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*Transportation Advisory Board  
Of the Metropolitan Council*

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**Minutes of a Meeting of the  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, February 1, 2012  
Metropolitan Council Chambers  
9:00 A.M.**

**Members Present:** Kate Garwood (for Jon Olson), Lyndon Robjent, Brian Sorenson, Tom Johnson, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Kevin Roggenbuck, Mark Filipi, John Kari, Pat Bursaw, Innocent Eyoh, Robert Vorpahl, Susan Moe, Carolyn Braun, Karl Keel, Jennifer Levitt, Chuck Ahl, John Powell, Bob Moberg, Kim Lindquist, Richard McCoy, Jenifer Hager, Beth Elliott, Allen Lovejoy.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as written.

**3. Approval of December minutes**

The January 4, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as written.

**4. TAB Report**

Kevin Roggenbuck reported that at its January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, the TAB welcomed four new members: Gerry Butcher, Citizen, engineer and retired Public Works Director for Maple Grove, Jennifer Janovy, Citizen, chair of the Edina Transportation Commission and the Bike Edina Task Force, Aaron Isaacs, Transit, retired facilities planning manager for Metro Transit and Ethan Fawley, Non-motorized, Fresh Energy, coordinator of MN Complete Streets Coalition.

A report was given to the TAB Programming Committee on the status of the 2011 regional solicitation. A more detailed presentation on the project scoring process will be made in February or March. The Programming Committee and full TAB discussed the MPCA electric vehicle recharging proposal mainly for the benefit of the new members and will vote on it in February. The Committee also discussed conditions for making exceptions to the TAB's policy on re-allocating federal funds from dropped or re-scoped projects. The issues will be discussed further at the TAB executive committee on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

The TAB approved the sunset date extension requested by Dakota County for the Rosemount section of the Mississippi River Regional trail. A special agenda presentation by Met Council and Metro Transit staff on "Transit Planning from A to Z", which included a lot of good information about market areas, transit rider survey data, transit system overview and peer region comparisons. The next TAB meeting is February 15<sup>th</sup>

**5. Special Agenda Items**

- **MnDOT 's State Aviation System Plan**, Ryan Gaug, MnDOT Office of Aeronautics

Ryan Gaug gave a power point presentation on the state Aviation System Plan, the first completed modal plan of MnDOT's Minnesota **Go** vision. He explained what constitutes Minnesota's aviation system, gave an overview of

how it is funded, explained the role of the Office of Aeronautics, presented the purpose of the plan and the plan process; listed the 16, ranked system goals; described results of the inventory and performance measures used to evaluate facilities and a summary of forecasts of based aircraft and operation; airline enplanements and cargo. Airline passenger enplanements are projected to grow at a rate of 2.61% per year and scheduled departures projected to grow at a rate of 1.36% (these will be reevaluated in consideration of the poor economy of the past several years); total tonnages expected to increase by .35% per year and all cargo operations are expected to decrease by .16% per year. The number of based aircraft is forecasted to increase 0.96% annually and total GA operations are forecasted to increase 1.56% annually.

## **6. Committee Reports**

### **A. Executive Committee (Pat Bursaw, Chair)**

- **TAC Bylaws discussion**

P. Bursaw said that the TAC's Bylaws were last adopted in 2007. A 3-step process is in place for changing the bylaws. Pat briefly went through the bylaws and suggested areas that the TAC may want to update or change. Suggestions regarding committee membership and expanding it to include non-motorized and freight representatives, whether the AMM reps should have alternatives, the selection of a TAC Vice Chair; the possibility of electronic voting, the role of the standing committees; putting TAC and TAC subcommittee meeting packets on the Council's website for improved public access; and reconsideration of the Aviation committee as a standing committee were discussed. She asked TAC members to submit their comments on the bylaws as soon as possible to Ann Braden.

- **Draft Transportation Planning and Programming Guide**

The draft Transportation Planning and Programming Guide has been reviewed by the TAC Planning and Funding and Programming Committees. Ann Braden passed out a revision to Part 3: The programming process and an accompanying chart that illustrates how highway trust fund dollars are distributed to highway and transit projects in the Twin Cities area. She asked TAC members to send her comments.

### **B. Funding and Programming Committee (Karl Keel, Chair)**

K. Keel noted the Funding and Programming committee had taken action on eight items and suggested the five sunset date extension requests be considered after the TIP amendments and scope change:

**Action Item 2012-02:** K. Keel moved and L. Robjant seconded a motion to approve a scope change for the Carver County Southwest Regional Trail Connection. The termini of the project will shift the paved trail portion 800 feet to the east. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Action Item 2012-08:** K. Keel moved and K. Garwood seconded a motion to approve a TIP amendment for Metro Transit section 5307 funds for I-35E and CR 14 Park and Ride in Lino Lakes. The project is being moved to from the 2011-2014 TIP to the 2012-2015 TIP. The project had been delayed due to environmental review and the land acquisition process. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Action Item 2012-09:** K. Keel moved and J. Powell seconded a motion to combine two projects into one: the replacement of the Xerxes Avenue Bridge and associated work and a westbound auxiliary lane on I-494 from I-35W and TH 100. S. Moe asked that the project description be clarified to show if it has IM and NHS funding before it goes to the TAB. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Sunset Date Extension Action Items:** Copies of the Sunset Date Extension Policy were distributed. K. Keel noted that it is becoming more difficult to move projects forward in the TIP to take advantage of funds that become available due to sunset date extensions. This poses challenges to MnDOT, especially to "balance the TIP". It has been proposed to eliminate the "sunset date extension" provision entirely but allow an extension to a project's program year (which is expected to be met.) It was suggested that there be an evaluation of the sunset date policy—the number of extensions that have been granted, the dollar amount involved, etc.

**Action Item 2012-03:** K. Keel moved and B. Moberg seconded a motion to approve a Sunset Date Extension Request from Saint Paul for SP#91-090-056: Cherokee Regional Trail. The project has been delayed due to issues over acquiring easements. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Action Item 2012-04:** K. Keel moved and K. Garwood seconded a motion to approve a sunset date extension request from Anoka County for SP#002-607-019: CSAH 7/CSAH 14 intersection. Municipal consent required redesign which caused delay in progress on the project. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Action Item 2012-05:** K. Keel moved and T. Mayasich second a motion to approve a sunset date extension from Ramsey County for SP #164-020-101 and SP#062-636-005; eastbound Warner Road Bridge over Childs Road and railroads and Replacement of Bridge #5950 in St. Paul. The delay has been to a change in the design needed by the railroads. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Action Item 2012-06:** K. Keel moved and K. Garwood seconded a motion to approve a sunset date extension request from St. Louis Park for SP#2706-226: TH 7 and Louisiana Avenue interchange. The work has been delayed partially because MnDOT had to complete a value engineering study on the project. The study resulted in 8 recommendations with respect to design, material and construction options, including a new concept design for the interchange layout. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Action Item 2012-07:** K. Keel moved and C. Ahl seconded a motion to approve a sunset date extension request from the city of Anoka for SP#103-080-02: Structured Parking facility for the Northstar Commuter Rail Transit Village.

This project is to construct a 400-space parking structure adjacent to the Anoka Northstar Commuter Rail station. The sunset date extension requested is based on the lack of a local match from a TIF district that was dependent on development that has not materialized due to the setback in the performance of the regional economy. The Funding & Programming Committee agreed to recommend granting an extension of the sunset date with some dissenting opinions. The committee expressed concerns about the ability of the project to be completed relying on the funding requirements being pursued by the City.

There was considerable discussion on this motion: C. Ahl said he is very supportive of the request and would like to give the city the opportunity to make it work. T. Mayasich said that in the solicitation, it is expected that the local match will be in place. T. Johnson said the project readiness was a bit sketchy and they already have gotten a reprieve at the benefit of the region and still are unable to show progress. K. Garwood said the Anoka County Railroad Authority has been supporting this project all along and they may be able to help shore up the local match. The project was part of the Northstar environmental study and this part of it is at the level of a project management report. M. Filipi said he is doubtful that they can get a local TIF match, but the region wants to boost ridership on the Northstar line and this will be helpful.

Tim Cruikshank, Anoka City Administrator, addressed the Committee. He said they have been working with the county rail authority. The TIF district is in place but the expected development hasn't occurred at the level that was expected in 2005. A. Lovejoy asked if the city had done any bonding against the TIF district. T. Cruikshank said the city has done that elsewhere and they don't have the capacity to pay for new bonds. S. Moe asked for clarification on progress made to date and expressed concern that it appears that not enough work has been done and that there is currently no local match for the project. She also noted that the Sunset Date Extension request stated that there is not currently a need for the project. State Aid thinks there is time to get the necessary work done within a year. The project consultant passed out supplemental information on the tasks completed to date—the right of way has been acquired and agreement with BNSF or a pedestrian crossing has been reached. K. Keel said he would be supportive if the County would agree to "backstop" the project. **MOTION FAILED** on a 13 to 10 vote.

### **C. Planning Committee (Bob Moberg, Chair)**

The planning committee reviewed and discussed the latest draft of the Transportation Planning and Programming Guide. He announced that changes in his work assignments will require him to resign from the TAC and TAC Planning

committees. T. Mayasich thanked him for his work on TAC and the planning committee and stepping up to serve as the TAC Planning Chair.

#### **8. Agency Reports**

P. Bursaw said that it looks like the state will receive about \$43 million in formula funds. \$13million of which will go to local governments which means about \$5.6 million will be allocated to the Metro area. She said MnDOT is looking at ways to add funding to existing projects.

#### **9. Other Business**

There was no other business.

#### **10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

#### **Prepared by:**

Ann Braden