
*Transportation Advisory Board
of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, December 4, 2019
9:30 A.M.**

Members Present: Lisa Freese, Jack Forslund, Gina Mitteco, Carla Stueve, Brian Isaacson, Jan Lucke, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Cole Hiniker, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Jon Solberg, Innocent Eyoh, Neil Ralsson, Matt Fyten, Andrew Andrusko, Danny McCullough, Ken Ashfeld, Anne Kane, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Robert Ellis, Jim Kosluchar, Jenifer Hager, Paul Mogush, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Freese at 9:33 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Isaacson and seconded by Mr. Harrington. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the November 6, 2019 TAC minutes was made by Mr. Mogush and seconded by Mr. Dermody. Motion carried.

4. TAB Report

TAB Coordinator Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the November 20, 2019 TAB meeting.

5. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

Chair Freese provided an update on the Executive Committee meeting.

2. Planning Committee (Jan Lucke, Chair)

a) Public Transit and Human Services Coordinated Plan

This plan supports the coordination of transportation services between transit providers and human service agencies, focusing in particular on people with disabilities, older adults, and low-income individuals. It identifies barriers to riders and providers of these services and determines strategies to address these barriers. The plan is anticipated to be presented for adoption by the Council in early 2020. Mr. Harrington made a motion to recommend adoption of the plan by the Council, pending public review and comment. Seconded by Ms. Mitteco. Motion carried.

b) Functional Class Map for Regional Solicitation

David Vessel of MTS presented the proposed functional classification map to the committee, noting that pending approval, this would be the map used in the 2020 Regional Solicitation. He outlined the changes that occurred since the 2018 Regional Solicitation and noted that the shapefile can be

downloaded from the MnGeo website. A motion to recommend adoption of the functional classification map was made by Mr. Eyoh and seconded by Mr. Ellis. Motion carried.

c) Regional Bike Transportation Network Changes and Map for Regional Solicitation

Steve Elmer of MTS presented this item, noting that the RBTN was set up to develop an integrated network of trails to promote and encourage this mode of travel. The RBTN has been used in the Regional Solicitation since 2014, and the latest changes were reflected on the map presented to the committee. Concern was expressed that potential applicants were only provided an opportunity to provide administrative changes to the RBTN, and more significant changes were not allowed. Discussion ensued on whether to allow an RBTN alignment adjacent to the approved Gold Line transitway in Washington County. Mr. Isaacson made a motion to recommend approval of the map pending the addition of the Gold Line Transitway RBTN alignment. Motion was seconded by Ms. Lucke and carried.

d) Metropolitan Airports Commission Capital Improvement Program

The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) annually prepares a capital improvement program for projects at MSP International Airport and the six regional general aviation reliever airports. Per state law, the Council must approve the CIP and review and comment on projects to ensure consistency with the Transportation Policy Plan. A motion to recommend approval of the MAC 2020-2026 CIP was made by Mr. Dermody and seconded by Mr. Oehme. Motion carried.

3. Funding and Programming Committee (Paul Oehme, Chair)

a) Public Comment Report for the 2020 Regional Solicitation

Steve Peterson of MTS presented this item, which outlined the public comments received in regards to potential changes to the 2020 Regional Solicitation criteria. The committee discussed the item and ultimately chose to accept the public comments for the 2020 Regional Solicitation with the following actions:

- Insert language into the qualifying criterion that states transit operators must have the funds to cover the project: "...and certify that they will provide funding, if the service or facility project continues beyond the initial three-year funding period for transit operating funds."
- Change the maximum federal award in the Multiuse Trails and Bicycle Facilities category to \$5.5 million.
- Add a \$10 million minimum "target" in the Bridge category to replace the \$10 million funding minimum.
- Replace bridge sufficiency rating with National Bridge Inventory (NBI) Condition rating in the bridge qualifying requirements and the 300-point measure within the Infrastructure Condition criterion of the Bridge application.
- Consider comments made on Roadways categories (comments 24-31) as part of the evaluation prior to the 2022 Regional Solicitation.
- Council staff shall prepare a schedule and process for updating studies used to score Regional Solicitation measures.

A motion to recommend the TAB accept the public comments with the aforementioned changes was made by Mr. Isaacson and seconded by Mr. Oehme. Motion carried.

b) Adopt 2020 Regional Solicitation Packet for Release.

This item presented the entire 2020 Regional Solicitation application package, including forms, qualifying criteria and other materials related to the 2020 Regional Solicitation. A motion to recommend approval of the package, inclusive of changes presented in the Public Comment Report, was made by Ms. Koutsoukos and seconded by Mr. Eyoh. Motion carried.

6. Special Agenda Items

1. Review of TIP Amendment Policy

Joe Barbeau of MTS presented this item. He noted that the current TIP amendment process can be time-consuming, and the intent is to streamline the process by using the following conditions for the streamlined amendment process:

- The project is consistent with the adopted Transportation Policy Plan.
- The project is not a regionally significant project.
- The project does not relate to a formal scope change before the committees.

This could potentially put more responsibility on the TAC.

7. Agency Reports

None provided.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was moved by Mr. Isaacson and seconded by Ms. Mitteco. The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 am.

Prepared by:

David Burns