

Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting date: July 17, 2024

Time: 12:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

Chair, James Hovland
1st Vice Chair, Mark Windschitl
2nd Vice Chair, Debbie Goettel
Doug Anderson
Myron Bailey
Deb Barber
Husniyah Bradley
Kevin Burkart
Aurin Chowdhury
Carl Crimmins
Peter Dugan
John Fahey
Amity Foster
Chris Geisler

Gary Hansen
~~Mary Liz Holberg~~ (Bill Droste)
Mark Jenkins
Julie Jeppson
Glen Johnson
~~Stan Karwoski~~ (Karla Bigham)
HwaJeong Kim (Saura Jost)
~~Frank Kohlasch~~
~~William Lindeke~~
John Morast
Brian Martinson
Trista Martinson
Becky Petryk

~~Jess Robertson~~
Khani Sahebjam
~~George Schember~~
~~Mark Steffenson~~
Jon Ulrich
Christopher Vaughan
~~Jeffery Weisenel~~

Staff

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB
Jeni Hager, TAC
Charles Carlson, MTS Director

Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Hovland called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:07 p.m.

Agenda approved

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Windschitl to approve the agenda. Committee members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

Reports

1. TAB Chair's Report – Jim Hovland

Chair Hovland reported that the Regional Solicitation Policymaker Workgroup met prior to the TAB meeting. Agency Reports – MnDOT, MPCA, MAC, Metropolitan Council, Suburban Transit Providers

2. Agency Reports – MnDOT, MPCA, MAC, Metropolitan Council, Suburban Transit Providers MnDOT

Sahebjam reported that a lot of construction is going on in the metro area and they are coordinating with local agencies. The number of fatalities has gotten worse.

MPCA

There was no MPCA report.

MAC

Crimmins reported that domestic travel is 105% of 2019 level, international travel is 101%. Over July 4th weekend, TSA reported 50,000 people through security each day. Terminal 2 travel is up 23% over last year. Road construction on Hwy 55, I-494, Hwy 62, and Hwy 5 is causing disruptions and to look on the website to check on travel times. Installed Pentair water refill stations and have had 100,000 refills in a month and a half. Travel and Leisure Magazine rated MSP at the top north American airport.

Metropolitan Council

Barber reported that the Council and FTA have prepared Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Blue Line Extension. It is out for public comment. Comments will be accepted through August 6. The TPP will be released for public comment after Council action.

Suburban Transit Providers

Hansen reported Suburban transit providers' ridership continues to increase, particularly special services. Minnesota Valley Transit Authority provided more than 30,000 rides over eight days of emergency shuttle service to Valleyfair due to flooding of Valleyfair's parking lot. SouthWest Transit is purchasing autonomous vehicles for use in its Prime ride-on-demand service. It is anticipated that during the first couple of years, an operator will be on board to assist riders as needed. To improve cost effectiveness, Plymouth Metrolink is evaluating downsizing to smaller buses for certain fixed routes, depending on demand.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Windschitl to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2024, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

Consent business

Consent business adopted

1. 2024-33: Streamlined 2024-2027 TIP Amendment Request – MnDOT's MN 121 and CSAH 22 Improvements Project (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair*)

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by Bigham.

Motion carried.

2. 2024-34: Streamlined 2024-2027 TIP Amendment Request – I-94 Bridge over Wright County Road 19 (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair*)

It was moved by Dugan, seconded by Martinson.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business

1. 2024-21: Regionally Significant TIP Amendment Request – US 10 Expansion Project (*Robbie King, MTS*)

It was moved by Geisler, seconded by Jeppson, that the Transportation Advisory Board accept the public comment report and recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2024-2027 TIP to add a regionally significant project expanding US 10 from two lanes to three lanes in Coon Rapids.

TAB members discussed the comments received and the area's congestion.

Motion carried.

2. 2024-30: Release of the Draft 2050 Transportation Policy Plan for Public Comment (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair; Cole Hiniker, MTS*)

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Jenkins, that the Transportation Advisory Board recommends release of the draft 2050 Transportation Policy Plan for public review and comment.

TAB members discussed community engagement plans.

Motion carried.

3. 2024-32: Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP Project Selection (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair; Kaare Festvog, MnDOT*))

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by Bradley, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve the attached 20 projects for funding through the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) solicitation and inclusion in the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

There were no comments or questions from TAB members.

Motion carried.

4. 2024-31: Regional Solicitation Project Selection (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair; Steve Peterson, MTS*)

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by Chowdhury, that the TAB approve:

- Funding the projects in the attached Option 4: Hybrid Option (funds all projects in Bike/Pedestrian and Safety options, plus the final Transit Modernization project and final two Safe Routes to School projects);
- Funding the 17 Active Transportation projects shown as part of each of the attached funding options

TAB members discussed the merits of the Hybrid Option.

Motion carried.

Information

1. Regional Solicitation Evaluation Updates
 - Hovland reported that the Policymaker Workgroup met prior to the TAB meeting.
 - Johnson reported on the Active Transportation Workgroup.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Council contact:

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