

Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING OF THE TAC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 8, 2021 Online meeting

Committee Members Present: Nathan Abney, Dave Burns, Michael Corbett, Bill Dermody, Innocent Eyoh, Jack Forslund, Jason Gottfried, Charlie Howley, Emily Jorgensen (chair), Elaine Koutsoukos, Michael Larson, Steve Mahowald, Scott Mareck, Gina Mitteco, Paul Mogush, Angie Stenson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with no changes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 2021 minutes were approved without modification.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Electric Vehicles Planning Study

Tony Fischer from Council staff presented this item. The presentation is posted on the agenda at:

<https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Advisory-Board-TAB/TAB-Technical-Advisory-Committee/TAC-Planning-Committee/2021/TAC-Planning-4-08-21/Electric-Vehicle-Planning-Study.aspx>

In response to a question, Fischer said energy burned from gas is just a small part of the energy gas holds. Even if electricity used for electric vehicles is generated using 100 percent coal, electric vehicles still have climate benefits. Utility companies are also shifting to using more renewable energy such as wind and solar, which are also cheaper, so there can start to be cost savings in addition to the climate benefits. The cost equivalent for charging electric vehicles is similar to if gas was priced at \$1/gallon. In response to a question about the increased electrical use on the grid, Fischer said electrification is a strategy across sectors, not just within transportation but including buildings, and the capacity is not something that will be achieved overnight. The Great Plains Institute can help smaller cities with doing fleet analysis and look at the costs to shift to electric vehicles. Elk River is an example of a smaller city that has done this work. In response to a question about the method to get the relatively low number for electric vehicle sales by 2040, Fischer said that may not be entirely current because things are changing very quickly. This study is intended to add to work the MPCA and MnDOT are doing in this area.

Regional Truck Corridors Update Process

Steve Elmer from the Council presented this item. The presentation is posted at:

<https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Advisory-Board-TAB/TAB-Technical-Advisory-Committee/TAC-Planning-Committee/2021/TAC-Planning-4-08-21/Regional-Truck-Corridors-Update-Process.aspx>

Changes to this would be similar to functional class changes in that they would come to this committee for review.

Regional Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Update

Heidi Schallberg from the Council presented this item. The presentation is posted at:

<https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Advisory-Board-TAB/TAB-Technical-Advisory-Committee/TAC-Planning-Committee/2021/TAC-Planning-4-08-21/Regional-Pedestrian-Safety-Action-Plan-Update.aspx>

Bill Dermody said he supported having systemic analysis done. Michael Larson noted the expanded equity dataset the Council has released; Schallberg said elements of that dataset have been used in the more detailed analysis, such as redlined areas in Minneapolis and Saint Paul. More detailed information on the historic crash analysis will be included in a memo and the final action plan, in addition to more detail on the methodology used for the systemic analysis.

OTHER BUSINESS None

ADJOURNMENT After business was completed, the meeting adjourned.