

Minutes

TAB Technical Advisory Committee



Meeting Date: March 4, 2020

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Council Chambers

Members Present:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair, Lisa Freese, Scott Co | <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Kosluchar, Fridley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe MacPherson, Anoka Co | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Oehme, Lakeville | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mehjabeen Rahman, MPCA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lyndon Robjent, Carver Co | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Ashfeld, Maple Grove | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neil Ralston, MAC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gina Mitteco, Dakota Co | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Lindquist, Rosemount | <input type="checkbox"/> Matt Fyten, STA |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Isaacson, Ramsey Co | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Thompson, Plymouth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adam Harrington, Metro Transit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chad Ellos, Hennepin Co | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenifer Hager, Minneapolis | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Solberg, MnDOT |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily Jorgensen, Washington Co | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Bernard, Minneapolis | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Dahlberg, MnDOT Freight |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Bot, 7W | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Kurtz, St. Paul | <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Gromberg, DEED |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karl Keel, Bloomington | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Dermody, St. Paul | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danny McCullough, SNMTC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anne Kane, White Bear Lake | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Peterson, Council MTS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Emanuele (ex-officio) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robert Ellis, Eden Prairie | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Larson, Council CD | |
- = present

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Freese at 9:04 AM.

Approval of Agenda

Isaacson moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Harrington. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

MacPherson moved to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2020, regular meeting of the TAB Technical Advisory Committee. Seconded by Isaacson. Motion carried.

TAB Report

Koutsoukos reported on the February 19, 2020, TAB meeting.

Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

Chair Freese reported that the TAC Executive Committee met prior to the TAC meeting. Due to a job transition, Jan Lucke will no longer serve as the TAC Planning chair. She invited members to express interest in serving as chair. Emily Jorgensen will fill in for Lucke as TAC member.

Funding & Programming Committee (Paul Oehme, Chair)

1. [2020-11: Scope Change Request: Metro Transit](#)

Oehme presented this item, stating that Metro Transit is proposing a change to its Route 63

service improvement project to reduce the length and number of buses for Route 63 and establish an additional route, Route 323.

Solberg asked how the additional route, which costs more than the original route, is not considered a new project. Michael Mechtenberg, Metro Transit, replied that there is an overall cost reduction by reducing the cost of Route 63. Harrington said that the application was meant to improve service frequency and that given the length and structure of the amended route, it leads to a cost reduction. The cost reduction enables lengthening the overall route length.

Thompson moved to recommend approval of the scope change request. Seconded by Harrington. Motion carried.

2. [2020-12: TIP Amendment: Metro Transit Scope Change](#)

Oehme presented this item, stating that an amendment is needed to reflect the scope change requested discussed in the previous item.

Harrington moved to recommend approval of the TIP amendment request. Seconded by Isaacson. Motion carried.

3. [2020-13: Streamlined TIP Amendment: MnDOT District Pavement](#)

Oehme presented this item, stating that an amendment is needed to reflect MnDOT's addition of a Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding set-a-side in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for each MnDOT district. The setaside funding will be used for pavement marking and cat-track projects within the metropolitan area district.

Isaacson moved to recommend approval of the TIP amendment request. Seconded by Keel. Motion carried.

4. [2020-14: Streamlined TIP Amendment: MnDOT Temporary Signals](#)

Oehme presented this item, stating that an amendment is needed to add a project installing temporary signals at the County Road J (Ash Street) interchange with I-35E. The project will address back-up onto I-35E.

Isaacson moved to recommend approval of the TIP amendment request. Seconded by Harrington. Motion carried.

5. [2020-15: Streamlined TIP Amendment: St. Louis Park](#)

Oehme presented this item, stating that an amendment is needed to change the project description to include roadway reconstruction to St. Louis Park's pedestrian bridge project and increase project cost. Roadway reconstruction will include narrowing the roadway and constructing curb and gutter to provide enough public right-of-way for the multi-use trail and eliminate the need for retaining walls along property lines.

MacPherson moved to recommend approval of the TIP amendment request. Seconded by Kurtz. Motion carried.

Planning Committee (Jan Lucke, Chair)

1. [Transportation Safety Work Group](#)

Steve Peterson, MTS, presented this item. A safety work group was convened to discuss the MPO's safety performance measures and consider safety performance targets and come through TAC Planning with a recommendation.

Hager asked whether the TAC Planning member can be swapped out for a more appropriate staff person. Peterson said this is acceptable. Ellos said that Hennepin County would be interested in participating. Freese suggested limits in city and county representative to keep the size manageable.



Special Agenda Items

1. [Network Next 2040](#) (Kyle Burrows, Metro Transit)

Kyle Burrows, Metro Transit, presented this item.

Mitteco asked whether ABRT corridors that were studied last time but were not implemented will automatically be included. Burrows replied that they will be re-evaluated, but not necessarily included. Mitteco asked whether the study will result in a similar number of corridors to the 12 selected last time. Burrows said that this is roughly the goal following screening a larger number. Harrington said that it will also depend on the market for each corridor.

Peterson asked whether highway goals and strategies in the TPP were examined, particularly MnPASS, which could be used for express routes. Burrows replied that the highway portion of the TPP was not used for policy guidance, but MnPASS locations will be key for express route location.

Freese asked how communities outside the Metro Transit service area are addressed. Burrows replied that survey responses were received from outside of the service area. Burrows said the scope of Network Next is focused on the Metro Transit service area. Harrington added that this is a Metro Transit-specific plan. Each provider is supposed to provide its own service plan to the Council.

2. [Regional Studies Update Cycle](#) (Steve Peterson, MTS)

Peterson and Steve Elmer, MTS, presented this item, which is included after TAC added a clause to a previous motion to provide an update. These studies capture regional priorities, which help with Regional Solicitation project selection. Elmer and Peterson discussed timelines for the Regional Bicycle Transportation Network, Regional Bicycle Barrier Crossing improvement areas, Truck Corridor Tiers, Principal Arterial Intersection Conversion Study priority tiers, Congestion Management Safety Plan opportunity areas, and Congestion Management Process speed data.

Agency Reports

Solberg said that MnDOT is asking that requests for MnDOT letters pertaining to the Regional Solicitation be provided by March 20. He added that a freight solicitation will take place in 2020 for 2023 and 2024 and perhaps 2025 funding. MacPherson asked whether the maximum award amounts are known. Solberg replied that this is not yet known but will likely be similar to the last solicitation, which was \$12 million for 2023 and will likely be around \$20 million for 2024 and 2025. Freese added that she is on the Freight Advisory Committee, which recently recommended a \$7 million maximum award due to a limited amount of funding availability. Peterson said that in the last solicitation, Metro won 81% of the funds, which resulted in complaints from other districts. This could lead to discussion of increasing the 20% floor for non-Metro projects.

Koutsoukos reported that the Regional Solicitation is underway and upcoming WebGrants training sessions have available seats.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

Solberg moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Isaacson. The meeting was adjourned.