

Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING OF THE TAC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 14, 2021 - Online meeting

Committee Members Present: Nathan Abney, Dave Burns, Marc Culver, Paul Czech, Bill Dermody, Innocent Eyoh, Jack Forslund, Jason Gottfried, Charlie Howley, Emily Jorgensen (chair), Elaine Koutsoukos, Michael Larson, Steve Mahowald, Scott Mareck, Scott Peters, Ben Picone, Angie Stenson, Jim Voll, Andrew Emanuele (ex-officio)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with no changes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The August 2021 minutes were approved without modification.

BUSINESS ITEMS

2021-44: 2022 Transportation Policy Plan Amendment

Steve Peterson from the Council presented this item. The [draft amendment](#) and two presentations are [posted on the agenda](#).

Katie Roth presented an overview of the bus rapid transit planning process and Network Next. Cole Hiniker presented an overview of the amendment. Andrew Andrusko from MnDOT presented on the freight projects, and Peterson talked about the amendment schedule and remaining steps in the process.

Paul Czech said MnDOT is doing an EZ Pass lane on 494, which has potential to provide transit advantages and asked if American Boulevard should remain in the Increased Revenue Scenario. Hiniker said the American Boulevard project would not use 494 much but be more on local roads. He said they were working with the City of Bloomington to address the city's concerns about removing this project; the city has been doing work with land use and development along the corridor, and there are north-south transitways near it as well. Hiniker said they hope to identify solutions with the city by the end of the public comment period on the amendment. Jason Gottfried said he appreciated Hiniker's response to the American Boulevard removal concerns and that Hennepin County would appreciate being a partner in discussions with the city on potential solutions. Hiniker said it could be a possibility that the city would approach the county to partner with funding a study for this corridor since having a study active or planned is a factor in which corridors are included. In response to a question, Roth said the arterial bus rapid transit network would be evaluated and potentially updated every five years and that there could be other planning done that would change corridors or the criteria used. Innocent Eyoh said the MPCA will review the draft amendment and send their letter of approval in relation to the air quality conformity.

MOTION: Scott Mareck moved to recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend that the Metropolitan Council release the draft amendment to the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan for public review and comment to revise the arterial bus rapid transit network and add six freight projects. Dave Burns seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2021-45: Adoption of Regional Transit Safety Performance Targets and TIP Amendment to Incorporate Targets

Daniel Peña and Joe Barbeau from the Council presented this item. The presentation is [posted on the agenda](#).

Ben Picone asked about how the process could address any additional comments from MVTA. Peña said the targets were intended to adopt the MVTA targets as part of the region's targets. Staff met with all the transit agencies to develop this strategy; the technical memo was added for context. Dave Burns clarified that this would be done annually so some agencies may be in the process of preparing for the 2022 targets. Marc Culver asked if there were implications for not meeting these targets, similar to what MnDOT has for some of the ones it sets. Peña said the policy plan and the TIP do need to show the connection between investments and working to achieve these targets, but to his knowledge there were no specific penalties for not meeting them. Andrew Emanuele from FHWA clarified that while MnDOT does have that connection with financial implications for some of its targets, MPOs do not, at least not from the highway side; he could not speak for the Federal Transit Administration and transit specifics.

MOTION: Marc Culver moved to recommend adoption of the Regional Transit Safety performance targets and approval of an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to incorporate the targets. Elaine Koutsoukos seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2021-46: Accept Updated Regional Truck Corridors

Steve Elmer from the Council presented this item, and the presentation is [posted on the agenda](#).

Jim Voll asked if the updates were only new corridors being added or if there were also changes to others. Elmer said it was both; the tiers changed some from the original based on data analysis, and new corridors were added. Angie Stenson said the county appreciated this was done for the next funding round and thanked staff for their work on this.

MOTION: Charlie Howley moved that TAC Planning recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board accept the updated Regional Truck Corridors for the 2022 Regional Solicitation. Scott Mareck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2021-47: Functional Class Map for Regional Solicitation

Dave Burns from the Council presented this item, and the map is [posted on the agenda](#).

Stenson asked if the A Minor arterial subclassifications were part of this or a different next step. Burns said those subclassifications were underlying data and part of this but just not shown on this map.

MOTION: Paul Czech moved to recommend that TAB adopt the Roadway Functional Classification Map for use in the 2022 Regional Solicitation. Innocent Eyoh seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEM

ActivitySim Model

Dennis Farmer from the Council presented, and the [presentation is posted](#) on the agenda. Michael Larson asked how the model would address telecommuting. Farmer said it would assume a share of the population who might be more likely to telecommute. The model looks at an average day, so it is a challenge to address hybrid schedules (i.e., working at home 2-3 days/week or commuting later in the day for a shorter period of time) in averages, and it's still early in the process for taking a look at that.

OTHER BUSINESS Heidi Schallberg said Metropolitan Council committees will continue to meet online at least through the end of 2021. Schallberg said the committee's regular November meeting date falls on the federal Veterans Day holiday, so the November meeting would need to be rescheduled to address one anticipated business item. Staff are looking at November 18th at either 12:30 or 1 p.m. for a short virtual meeting, so if members anticipate not being able to attend, please let Schallberg know so staff could consider other options if needed.

ADJOURNMENT After business was completed, the meeting adjourned.