

Minutes

TAC Funding and Programming Committee



Meeting date: October 16, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Virtual

Members present:

☒ Eden Prairie – Robert Ellis	☐ MnDOT Metro District – Aaron Tag	☒ Anoka Co. – Jerry Auge
☒ Fridley – Jim Kosluchar (Chair)	☒ MnDOT Metro District State Aid – Colleen Brown	☒ Carver Co. – Drew Pflaumer
☒ Lakeville – Paul Oehme (Vice Chair)	☒ MnDOT Bike/Ped – Molly McCormick	☐ Dakota Co. – Jacob Chapek
☒ Minneapolis – Gustave Stewart	☒ MPCA – Innocent Eyoh	☒ Hennepin Co. – Emily Buell
☒ Plymouth – Michael Thompson	☒ DNR – Nancy Spooner-Walsh	☐ Ramsey Co. – Kevin Roggenbuck
☒ St. Paul – Anne Weber	☒ Suburban Transit Assoc. – Heidi Scholl	☒ Scott Co. – John Rudolph
☒ Met Council – Cole Hiniker		☒ Wash Co. – Lyssa Leitner
☒ Metro Transit – Scott Janowiak		☐ FHWA – Scott Mareck (ex-officio)
☒ TAB Coordinator – Elaine Koutsoukos		☐ = 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, Committee Chair Kosluchar called the regular meeting of the TAC Funding and Programming Committee to order at 1:00 p.m.

Agenda approved

Chair Kosluchar 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

A vote was taken to approve the minutes, however, no motion was made to approve.

The minutes were not approved.

Public comment on committee business

None.

TAB report

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the July 16th TAB meeting.

Business

1. **2025-30:** Carver County CSAH 40 HSIP Project (Robbie King, MTS Planning)

Robbie King, MTS Planning, presented a scope change request for Carver County's CSAH 40 HSIP Project.

Jim Kosluchar, City of Fridley, asked for clarification on the funding being removed and potential scoring changes.

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB Coordinator, added additional clarification on how scoring and funding can be affected within scope changes.

Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning, provided additional clarification on scoring within scope changes.

Lucas Rubash, Carver County, added additional context to the requested changes to the project.

It was moved by Lisa Leitner to recommend that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend approval of Carver County's scope change request to reduce the length of its CSAH 40 improvement project and retain full federal funding. The motion was seconded by Colleen Brown.

Motion carried.

2. **2025-31:** 2026 Regional Solicitation Federal Funding Application Categories (Steve Peterson and Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning)

Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning, presented the recommendation from the policy maker working group regarding the categories for the federally funded 2026 Regional Solicitation.

Lyssa Leitner, Washington County, expressed concern about the technical committee's ability to confidently vote on these items given the indecision exhibited by the policymakers.

Jim Kosuchar, City of Fridley, noted that the role of this committee is to advise.

Cole Hiniker, MTS Planning, expressed concern with showing Arterial Bus Rapid Transit as a competitive category.

Lyssa Leitner clarified that it is a category, because Metro Transit is expected to fill out an application.

Joe Barbeau noted that the action in front of the committee is to vote on a framework.

Paul Oehme agreed with L. Leitner.

Heidi Scholl, Suburban Transit Association, agreed that Metro Transit should be required to fill out an application just like the suburban transit providers.

A continued discussion between Cole Hiniker, Joe Barbeau, Lyssa Leitner, and Jim Kosluchar concluded with a modified motion to include additional clarification for non-competitive categories.

It was moved by Lyssa Leitner, seconded by Paul Oehme, that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend that the 12 items shown (below) as general application categories with recommendation that when TAC considers, the list includes the other funding buckets are shown for full awareness of funding allocation.

1. Proactive Safety



2. Reactive Safety
3. Regional Bike Facilities
4. Transit Expansion
5. Transit Customer Experience
6. Arterial Bus Rapid Transit
7. Roadway Modernization
8. Congestion Management Strategies
9. New Interchanges
10. Bridge Connections
11. Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure
12. Travel Demand Management (TDM)

Motion carried.

3. **2025-32: 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation Funding Application Categories** (Joe Widing, MTS Planning)

Joe Widing, MTS Planning, presented the application categories for the locally funded (regional sales tax) Active Transportation Solicitation.

It was moved by Drew Pflaumer, seconded by Paul Oehme, to recommend that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend the application categories to be used for the 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation; Local Bike Facilities, Local Pedestrian Facilities, Active Transportation Planning.

Motion carried.

4. **2025-33: 2026 Regional Solicitation Minimum and Maximum Federal Awards** (Steve Peterson and Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning)

Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning, presented the minimum and maximum federal funding awards recommended by the policymaker work group.

Members including Lisa Leitner, Washington County, and Heidi Scholl, STA, expressed concern that setting no maximum for ABRT disadvantages other competitive transit categories.

Joe Barbeau and Elaine Koutsoukos, MTS Planning, clarified that historically, enough transit applications have been received, but the no maximum designation serves as a guard against having to move transit funding to another mode if applications are undersubscribed.

Scott Janowiak, Metro Transit, concurred with the points made by Joe Barbeau and Elaine Koutsoukos.

It was moved by Cole Hiniker, seconded by Robert Ellis, to recommend that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend a minimum and maximum federal award for each 2026 Regional Solicitation funding category.

5. **2025-34: 2026 Active Transportation Minimum and Maximum Awards** (Joe Widing, MTS Planning)

Joe Widing, MTS Planning, presented the minimum and maximum awards for the locally funded Active Transportation solicitation.

It was moved by Paul Oehme, seconded by Drew Pflaumer, to recommend that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend a minimum and maximum federal award for each 2026 Active Transportation funding category.

6. **2025-35: 2026 Regional Solicitation Modal Funding Targets** (Steve Peterson and Joe



Barbeau, MTS Planning)

Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning, presented the modal funding targets, expressed as percentages of the total estimated federal funding.

Innocent Eyoh, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, questioned the low 6% allocation to Environment.

Elaine Koutsoukos explained that this category, primarily focusing on EV charging infrastructure, is new, and the allocation is conservative because the application period for the corresponding funding years (2030/2031) is not until 2028.

It was moved by Michael Thompson, seconded by Cole Hiniker, to recommend that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend the following federal funding targets for the 2026 Regional Solicitation:

- 14% to Safety
- 15% to Bike and Pedestrian
- 24% to Transit
- 44% to Roadways
- 6% to Environment

7. **2025-36: 2026 Active Transportation Funding Targets** (Joe Widing, MTS Planning)

Joe Widing, MTS Planning, presented the funding target for the locally funded Active Transportation solicitation.

It was moved by Drew Pflaumer, seconded by Innocent Eyoh, to recommend that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend a \$50 million funding target for the 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation and a sub-target of \$2 million for the active transportation planning category.

Information

1. Regional Solicitation, Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), and Active Transportation Updates (Steve Peterson, MTS; Joe Widing, MTS; Lydia Statz, SRF)

Lydia Statz (SRF) and Joe Widing (MTS) provided updates on coming action items and key policy discussions.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

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