
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 5, 2013
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Doug Fischer, Brian Sorenson, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Jan Lucke, Elaine Koutsoukos, Mark Filipi, Adam Harrington, Pat Bursaw, Innocent Eyoh, Susan Moe, Beverley Miller, Jean Keely, Karl Keel, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Steve Albrecht, Duane Schwartz, Kim Lindquist, Bruce Loney, Allen Lovejoy, Steven Hay, Paul Kurtz (Members Excused: Patrick Boylan)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as written.

3. Approval of March Minutes

The February 5, 2014 meeting minutes were approved as written.

4. TAC Service Recognition

Pat Bursaw recognized Allen Lovejoy's 27 years of service to the TAC and TAC-Planning.

5. TAB Report

Mark Filipi reported on TAB's February 19 meeting:

Chair's Report: Chair Hargis commented on the new members and a potential orientation.

TAB Bylaws Task Force Report – Member Hovland indicated that he would like the task force to reconvene to discuss two issues: balance of elected officials on the Executive Committee and alternates.

Agency Reports:

MAC commented on the partial implementation by FAA of the next generation technology at MSP.

Metropolitan Council informed the TAB that a new set of forecasts were being released with reduced population forecasts.

TAC Report – TAC Chair Bursaw commented on the special agenda items that the TAC heard in February: CMSP, Defederalization Workgroup, Regional Solicitation Evaluation Study, Thrive MSP 2040, and an update on the TPP. She also informed the TAB that the TAC was also in the process of updating its by-laws and that she expected the TAC to take action at their March meeting. The updated by-laws

would then be forwarded to TAB for their information. She then informed the TAB that the TAC took action on three items that would be coming before the TAB under their action items.

Consent Items: The January TAB minutes were the only item on the consent list which was approved.

Action Items: TAB had 9 items before them:

1. Ratify TAB Coordinator: TAB unanimously approved the recommendation that Elaine Koutsoukos being appointed TAB Coordinator.
2. Election of TAB Executive Committee Member: Motion to appoint Robert Lilligren to the Executive Committee was passed unanimously.
3. Amendment to 2014 UPWP: Motion to amend the UPWP to carry forward funds to continue studies that were still underway (RSE, TBI) passed unanimously.
4. 2017 CMAQ Funding Allocation Proposal: TAB held significant discussion on this \$20 million "mini" solicitation. Staff indicated that they anticipated five potential project submittals, but that there may be more. The TAB discussed the wording of the solicitation and its apparent emphasis on transit, indicating that it should also be open to trail projects. The schedule was slightly changed. The motion then passed unanimously.
5. Program Year Extension for Black Dog Greenway: Passed unanimously.
6. Reassignment of SW Transit Bus Purchase: Passed unanimously.
7. 2014-2017 TIP Amendment for SW Transit Bus Purchase: Passed unanimously.
8. Adopt Public Comment Report and 2014-2017 TIP Amendment for Highway 610: Passed unanimously.
9. Regional Solicitation Evaluation Subcategory Recommendation: TAB was informed that this was being brought back before them to clarify the terminology: Passed unanimously.

Information and Discussion Items:

1. Public comments on I-94 TIP Amendment: Metropolitan Council staff reported on the comments received.
2. Revisions to 2030 TPP Amendment for Corridor of Commerce: Metropolitan and MnDOT staff reported on the status of the TPP amendment proceeding from the Corridors of Commerce. The main topic of discussion was I-694 and the change in projects from a dynamic shoulder lane to a full general purpose lane.
3. Regional Solicitation Evaluation Recommendations: The study consultant reported on the plans for moving into the solicitation development phase, the involvement of TAC Funding and Programming, and proposed schedule.
4. TPP Update: Metropolitan Council staff reported on the status of the TPP update and the anticipated schedule for the rest of the year.
5. 2015-2018 TIP Schedule: Metropolitan Council staff provided an update on the proposed schedule for the 2015-2018 TIP.

6. Special Agenda Items

- Regional Solicitation Evaluation

Heidi Schallberg provided an update on the RSE, which included two handouts. Work groups have been formed after consulting with Pat Bursaw and Tim [MayasiekMayasich](#). SRF will be communicating directly with the work groups. Each should meet twice a month, due to the tight timeline before the September application release date. Information items will be provided to Funding & Programming on the progress of each group.

- Transportation Policy Plan

Amy Vennewitz provided an update on the TPP content so far, which included a PowerPoint presentation. Topics covered include the structure of the plan, strategies, financial overview of the plan, and highways content. The fiscal constraint element may be rephrased to be more accessible to the lay reader. There is an increased presence of the importance of how local property taxes are used to fund transportation investments. An increased funding scenario will also be included, based primarily off the TFAC recommendation. However the TFAC numbers did not go all the way to 2040 and did not include increased operations needs. TAC-Planning has been heavily involved as part of the Partner Agency Work Group to review the content in more detail. Preliminary draft documents will be made available to the TAC and other stakeholders to review. Amy will return to the April TAC meeting for another update.

7. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Pat Bursaw, Chair)

Pat Bursaw summarized the work to date on the bylaws changes. Handing out a “clean” version and a “red-lined” version helped demonstrate the changes being proposed.

Action Item 2014-19: TAC Bylaws Revisions. Tim Mayasich moved and Mark Filipi seconded a motion that the Technical Advisory Committee approve the proposed bylaws as revised. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

B. Funding and Programming Committee (Pat Bursaw for Karl Keel, Chair)

Pat Bursaw explained that since Karl Keel and other members of Funding & Programming are not present today, each action item will be presented by staff who are familiar with the content.

Action item 2014-21: CMAQ Travel Demand Management Solicitation: Doug Fischer asked what kind of impact a decreased level of funding would have on the score for the Nice Ride proposal. Katie White responded that the Nice Ride proposal scored well not due to the quantity of racks but because of the rationale behind the proposed new locations. Innocent Eyoh moved and Doug Fischer seconded a motion recommending that the Transportation Advisory Board approve the project list for the TDM solicitation. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

Action item 2014-22: Scope Change Request – Crystal Lake Regional Trail in Robbinsdale: Alex Meyer from Three Rivers Park District and Jim Gersema from SRF Consulting provided additional information for the Crystal Lake Regional Trail project in Robbinsdale. Questions raised by the TAC included concerns over the removal of trees, traffic volume on the roadway (approx. 100), and whether the project would have scored as well originally with these changes. Steve Albrecht moved and Paul Oehme seconded a motion recommending that the Transportation Advisory Board approve the scope change request with project modifications. **MOTION CARRIED with two votes against.**

Action item 2014-23: TIP Amendment – Crystal Lake Regional Trail in Robbinsdale: Innocent Eyoh moved and Steve Albrecht seconded a motion recommending that the Transportation Advisory Board approve the project list for the TDM solicitation. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

Action item 2014-24: 2015-2018 TIP Schedule: Heidi Schallberg presented the proposed calendar, which better aligns with MnDOT's statewide schedule. Steve Albrecht moved and Duane Schwartz seconded. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

Action item 2014-20: 2017 CMAQ Project Selection Process: Amy Vennewitz presented the document, which was discussed at Funding & Programming. Doug Fischer asked why we need to do the 2017 funds now, instead of holding them for the larger 2018 solicitation. The TAB requested the 2017 solicitation to be held separately, and there are likely project applicants who would benefit from securing funding earlier. Tim Mayasich and Lisa Freese requested that [a CMAQ Project Ranking Committee](#) ~~the previous CMAQ review committee~~ be utilized to provide preliminary input on the projects, in order to avoid a potential conflict of interest with the staff, recognizing that the timeline is tight. [Membership on the Project Ranking Committee can come from TAC members](#) and [the previous CMAQ Scoring Committee, recognizing that](#) not all members of the previous CMAQ committee will be able to participate. Innocent Eyoh asked about the status of the cost-effectiveness criteria. Amy Vennewitz responded that it was not a priority for TAB. Duane Schwartz moved and Doug Fischer seconded that the TAB approve the one-time process and release of the Request for Regionally Significant Transit Capital Projects, including: (1) utilizing [a CMAQ Project Ranking Committee similar to](#) the previous CMAQ [Scoring](#) committee as part of the initial scoring team and (2) incorporating cost-effectiveness as an item for consideration. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

C. Planning Committee (Allen Lovejoy, Chair)

Action item 2014-16: Conformity CIP: Allen Lovejoy and Mark Filipi provided background information on the CIP. The most significant change is the addition of a conflict resolution section. Innocent Eyoh added that once all seven parties sign there will be a public notice period, and then the document will be sent to the EPA. Allen Lovejoy moved and Innocent Eyoh seconded. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

Action item 2014-17: Cottage Grove Functional Classification Changes: Allen Lovejoy stated that the Planning committee recommends approval of about half of Cottage Grove's requested changes. City staff has agreed to review those that were not recommended. This package includes a road that goes across 3M private property, and creates a parallel facility. Allen Lovejoy moved and Duane Schwartz seconded. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

7. Agency Reports

No reports.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Prepared by:

Katie White