

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD  
Metropolitan Council  
390 N. Robert St., St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1805

Notes of a Meeting of the  
**TAC-PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
Oct 11, 2018

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Holly Anderson, Bob Byers, Paul Czech, Bill Dermody, Innocent Eyoh, Jack Forslund, Jarret Hubbard, Anne Kane, Elaine Koutsoukos, Michael Larson, Jan Lucke, Paul Mogush, Kevin Roggenbuck, Angie Stenson, Rachel Wike, Katie White

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dave Burns, Sara Maaske, Mike Rogers, Michelle Fure, Amy Vennewitz, Cole Hiniker, Katie Walker

**1. Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Lucke

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

**3. Approval of the Minutes from the July 2018 meetings**

**4. Action Items**

**1. 2018-47: Riverview Modern Street Car TPP Amendment (Cole Hiniker)**

Cole Hiniker and Mike Rogers (Ramsey County Public Works) presented the information about the Riverview modern streetcar project and inclusion in the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP).

Rogers reviewed the 3 year study process lead by Ramsey County, focusing on the community engagement and more than 4600 people who participated in events. The County incorporated feedback, focusing on improving crowded existing transit service, mitigating neighborhood impacts, and a preference for rail service.

The locally preferred alternative (LPA) was selected to be Modern Streetcar with a route following W 7<sup>th</sup> Street and a new river crossing at Hwy 5, a tunnel under Fort Snelling, and interlining with Blue Line LRT at the Fort Snelling Station. Time is estimate to be the same as bus during peak and slightly longer than bus in the off-peak. The LPA was sent to the Met Council in Summer 2018. Environmental Analysis will begin in early 2019.

Hiniker presented how the amendment would impact the TPP. This is the first amendment to the TPP since 2010. Staff decided to produce a new page / handout for the amendment instead of red lining chapters. The schedule for the amendment includes a public comment period from late November to early January. The schedule (and the motion) assume the full TPP will be approved by the Met Council on Oct 24<sup>th</sup>. (The TPP was approved as assumed).

Chair Lucke asked about operating costs, as the proposed numbers seemed high. Hiniker clarified that the costs presented were approximately 8 years of operating budget (construction completion through 2040). Jack Forslund thought the capital costs seemed high. Rogers replied that the budget included much room for inflation, as construction would not start til 2029-2030. Also the project includes a new river crossing and a tunnel, both adding significant cost to the project.

Roggenbuck moved, Eyoh second. Motion passes.

Materials available here <https://metro council.org/getdoc/71c2337e-2518-439c-b05f-a9fc2cf7e6f1/Agenda.aspx>

## **5. Info Items**

### **1. TPP Public Comment Report & Responses (Amy Vennewitz / Michelle Fure)**

Michelle Fure and Amy Vennewitz recapped the public comment report and responses. There were 300 unique comments from 150 organizations / persons.

The committee inquired about a few different comment topics, mainly relating to transit enforcement and fares.

Amy Vennewitz thanked the committee for their effort to review the plan and bring comments early in the process, avoiding major concerns at the end of the production.

The fully published plan will be brought back to the committee for informational review. Vennewitz also noted that because the Twin Cities region will reach air quality attainment in Nov 2019, the next TPP will be in 5 years instead of 4 years.

## **6. Other Business**

Paul Czech informed the committee that MnDOT has renewed their Streetlight subscription. The renewal contract includes options for other agencies to gain access to the data platform. Czech promised to bring back more information to future meetings, as details on that process were still being ironed out.

## **7. Adjournment**

Adjourn at 2:00