
*Transportation Advisory Board
of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, May 6, 2020
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Lisa Freese, Joe MacPherson, Lyndon Robjent, Gina Mitteco, Chad Ellos, Brian Isaacson, Emily Jorgenson, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Jon Solberg, Innocent Eyoh, Andrew Emanuele, Matt Fyten, Peter Dahlberg, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Ken Ashfeld, Anne Kane, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Kim Lindquist, Robert Ellis, Jim Kosluchar, Jenifer Hager, Joe Bernard, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz, Kevin Roggenbuck

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Freese at 9:03 a.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held via video conference.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved without change.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the April 1, 2020 TAC minutes was made by Ms. Koutsoukos and seconded by Mr. Isaacson. Motion carried.

(Meeting minutes for the March 4, 2020 minutes will be presented for approval at a future committee meeting.)

4. TAB Report

TAB Coordinator Ms. Koutsoukos provided a written summary of the April 15, 2020, TAB meeting to the TAC. There were no questions or clarifications from TAC members.

5. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

Chair Freese reported that the Executive Committee met via teleconference prior to the meeting. The Committee discussed items on the TAC agenda, the COVID-19 impact on transportation funding, and agenda items for future meetings.

2. TAC Action Items

a) 2020-20: Streamlined 2020-2023 TIP Amendment: St. Paul Electric Vehicles for Car Sharing

MTS Senior Planner Joe Barbeau presented this item. The City of St. Paul requested the TAC to recommend approval of an amendment to the TIP to eliminate mobility hubs from its electric vehicle

carshare project. The hubs would be completed prior to the rest of the project. This would reduce the scope and total cost of the federal project, allowing it to be completed more quickly.

b) 2020-21: Streamlined 2020-2023 TIP Amendment: I-94/US 952A Bridge Rehabilitation

Mr. Barbeau presented this item, which was a request by MnDOT to amend the 2020-2023 TIP in order to add the rehabilitation of three bridges to its US 952A/I-94 bridge rehabilitation project. He noted that the project is funded by the National Highway Preservation Program and is already programmed in the 2021-2024 TIP.

c) 2020-22: Streamlined 2020-2023 TIP Amendment: US 12 Safety Improvement Study

Mr. Barbeau presented this item. Hennepin County requested an amendment to the TIP to add a safety improvements to the programmed US 12 project. The study would be funded through HSIP Section 164 funds, which are programmed by MnDOT.

d) 2020-23: Streamlined 2020-2023 TIP Amendment: Metrowide Replacement of Dynamic Messaging Signs

Mr. Barbeau presented this item. The TIP amendment request was submitted by MnDOT to amend the scope of the metrowide replacement of dynamic message signs. The amendment would eliminate reference to shelter replacement from the project, correcting an error.

Mr. Issacson made a motion to recommend approval of all four streamlined TIP amendments, seconded by Mr. Solberg. Motion carried.

3. Planning Committee (Kevin Roggenbuck, Chair)

a) 2020-19: Draft 2040 Transportation Policy Plan 2020 Update

Mr. Roggenbuck introduced this item and provided the committee with an overview of the Transportation Policy Plan update cycle. Under federal requirements, the Council must adopt a new TPP at least every five years. The federal timeline would require an update by 2023. The region, however, also prepares the regional transportation plan in conformance with state law, which requires a 2024 update, concurrent with the update of the Regional Development Guide. In order to accommodate both federal and state requirements, the Council is planning a minor update of the TPP to occur in 2020, which would allow the next major plan update to occur in 2024. The requested action is to recommend the draft update of the TPP be released for public review and comment.

Ms. Vennewitz of MTS presented the primary changes to the TPP, noting that the committee had received the updated draft chapters prior to the meeting. Primary changes include the results of planning and corridors studies resulting in changes in major project funding; a significantly revised Work Program chapter including new planning studies; and updated results from the Performance Outcomes chapter. Ms. Vennewitz provided specific information on three studies associated with the COVID-19 outbreak.

A motion to recommend release of the draft TPP for public review and comment was made by Kevin Roggenbuck and seconded by Jon Solberg. Motion carried.

6. Special Agenda Items

1. Travel Behavior Inventory Data Highlights (Ashely Asmus, MTS)

Ashley Asmus from MTS presented this item, which explored some of the preliminary findings of the Travel Behavior Inventory (TBI). Ms. Asmus noted that the survey was conducted between October of 2018 and October of 2019, with a total of over 7,870 households participating in the survey. This was the first time that respondents were able to take the survey via an app, making it easier and more accurate than traditional paper surveys.

Notable take-aways include the fact that income affects when people commute; the discrepancy between trip purpose on weekends versus weekdays; gender differences in travel; and travel behavior trends by race. Ms. Asmus noted that the Council will be conducting a follow-up survey to better understand the effects of the pandemic on travel behavior.

7. Agency Reports

Mr. Solberg reported that the Governor's forecast had recently been released, and MnDOT was still processing how it may affect State-Aid funding.

Innocent Eyoh from MPCA reported that the agency is adjusting its timeline for rule adoption due to the impact of the pandemic.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was provided by Mr. Solberg and seconded by Mr. MacPherson. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

Prepared by:

David Burns