

### MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday | April 21, 2021  
12:30 PM

#### REPORTS

1. Chair's Report – Hovland reported on the TAB Executive Committee discussion.

In second round of COVID relief funding, the MPO will receive \$20 million to allocate in the metro area and TAB will make decisions on the distribution of the funding July through November.

Unique Project Work Group will begin meeting on April 23 and will meet every two weeks for six meetings. There is around \$4 M for this category. TAB will think about what outcomes that TAB wants from this funding, such as climate impact or social equity, rather than coming up with a definition of an equity project.

2. MnDOT Report – Barnes reported that they expect the construction season will be the same as previous years. They are starting to see some potential issues with supply items.

MnDOT is working on State Multimodal Plan and MN State Highway Investment Plan (MnSHIP). MnDOT staff will present on these projects at TAB in the future. MnDOT has been receiving requests for letters of support from the congressional community projects list. The Transportation Economic Development Program will open soon, with \$10 million for the solicitation. The state received about \$162 million from second round of CARES Act and is working with partners on distributing the funds, such as funding gaps in projects, large mobility projects, etc.

MPCA Report – Biewen reported that MPCA has prepared a two-page fact sheet on the Volkswagen settlement and will send to Koutsoukos to send out. In the first couple years, \$12 million has been spent on new vehicles, installation of EV charging stations. They have funded 265 new vehicles, including 140 school buses, 125 other large trucks, and 24 off-road equipment projects.

Hollinshead asked whether VW funding would be available to maintenance. Funding was granted to organizations to install. It is the responsibility of the organization that installed the charging station to maintain them. There will be a need to monitor this. PlugShare app allows reporting of charging stations. It includes a map to find the nearest charger and comment on the experience.

<https://www.plugshare.com/>

MAC Report – Crimmins reported air traffic up to 50 percent of the 2019 level, compared to 15 percent in 2020. They are averaging 243 daily flight up from 235 last year. Reliever airports have an increase of 10% over 2019 flights; more people are doing private flying now than before. International flights are starting up again. Blue parking lot still has free covid testing site open to the public, with test results in 24-48 hours. Concourse F has a testing site, with 30 minutes test results sent by text. Appointments can be made at <https://www.mspairport.com/airport/covid-19-testing-site> or [www.wander-test.com](http://www.wander-test.com). The need for testing is dependent on the airline and destination. 5,200 employees have been vaccinated with J&J with no reactions. With J&J suspension, now using Moderna.

Metropolitan Council Report – Barber reported that they are providing free rides on Metro Transit and Metro Mobility to vaccination appointments at the state vaccination sites. They are providing buses and drivers for pop up mobile vaccine sites. Passenger limits allowed on buses has increased to 50 percent from 25 percent. Ridership is increasing. At the April 12 Transportation Committee meeting, there was a presentation on shared mobility, [041221 Agenda - Metropolitan Council \(metro council.org\)](#). A mobility hub planning guide is being developed and will be available

December 2021. A Northeast Minneapolis micro transit pilot is being launched October 2021. The Council is accepting applications for the Regional Administrator position.

TAC Chair Report – Solberg reported that TAC Executive Committee has begun a discussion on updating the TAC bylaws. Other items that TAC discussed are on the TAB agenda.

## BUSINESS

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

1. **2021-16:** 2021-2024 Streamlined TIP Amendment for MVTA: Burnsville Bus Garage Expansion (*May 10, 2021, Transportation Committee*)

Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2021-2024 TIP to add a project expanding MVTA's Burnsville Bus Garage (TRS-TCMT-22E).

2. **2021-17:** 2021-2024 Streamlined TIP Amendment for Metro Transit: Farebox Replacement (*May 10, 2021, Transportation Committee*)

Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2021-2024 TIP to add two projects replacing the fareboxes for the regional bus fleet (TRS-TCMT-22D and TRS-TCMT-23D).

3. **2021-15:** Project Selection - 2020 Regional Solicitation Arterial Bus Rapid Transit Line

Transportation Advisory Board awarded \$25 million identified in the 2020 Regional Solicitation to the METRO F Line along current Route 10 from Downtown Minneapolis to Northtown Mall via Central Avenue and University Avenue.

## INFORMATION

1. Community-Based Coalition Work to Advance Regional Equity

Heidi Schallberg, Metropolitan Transportation Services, introduced this item. Presentation was made by Joo Hee Pomplun, The Alliance.

The presentation is linked to the agenda link below.

Link to April 21, 2021, TAB agenda and materials - <https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Advisory-Board-TAB.aspx>