

Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: September 21, 2022

Time: 12:30 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

Chair, ~~James Hovland~~
V. Chair Debbie Goettel
Doug Anderson
~~Myron Bailey~~ (Steve Dennis)
Deb Barber
Michael Barnes
Carl Crimmins
Peter Dugan
Amity Foster
Christopher Geisler
Mary Giuliani Stephen
Bill Droste
Mary Liz Holberg

~~Mathews Hollinshead~~ (Evan Rowe)
~~Mitra Jalali~~ (Chris Tolbert)
~~Julie Jeppson~~ (Jessica Robertson)
~~Stan Karwoski~~ (Wayne Johnson)
Gary Hansen
~~Emily Koski~~ (Elliot Payne)
Andy Lewis
~~William Lindeke~~
Matt Look
~~Randy Maluchnik~~ (John Morast)
Brian Martinson
Trista MatasCastillo
~~Craig McDonnell~~ (Todd Biewen)

~~Ashwat Narayanan~~ (Glen Johnson)
Becky Petryk
George Schember
Mark Steffenson
Jon Ulrich
~~Janet Williams~~
Mark Windschitl
~~Tom Workman~~ (Matt Udermann)

Absent

Staff

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB
Jon Solberg, TAC
Charles Carlson, MTS Director

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Committee Vice Chair Goettel called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:32 p.m.

Agenda Approved

It was moved by Hansen, seconded by Windschitl to approve the agenda. Committee members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Public Invitation

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

Reports

1. TAB Chair's Report – Debbie Goettel

Goettel reported that Dan Kealey resigned as the Suburban Transit Association TAB representative and STA appointed Gary Hansen as their representative. Metro Cities is recruiting to fill the city representative position opened with Gary's shift in position.

2. Agency Reports - MnDOT, MPCA, MAC, and Metropolitan Council

MnDOT: Barnes had nothing to report.

MPCA: Biewen reported on the Climate Action Framework.

MAC: Crimmins reported the airlines are at 80-90% of 2019 levels. TNCs have 28,000 licenses from the airport. Toro is also in use at the airport and has a temporary one-year

agreement with space at the airport so a licensing agreement is upcoming. Traditional car rentals are 35% behind 2019. Job fairs continue.

Metropolitan Council Barber reported that Metro Transit launched the Micro Service pilot program to improve connections in North Minneapolis, primarily to connect riders to the C Line. Transit Equity Policy Workgroup began meeting and is in the process of developing the recommendation for the Council. Gold Line construction is starting and October 19, 2022, is the groundbreaking.

STA: Hansen reported that Maple Grove U of M ridership is greater than pre-Covid. Minneapolis express service rebounding with an increase in park & ride usage, as well as the new Route 784 serving downtown Minneapolis East (began in August) which is showing strong early ridership levels. MVTA set several ridership records in August. Highest overall monthly ridership total since beginning of Pandemic. For Microtransit service, Maple Grove (MY RIDE) continues to have strong ridership matching pre-COVID levels. Southwest Transit (SW Prime) continues to grow. Prime Edge service has seen significant increase in ridership due to Normandale Community College and Hennepin Technical College starting their school years. MVTA (MVTA Connect) set another monthly record with over 8,100 rides, leading MVTA to review expansion opportunities. Southwest Transit partnered with District 287 to hire a student to help in the maintenance department. District 287 serves unique learners of 11-member school districts in the West Metro. SWT hopes to continue partnership and add more students to the program in the future.

3. TAC Report – Jon Solberg, TAC Chair

Solberg reported on the updates to the TAC Bylaws.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Crimmins to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2022 regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

Consent Business

Consent Business Adopted

1. **2022-35:** Streamlined 2023-2026 TIP Amendment – Hennepin Avenue BRT Platforms
2. **2022-36:** Streamlined 2023-2026 TIP Amendment – Bruce Vento Trail Extension
3. **2022-37:** Streamlined 2023-2026 TIP Amendment – Coon Rapids Boulevard Signal System
4. **2022-38:** Streamlined 2023-2026 TIP Amendment – MN Highway 36 Ramp Reconstruction
5. **2022-39:** Streamlined 2023-2026 TIP Amendment – Southwest Transit Mobility Hub

It was moved by Windschitl, seconded by Geisler.

Motion carried.

Non-Consent Business

1. **2022-31:** 2023 Unified Planning Work Program

It was moved by Look, seconded by Rowe, that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend that TAB recommend adoption of the 2023 Unified Planning Work Program. Geisler asked about long range budget impact. Burns said staff is aware of the long term impact. Burns noted that staff will be back to continue to share more.

Motion carried.

2. **2022-32:** HSIP Program Year Extension: I-35W Continuous Lighting



It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Lewis, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve MnDOT's program year extension request to move its I-35 W continuous street lighting project (SP# 1981-147) from fiscal year 2024 to fiscal year 2025.

[brief description of committee member discussion]

Motion carried.

Information

1. Arterial Bus Rapid Transit Update (*Katie Roth and Kyle O'Donnell Burrows, Metro Transit*)

Foster asked about the Lake and Nicollet stop. Roth said work has been done with Minneapolis regarding that platform. Geisler asked for more information about funding shifts. Roth said that now there is more flexibility and more local funding to work with. Barber and MatasCastillo commented on the large impact that these projects have on the region. Lewis asked about bus-only lanes. Roth said Metro Transit is not the decision-maker on street use but does identify where street decisions can assist transit investments. Hansen asked about timing and BRT identification. Hiniker said a review was done of the application and there were no BRT components, Hiniker added it was akin to testing a new service before bringing it online. Roth said the intent for grant dollars is for Route 3 service not H Line service. Goettel commented on the funding of corridors.

2. Regional Solicitation Public Input Tool Results (*Bethany Brandt-Sargent, Met Council*)

MatasCastillo asked how this data will impact decisions. Brandt-Sargent said the TAB is able to decide how to utilize this information. Look commented on the Anoka County responses. MatasCastillo asked how to make the data representative, Brandt-Sargent said the TPP does that. Geisler noted the importance of citizen voices. Barber reviewed the typical process and the intentional steps taken to garner representative voices. Martinson voiced appreciation for the survey. Look asked for a way to differentiate preferences.

3. Regional Solicitation Project Ranking and Funding Scenarios (*Steve Peterson, Met Council*)

Holberg asked for more information about the \$4.5 million. Payne asked for clarification on project approach. Payne asked if there is a consistent target year-to-year for funding. Peterson said the modal funding ranges are based on past TAB decisions although TAB has the ability to go outside of the ranges. Goettel gave an overview of the TAB process for scenario planning. Holberg commented on point disparity. Peterson said staff caution against trying to compare projects from various categories as the points are not equivalent. Giuliani Stephens noted that as criteria changes, the information to applicants may need to be communicated each solicitation cycle so that there is a consistency. Geisler verified that the overprogramming is included. Payne asked about discretionary aspects. Koutsoukos said that the TAB stays near the mid-point but when they have moved off it has been to get an area that was not funded. Members discussed the nuances of measurements and scores. There was general concurrence not to lose the dollars available so staff should use some Carbon Reduction money. Barber said a scoring workshop could be offered to TAB members.

Items of TAB members

Add recap of discussion.

Other Business

Add recap of discussion.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.



Council Contact:

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