

Summary Report

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: June 12, 2024

Reports

1. **Chair's Report** – Hovland reported that the Executive Committee met prior to the TAB meeting.
2. **MnDOT Report** – Sahebjam reported on legislature giving MnDOT an opportunity to enhance relationship with the Council in delivering LRT projects. MnDOT is already working with the Council on construction of SW LRT. The governor signed the bill into law which means MnDOT will be working with the Council more closely. MnDOT would basically have two or three positions that would be added soon.
3. **MPCA** – Biewen reported that MPCA produces Greenhouse Gas Inventory. The previous inventory was completed to 2020. There have been reductions in greenhouse gas emissions shown across all types, resulting in transportation showing as the highest now. The next inventory will be released in six months through 2022. The VW settlement is close to finishing up Phase 3.
4. **MAC Report** – Crimmins reported that there is a lot of road construction around the airport. Lufthansa added direct flights to Frankfurt, Germany. More people are flying than ever before, exceeding 2019 passenger levels. Six gates will be added to Terminal 2.
5. **Metropolitan Council Report** – Barber reported on Metro Transit's Zero Emission Bus Transition 2023 Annual Report, <https://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Transportation-Committee/2024/06-10-2024/Info-1-ZEBTP-2023-Annual-Report.aspx>. Eight buses are in circulation right now. They are on the C Line and are the first 60-foot articulated buses in the country that are electric. The Blue Line is celebrating 20-year anniversary and Green Line 10-year anniversary at Target Field station before the Twins game. An invite to the celebration will be forwarded to TAB members.
6. **Suburban Transit Association** – Hanson reported that suburban transit providers' ridership continues to trend upward. Minnesota Valley Transit Authority's Connect microtransit service is up 31% YTD. Express ridership is up 14%. MVTA plans to again provide service to the State Fair and Renaissance Festival and is working on adding service to the Dakota County Technical College area.

Maple Grove Transit is planning to resume State Fair service this year.

SouthWest Transit also is planning Renaissance Festival service, as well as other expanded services, including along the 494 corridor. A recent SouthWest Prime survey demonstrates the need for ride-on-demand service:

- 26% of riders had no other option to get where they are going without Prime.
- 37% of riders are over age 65.
- 43% of riders either have a disability or other long-term health condition.
- 45% of riders have incomes less than \$50,000.

7. **Advisory Council on Traffic Safety** – Jeppson reported that the Council had met the previous week and discussed the legislative priorities for next year.
8. **Legislative Report** – Judd Schetnan reported on the activities of the 2024 Minnesota Legislature. In response to a question on the membership on the Minnesota Advisory Council on Infrastructure, distributed information on the membership. The full information on the legislation can be found here, [HF 4025 2nd Engrossment - 93rd Legislature \(2023 - 2024\) \(mn.gov\)](#).

Business

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

1. 2024-28: Streamlined TIP Amendment Request – Two Project Adjustments (June 24, 2024, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2024-2027 TIP to adjust two projects:

- Dividing Veterans Memorial Greenway Trail project in Eagan and Inver Grove Heights into two 1.8-mile phases: (SP# 019-090-026) and (SP# 019-090-029).;
 - Addition of an intersection at 15th Street and Willow Street to the Minneapolis intersection improvement project at various intersections on Lasalle Avenue, 15th Street, and Nicollet Avenue (SP# 141-030-053).
2. 2024-29: Streamlined TIP Amendment Request – MnDOT’s US 169, CSAH 9, and MN 282 Interchange Improvements (June 24, 2024, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended that the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2024-2027 TIP to increase the cost and change the sponsorship for parts of an interchange improvement project at US 169, CSAH 9, and MN 282 in Jordan (SP # 7008-112, 070-609-010, 7008-112R, and 246-090-001) and add a new roundabout (SP# 070-609-011).

Information

1. Regional Solicitation Evaluation Updates

Hovland reported that the Policymaker Workgroup for the Regional Solicitation Evaluation will meet on July 17 at 10:00 am prior to the TAB meeting.

Johnson reported on the Active Transportation Workgroup. The workgroup is meeting monthly. All Regional Solicitation options for funding include Active Transportation funding; approximately \$15.8 M. The workgroup has discussed whether to add more funding but have left the recommendation the same. At upcoming meetings, they will discuss how to manage the grants that are awarded, what to do for the next funds, and working with the Regional Solicitation Evaluation for long-term.

2. 2024 Regional Solicitation Scenarios

Steve Peterson presented information on three funding scenarios and requested feedback. Jeni Hager provided an update on the TAC discussion. TAB discussion focused on the Safety and Bike/Pedestrian options. TAB requested staff to investigate investing some additional overprogramming funds on the order of another \$5M to \$8M, with a focus on bike/ped projects. TAB provided feedback to fund two additional Safe Routes to School projects.

3. 2024 Highway Safety Improvement Program

Steve Peterson presented information on proactive and reactive project lists for funding.



4. 2050 Transportation Policy Plan

Cole Hiniker presented information on the schedule for public comment and timeline for approval. TAB will have an action item at the July 17 meeting to release the draft for public comment.

5. Scope Change Policy Update

Joe Barbeau presented information on the item. An action item will come to TAB at a future meeting.

Link to June 12, 2024, TAB agenda and materials, [061224 Agenda - Transportation Advisory Board \(metro council.org\)](#).

