

Summary Report

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: July 19, 2023

Reports

1. **Chair's Report** – Hovland reported that Program Year Extension item that was tabled at June meeting was withdrawn by Brooklyn Park and will re-submit a request with Hennepin County to include three projects affected by the Blue Line construction timing. A legislative task force on Metropolitan Governance has been formed and Hovland was appointed by Metro Cities as the city representative.
2. **MnDOT Report** – Barnes reported that there have been 187 traffic fatalities to date, 11 percent less than last year and 19 percent less than 2021, approaching pre-pandemic levels. Speed has been a problem and are seeing more, especially through construction areas. Corridors of Commerce announced \$380M for eight projects. There are three projects in the metro area, Highway 13/Nicollet grade separation project for \$96M, TH 65 from 103rd to 117th for \$130M, and Highway 10 a lane add between Hanson and CSAH 10, <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/corridorsofcommerce/index.html>.

There will be a webinar on 494 on July 26 from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_szvH93GRSM-QrNP8zgzJxA#/registration.

Information on the I-494 project, <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i494-airport-hwy169/>

3. **MPCA** – Biewen reported on grants. MPCA will be administering a community air monitoring grant for \$5M. Encourage communities to team up with non-profits to deploy monitors, with emphasis on areas of environmental justice. The program will run four years. Eligible expenses include staff time, outreach, and monitoring equipment and data analysis capabilities.
4. **MAC Report** – Crimmins reported that MAC is working with the Metropolitan Council on a joint powers agreement. Airport police will work on LRT between 4 am and noon. The FAA will be sending out surveys on airport noise to people who live near the airport. MSP airport received Level 3 accreditation for passenger assistance; the highest level of rating. The airport provides training to persons with disabilities on the airport and boarding airplanes. They have apps to guide sight challenged individuals through the airport. They have a committee, Travelers with Disabilities Advisory Committee, which consists of disability advocates, airport staff, airline representatives, contractors, and TSA. The committee meets monthly. Airline passenger levels are back to 2019 levels and increasing. More routes are being added.
5. **Metropolitan Council Report** – Barber reported that Metropolitan Council transit ridership reached 15 million rides, a 19 percent increase over 2022. Barber provided an update on the development of the 2050 TPP goals and objectives. Transportation safety and security emerged as the top transportation priority from the engagement process. Five overarching regional goals have been determined, with 14 objectives statements.

- 6. Suburban Transit Association** – Hansen reported that MVST revenues are on-track to outperform 2022. Procurement of buses continues to be a struggle, including microtransit vehicles which are in high demand. Special services have been highly successful. MVTA and SWT are providing service to concerts; Maple Grove Transit providing service to Maple Grove Days; service will continue to Renaissance Festival and the State Fair..

Business

TAB approved the following item.

1. 2023-37: 2024 Regional Solicitation Public Comments and Recommendations

The Transportation Advisory Board accepted the public comments for the 2024 Regional Solicitation.

Information

1. Regional Transportation Sales and Use Tax for Active Transportation Projects

Steve Peterson, MTS, presented this item.

TAB discussed whether to include some of the Active Transportation funds into the 2024 Reg Sol or wait until a later date. TAB provided direction that more time is needed to think about this new funding source.

TAB had lots of potential ideas for how to use the funding (regional bike share, operations, snowplowing trails, local match on the federal dollars, include for trails on roadways projects, ADA at ABRT station locations, extend the Midtown Greenway over the river, etc.) and would like to be involved as future workgroups are formed. There will need to be discussion on funding amounts and percent of match and what types of projects will be funded. The meaning of “geographic equity” in the legislation will need to be determined.

TAB also discussed the option of being open to add the funding during the selection of projects in 2024, with staff contacting the ranked projects to determine whether they were eligible to receive the funding.

Link to July 19, 2023, TAB agenda and materials, [071923 Agenda - Transportation Advisory Board \(metro council.org\)](https://www.metrocouncil.org/Agenda/071923%20Agenda%20-%20Transportation%20Advisory%20Board).

