

Summary Report

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: February 21, 2024

Reports

- 1. Chair's Report** – Hovland welcomed Kevin Burkhart, Prior Lake, appointed by Metro Cities to fill position vacated by Janet Williams. reported on the Executive Committee meeting. Mark Windschitl was selected 1st Vice-Chair and Debbie Goettel was selected 2nd Vice-Chair for 2024. Peter Dugan was appointed TAB Liaison to the Metropolitan Council's Transportation Committee. The June TAB meeting falls on the 19th, Juneteenth holiday. The TAB meeting is rescheduled for June 12, if a meeting is needed. Hovland asked TAB members to let Elaine Koutsoukos know if they are interested in having a future meeting or tour at MSP airport. Hovland reported that the Metropolitan Council Governance Committee forwarded all ideas to the MN Legislature.
- 2. MnDOT Report** – Sahebjam reported that Duluth received \$1 billion for the \$1.8 billion Blatnik Bridge project. This allows District 1 to go forward on the project without relying on the Metro District and other districts to juggle funding to help advance the District 1 large projects.
- 3. MPCA** – Kohlasch reported that the MPCA is near completion on the Priority Climate Action Plan. The Plan is due March 1. Working on implementation grants; just under \$200 million will be available to seven agencies, focusing on climate smart food product distribution. Tracking with EPA on vehicle emission standards for 2027 and beyond.
- 4. MAC Report** – Crimmins reported that MSP passenger traffic increased 11 percent in 2023 or 2022; part of the growth is driven by a 47 increase in international passengers. Delta Airlines was named top airline of 2023 by the Wall Street Journal. Delta received Global Industry award; the first US airline to receive the Cirium's on-time performance in more than a decade, with just under 85% on-time performance. Reliever airport operations increased 8.3 percent. The FAA will be holding public workshops this summer on new airplane departure procedures. The FAA website for more info is: https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/community_engagement/msp. The FAA wants to start these new procedures in 2025.
- 5. Metropolitan Council Report** – Barber reported on two recent presentations at the Transportation Committee (2023 year-end ridership and the last safety and security action plan quarterly update). Ridership is up 16 percent. The D Line corridor (D Line and Route 5) ridership is up 87 percent. TAB contributed \$27 million of the \$74 million project that is providing almost 4 million rides a year. On the safety side, there is an increase officer initiated calls due to increased police presence on the light rail system. Crime is down 25 percent, while it was up 19 percent last year. Great Week in Transit activities continue.
- 6. Suburban Transit Association** – Hanson reported Maple Grove Transit express ridership is slowly growing. MYRIDE microtransit service remains strong, and capacity, service area, and service hour expansion are being considered. Small bus procurement remains a high priority. The agency is planning significant transit station maintenance and repair and considering digital information and signage enhancements. Minnesota Valley Transit Authority is working on plans to expand Connect microtransit services later this year or early in 2025. If the Metropolitan Council allocates sustainable operating funding from regional

sales tax receipts, those vehicles likely will be used to expand service into Scott County. MVTA is considering possible TOD concepts for the Burnsville Transit Station site (housing and retail concepts in addition to the planned mobility hub). Starting in mid-March, MVTA will reintroduce its seasonal 4FUN Bus that connects MOA, Burnsville Transit Station, Valleyfair (when open), Canterbury Park, and Mystic Lake. Twin Cities Premium Outlets in Eagan will be added this year. This is a productive suburb-to-suburb service that MVTA will consider making a regular year-round service if ridership continues to grow like it did in 2023. SouthWest Transit ridership in 2023 grew 20% over 2022. January 2024 ridership was up 10% over January 2023. SWT's new Director of Operations is Stephanie Alexander, a former TAB transit alternate. Stephanie previously was the Executive Director of WeCab.

Business

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

1. 2024-12: Streamlined TIP Amendment Request – Three Project Adjustments (February 26, 2024, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Metropolitan Council amend the 2024-2027 TIP as follows:

- Increase the cost and change the intersection treatment from a signalized intersection to a roundabout at for Carver County and MnDOT's CSAH 10 and CSAH 41 intersection projects (SP # 010-610-056, 010-610-056PRO, and 1008-106A);
- Decrease the cost of MnDOT's I-694 drainage project (SP # 6285-171) and;
- Increase the cost of MnDOT's pier repair project on US 952A (SP # 2770-07).

2. 2024-07: Review of Minneapolis-St Paul International Airport 2040 Long Term Comprehensive Plan (March 11, 2024, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Metropolitan Council find that the Final Draft MSP International Airport 2040 LTCP has a multi-city impact as well as conforms to the Council systems and is consistent with Council policies.

3. 2024-05: Scope Change Request for Saint Louis Park Cedar Lake Road and Louisiana Avenue Improvements Project

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended approve Saint Louis Park's scope change request to remove Louisiana Avenue cycle track improvements from its Cedar Lake Road and Louisiana Avenue Improvements project (SP # 163-296-006 / 163-296-007) with no reduction in federal funds.

4. 2024-08: Program Year Extension Request: Oakdale's Greenway Avenue North Sidewalk Project

The Transportation Advisory Board approved Oakdale's requested extension of its Greenway Avenue North sidewalk project (SP# 185-236-003) from fiscal year 2024 to fiscal year 2025.

5. 2024-09: Program Year Extension Request: Anoka County's 44th Avenue Bridge Bike/Pedestrian Trail Project

The Transportation Advisory Board approved Anoka County's requested extension of its 44th Avenue Bridge bike/pedestrian trail project (SP# 002-602-015) from 2024 to 2025.

6. 2024-10: Scope Change Request MnDOT TH 65 Bumpout and Bikeway Project

The Transportation Advisory Board approved MnDOT's scope change request to add protected bike lanes to TH 65 (3rd Ave S) between 2nd Street and Washington Avenue.



Information

1. Regional Transportation Finance

The item was tabled until the April 17 TAB meeting.

Link to February 21, 2024, TAB agenda and materials, [022124 Agenda - Transportation Advisory Board \(metro council.org\)](#).

