue not on the agenda. There was no one in the audience who wished to speak on items not on the agenda.

IV. REPORTS

1. TAB Chair's Report

Chair Hovland introduced the new TAB members and alternates.

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

MnDOT, Amr Jabr:

Jabr reported that the newly appointed Commissioner, Margaret Anderson Kelliher, is forming her team, a posting is out to permanently fill Scott McBride's position as well. Villella asked about funds for the Stone Arch Bridge, Jabr answered that MnDOT is very close.

MPCA, Todd Biewen:

Biewen reported that Laura Bishop has been appointed Commissioner for the MPCA and Craig McDonnell has been appointed Assistant Commissioner for Air and Climate Policy so will most likely be the representative on the TAB with Biewen continuing to serve as the alternate.

MAC, Carl Crimmins:

Crimmins reported no security disruption at checkpoints with the shutdown, but said the MAC website has wait times so people are encouraged to check their wait times prior to flying. Vice President for Planning and Development Bridget Rief shared that remodeling is ongoing and at the end of May the next section will be opened. In August the main concessions area is scheduled to be opened.

Metropolitan Council, Deb Barber:

Barber reported that the new Chair Nora Slawik was sworn in last week. Application for Council Members closed last week and applications are now under review. There was a public hearing for an amendment on the Riverview Corridor on January 9, 2019, and public comments are being accepted until January 21, 2019, at 5 p.m.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes from December 10, 2018

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Parsons, to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2018, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

VI. ACTION ITEMS

1. 2019-01 2019 TAB Executive Committee

TAB Chair James Hovland presented this item.

Jon Ulrich, Scott County, and Peter Dugan, citizen representative, removed their names from the slate of candidates. With the slate of positions evenly filled, no ballots were needed.

Motion by Hamann-Roland, seconded by Fox, that:

That the Transportation Advisory Board approve the TAB Executive Committee. **Motion carried.**

2. 2019-06 Streamlined TIP Amendment: Eden Prairie Railroad Crossing, MnDOT

TAC Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

There were no comments or questions from TAB members.

Motion by Callison, seconded by Wosje, that:

That the Transportation Advisory Board adopt an amendment into the 2019-2022 TIP to change the description and cost for MnDOT's Valley View Road railroad crossing in Eden Prairie (SP# 27-00319). **Motion carried.**

3. 2019-02 Program Year Extension: Ramsey County

TAC Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

McGuire commented that there is a benefit to more public outreach being done as well so the extension is appreciated.

Motion by McGuire, seconded by Parsons, that:

That the Transportation Advisory Board approve the program year extension request to move Ramsey County's CSAH 31/CSAH 58 intersection improvements project (SP# 062-631-025) to 2020. **Motion carried.**

4. 2019-05 Program Year Change: City of Brooklyn Center

TAC Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

There were no comments or questions from TAB members.

Motion by Hamann-Roland, seconded by Jabr, that:

That the Transportation Advisory Board approve the program year change request to move Brooklyn Center's Highway 252 projects at 66th Avenue (109-010-007) and 70th Avenue (109-090-002) from 2021 to 2023. **Motion carried.**

5. 2019-03 2018 Highway Safety Improvement Project Selection

TAC Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

Goins asked how long the funding for HSIP will be available. Freese said HSIP has been around for some time, at least since the early 2000s and it has shifted from emphasizing reactive to proactive projects with the emphasis to do smaller, more strategic projects so the funding can be spread around. Hollinshead asked if in the future classifications for pedestrian, vehicle, transit, etc. safety improvements could be broken down by mode. Freese said this program is focused on the highway system even while it may have aspects that touch on the other modes. MTS Highway Planning & TAB/TAC Process Manager Steve Peterson said the Council is doing a before-and-after study so come April there will be results on safety benefits from projects the TAB has funded.

Motion by Look, seconded by Hamann-Roland, that:

That the Transportation Advisory Board approve the attached 25 projects for funding through the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) solicitation and inclusion of all Urbanized Area projects in the draft 2020-23 TIP. **Motion carried.**

6. 2019-04 2018 Regional Solicitation Project Selection

TAC Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

Look asked when it was decided that the project would move categories. TAB Coordinator Koutsoukos explained that when the HourCar project was submitted it was submitted in the incorrect category so the TAB made the decision to allow it to be moved to the Unique Project category. Callison said she is going to advocate for Base Plus, with additional overprogramming up to 10.5 percent, and that it is important to have feedback of staff saying they cannot give preference for a project for a future solicitation. Look asked if the special consideration component is included in this. Callison said the Osseo Road is partially funded, but it does not come back. Look commented that the partnership with Xcel Energy is not completely altruistic. Look said we are sacrificing two Safe Routes to School which is impacting children over charging stations. Ulrich said he has concern over the process. Ulrich noted that there is an established process with scoring and technical staff and this has corrupted the process. Hollinshead said that reality has changed and if the Safe Routes to School can be funded by having the HourCar project accommodate \$3.8 million

instead like Look suggested that would be a good idea. Hollinshead commented that air quality impacts everyone. Hollinshead said there needs to be a pilot where seniors can reduce the transportation aspect of a household's budget. Look said if utility rates go up a household's budget does as well. Dugan said the customers will be paying for the costs and in Ramsey County the power sources cannot be separate so coal will be an energy source. Wosje said under Expansion Heavy the Southwest Transit Prime Service will be lost from Maple Grove to Eden Prairie leveraging the uber-like technology helping to solve that last mile so that is a big transit project that will be given up in choosing this scenario. Parsons said as a former school board member, any money not spent on school systems comes directly out of the classroom. Parsons added that parents are concerned about student safety and if they don't feel their students are safe walking to school, they drive them so all sorts of cars are driving their students to schools, idling while they wait to pick them up, so he supports the Safe Routes to School. Maluchnik said this is a solution that supports the region. Karwoski voiced his appreciation for keeping regional balance.

Callison made a motion, amendments and discussion ensued about the motion. Callison ultimately withdrew and made a new motion, seconded by Haman-Roland, that:

The TAB adopt the Base Plus scenario, with up to 10.5 percent overprogramming, as follows: Fund MVTA at \$2.744M; \$2M allocation for Osseo Road; Route 6 funded at \$6M dollars; Fund two additional Safe Routes to School projects from the Route 6 allocation (for a total of four SRTS projects); Hour Car is at \$4M. **Motion carried.**

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. No items

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS

Motion by Hollinshead, seconded by Hamann-Roland, to:

Congratulate Brian Lamb for a job well done over all the many years he has worked for and run Metro Transit. **Motion carried.**

Suzanne Sandahl asked for a 2023 report on the outcome of all of this. Maluchnik said there was a fatality this morning on Highway 212, a road engineered in 1930 that will be worked on in a project included in the approved scenario. Maluchnik said the TAB should also discuss policy around MnDOT submitting projects. Is it the intention of MnDOT to continue submitting projects? Maluchnik said in talking with colleagues across the country, it doesn't seem like we serve the equity mission with regards to transportation – areas of disparity need to be targeted better with transportation projects. Maluchnik said that he would like to see data because his impression from seeing national data is that since this subject of equity has been brought up, it seems to be getting worse. Maluchnik suggested a task force with TAB members, Transportation Committee members, etc. to assess areas of disparity and talk to community leaders. Hovland said the Unique Project category in the future may be defined by innovative or technologically advancing projects, as well as relating to equity-advancing projects. Maluchnik commented that the HourCar project doesn't seem to address the equity issue and it's a shame that the innovation didn't address equity. Maluchnik stated that it's time to put our money where our mouth is with the equity issue. Hamann-Roland said the Safe Routes to School Apple Valley project does include a neighborhood of concentrated poverty. Hollinshead said he thinks HourCar does address equity because the stations are located in communities of color and communities of poverty. Hamann-Roland asked about the precedent set and will the Regional Solicitation include Unique Projects. TAB Coordinator Elaine Koutsoukos said applicants, scorers, committee members, TAB members will be surveyed in the next month. Dugan said the process needs to be clarified moving forward.

Goins said in the past overprogramming was at 8%, in the future do we want to look at a higher percentage, are there other funding sources to look at as well. Dugan added that overprogramming in one Solicitation then comes out of the next funding cycle's available funds. Jabr said there is risk to both overprogramming but also not overprogramming, because it does take time for projects to happen.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

Jenna Ernst
Recording Secretary