

# Minutes

## TAC Funding and Programming Committee



**Meeting date:** July 17, 2025,

**Time:** 1:00 PM

**Location:** Virtual

### Members present:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eden Prairie – Robert Ellis         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MnDOT Metro District – Aaron Tag               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anoka Co. – Jerry Auge         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fridley – Jim Kosluchar (Chair)                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MnDOT Metro District State Aid – Colleen Brown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carver Co. – Darin Mielke      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lakeville – Paul Oehme              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MnDOT Bike/Ped – Molly McCormick               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dakota Co. – Jacob Chapek      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eagan - Russ Matthys                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MPCA – Lauren Dickerson                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hennepin Co. – Emily Buell     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minneapolis – Nathan Koster         | <input type="checkbox"/> DNR – Nancy Spooner-Walsh                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ramsey Co. – Kevin Roggenbuck             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plymouth – Michael Thompson (Vice Chair)       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suburban Transit Assoc. – Heidi Scholl         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Co. – Jonathan Rudolph   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Paul – Anne Weber               |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wash Co. – Madeline Dahlheimer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Council – Cole Hiniker          |  | <input type="checkbox"/> = present, E = excused                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metro Transit – Scott Janowiak      |  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TAB Coordinator – Elaine Koutsoukos |  |  |

### 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, Committee Member Paul Oehme noted Chair Kosluchar was absent and called the regular meeting of the TAC Funding and Programming Committee to order at 1:00 p.m.

### Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Council Staff Robbie King, MTS Planning.

### Agenda approved

Chair Oehme noted that a roll call vote was not needed for approval of the agenda unless a committee member offered an amendment to the agenda. Committee members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

## Approval of minutes

It was moved by Jerry Auge, seconded by Robert Ellis, to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2025, regular meeting of the TAC Funding and Programming Committee. **Motion carried**

## Public comment on committee business

## TAB report

Elaine Kotsoukos reported on the July 16<sup>th</sup> regular TAB meeting.

## Business

1. **2025-18:** Scope Change Request – Minnesota Valley Transit Authority’s Technology and ADA Enhancements Project (Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning & Heidi Scholl, Suburban Transit Association) \*

Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning, presented. Barbeau then invited Heidi Scholl from Suburban Transit Association to present a modification to the scope related to the Marshall Rd. Transit Station. Scholl clarified that ADA and technology enhancements at that location would be funded through a separate, non-federal source to allow for better alignment with project timelines and construction.

Barbeau confirmed he would include this revision unless there were objections. Chair Oehme acknowledged the update, and Robbie King, MTS, shared the current and revised language on screen for review.

Chair Oehme asked Scholl whether the ADA enhancements remained consistent with the original application. Scholl responded that the ADA enhancements were part of the broader technology improvements and typically included announcement machines for facilities. She confirmed the enhancements fulfilled the same purpose, though the specific locations had changed.

Scholl directed the committee to a map showing the original and revised locations. She explained that mapping all 53 original stops would have been impractical, so MVTA chose to focus on 11 facilities in the original scope and 8 revised locations in the updated scope, each receiving a combination of ADA and technology enhancements.

Madeline Dahlheimer, Washington Co., asked for clarification on whether the new locations were in or near the original scope. Scholl confirmed they were generally in proximity. Dahlheimer pointed out that storytelling and clarity in presentation would be important in conveying that the project still delivered improvements.

Dahlheimer noted that the original 45+ locations not included in the revised scope would still receive static mapping funded through a different source. Scholl confirmed this, explaining that Phase One of the project had already delivered 300 bus signs with QR codes, and Phase Two would begin post-State Fair or in spring 2026, depending on weather. She emphasized that using non-federal funds allowed for greater flexibility.

Dahlheimer highlighted that a table listing the eight revised locations was helpful but questioned why the listed improvements were the same at each location while costs varied significantly. Scholl responded that cost differences could result from screen size or quantity variations and that final costs would depend on federal procurement outcomes. The listed figures were best estimates.

Jonathan Rudolph, Scott Co., asked whether Eagle Creek was also included in the project. Scholl confirmed Eagle Creek was earmarked for improvements, funded through a non-federal source. She added that MVTA was also discussing new service to the area and planned to implement technology and ADA upgrades in parallel.

Emily Buell, Hennepin Co., asked how scope changes had been communicated to partner cities. Scholl explained that MVTA regularly updated its board, which includes city

representatives, about federal grant awards and related improvements. MVTA also informs cities about facility updates and technology enhancements.

It was moved by Koutsoukos, seconded by Robert Ellis, that the TAC Funding and Programming Committee recommend that TAC recommend approval of a scope change request to replace technology and ADA improvements at 53 bus stops/shelters and four MVTA transit hubs with enhanced improvements to eight transit facilities in MVTA's technology and ADA enhancements project with no reduction in federal funds.

**Motion carried**

2. **2025-28:** Saint Paul Arlington Avenue Sidewalk Infill Project Program Year Extension Request (Joe Barbeau) – roll call

It was moved by Colleen Brown, seconded by Madeline Dahlheimer, that the TAC Funding and Programming Committee recommend that TAC recommend approval of Saint Paul's Program year extension request to move its Arlington Avenue Sidewalk project from 2026 to 2027.

**Motion carried**

## Information

## Other Business

## Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

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