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*Transportation Advisory Board  
Of the Metropolitan Council*

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**Minutes of a Meeting of the  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, March 7, 2012  
Metropolitan Council Chambers  
9:00 A.M.**

**Members Present:** Jon Olson, Tom Johnson, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Ted Schoenecker (for Wayne Sandberg), Kevin Roggenbuck, Mark Filipi, Pat Bursaw, Robert Vorpahl, Karl Keel, John Powell, Kim Lindquist, Richard McCoy, Beth Elliott, Allen Lovejoy.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as written.

**3. Approval of December minutes**

The February 4, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as written.

**4. TAB Report**

Kevin Roggenbuck reported that at its February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting the TAB agreed to reassess the regional solicitation process following completion of the 'A' minor arterial study, Regional Service Implementation Plan and reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU. The Board approved a scope change request by Carver County for the Southwest Regional trail, approved all five sunset date extensions on their agenda, including reversing the TAC recommendation on the city of Anoka's parking ramp at the Northstar station; adopted TIP amendments requested by Metro Transit for a Lino Lake park and ride and by MnDOT to combine the Xerxes Avenue bridge project with the I-494 auxiliary lane construction; approved the MPCA request for \$500,000 by a split vote and voted to amend the TIP to include the funds in 2012 from the unspent fund balance.

Greg Coughlin presented information about the additional 2012 federal money coming to the region/TAB programming committee. The committee discussed how to program this money for authorization by September 30. The Committee preferred allocating the additional funds to regionally selected project in the TIP at less than the 80/20 split that will be authorized by September 30 with a few principles:

No solicitation-use on existing regionally selected federal projects. Use the following principals to prioritize how to distribute the funds:

- Deliverability in 2012
- Job creation, even short term, is important
- Geographic equity as possible
- Look at the biggest bang for the buck
- Distribute among program categories, or types of projects, and use a balanced approach

Evaluate how locally agreed upon funds (from extra federal funding) could be used for an additional project.

## 5. Special Agenda Items

- **Regional Development Framework Revision Process**

Libby Starling, Met council, gave a power point presentation on the 2040 Regional Development Framework—the regional comprehensive plan that will shape the course of the Twin Cities metropolitan area over the next 30 years. It is a strategic plan for the region to guide the Council’s decisions investments and the foundation for local comprehensive planning. It serves as the umbrella plan for the transportation policy Plan, the water resources management plan, the parks policy Plan and the Housing policy and Water supply Master plans. The goals for the next Framework include: Improving our region to make us more competitive, strengthen our economy and make this a great home for our diverse and growing population; continuing to build strong local communities that are great places to live and work and writing a plan for the region that attracts and retains talent, jobs and economic prosperity, which strengthens our region’s quality of life.

The revised framework will differ from the existing framework by reflecting the wisdom of the last decade; meeting the expectations of a Regional plan for sustainable development; including a forecasting methodology, offering alternative policy scenarios and providing performance measures. The new forecasting methodology will use regional economic model to forecast employment and population growth, a new demographic model to forecast population and households by age and race and a new land-use model; incorporating real estate economics, integrated with the travel demand model and able to forecast alternative policy scenarios. New regional forecasts will be announced next month. Public engagement starts this spring. Preliminary local forecasts will be released in the spring of 2013. The draft framework will be published in early spring 2014 and the adoption of the policy plans will occur later in 2014.

T. Johnson asked if the regional forecasting methodology will have alternate economic scenarios. L. Starling said they are looking at several long-term, scenarios that the state economist uses—these have both pessimistic and optimistic scenarios. We will decide which are the most reasonable assumptions to use.

## 6. Committee Reports

### A. Executive Committee (Pat Bursaw, Chair)

#### TAC Bylaws

P. Bursaw reviewed four items in the bylaw that require more conversations: TAC membership—should the “Opt Out Transit operations be changed to Suburban Providers. Should freight and a non-motorized modal member be added and how should these individuals be selected:--Should a vice Chair be appointed from the membership at large? Should electronic voting be implemented under certain circumstances (like the Tab does)? Should aviation issues remain part of the intermodal Task Force?

K. Lindquist would like to add members representing other modes on the TAC, but does not think they should be MnDOT staff. James Andrew said the Council will be doing a regional bike master study and will need an advisory group which could be provided by the ad hoc modal task force.

B. Elliott suggested waiting until we identify the best organization to provide members. S. Moe said it is important to add freight expertise to the TAC or into the process. P. Bursaw asked the committee members to send her additional comments.

#### Planning and Programming Guide

Ann Braden reviewed the changes that had been made to date to the Transportation Planning and Programming Guide that the TAC members had received in their meeting packets and asked for any comments. B. Vorpahl noted that on page 9, that projects of \$2 million or more at other airports must have Council approval. She asked committee members to send her any other changes or edits.

## Federal Program Status and program Delivery Task Force

Of the \$40 million moving out to the 2014 program year, MnDOT has identified about \$20 million that can move. A work group will meet after the TAC to discuss timing of projects and identify available projects to move forward. The goal is to be successful in moving federal projects to implementation.

### B. Funding and Programming Committee (Karl Keel, Chair)

**Action Item 2012-12:** K. Keel moved and J. Powell seconded a motion to deny a scope change and sunset date extension request for Edina SP #120-020-037 for the France Avenue/72<sup>nd</sup> street pedestrian Bridge. The city would like to improve three intersections rather than construct the ped/bike bridge. Wayne Houle, the Edina city engineer, made a brief presentation to the committee explaining that a number of events have happened since the project was selected. K. Keel said the project does a better job in meeting the goals (improving pedestrian and bicycle crossing on France Avenue near Southdale) than the bridge did and therefore he would be voting against the motion to deny the scope change. S. Moe said she sees this as a totally different project—not just a change in scope. If it were to go through FHWA should need to withdraw it and add a new project. T. Mayasich was concerned that the scope change and sunset date extension were combined—he thought the scope change request should be acted on first. K. Roggenbuck said they bundle the together, because approving one and not the other, does not make sense. T. Mayasich wanted to know why city didn't request the change earlier. J. Andrew said he had reviewed the revised project against the scoring criteria and it appears that it would score very closely to the original. J. Powell said it's very hard to rescore a project 4 years later. K. Roggenbuck said we don't have a policy to substitute funds from one project to another, so this the only option the city had. S. Moe noted that we program projects, no solutions. T. Johnson said it's clearly not the same project although he fully supports improved pedestrian access across France Avenue. **The Motion to deny a scope change and sunset date extension was carried.**

**Action item 2012-12.** K. Keel moved and J. Olson seconded a motion that the TAB approve a scope change request for Lakeville SP #188-118-004: Lake Marion Trail Extension and right of way acquisition. **Motion Carried.**

**Action Item 2012-14:** K. Keel moved and J. Powell seconded a motion that the TAB adopt an amendment to the 2012-2015 TIP that adds Section 5309 FTA discretionary funding for construction of the Transportation Interchange facility in Minneapolis. **Motion Carried.**

**Action Item 2012-15:** K. Keel moved and T. Mayasich seconded a motion that the TAB adopt an amendment to the 2012-2015 TIP that SP#164-070-025: Nice Ride Expansion at the St. Paul Capitol Complex and State offices. **Motion Carried.**

### C. Planning Committee

P. Bursaw announced that Allen Lovejoy will chair the Planning Committee.

### 8. Agency Reports

B. Vorpahl reported that Spirit Airlines is starting flights to Chicago and Las Vegas and a Global Entry Card for international travelers is being introduced.

### 9. Other Business

There was no other business.

### 10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

**Prepared by:**

Ann Braden