

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

Notes of a Meeting of the
TAC-PLANNING COMMITTEE
Thursday May 9th, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nathan Abney, Patrick Boylan, Charlie Cochrane, Michael Corbett, Bill Dermody, Jack Forslund, Jason Gottfried, Emily Jorgensen, Elaine Koutsoukos, Jan Lucke, Paul Mogush, Mehjabeen Rahman, Kevin Roggenbuck, Angie Stenson, Katie White, Rachel Wiken, Paul Kauppi (Alternate White Bear Lake)

OTHERS PRESENT: Craig Jenson, Joe Lux, Lance Bernard, Joe Barbeau, Amy Vennewitz, Dave Burns, Steve Peterson, Bobbi Retzlaff, Cole Hiniker, Daniel Pena.

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Jan Lucke

2. Adoption of the Agenda

3. Approval of the Minutes from the March 2019 meetings

4. Action Items

1. 2019-25: Ramsey County A-Minor Reliever Old Hwy 8 (Rachel Wiken)

Rachel Wiken presented the Ramsey County functional class request to change Old Hwy 8 in New Brighton from an Other Arterial to an A-Minor Reliever. Staff had reviewed this request and felt the roadway was currently functioning as a Reliever. Criteria for the change was met. Joe Lux, who had submitted the request, spoke from the audience to add a few comments regarding traffic patterns and the County's plan for the area. Committee had no discussion.
Boylan moved, Corbett second. Motion approved.

2. 2019-24: Scott County Principal Arterial Functional Class Request (Steve Peterson)

Scott County was requesting to upgrade three county facilities to principal arterial – CSAH 42, CSAH 17, and CSAH 78. They also requested changing CSAH 21 from PA to A-Minor Expander. Staff wrote up an extensive action item in coordination with MnDOT. The recommended motion only supported the changes on CSAH 42, 17 and 21. It recommended delaying the request on CSAH 78 at this time.

Steve Peterson presented the staff analysis, as written up in the action item. Craig Jenson from Scott County presented some additional data from Scott County on development pressures in the area.

The committee had a long discussion on functional class. The beginning of the discussion centered on the fact that functional class is supposed to represent current function of the roadway, not the future function of the roadway. However, Scott County noted that is difficult to enforce access controls to a higher standard than the current functional class. Scott County is expecting development to occur, especially around the TH 169/TH 41/CSAH 78 interchange area.

Much of the discussion focused on CSAH 78, which the recommended motion does not support changing. Staff maintains this area is not functioning currently as a PA, but a new interchange at TH 169/TH 41/CSAH 78 might change traffic flows in the future.

The recommended motion says “continue evaluating” CSAH 78 which the committee came back to several times for clarification. As part of the TPP administrative amendment related to this action item, CSAH 78 will now be listed as a future Principal Arterial in the “Additional Highway Needs beyond the Increased Revenue Scenario” section of Chapter 5: Highway Investment Direction and Plan. This change the region’s long-range plan should help Scott County in managing access requests.

Michael Corbett from MnDOT reminded the committee of MnDOT’s Metro functional class review that will be happening this year as requested by FHWA. After comprehensive plans are completed (most of them will be submitted to the Council by July 1, 2019), MnDOT will be reviewing all functional class roads for alignment with guidelines. Staff noted that a one to two-year time frame to reevaluate this road was reasonable (after the completion of the MnDOT functional classification review and the TH 169 interchange construction). Also, staff recommend that TAC Planning have a continuing generalized discussion about functional class guidelines, process, and impact, especially of the planned PA system.

Several county representatives spoke of the recent changes in PA planning from MnDOT to the county level. Craig Jensen reminded the committee that Scott County has been viewing CSAH 78 as a planned PA since the 1990s as part of a wider east/west corridor. Angie Stenson of Carver County spoke in support of the requested motion (including CSAH 78), highlighting that CSAH 78 carries east/west traffic on longer trips, that both Carver and Scott Counties believe it is functioning as a PA. Carver County is officially supportive of the change and she spoke of the rapid development happening in the area. She highlighted the interchange being built, that it is a large regional investment.

Michael Corbett moved to approve the recommended motion. Katie White seconded. Angie Stenson was opposed. All other verbal votes were supported the recommended motion.

Recommended motion passes.

5. 5. Info Items

1. Info: Before and After Study (Lance Bernard, HK)

<https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Advisory-Board-TAB/TAB-Technical-Advisory-Committee/TAC-Planning-Committee/2019/TAC-Planning-5-09-19/5-a-Info-item-Before-and-After.aspx>

2. Info: Planning & Programming Guide (Katie White)

Katie White asked the committee to email any comments about the Guide to her after the meeting.

<https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Advisory-Board-TAB/TAB-Technical-Advisory-Committee/TAC-Planning-Committee/2019/TAC-Planning-5-09-19/5-b-Info-item-att-Planning-and-Programming-Guide.aspx>

3. Info: Bus Service Allocation Study (Cole Hiniker)

<https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Advisory-Board-TAB/TAB-Technical-Advisory-Committee/TAC-Planning-Committee/2019/TAC-Planning-5-09-19/Transit-Basics-Overview-TAC-Planning-2019-5-9.aspx>

6. Other Business

Katie White mentioned the mobility study beginning that will focus on the Metro Area outside the 494/694 beltway. This will be piggybacking of the MnDOT Greater MN Mobility Study.

Mehjabeen Rahman mentioned a grant program MPCA is administering that is part of the VW settlement. It is for heavy duty vehicles, focusing on public works departments. There is an upcoming webinar.

7. Adjournment

Adjourn at 2:50