

## **Summary Report TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)**

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

**TAB Chair's Report** – TAB Chair Jim Hovland announced that Bill Hargis, former TAB Chair had passed away. Hovland reported on the Executive Committee meeting. The committee reviewed the items on TAB's agenda. Philip Schaffner will be back at the June TAB meeting to present on MnDOT's project selection processes. Paul Oehme, Chair of the Funding and Programming Committee, provided an update on the efforts of the Scope Change Work Group. The work group is discussing whether projects need to be re-scored and how, and when and how much federal funding reduction will occur on projects.

### **Agency Reports**

**MnDOT** – Scott McBride reported that MnDOT experienced unexpected overtime with snow removal with the blizzard the past weekend. By February, MnDOT had already spent 35% more in snow removal than the previous year and the costs do not include March or April yet. McBride provided an update on the Corridors of Commerce. MnDOT solicited for \$400 million for Corridors of Commerce projects. The scoring is completed and the Commissioner has the lists and is meeting with the Governor. The projects selected will be announced soon. MnDOT received requests for projects totaling \$5.6 billion dollars for the available \$400 million.

**MPCA** – Todd Biewen presented an update on the VW settlement. The plan is final and MPCA is beginning implementation.

Because VW's violations involved diesel models, the settlement will fund pollution reductions from diesel vehicles. States and tribes can only use the funds on activities outlined in the settlement, most of which involve replacing older diesel vehicles or equipment with new ones that produce far less pollution. The replacements can use any fuel, including diesel, propane, natural gas, and electricity. Additionally, up to 15% of each state's funds may be used for electric vehicle charging infrastructure. All funds must be spent or committed to approved projects by October 2, 2027.

Because 60% of the violating vehicles were registered in the Twin Cities metropolitan area and 40% were registered in Greater Minnesota, the funds will be targeted using the same 60%-40% ratio.

Minnesota's plan is structured in three phases, so the MPCA can seek additional input and make changes as needed along the way. This plan addresses Phase 1 (2018-2019) only.

The three phases are:

- Phase 1: \$11.75 million (25% of overall funds) – 2018-2019
- Phase 2: \$23.5 million (50%) – 2020-2023
- Phase 3: \$11.75 million (25%) – 2024-2027

**Table: Summary of grant programs, 2018-2019 (phase 1)**

<b>MN grant categories (2018-2019)</b>	<b>Settlement category</b>	<b>Eligible fuels</b>	<b>Targeted percent*</b>	<b>Targeted dollar amount</b>
<b>School bus replacement program</b>	School buses	All (diesel, propane, natural gas, electric)	20%	\$2,350,000
<b>Clean heavy-duty on-road vehicles program</b>	Transit buses, class 4-8 trucks	All (diesel, propane, natural gas, electric)	35%	\$4,112,500
<b>Clean heavy-duty off-road equipment program</b>	Switcher locomotives, ferries, tugs, forklifts, port cargo handling equipment, ocean-going vessel shore power, Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA)	All (diesel, propane, natural gas, electric)	15%	\$1,762,500
<b>Heavy-duty electric vehicle program</b>	School buses, transit buses, trucks, airport ground support equipment	Electric	15%	\$1,762,500
<b>Electric vehicle charging stations</b>	Zero-emission vehicle infrastructure	Not applicable	15%	\$1,762,500
	<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$11,750,000</b>

MAC – Carl Crimmins reported that construction at the airport is ongoing. Their budget for snow removal maxed out in mid-March. MD airplanes are being phased out and replaced with quieter and larger planes. Gates are being removed to accommodate the wing-span of the larger planes.

Met Council – Katie Rodriguez reported that the Metropolitan Council received the National Planning Achievement Award for the Local Planning Handbook. Rodriguez announced that the Gold Line has set up a 15-member Corridor Management Committee. TAB member Stan Karwoski, Washington County, is a member of the committee.

### **Action Items**

1. 2018-24 Release Draft TPP for Public Comment – TAB approved release of the TPP with the inclusion of the MnDOT selected projects for Corridors of Commerce and Mobility projects. (Transportation Committee 6-11-2018)
2. 2018-28 Streamlined TIP Amendment: 5310, MnDOT – TAB approved TIP amendment for three “Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities” projects. (TC 4-23-2018)
3. 2018-29 Streamlined TIP Amendment: Railroad Signal Equipment, MnDOT – TAB approved TIP amendment to add two railroad crossing signal replacement projects. (TC 4-23-2018)
4. 2018-30 Streamlined TIP Amendment: Traffic Management System, MnDOT – TAB approved TIP amendment to add a traffic management project that will remove intelligent lane control signals and install dynamic message signs on I-35 and I-35W. (TC 4-23-2018)
5. 2018-27 TIP Amendment: Safety Performance Measure Language – TAB approved TIP amendment to incorporate safety performance measure language inclusive of a statement that the long-term goal is zero deaths and that the targets represent a reduction relative to existing safety data. (TC 4-23-2018)

6. 2018-25 Scope Change: Expo Area Safe Routes to School, St. Paul – TAB approved the scope change request to eliminate some of the sidewalks from the City of St. Paul’s Expo Area Schools Safe Routes to School project (SP # 164-591-002) and maintain federal funding amount award at 80%, but not to exceed the original federal award of \$972,000.

Rodriguez expressed concern about projects keeping extra money when coming in for a scope change because bids might be higher and, therefore, can use federal funds for the increase, when another project’s bid comes in higher and they must fund the additional costs out of their local funds.

7. 2018-26 Scope Change: TH 212, HSIP, MnDOT – TAB approved to replace the reduced conflict intersection at CSAH 36 with other safety and access solutions and to provide federal funding at 90%, but not to exceed the original federal award of \$498,400.

#### **Information and Discussion Items**

1. Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) – Gayle Gedstad presented information on HSIP and the upcoming application.

Link to April 18, 2018, TAB agenda and materials - <https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Advisory-Board-TAB.aspx>