

Minutes

TAB Technical Advisory Committee



Meeting date: October 1, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Virtual

Members present:

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| ☒ Anoka Co – Joe MacPherson (Chair) | ☒ Brooklyn Park – Marc Culver | ☐ MnDOT – Molly McCartney (Vice Chair) |
| ☒ Carver Co – Drew Pflaumer | ☒ Chanhassen – Charlie Howley | ☒ MPCA – Innocent Eyoh |
| ☒ Dakota Co – Erin Laberee | ☒ Eagan – Russ Matthys | ☒ MAC – Bridget Rief |
| ☒ Ramsey Co – Brian Isaacson | ☒ Eden Prairie – Robert Ellis | ☒ STA – Matt Fyten |
| ☒ Hennepin Co – Chad Ellos | ☒ Fridley – Jim Kosluchar | ☒ Metro Transit – Jonathan Ahn |
| ☒ Scott Co – Craig Jenson | ☒ Lakeville – Paul Oehme | ☐ Freight – Shelly Meyer |
| ☒ Washington Co – Lyssa Leitner | ☐ Plymouth – Michael Thompson | ☒ DEED – Colleen Eddy |
| ☒ Extended Urban Area – Chad Hausmann | ☒ Woodbury – Chris Hartzell | ☒ MnDNR – Nancy Spooner-Walsh |
| ☒ Council MTS – Steve Peterson | ☐ Minneapolis Engineering – Jenifer Hager | ☒ Bicycle – Kyle Sobota |
| ☒ Council CD – Patrick Boylan | ☒ Minneapolis Planning – Kathleen Mayell | ☒ Pedestrian – Mackenzie Turner Borgen |
| ☒ TAB – Elaine Koutsoukos | ☒ Saint Paul Engineering – Nick Peterson | ☐ FHWA – Scott Mareck (ex-officio) |
| | ☒ Saint Paul Planning – Reuben Collins | ☒ = present, E = excused |

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

Call to order

A quorum being present, Chair MacPherson called the regular meeting of the TAB Technical Advisory Committee to order at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda approved

With no changes suggested for the agenda, Chair MacPherson declared it approved.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Chris Hartzel, Woodbury, and seconded by Charlie Howley, Chanhassen, to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2025, regular meeting of the TAB Technical Advisory Committee. **Motion carried**

Public comment on committee business

TAB report

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB Coordinator, reported on the September 17, 2025, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board.

Business – Committee reports

Executive Committee (Joe MacPherson, Chair)

Chair MacPherson reported that the TAC Executive Committee met and discussed the action and information items along with potentially meeting in-person due to the number of Regional Solicitation items on the horizon. November is planned to be in-person, with December tentatively in-person as well. He invited Molly McCartney, MnDOT, to talk about the federal government shutdown. She said that a short shutdown will not be very impactful but a longer one could be.

1. **2025-29:** 2026-2029 Streamlined TIP Amendment Request – Reconnect Rondo's Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program planning grant

Robbie King, MTS, presented.

It was moved by Patrick Boylan, Met Council Community Development, and seconded by Brian Isaacson, Ramsey County, to recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2026-2029 TIP to add Reconnect Rondo's Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program planning grant.

McCartney stated that she will abstain from voting given that MnDOT is studying a land bridge over I-94 in the same area.

Motion carried

TAC Transit Planning Technical Working Group (Bradley Bobbitt, MTS Planning)

Joe Barbeau, MTS, said that the working group did not meet and there is no update.

Planning Committee (Gina Mitteco, Chair)

Chair Mitteco said that TAC Planning Committee met and had two information items.

Funding and Programming Committee (Jim Kosluchar, Chair)

Chair Kosluchar said that the TAC Funding & Programming Committee did not meet in September. Barbeau added that King surveyed members about ability to attend and the meeting will be kept at the scheduled time despite coinciding with the annual MEA Conference.

Information

1. Electric Vehicle Public Charging Needs Analysis (Tony Fischer, MTS)

Tony Fischer, MTS, presented.

Isaacson asked whether there is information on how many electric vehicle (EV) users are currently in multi-family housing without access to charging. Fischer said that while anecdotally, this seems to be a challenge, he does not have any data about this now. Chair MacPherson asked whether this leads to some people needing charging away from home. Fischer replied that lower-income users and users in older homes are more likely to need public or at-work charging. He added that 80% of overall charging is done at home.

Chair MacPherson asked about opportunities for public-private partnerships. He added that it is common to see broken-down and vandalized charging stations and asked about their up time. Fischer replied that reliability is a concern, adding that the federal National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program has aggressive up-time requirements, as does MPCA. He added that the United States has adopted one reliability standard, which will likely help and

that the private sector is often a partner in charging station efforts as NEVI has funded stations at convenience stores.

Innocent Eyoh, MPCA, asked whether interest is higher for any location type versus others and if any location type could prompt people to purchase an EV. Fischer replied that users have different needs and interests.

2. Regional Solicitation Evaluation Update
 - a. Regional Solicitation Evaluation (Steve Peterson, MTS, and Molly Stewart, SRF)
 - b. Active Transportation (Joe Widing, MTS)

Molly Stewart, SRF, started the presentation by discussing funding categories. Steve Peterson, MTS, then discussed categorial funding distribution, federal minimum and maximum awards, and a new qualifying requirement to offset expansion projects per the state Greenhouse Gas Impact Assessment requirement.

Issacson asked how the \$15 million under the Environment heading will be split between EV Charging Infrastructure and Travel Demand Management (TDM). Steve Peterson said discussion has leaned towards \$8 million for TDM and \$7 million for EV Charging Infrastructure, with some flexibility. Chair MacPherson asked whether the EV money could be moved to something else if federal requirements necessitate it. Steve Peterson confirmed.

Isaacson asked whether the Arterial Bus Rapid Transit maximum award is unspecified and if it goes beyond \$30 million how it would be decided what transit projects would be sacrificed. Steve Peterson said that clarification from the Policy Working Group is needed. He added that flexibility could be used to enable Metro Transit to decide whether it wants to federalize its next project on the list, though it was framed as a TAB decision.

Emily Buell, Hennepin County, asked why the Roadway Modernization maximum award went from \$7 million to \$10 million while several others, including Bridge Connections, did not increase. Steve Peterson said that previous bridge applications tended to either be \$3 million to \$5 million or very large projects. He added that the bicycle maximum award of \$5.5 million has withstood previous moves to be reduced.

Amy Vennewitz, MTS, then discussed the Community Considerations criterion and measures. McCartney said that it will be difficult for any project to score high on all three measures given that no project scored that well during testing. Vennewitz added that two scorers will be used for Community Considerations in each category and that training is meant to prevent too many projects from scoring high on all three measures. Kathleen Mayell, Minneapolis Planning, suggested that if it is too difficult to score high on all three measures, another way should be found to guarantee funding one high-performing Community Considerations project. She then asked whether there are guarantees about funding in each category. Steve Peterson said that there are no written guarantees. Chad Ellos, Hennepin County, said that he does not support automatically funding any projects due to Community Consideration scoring due to how new the process is.

Joe Widing, MTS, presented on the Active Transportation Solicitation. Lyssa Leitner, Washington County, expressed a preference for running the application on a different cycle from the Regional Solicitation given how many applications applicants are submitting. Chair MacPherson stated that Met Council staff will be managing the funds as opposed to MnDOT. Widing confirmed this.

Other business

McCartney stated that the MnDOT Metro District Freight Plan is out for public comment.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

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Metropolitan Council