
*Transportation Advisory Board
of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 6, 2021
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Jon Solberg, Scott Mareck, Joe MacPherson, Lyndon Robjent, Erin Laberee, Chad Ellos, Lisa Freese, Lyssa Leitner, Andrew Witter, Elaine Koutsoukos, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Andrew Emanuele, Mehjabeen Rahman, Aaron Bartling, Praveena Pidaparathi, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Ken Ashfeld, Charlie Howley, Paul Oehme, Marc Culver, Robert Ellis, Jim Kosluchar, Nathan Koster, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Agenda

The Committee approved the agenda with no changes. Therefore, no vote was needed.

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 1, 2021, meeting were presented to the Committee for consideration. A motion to approve the September minutes was made by Mr. Robjent and seconded by Mr. Ashfeld. Motion carried.

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

4. TAB Report

TAB Coordinator Ms. Koutsoukos provided a summary of the September 15, 2021 meeting.

5. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee (Jon Solberg, TAC Chair)

Chair Solberg reported that the Executive Committee met prior to the TAC meeting. The committee discussed the details of items the agenda.

2. TAC Action Items

a. 2021-39: Streamlined 2021-2024 and 2022-2025 TIP Amendment Request: Addition of Three Clean Transportation Grants Projects

Joe Barbeau of MTS presented this item, beginning by noting that there are nine TIP Amendments this month. The three amendments in this item ask for approvals in both the 2021-2024 TIP and 2022-2025 TIP while the other six ask for approvals in the 2022-2025 TIP only. The three projects in this item are all MnDOT sponsored projects. The first is for electric car sharing, the second is for mobility hubs in Minneapolis, and the third is for battery electric buses and electrical upgrades to SouthWest Transit.

Mr. Witter asked about the approval process of TIP amendments. Mr. Barbeau provided clarification.

Mr. Koster asked about TIP amendments being in both the 2021-2024 and 2022-2025 TIP. Mr. Barbeau clarified that the projects are due to be obligated soon and there is no certainty about which of the two TIPs will be active at that time.

Mr. Koster made a motion to recommend approval of the item. Seconded by Ms. Koutsoukos. Motion carried.

b. 2021-40: Streamlined 2022-2025 TIP Amendment Request: Addition of Two Projects

Mr. Barbeau presented this item. The first project is a new project for the Orange Line Small Starts Grant Agreement, and the second project is a new project for a retaining wall near Page Street in St. Paul funded by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA).

Chair Solberg provided more information about CRRSAA funds.

Mr. Harrington made a motion to recommend approval of the item. Seconded by Mr. Mareck. Motion carried.

c. 2021-41: Streamlined 2022-2025 TIP Amendment Request for Ramsey County: Lexington Parkway Extension

Mr. Barbeau of MTS presented this item, noting that this project is a Regional Solicitation project. The County is requesting a minor terminus adjustment.

Marc Culver made a motion to recommend approval of the item. Seconded by Mr. Mareck. Motion carried.

d. 2021-42: Streamlined 2022-2025 TIP Amendment Request for MnDOT: MN 3 Trail Construction in Farmington

Mr. Barbeau of MTS presented this item, noting that the amendment proposes a minor technical correction to the project description.

Mr. McCullough made a motion to recommend approval of the item. Seconded by Mr. Ellos. Motion carried.

e. 2021-43: Streamlined 2022-2025 TIP Amendment Request for MnDOT: Two Project Cost Changes

Mr. Barbeau of MTS presented this item. The first cost change is to a MnDOT project on US 10 and the second cost change is to a MnDOT bridge rehabilitation project near downtown Minneapolis.

Mr. MacPherson made a motion to recommend approval of the item. Seconded by Mr. Oehme. Motion carried.

3. Planning Committee (Emily Jorgensen, Chair)

No items.

4. Funding and Programming Committee (Michael Thompson, Chair)

a. 2021-07: Federal Funds Redistribution Amount for Metro Transit's I-94 / Manning Avenue Park-and-Ride Lot

Steve Peterson of MTS presented this item, noting that this request is not a scope change but a redistribution of unused federal funds that were originally intended for Metro Transit to use on Park-and-Ride land acquisition and construction, four 60-foot buses, and express service. There are two possible outcomes for redistributing the funds that will be further discussed in a future meeting of the TAC. The first outcome that TAC F&P recommends involves returning approximately \$4.5 million to \$ million to the region for redistribution while retaining up to approximately \$2.78 million. The second outcome involves returning the entire \$7,280,000.

Mr. Harrington made a motion to recommend that \$5,044,000 be returned for redistribution and \$2,235,600 be retained for buses. Seconded by Mr. McCullough. Motion carried.

6. Information Items

1. MnDOT Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan Update

Ashley Zidon and Hally Turner of MnDOT provided an overview of the Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan draft policy hierarchy, policy guidance, engagement, and next steps.

2. Allocation of \$20 Million of CRRSAA Federal Funds

Molly McCartney of MnDOT presented information on CRRSA. Mr. Peterson and Dan Erickson of MnDOT provided additional background information.

7. Agency Updates

No updates provided.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Prepared by:

Grant Brokl