
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 2, 2013
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Jon Olson, Lyndon Robjent, Tom Johnson, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Cory Slagle, Carl Ohrn, Mark Filipi, Pat Bursaw, Innocent Eyoh, Bridget Rief, Susan Moe, Beverley Miller, Jean Keely, Karl Keel, Paul Oehme, Steve Albrecht, Duane Schwartz, Kim Lindquist, Richard McCoy, Jack Byers, Paul Kurtz

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by M. Filipi, seconded by J. Byers, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

3. Approval of October Minutes

It was moved by T. Mayasich, seconded by J. Byers to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

4. TAB Report

M. Filipi reported on TAB's September 18 meeting:
All Action Items were approved by TAB.

Information Items:

- **Regional Solicitation Update:** There was a lot of discussion about the Regional Solicitation Evaluation as members wanted to better understand (a) the challenges, opportunities, and implications of moving forward with the mode-based approach as compared to the existing program-based approach, (b) the role of promoting economic competitiveness plays in the solicitation process, and (c) at what point(s) in the process TAB would establish its funding priority between the modes and how it would consider other funding, including MnDOT and CTIB, in its prioritization discussions.
- **Options for Allocating FY 2017 TAP/STP/CMAQ Funds:** TAB directed Council staff to prepare a TAP project solicitation based on the previous solicitation and modifying them to account for Safe Routes to School infrastructure projects, and to bring the solicitation materials through the TAC/TAB process as soon as possible. It is not clear if the solicitation should be for FY 2017 and 2018 funding, or for FY 2017 funding only.
- **Preliminary Local Forecasts to 2040:** Preliminary 2040 forecasts prepared for ThriveMSP 2040 were presented.
- **Corridors of Commerce:** TAB started discussing how it will be involved as an ATP in MnDOT's Corridors of Commerce program if it continues after this solicitation. TAB agreed MnDOT should provide a status update in November, and at that time they may start critiquing what they like or do not like about how this solicitation was conducted and later discuss opinions of its outcomes.
- TAB discussed a number of items that should be on future agendas, I have added these to the TAC/TAB standing agenda and we can work to identify presentation opportunities for these

items – including ratifying a new TAB coordinator (November), Corridors of Commerce (November), progress update on Electric Vehicle charging station implementation (to be scheduled), and TMO activities and benefits (to be scheduled).

5. Special Agenda Items

MnGO Education and Outreach Campaign: Mark Gieseke, MnDOT Transportation System Management, presented information on Minnesota GO. The Transportation Vision for Minnesota is an integrated multimodal system, preserves the existing network, completes critical connections, and is funded through sustainable means. To address the transportation network improvements and make strategic investments over the next 20 years, an additional \$50 billion is needed. In 2018 there will be a reduction of funding when bonds expire. As an opportunity in 2014, MnDOT is embarking on a rigorous, state-wide information and outreach; developing options for evaluating return on investment; and implementing Corridors of Commerce. Town Hall meetings will be held to gather input. TAC members will be notified when the meetings are scheduled.

Regional Solicitation Evaluation Study: Marie Cote gave a brief update of the progress of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is recommending the evaluation of projects by mode rather than funding source. The three categories are Roadway, including multimodal elements; Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities; and Transit and Travel Demand Management. The policy makers will determine the funding allocation to the categories. L. Robjent expressed concern with the timing of completing the study. The Steering Committee doesn't have the technical expertise to create criteria for the solicitation. The Funding and Programming Committee has not been involved and needs to be involved in technical decisions. There is also a time issue for deliverers of projects. M. Cote responded that they will be adding members to the Project Management Team and will have a smaller technical group to meeting before the Steering Committee meetings. The Steering Committee will be setting criteria at a high level and will give guidance for technical detail. The next step will be more detail at the Funding and Programming Committee. L. Robjent expressed concern with combining all roadways. Small projects will be overshadowed by major projects. It seems to be pushing aside the Minor Arterial Study.

6. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Pat Bursaw, Chair)

Action Item 2013-41: Annual Certification of TAC Aviation Task Force. Russel Owen presented information on the action item. M. Filipi moved and I. Eyoh seconded a motion to approved the 2013 membership rosters for the TAC Aviation Advisory Task Force. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

P. Bursaw announced a TAC Orientation meeting is being planned for an hour and a half after the November TAC meeting.

B. Funding and Programming Committee (Karl Keel, Chair)

Action Item 2013-39: K. Keel moved and T. Johnson seconded a motion to modify the scope for SP#188-020-021, CSAHs 60 (185th St) & 50 (Kenwood Trail) Roundabout project to add expansion to a 4-lane divided highway CSAH 50 north from CSAH 60 to Jurel Way and CSAH 60 west from CSAH 50 to Orchard Trail. The change would also increase the budget to a total of \$6,870,000 with \$1,632,000 in STP funds and an increased local amount of \$5,238,000. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Action Item 2013-40: K. Keel moved and T. Johnson seconded a motion to adopt an amendment to the 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to modify the scope of SP#188-020-021 (and change the SP# to 019-650-014) by adding expansion to a 4-lane divided highway CSAH 50 north from

CSAH 60 to Jurel Way and CSAH 60 west from CSAH 50 to Orchard Trail. The change would also increase the budget to a total of \$6,870,000 with \$1,632,000 in STP funds and an increased local amount of \$5,238,000. The MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED unanimously.

C. Planning Committee (Allen Lovejoy, Chair)

The Planning Committee did not meet in September.

7. Agency Reports

Options for Allocating FY 2017 TAP/STP/CMAQ Funds: Amy Vennewitz presented the proposed timeline for the next Solicitation. The Solicitation package would be developed March through September 2014, with applications due mid-November. The projects would be scored February through March 2015. Funding options and projects selection approval would take place May-June 2015. The proposed schedule will allow only 20 months lead time for projects. There is \$6 million TAP funding available in 2017. TAB reviewed options for 2017 funding. TAB recommended that Council staff begin the TAP Solicitation. Staff plans to bring the Solicitation to Funding and Programming Committee in October and will be brought to TAC/TAB for review and approval in November to December 2013. There is \$6.4 million STP funding available for 2017. The TAB decision will be delayed until after spring local program review and available level of funding is adjusted. Approximately \$27 million of CMAQ funding is available for 2017. TAB decision on 2017 CMAQ allocation will be delayed until spring 2014.

Preliminary Local Forecasts to 2040: Libby Starling presented forecasts of population, housing, and employment to 2040. L. Starling presented a forecast where development will occur in the next 10 years. The preliminary forecasts were prepared in September 2013 and staff is now working with local governments in reviewing the forecasts. The final regional and local forecasts will be adopted in mid-2014. System statement forecasts will be adopted in 2015. Local Comprehensive Plans will be prepared 2015-2018. Some forecast adjustments will be made during the process. The regional forecast for population is 31 percent growth to 2040; for employment, 37 percent growth. The forecasts show more seniors, more small households, and different housing preferences. Workshops will be held with local governments in October and November. Revisions will be made to the local forecasts in early 2014.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM.

Prepared by:

Elaine Koutsoukos