

Feedback on TAB Processes and Operations

Overall Impression and More Discussion on Policy and Direction

I have been happy with the organizational structure of the TAB meetings and especially impressed with how Chair Hovland has convened these meetings in a way that fosters open dialog and debate. At this time, from a process perspective, I have no suggestions at this time.

I think the processes followed by the TAB Board are good. I feel that sometimes the decisions are already made, and we are merely the stamp of approval to move the projects forward.

The TAB (as supported by TAC and staff) is very efficient in working through its processes and workflow in support of Met Council direction. That is much appreciated. I would like to see TAB discuss policy and direction much more forward than when we get to specific votes on specific projects or amendments. It seems the cake is already baked when the decision lands in TAB basket.

Meeting Procedures

Use "raise hand" feature as a roll call vote to save time.

(Response: In consult with Legal staff, virtual meetings require that the public viewing the meeting are able to know how their representatives are voting during the meeting. Names will have to continue to be called.)

Find a way to limit interruptions in the online meeting format and make sure a few vocal members do not dominate the discussion. Getting back to in-person meetings is preferable as soon as it is safe to do so.

(Response: Chair will state at the beginning of the meeting that members should raise their hand. The "raised" hands are listed in order they are raised. Questions and comments should be verbal. If a question is written in chat, it will be read and answered. The chat is not visible to the public viewing remotely. This will make sure all questions and comments in chat are covered. It is recommended that the chat should be limited to procedural information, such as technical issues.

Member Training and Information

If there is a way in orientation or otherwise to bring new members better up to speed on some of the various committees, working groups, etc. and how they all work together and make decisions, that would be helpful. And in the meetings themselves, trying to have more pre-reading to allow for more discussion in TAB rather than lots of time on presentations would be constructive in my opinion.