

# MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday | October 21, 2020  
12:30 PM

## REPORTS

1. Chair's Report – Hovland reported on the discussion of the TAB Executive Committee. There will be extensive discussion on the Regional Solicitation scenarios as part of the information item on the agenda. The goals of the discussion will be to narrow down the scenarios for further analysis and have a discussion on how to allocate over-programming funds.

The Chair informed the members that it is time to request volunteers to serve on the TAB Executive Committee. TAB will select membership of the Executive Committee in January. TAB members interested in serving on the Executive Committee should send an email to the Chair and Elaine Koutsoukos.

2. MnDOT Report – Barnes reported that snow season started early. The snow crew is out. There were a few projects that had a couple weeks of work to complete. Hwy. 5 project is wrapping up; they are completing striping.

MPCA Report – Biewen reported that Craig McDonnell will be coming back to the agency from the governor's COVID task force.

MAC Report – Crimmins reported international flights down 95%, domestic flights down 41%, passengers down 61%.

Staff is still working on getting funding assistance for concessions, vendors, airlines, etc. The CARES funding is going towards running the airport.

Commission approved minimum \$15 per hour for all employees working at the airport over a set number of hours. This will start at the beginning of the year.

Metropolitan Council Report – Barber reported that B Line and D Line received funding in the State Bonding bill. The Council awarded \$4.5 million for three TOD grants, creating 332 housing units, most of them affordable to households with an annual income at or below 60% of area median income. Metro Transit has expanded transit service.

## BUSINESS

TAB approved the following items and they were forwarded to the Transportation Committee.

1. 2020-34: 2021-2024 Streamlined TIP Amendment for MVTA: Burnsville Bus Garage Renovation (*October 26, 2020, Transportation Committee*)  
Transportation Advisory Board adoption of an amendment to the 2021-2024 TIP to add a project expanding and renovating MVTA's Burnsville Bus Garage.
2. 2020-35: 2021-2024 Streamlined TIP Amendment for MnDOT Signal System Replacement in Chanhassen (*October 26, 2020, Transportation Committee*)  
Transportation Advisory Board recommended adoption of an amendment to the 2021-2024 TIP to add a replacing an antiquated signal system in Chanhassen.
3. 2020-36: 2040 Transportation Policy Plan Update Approval (*November 9, 2020, Transportation Committee*)

Amy Vennewitz went through the major changes in the TPP. The 2020 TPP includes several studies, including studies on COVID and travel patterns. These results of the studies will inform the next update.

Three major themes:

1. Reduce roadway expansion
2. More recognize equity and inequity, use transportation investments to improve equity
3. Parking policy – TPP should have best practices

Several TAB members commented that outlying counties have growing populations and will need roadway expansion. The Plan recognizes the comments received in the public comment period. The intention is to explore all the options to reduce congestion, before going to an expansion solution first.

Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Metropolitan Council adopt the 2020 update of the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan.

## INFORMATION

### 1. Regional Solicitation: Funding Scenarios

Steve Peterson, MTS, presented this item.

TAB members discussed the six draft funding scenarios.

MnDOT acknowledged that the large Strategic Capacity projects will rely on MnDOT for local match. There is a risk to that there will be sufficient funding available to match many projects, if this scenario is selected.

The TAB members removed the More Roadways and More Trails scenarios as they were outside the decisions that TAB had recently changed.

TAB would like the over-programming separated from the scenarios and have a discussion on using the over-programming dollars to meet specific needs, whether it is geographic balance, equity, additional funding for trails, or other direction.

There was favorable discussion on funding a project in Scott County. However, they did not want to always guarantee that every county receives a project, or they could be funding a project no matter where it ranked. TAB members requested a historical distribution of funds over the years, recognizing that geographic balance should be looked at long term.

There was discussion on trails and pedestrian improvements in road projects. TAB members requested information on the trails and pedestrian improvements that were included on the roadway projects.

TAB members recommended focus on two scenarios, the Historical and More Projects scenarios, plus a discussion on options to use over-programming.

### 2. Arterial BRT Engagement Update

This item was tabled to the November TAB meeting.

Link to October 21, 2020, TAB agenda and materials - <https://metrocouncil.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Advisory-Board-TAB.aspx>