

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

Notes of a Meeting of the  
**TAC-PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Holly Anderson, Charlie Cochrane, Paul Czech, Bill Dermody, Innocent Eyoh, Jack Forslund, Nate Hood, Elaine Koutsoukos, Michael Larson, Joe Lux, Steve Mahowald, Katie White, Rachel Wiken.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Andrew Emanuele, David Burns, Cole Hiniker, Michelle Fure, Amy Vennewitz, Aaron Barton

**1. Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Jan Lucke.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

**3. Approval of the Minutes from the Dec 2017 meetings**

**4. Action Item**

**1. 2018-17 Functional Class – Lexington Parkway, Ramsey County – (Rachel Wiken)**

Ramsey County requested to change Lexington Parkway from Other Arterial to A-minor augmentor from Larpenteur to West 7<sup>th</sup> Street. They also requested a new planned alignment continuing from West 7<sup>th</sup> south on new right of way and down Elway to Shepard Road. The County plans to realign the five-way intersection of Montreal / West 7<sup>th</sup> / and Lexington by diverting Lexington to West 7<sup>th</sup> through the former school property right of way. This will create a Lexington / West 7<sup>th</sup> intersection and a West 7<sup>th</sup> / Montreal intersection. This configuration is expected to improve travel times and increase pedestrian safety.

Committee asked a few questions regarding the plan for this intersection configuration. MnDOT committed in support of the change, noting the need to work on signal spacing and timing with the new intersection on West 7<sup>th</sup>. Motion to recommend approval, Michael Larson moved, Katie White second. Motion approved.

**5. Info Items**

**1. Info: TPP Update- Discussion / Comments**

**1. Overview (Michelle Fure)**

Michelle Fure presented the Overview Chapter, noting this was not a redlined chapter because of extensive new content and major reorganization of existing content. The “How This Plan Works” section was removed and more direct links to content added. She promised that more illustrations and graphics were coming. Fure reminded the committee that she had presented several months ago on the outline of the Regional Transportation Challenges and Opportunities section.

The Overview now contains info on the Regional Solicitation and its roll in funding projects.

Mike Larsen asked for more graphics and sidebars, to highlight key points. The idea of adding personal interviews for real work experience was suggested. Also, the committee asked for more details to explain TDM (Transit Demand Management) and more statistics in general. Chair Lucke noted she liked the change to move mandates and requirements to the end, so the good reasons for why the plan is written is up front, not just because “we have to do it.” Mike Larsen and Chair Lucke both noted the pie charts on revenue and spending needed improvements for understanding. Mike suggested trying a revenue stream chart.

## **2. Chapter 10 – Equity and Environmental Justice**

Cole Hiniker and Amy Vennewitz presented on this chapter because the author, Heidi Schallberg, could not be at the meeting. In the past, the Federal Requirements chapter had environmental justice information. The material from that chapter has been moved into other chapters and the Equity and Environmental Justice chapter has become a stand alone piece.

## **3. Chapter 11 – Environment and Air Quality**

Hiniker and Vennewitz also presented on this chapter. There was a committee discussion about moving into air quality attainment and how that would change our TPP schedule to every 5 years instead of every 4 years. There were concerns about the maps in this section and what they were trying to show. Staff noted maps were already under revision and would be changing by next time the document is reviewed.

## **4. Chapter 13 – Performance Outcomes**

Dave Burns handed out a new Performance Outcomes chapter, as the version shared online had been incorrect. He noted places where data had been added, walking through the sections of the performance measures. Committee had many questions about the measures and how these metrics were picked. Burns reminded the committee that a multiyear process lead by MTS staff using modal expert groups had narrowed down a long list to these selected measures. There were also several measures that we are federally required to be reported and staff can not change how the numbers are determined on those measures.

Committee had questions about several measures’ calculations and requested equations be provided (even in footnote) for the more complex numbers.

Angie Stenson asked if the measures are driving investments or just measuring how projects are affecting the region. Amy Vennewitz replied that they can be both, and if changes are seen in a direction that is negative, the investment direction can be changed.

## **5. Other Business**

After extensive discussion and polling about changing meeting times, it was decided to keep the meeting at 1pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.

It was also decided that the committee did not feel strongly about holding a second meeting in February, so the tentative schedule February 22<sup>rd</sup> meeting was cancelled. However, the bulk of the chapters would be sent to the committee on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, allowing two weeks to review before the March meeting.

## **6. Adjournment**

Adjourn at 2:56