

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)

Wednesday, April 17, 2019

Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 Robert Street North, Saint Paul

Committee Members Present:

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Hovland, James (Chair)	Look, Matt	Barber, Deb
Gaylord, Kathleen	McGuire, Mary Jo	Goettel, Debbie	Ulrich, Jon
Karwoski, Stan	Anderson, Doug	Sandahl, Suzanne	Staples, Jamez
Villella, Sam	Parsons, Rolf	Dugan, Peter	Goins, William
Barnes, Michael	Gorecki, Bruce	Tolbert, Chris	Reich, Kevin
Petryk, Becky	Windschitl, Mark	Crimmins, Carl	McDonnell, Craig
Hansen, Gary	Foster, Amity	Hamann-Roland, Mary	Hollinshead, Mathews
Fox, Nick	Maluchnik, Randy	Wosje, Jeff	
ABSENT:	Bailey, Myron	Swanson, Dick	Christenson, Carrie
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 12:37 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Gaylord, seconded by Hamann-Roland, to approve the agenda of the April 17, 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

Hovland reported that two new TAB members were present: MPCA representative, Craig McDonnell, and MnDOT representative, Michael Barnes. Hovland introduced the new FHWA division director, Wendell Meyer. Hovland also brought up the next Regional Solicitation and a possible draft policy working group membership. He asked for volunteers and the following reflects the group that was decided on:

Co-Chairs – Jim Hovland and Mary Hamann-Roland

Metropolitan Council representatives – Deb Barber and another Transportation Committee Council Member

County representatives – Randy Maluchnik and Stan Karwoski (alternates Debbie Goettel and Mary Jo McGuire)

City representative – Kevin Reich

Citizen representatives – Rolf Parsons and Peter Dugan (alternates Sue Sandahl and Sam Villella)

Transit representative – Mathews Hollinshead (alternate Amity Foster)

Suburban Transit representative – Jeff Wosje (alternate Gary Hansen)
Non-motorized transportation representative – Nick Fox

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

MnDOT, Michael Barnes:

Barnes reported an update on the 2019 construction projects.

MPCA, Craig McDonnell:

McDonnell reported that there has been a new provision of climate added to his title to reflect an added focus. McDonnell shared that MPCA has an open grant for \$170,000 for electric vehicle charging stations, the MPCA is requesting proposals from qualified applicants to install Level 2 and/or Level 3 EV charging stations at locations serving fleet vehicles in Minnesota. Two additional funding opportunities are coming up from the VW settlement for clean on-road heavy duty vehicles, and electric on-road heavy duty vehicles.

McGuire asked how the information is disseminated. McDonnell said there is an opportunity to sign up online or TAB Coordinator Koutsoukos can disseminate.

MAC, Carl Crimmins:

Crimmins reported that traffic at the airport is dying down with the Final Four and Spring Break over now.

Metropolitan Council, Deb Barber:

Barber reported that Council Members are continuing their onboarding process.

Council/MnDOT/Hennepin County are hosting the Connected and Automated Vehicle Scenario Planning Workshop on April 29, 2019 from 4 – 7 p.m. at the Council. Council Members have received an invitation for registration via email. This is an opportunity to discuss how Connected and Automated Vehicles can impact the region in the future, and outcomes from this will work their way into future TPP updates.

Metro Transit played a key role in a successful first game at the new Allianz Field. This stadium is built with very limited parking so there was a push to shift modes to trains/buses/bike/shuttles. Like all major events, Metro Transit added buses and trains on existing routes. Reports were that they were heavily used and that crowds were cleared within an hour after the game.

Next week are interviews for TAB citizen representatives.

Foster asked when the proposed Green Line service cut decision will be made. Barber said the decision will be made in May, but the implementation will take place in August to allow for preparation and communications.

TAC, Lisa Freese:

Freese reported that Brian Isaacson has been appointed TAC Vice Chair.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes from March 20, 2019

Motion by Hamann-Roland, seconded by Look, to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2019, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

VI. ACTION ITEMS

1. **2019-22** TPP Administrative Modification: Performance Measures

TAC Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

Goettel commented that she thinks there needs to be better strategies for safety.

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Goettel, that:

The Transportation Advisory Board approve an administrative modification to the Performance Outcomes chapter of the TPP to include the federally required performance measure targets and an associated analysis with language clarifying the rationale for changing the base year for safety performance measure. **Motion carried.**

2. 2019-23 TIP Amendment: Performance Measures

TAC Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

Look asked how this impacts the criteria scoring process and the allocation of regional solicitation dollars. Freese said the targets are set for MnDOT and the MPO but the TAB decides how to develop the criteria for scoring and to-date there have not been punitive measures for not meeting the targets. TAB Coordinator Koutsoukos said FHWA wants to see dollars put where the targets are, so looking forward that is something the policymaker working group should consider. Look commented that if the federal government is requiring these changes it might be timely to consider modifying scoring criteria to accommodate that.

It was moved by Look, seconded by Hamann-Roland, that:

The Transportation Advisory Board approve an amendment to the 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to incorporate pavement / bridge and system performance / CMAQ performance measures. **Motion carried.**

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. TPP Amendment I-94 TH101-TH610 Public Comments

Metropolitan Council Outreach Coordinator Sara Maaske presented this item.

There were no questions or comments from TAB members.

2. Regional Employment and Transportation Flows

Metropolitan Transportation Services Travel Modeling & Research Manager Jonathan Ehrlich and Data Scientist Nicole Sullivan presented this item.

Foster asked if this only includes cars or if it includes public transit trips as well. Sullivan said it includes all trips. Foster asked if you can filter by mode. Sullivan said that can be added. Goins asked if projections can be done based on this data. Ehrlich said this data cannot do projections, but the data will inform the Regional Travel Model in the future. Goins asked if it takes freight movement into account. Ehrlich said StreetLight data does separate commercial travel out. Hovland asked how this data works with the demographers. Ehrlich said many patterns continue to endure with increased populations. McGuire asked how the counties can use the data. Sullivan said it is publicly available data and there are county toggles on most of the panels. Ehrlich said this information has been presented to technical committees and will continue to be presented to city/county planners and others. Goettel asked if the edges of the metro are able to be looked at as well. Sullivan said the collar counties could be added as an option to be selected as one. Sandahl asked how the individuals were counted. Ehrlich said the StreetLight data comes from GPS and smartphones that is anonymized and aggregated, the census data comes from income taxes and

employment data that again is anonymized and aggregated. Hollinshead asked about the funding for the data. Ehrlich said MnDOT has signed a three-year contract with StreetLight and the Metropolitan Council will be in contact with MnDOT at every renewal period. Foster asked if there is a plan to overlay more demographic data into this. Sullivan said the information that has been put out has been included. Karwoski asked about the traffic coming from Wisconsin. Sullivan said the three counties bringing the traffic can be added. Vilella asked about seasonality. Sullivan shared that seasonality can be added.

3. Regional Solicitation Before & After Study

Metropolitan Transportation Services Senior Planner Katie White, SRF Consulting Group Chief Operating Officer Marie Cote, and Hoisington Koegler Group Planner & Project Manager Lance Bernard presented this item.

Look asked how many projects were applied for since 20 were listed. Cote said the data set given lists how many funded not how many had applied, but that information can be obtained.

Goins asked if there is a correlation between the data sets with the Dashboard Workgroup. Bernard said the other MPOs are trying to tie regional projects to economic development. Hamann-Roland asked about the long-range transportation plan approach, she asked if a system-wide BRT could be one plan. Bernard said it would be but there is a lot of policy changing. Hollinshead asked about the peer MPOs that were looked at and how many of them are as holistic as the Metropolitan Council and are responsible for wastewater, etc. Bernard said they did not investigate that far. Look said the Corridors of Commerce is unique and the current system allows for more projects to be done. Bernard said this study did not look into the other MPOs other funding mechanisms. Sandahl asked about matching requirements. Bernard said that yes, the other MPOs all had matching requirements. Goins asked if certain peers seemed to lead as progressive MPOs. Bernard said the economic climate, regional goals, policies were all very different.

4. After Study of the Bus Rapid Transit 'A Line' Impacts

Metropolitan Transportation Services Director Nick Thompson and University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies Professor Alireza Khani presented this item.

Wosje asked for clarification regarding an increase in capacity, but additional riders not being attracted to the same degree. Khani said he can follow up to provide the information in more detail because the peak hour increase in person throughput was higher. Metropolitan Transportation Services Director Thompson said there has been a 40 % increase in ridership overall compared to 2015. Thompson added that there has been a decrease in Route 84 because of the decrease in frequency and most of the 40% growth has been in the A line because of the frequency and stop positioning. Karwoski asked what will be done with the information learned. Thompson said it's important to have data to know that there is no traffic impact. Thompson said the TBI study will look at where the new riders are coming from, if it is a mode shift or not. Karwoski asked for a study done in advance of the Gold Line. Khani said they are going to look at whether BRT controls the growth of traffic in a corridor. McGuire commented on the improvement priorities listed. Hollinshead asked if there should be a relationship between these results and land use. Thompson said the studies can be done and brought back to TAB. Look asked if development can be determined to be happening because of subsidy or because of itself and about BRTs being funded at once. Thompson said arterial BRTs can be funded within the scope of TAB. Foster asked about data collected about policing on transit and what "personal safety while riding" means. Khani said it was not distinguished in this study. McGuire said Rosedale is growing and now is having housing put in, there is no subsidizing happening because the lines are helping the development.

5. 2018 Regional Solicitation Feedback and 2020 Regional Solicitation Schedule

Goins asked if this item can come back next month. Maluchnik asked that we encourage national partners to support funding for research since that is important to policy decisions.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Jenna Ernst
Recording Secretary