
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, June 6, 2012
Metropolitan Council Chambers
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Jon Olson, Brian Sorenson, Tom Johnson, Lisa Freese, Ted Schoenecker, Kevin Roggenbuck, Mark Filipi, John Kari, Adam Harrington, Pat Bursaw, Robert Vorpahl, Susan Moe, Carolyn Braun, Jennifer Levitt, Chuck Ahl, John Powell, Kim Lindquist, Richard McCoy, Jenifer Hager, Jack Byers, Allen Lovejoy, Mike Klassen.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as prepared.

3. Approval of March Minutes

The May 2, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as written.

4. TAB Report

K. Roggenbuck reported that at its May 16th meeting, The TAB approved the Transportation Planning and Programming Guide, adopted TIP amendments from MnDOT for the St. Croix River Bridge design and plan review and for the inclusion of Section 5310 vehicle purchases. The Board adopted the draft 2013-16 TIP for purpose of public hearing which is scheduled for June 20, 3:30 pm. The TAB voted to accept the 2011 regional solicitation final scores and directed the TAC to forward funding options for their June 20 meeting that would allocate 100% of federal funds that would be available under SAFETEA-LU and contingency plans, should reauthorization provide less funding.

5. Special Agenda Items

- 2040 Regional Forecasts

Libby Starling updated the committee on the Council's preliminary 2040 forecasts for the region. These forecasts of population, households and employment are produced at least once per decade. The present shared expectations of a common future and inform regional and local planning. Preliminary local forecasts will be available in late spring of next year. The regional will grow by 893,000 between 2010 and 2040. 2/3 of this will be from natural growth and 1/3 from migration, 2.3 of which will be international. By 2040 21 percent of the population will be seniors (currently 11 percent). Households are expected to grow by 41%. Two-thirds of net household growth will occur among households without children and at least half of the net new households will have only one income.

- **Travel Behavior Inventory**

Jonathan Ehrlich gave an update on the TBI which is comprised of several surveys: The Household interview survey which was collected over 15 months and involved a one day travel diary kept by over 14,000 persons and a seven day GPS log, which had 250+ responses; a transit On-board survey; an airport survey; a mall of America survey and an external O/D survey. The survey information was supplemented with other data sources: highway speed profiles, transit speeds from Metro transit and Traffic counts; An activity based model will be using the information to develop a forecast model which will be used for air quality conformity, regional scenario testing and project development. Some emerging issues to be address include pricing, equity, telecommuting economic scenarios, time of day tradeoffs and performance based planning. The design, estimation and validation of the regional model is scheduled to continue through early 2013; testing will extend into mid 2013 and the release for general use will be at the end of 2013.

- **2010 Urbanized Area**

Connie Kozlak reported on the newly identified federal urbanized area of the region which extends into portions of adjoining areas of Sherburne and Wright County. The boundary will need to be “smoothed”. This new urbanized area goes beyond the existing metropolitan planning area boundary, which had been contiguous with the seven-county legislatively defined boundary for metro Council jurisdiction. Based on FHWA guidance, the planning boundary must be updated by either the next long-range transportation plan update occurring after October 1, 2012, or within four years of the Census definition of 2010 urban areas, whichever is sooner. The next long-range transportation plan update for the Twin Cities is due in late 2014.

- **“A” Minor Arterial System Study Update**

Mary Karlsson reported on the minor arterial study which is reassessing the A” Minor Arterial classification that was developed about 20 years ago by the TAC and TAB to determine if any changes should be made.

6. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Pat Bursaw, Chair)

P. Bursaw introduced Jack Byers, Minneapolis Planning, who will be replacing Beth Elliott on the TAC. She announced that Jim Gromberg will be the new DEED representative and will attend his first TAC meeting in August. She announced that Tim Mayasich is the TAC’s vice-chair and reminded members that there will be no July TAC meeting.

- **Federal Program Status and Program Delivery Task Force**

The group will meet again on June 15th. They are recommending the elimination of an official “sunset date” and are recommending that projects faced with extenuating circumstances be allowed to have a one year extension of their program year.

B. Funding and Programming Committee

Regional solicitation funding options and contingency plan

T. Johnson reported that the funding and programming met on May 11, 17 and held a special meeting on May 31st in response to TAB's direction that they develop funding options using 100% of the SAFETEA-LU funding levels used in 2009 but with contingency plans should reauthorization provide less federal money. Before the TAB can make decisions on allocation of federal funds, it must make a decision on any inflation percentages that will be applied to selected projects and the level of obligation authority that the region will have, and a few other questions. K. Roggenbuck reviewed a memo dated June 4, 2012. He pointed out that an average inflation rate of 11% was assumed. T. Johnson said that it would make sense to include HSIP and RR safety projects in the TIP amendment and TAB action. C. Ahl asked if it is likely that we would have federal direction by June and whether a decision on funding levels could be delayed until after we know if there's a new bill. K. Roggenbuck said if projects didn't start soon they could be delayed. Congress is still along way off from reauthorizing the highway bill. MnDOT as well as other states are allocating funds at SAFETEA-LU levels. S. Moe confirmed that was the case and said she sees no advantages to delaying.

J. Olson said the delivery of projects is complex and having 30% of funding taken away from selected projects would be detrimental. He prefers the second option, which adjusts timing. T. Johnson agreed.

James Andrew presented the two options and pointed out that it resulted in a difference of only six projects. It was recommended that the term "policy-based" option be removed from Option 2 because it implied that the first option was inconsistent with policies. T. Johnson moved and J. Powell seconded a motion that both options and the contingency plan (assuming a 30% reduction in the federal funding level) be recommended to the TAB for its consideration. **MOTION CARRIED.**

C. Planning Committee (Allen Lovejoy, Chair)

The committee did not meet in May.

7. Agency Reports

There were no agency reports.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There was no other business

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM

Prepared by:

Ann Braden