

# Summary Report

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: August 17, 2022

## Reports

- 1. Chair's Report** - Hovland reported that legal staff from the Office of General Counsel provided information on the Open Meeting law. The Open Meeting law has not kept up with technology. If TAB members were attending remotely, their location would have to be published in advance. The location would be open to the public and must be ADA accessible. In a hybrid meeting, all TAB members would have to be visible. There are technology challenges to having all TAB members visible if a majority are remote; all cameras would be on and phone call-ins could not be used. The League of Minnesota Cities is working on legislative changes to bring the statute up to date for technology and the Council will follow this. With remote streaming of meetings available now, this provides public access to meetings without having to be at a physical location. Southwest Transit was granted a 2022 award for \$8 million to purchase electric buses.
- 2. MnDOT Report** - Barnes reported on Toward Zero Deaths update; as of August 14, there were 250 traffic related deaths, less than last year, but still higher than 5-year average. Speed related deaths have decreased. Motorcycle deaths have increased. Corridors of Commerce has a \$200 million solicitation open through the end of November, <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/corridorsofcommerce/>. Project selection will be in May 2023. For questions about the program, Patrick Weideman is the main contact. Molly McCartney or respective Area Manager for Metro District coordination can be contacted also. Minnesota received six RAISE grants.
- 3. MPCA Report** - Biewen reported that the Climate Action Framework is wrapping up and will have a final product in September.
- 4. MAC Report** - Crimmins reported that the airport is getting ready to do a bond sale of \$450 million. This will be used to pay of \$150 million of old bonds, with the remaining to be used construction purposes and capital improvements. MAC had an FAA inspection last month and had zero violations. Flights are down 22% from 2019. Seating capacity is 5% over 2019. This is due to larger airplanes. Sun Country had the largest passengers ever this July. Terminal 2 would now be the largest airport as a stand-alone airport. There is a ribbon-cutting at Lake Elmo airport on August 17 for a new runway.
- 5. Metropolitan Council Report** - Barber reported that the University of Minnesota students will be able to ride transit by tapping their UCard, which will include a universal transit pass with unlimited rides. The universal travel passes are available at several local colleges. Augsburg College and Macalester College have seen ridership double after adding universal transit passes. In response to questions Barber provided the latest ridership information, [https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Committee/2022/May-23,-2022/Info-1\\_2022-First-Quarter-Ridership-Report.aspx](https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Committee/2022/May-23,-2022/Info-1_2022-First-Quarter-Ridership-Report.aspx) and Safety and Security Plan, [https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Committee/2022/May-23,-2022/Info-1\\_2022-First-Quarter-Ridership-Report.aspx](https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Committee/2022/May-23,-2022/Info-1_2022-First-Quarter-Ridership-Report.aspx). Council held their first Transportation Policy Plan Work Group meeting. Council held Travel Demand Management workshops.

6. **TAC Report** – Solberg reported that TAC will be reviewing and updating the TAC Bylaws regarding requirements for the Open Meeting law. TAC is not subject to the Open Meeting law for meeting in person. The Bylaws will be updated to take into account technology updates.

## Business

TAB approved the following items (forwarded to the Transportation Committee).

1. 2022-27: Streamlined 2022-2025 TIP Amendment – Metro Transit Bus Purchase (August 22, 2022, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended adoption of an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to add the purchase of eight electric buses.

2. 2022-29: Public Comment Report and Recommend Approval of 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (August 22, 2022, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Council adopt the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program and recommend the Council accept the public comments.

3. 2022-30: Transportation Addendum to Metropolitan Council Public Engagement Plan (August 22, 2022, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Council adopt the Transportation Addendum to the Metropolitan Council Public Engagement Plan and recommend the Council accept the public comments. TAB members expressed interest in having those commenting provide their location, such as a city, in surveys so that they have context on where in the region comments are coming from.

## Information

1. Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan

Hally Turner, MnDOT, presented this item. The SMTP lays out priorities for the state for the next 50 years. The higher priorities are climate, equity, and health. The Plan is out for public comment.

2. Minnesota State Highway Investment Plan

Brad Utecht, MnDOT, presented this item. The MnSHIP is out for public comment. MnDOT has an online investment highway budget tool for the public to indicate how they would make investments on the highways, [www.minnesotago.org/investment](http://www.minnesotago.org/investment).

3. Regional Solicitation Outreach Tool

Bethany Brandt-Sargent, MTS, presented the item. Council staff had an online survey tool open until August 17. The public could indicate how they would recommend TAB proportionally allocate Regional Solicitation dollars within the modal funding categories. The survey requested zip code so data can be sorted by area. Staff will bring the results to the September TAB meeting.

## TAB Member Report

Anderson reported that Roger Scherer, former Council member, passed away on August 14.

Link to August 17, 2022, TAB agenda and materials, [081722 Agenda - Transportation Advisory Board \(metro council.org\)](http://081722.Agenda - Transportation Advisory Board (metro council.org)).

