
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, January 3, 2018
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Doug Fischer, Lyndon Robjont, Brian Sorenson, Joe Lux, Lisa Freese, Jan Lucke, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Brian Isaacson, Innocent Eyoh, Bridget Rief, Andrew Emanuele, Dave Jacobson, Peter Dahlberg, Danny McCullough, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Kim Lindquist, Jim Kosluchar, Jen Hager, Jack Byers, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz (Excused: Steve Albrecht)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Freese at 9:01 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was moved by Adam Harrington and seconded by Elaine Koutsoukos. No discussion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was moved by Brian Isaacson and seconded by Michael Thompson. Motion passed.

4. TAB Report

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the December 20 TAB meeting.

Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

Lisa Freese reported on the Executive Committee meeting, which reviewed today's agenda. The 4th of July falls on a Wednesday this year, and the intent is to cancel that meeting. Jan Lucke will be the chair of the Planning Committee and Paul Oehme will chair Funding & Programming. A Vice Chair will be named later.

B. Planning Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

Lisa Freese reported the results of the Planning Committee.

2018-02 Functional Classification Map for Regional Solicitation. Lisa Freese introduced the item. There were no questions. Lisa Freese moved and Joe Lux seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

2018-08 MnDOT MOU On Performance Measures. Lisa Freese introduced the item. There were no questions. Jack Byers moved and Brian Isaacson seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

C. Funding and Programming Committee (Paul Oehme, Chair)

2018-05 Scope Change: Metro Transit. Paul Oehme presented the item. Adam Harrington moved and Michael Thompson seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

2018-06 TIP Amendment: Metro Transit. Paul Oehme presented the item. Adam Harrington moved and Steve Peterson seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

2018-07 Scope Change: MnDOT TH 41 Signals. Paul Oehme presented the item. Mike Fairbanks, MnDOT Signals Engineer, was available to answer questions. Lyndon Robjent moved and Brian Isaacson seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

2018-09 Scope Change: West St. Paul. Paul Oehme presented the item. Ross Beckwith from West St. Paul was present to answer questions. Options 1-4 went to Funding & Programming and Options 5-6 were added afterwards at the committee's request. Doug Fischer asked about the applicability of right-of-way costs in road projects. Bill Dermody asked about the adjusted score dropping the project below others. Joe Barbeau responded that many projects were in the same point range. F&P decided that since there were no set expectations regarding right-of-way on the application, it wasn't be right to penalize West St. Paul for this.

Lyndon Robjent moved and Elaine Koutsoukos seconded a motion to choose option #6 from the packet. Motion passed.

2018-03 Regional Solicitation: Accept Public Comments. Paul Oehme presented the item. Jen Hager moved and Doug Fischer seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

2018-04 Regional Solicitation: Adopt for Release. Paul Oehme presented the item. Lyndon Robjent moved and Innocent Eyoh seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

6. Special Agenda Items

MnDOT Project Selection Process. (Philip Schaffner, MnDOT) Philip Schaffner presented an overview of activities underway following a legislative audit, and solicited feedback and comments from the TAC. Doug Fischer asked how the split between Metro and outstate Minnesota is calculated. Philip Schaffner responded that the general distribution would follow existing formulas. This project is about selecting construction projects after the allocations have been determined. Doug Fischer asked how local governments get on "the list" in the first place, instead of finding out after the fact that they could have been considered. Steve Peterson said that Council comments were that sometimes a preservation project can be turned into a better project by adding special elements (MnPASS, aux lane, bicycle facilities) that otherwise would not be possible as standalone projects.

Jack Byers asked how the SMTP plays into this process. Philip Schaffner responded that the SMTP sets the parameters, and this process is about selecting projects within those parameters. Jack Byers asked how MnDOT evaluates the effectiveness of the projects. Philip Schaffner responded that there are performance measures on many objectives, but not all of them. These are tracked on a system level. Lyndon Robjent said that "preservation" can be a confusing term. Brian Sorenson said that sometimes local governments want to contribute to projects to make them better and they would benefit from awareness.

TPP Update: Congestion Management Process. (Dave Burns, MTS) Dave Burns presented the content of the TPP CMP chapter. Andrew Emanuele asked about the status of the scope of work for the upcoming plan. Steve Peterson responded that it is on his desk for review and an RFP is expected to go out in March. Jen Hager asked if the CMP Work Group will be used; Dave Burns responded yes. Steve Peterson added that FHWA hopes that the results of this study will impact the Regional Solicitation in future iterations.

TBI Transit On Board Survey. (Jonathan Ehrlich, MTS) Jonathan Ehrlich provided a brief overview of the results of the Transit On Board Survey. Dave Jacobson requested the data, and Jonathan Ehrlich responded that it will be sent immediately. Jack Byers said that access to the data would assist with jurisdictional reviews in conjunction with comprehensive plan updates due this year. Adam Harrington said that the data has been very useful to Metro Transit staff. Jan Lucke suggested that the U could produce interesting research with this data.

7. Agency Reports

Brian Isaacson reported that the Corridors of Commerce feedback was helpful to the agency. TED projects were announced yesterday: Mn 41/CSAH 18; TH 169/101st; and Highway 10/Thurston.

Bridget Rief reported that Super Bowl LII is 32 days away. The day after the game, MAC staff expects nearly double the number of embarkments than they usually see on a summer day. 1200 private jets will be arriving and distributed to reliever airports. MAC is anticipating that game attendees will go straight from the game to the airport and spend the night. There are hopes that it will not snow.

Steve Peterson reminded the group that under Corridors of Commerce there are a portion of points available if a project includes a letter of support from the MPO. Also, county representatives are invited to attend a final meeting on the Regional Highway Spending Study after TAC in room LLB.

Dave Jacobson announced that SouthWest Station has been sold by SW Transit to the Metropolitan Council for Green Line Extension work.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:54AM.

Prepared by:

Katie White