

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

Notes of a Meeting of the
TAC-PLANNING COMMITTEE
November 14, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Allen Lovejoy, Holly Anderson, Patrick Boylan, Bob Byers, Paul Czech, Innocent Eyoh, Jack Forslund, Craig Jenson, Bob Paddock, Kevin Roggenbuck, Ann Pung-Terwedo, Dave Vessel, Bill Weckman

OTHER PRESENT: Jack Byers (Minneapolis), Anna Flintoft (Minneapolis), Connie Kozlak, Cole Hiniker, Katie White, Amy Vennewitz, Rachel Wiken

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was accepted as submitted.

3. Approval of June Meeting Notes

The notes of the July 11th meeting were approved as submitted.

4. Action Item 2013-49 2010 Urbanized Boundary

Dave Vessel gave a presentation on the issue at hand. After each decennial census, the Census Bureau re-defines the urbanized area for the nation's metropolitan areas. Their definition includes an analysis of population density (1000 persons/sq mi and surrounding blocks of 500 persons/sq mi). Having produced a map depicting the 2010 boundaries, regions are given the opportunity to 'smooth' the boundaries in an effort to eliminate awkward jaggedness. This effort is required to be complete by June 2014.

The map for the Twin Cities area includes a 'blip' in Wisconsin and an extension into Wright and Sherburne counties. The impact of this has generated some discussion with those counties and the Wisconsin DOT. The Wisconsin issue is insignificant; there is an MOU with Wright & Sherburne counties.

Comments were raised on the anticipated development over the next 20 years towards the Wisconsin border communities and what impact that might or should have. It was suggested that a note or caveat should be included.

The timeline for the smoothness activity includes an MPO approval to MnDOT by December 2013, comments to FHWA by June 2014 and a completion by the Fall of 2016.

The committee approved the action that would recommend the adjusted 2010 Census Smoothed Urbanized Boundary for the region and its forwarding to the TAB and Metro Council for adoption.

5. Action Item 2013-50 MOU with Wright & Sherburne Counties

Connie Kozlak explained the memo of understanding with these two counties as it relates to the new 2010 urban boundary. This represents the first instance in which the urban boundary has gone beyond the 7-county region. All parties wished to keep this effort at as low a profile as possible. The local FHWA appears to have no issue with this. There will be meetings held to keep everyone informed as things progress. In reference to the requested action itself, Kevin Roggenbuck indicated that the TAB should also be considered. Some additional discussion took place on whose funding pot would be affected and how funds

would be distributed. It was reported that project funds for Sherburne and Wright counties would come from their own pot rather than those of the Council's.

The committee approved the recommended motion.

6. Action Item 2013-048 TPP Modification on Streetcars

Cole Hiniker gave a background presentation on this issue, explaining what exactly a planned modification is and how it is determined. This particular modification is the first that recommends inclusion of wording on streetcars. The change was requested by the City of Minneapolis. Cole noted that the City of St. Paul is wrapping up a feasibility study on streetcars, and that other corridors are looking at the same issues.

The Nicollet-Central corridor study was reviewed in some detail for the committee. The study produced an 'Initial Starter Line' of about 3 to 4 miles in length. Cole also gave updates on other corridors, including the Robert Street Transit Alternatives and the West Broadway Study.

The committee approved the recommended motion, asking that the TAB recommend adoption of administrative modifications to the 2030 TPP to incorporate wording on streetcars.

7. Action Item 2013-51 Functional Classification Changes in Dakota Co

Holly Anderson presented the various functional classification changes that Dakota County is requesting in this action item. Four specific roadway segments were identified. The changes reflect an update to the current plans by the county for roadway improvements. The changes include:

Reclassify **Biscayne Avenue** between 255th & 260th Streets and **260th Street** between Biscayne Avenue and Blaine Avenue from a 'Major Collector' to a '**Minor Collector**'.

Reclassify **Biscayne Avenue** between 250th & 255th Streets, **250th Street** between Biscayne Avenue and Alverno Avenue, and **Alverno Avenue** between 250th & 245th Streets from a 'Major Collector' to a '**Minor Collector**'

Reclassify **235th Street** between Cedar Avenue and Denmark Avenue, **Denmark Avenue** between 235th Street & 240th Street, **240th Street** between Denmark Avenue and Alverno Avenue, and **Alverno Avenue** between 240th Street & 245th Street from a 'Minor Collector' to a '**Major Collector**'

Reclassify **Blaine Avenue** from CSAH 47 and TH 50 from a 'Minor Collector' to a '**B-Minor Arterial**'.

The committee approved these functional classification changes.

8. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

The next scheduled meeting of the committee is set for December 12th.