
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, August 2, 2017
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Joe MacPherson, Lyndon Robjent, Brian Sorenson, Carla Stueve, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Jan Lucke, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Brian Isaacson, Bridget Rief, Dave Jacobson, Peter Dahlberg, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Steve Albrecht, Paul Oehme, Kim Lindquist, Robert Ellis, Jen Hager, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz (Excused: Jeff Rossate, Jean Keely, Michael Thompson, Jim Kosluchar, Jack Byers)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Steve Albrecht at 9:01 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was moved by Elaine Koutsoukos and seconded by Dave Jacobson. No discussion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was moved by Lisa Freese and seconded by Bill Dermody. Elaine Koutsoukos asked that the July minutes be edited to reflect her presence. Motion passed.

4. TAB Report

REPORTS

TAB Chair's Report: Chair Hovland asked TAB members for their feedback on timing of the workshops for the Transportation Policy Plan. There was a workshop on the TPP in the morning. Handouts of the presentation given at the workshop were shared with the TAB members. Because of the light turnout for the workshop and the time commitment involved, those present discussed other meeting options (times/days) for these workshops to try to make it more convenient for TAB member schedules. TAB members decided to expand the TAB meeting time earlier and later. TAB will meet from 12:00-3:00 pm, August, September, and October.

Agency Reports (MnDOT, MPCA, MAC and Metropolitan Council)

MnDOT: Scott McBride reported that the St. Croix River Crossing opening is August 2. The 35W/Lake Street combined transit and highway project, a project of major regional significance, was let in June and will have major impacts on traffic for the next 4 years. The Franklin Street Bridge and the 38th Street Bridge over 35W removals begin in August.

MnDOT has two solicitations out. One for \$20 million federal funds for highway construction projects in years 2019-2022 with discernable freight transportation benefits. One for \$18 million

state matching funds for state highway construction projects in 2018-2022 with measurable economic benefits. DEED has a parallel program that funds projects on local roads for \$4 million.

MAC: Carl Crimmins reported that a truck hit a bridge beam and slowed construction for a week. Roadway construction is expected to be completed August 6. MSP Airport has a new website. On the website you can check flights, parking availability, and security wait times. They are hoping to add the hotel information.

ACTION ITEMS

1. 2017-14: Approved Streamlined TIP Amendment to add a MnDOT median barrier HSIP project on US 10 in order to start project earlier.
2. 2017-16: Approved Streamlined TIP Amendment to add a MnDOT railroad crossing project in South St. Paul in order to start project earlier.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. TMA Certification Review
2. Truck Highway Corridor Study
3. Shared-Mobility Action Plan for the Twin Cities, presented by Shared Use Mobility Center
4. Online Mapping Tool of Funded Regional Solicitation Projects
5. Expo 2023 – Mark Ritchie presented information on Minnesota’s bid for Expo 2023. Minnesota is one of three finalists. Decision will be made in November.

Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Steve Albrecht, Chair)

The Executive Committee reviewed today’s agenda.

B. Planning Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

The committee met in June and had a few information items, plus two action items.

2017-18 2018 Unified Planning Work Program. Lisa Freese introduced Katie White, who provided a brief presentation on the UPWP. Dave Jacobson asked what the Transit Service Allocation project is. Katie White responded that the scope has not been fully developed, but will be in coordination with all transit service providers.

Lisa Freese moved and Adam Harrington seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

2017-19 Long Term Comprehensive Plan: Crystal Airport. Lisa Freese presented this item. There were no questions. Lisa Freese moved and Bridget Rief seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

C. Funding and Programming Committee (Tim Mayasich, Chair)

Tim Mayasich reported that the committee met in July and its information items are later on today’s agenda.

6. Special Agenda Items

TPP Update: Highways. (Steve Peterson, Tony Fischer, and Steve Elmer, MTS) Steve Peterson, Tony Fischer, and Steve Elmer presented on the highways content in the TPP. Steve Bot suggested that all maps be updated with the current conditions. Steve Peterson said that today's maps are what are in today's TPP. Sometimes there are data lags, but there will be a new 2016 congestion map in the next TPP. Lyndon Robjant said that the 2040 congestion map looks very dramatic and wondered if it is time to explore another PA ring around the metro area. Steve Peterson that the new Streetlight data source may help identify origin/destination pairs to determine the best locations in which to make investments. Adam Harrington asked if the congestion map represents all day congestion. Steve Peterson responded that represents more than one hour of congestion per day, which is defined as less than 45 mph. Tim Mayasich asked if the 2040 congestion map includes the transit investments (SWLRT, BLRT, Gold Line). Steve Peterson responded that it does.

Americans with Disabilities Act. (Heidi Schallberg, MTS) Heidi Schallberg presented on FHWA requests for information from the state MPOs on ADA compliance. MnDOT has indicated that local jurisdictions will not be eligible for State Aid if they are not moving to compliance. Dave Jacobson asked if there was a timeline. Heidi Schallberg said that a survey from MTS would be going out within the next couple of months, and that all jurisdictions should update their plans periodically. Lyndon Robjant asked if ADA compliance would be a check box on the next solicitation; Heidi Schallberg responded that it is a consideration.

Regional Solicitation Criteria, Forms, SRTS, and Pedestrian Facilities. (Joe Barbeau, MTS) Joe Barbeau presented on potential changes to the Regional Solicitation that were discussed at the July F&P meeting. Lyndon Robjant asked about signal timing qualifying criteria and the five year study. Steve Peterson responded that this item ties directly to the TPP requirements. Brian Sorenson asked about the risk assessment piece of identifying the local match. Many locals claim that they have the full amount available locally but are searching for bonding money, which may not materialize. Jan Lucke asked how often a project drops out due to lack of local match; Elaine Koutsoukos responded that one or two projects per year fall into that category. Lyndon Robjant, Brian Isaacson, and Brian Sorenson discussed the proposed language and how it might not serve the intended purpose of discouraging speculative funding arrangements.

Lyndon Robjant asked why the engineering progress was removed from the criteria, and suggested that the number of points should be increased instead of eliminated. Steve Peterson responded that the scoring didn't differentiate between projects. This category has been changed from "project readiness" to "risk assessment."

7. Agency Reports

Bridget Rief said that ticket counters will be moving outside at MSP airport. The eventual goal is to have only bag drop inside the building. In August new automated security lanes will debut.

Adam Harrington said that this coming Sunday and Monday the APTA Sustainability and Mobility Conference will be in MSP.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:24am.

Prepared by:

Katie White