
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, June 7, 2017
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Doug Fischer, John Sass, Carla Stueve, Joe Lux, Lisa Freese, Jan Lucke, Steve Bot, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Molly McCartney, Innocent Eyoh, Neil Ralston, Andrew Emanuele, Dave Jacobson, Danny McCullough, Jean Keely, Steve Albrecht, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Kim Lindquist, Jim Kosluchar, Jen Hager, Jack Byers, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz (Excused: Elaine Koutsoukos, Peter Dahlberg, Karl Keel)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Steve Albrecht at 9:01 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was moved by Dave Jacobson and seconded by Paul Oehme. No discussion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was moved by Dave Jacobson and seconded by Steve Peterson. No discussion. Motion passed.

4. TAB Report

Steve Albrecht reported on the May 17, 2017 TAB meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

Andrew Emanuele, FHWA, invited TAB members to attend the Congestion Management Process Peer Exchange on May 23 and 24 hosted by FHWA.

REPORTS

TAB Chair's Report: Chair Hovland appointed Peter Dugan as TAB Liaison to the Metropolitan Council's Transportation Committee.

Agency Reports (MnDOT, MPCA, MAC and Metropolitan Council)

MnDOT: Scott McBride reported that this is the last week of the legislature and they are waiting for the outcome of the transportation bill.

MPCA: David Thornton reported that because the Twin Cities metro area will no longer be a maintenance area, having reached attainment status, CMAQ funding will likely drop from the current \$30 million received. Thornton will report back in a couple months. The MPCA is still waiting for authorization from the MN Legislature on the \$47 million settlement from Volkswagon.

MAC: Carl Crimmins reported the MSP received three more awards.

Metropolitan Council: Steve Elkins reported that public hearings on the proposal to raise transit fares have begun. There will be four public hearings. The public comment period is open through June 26.

Bylaws Task Force Report: Mary Hamann-Roland reported that the Bylaws Task Force is continuing dialogue on possible changes in language regarding citizen member representatives, Roberts Rules of Order and quorum, and composition of the TAB Executive Committee.

ACTION ITEMS

1. 2017-11: Approved Streamlined TIP Amendment for the MN 149, High Bridge in St. Paul requested by MnDOT.
2. 2017-12: Approved Streamlined TIP Amendment for the MN 169, MN 169 Pavement Rehabilitation Project in Brooklyn Park requested by MnDOT.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. 2016 Regional Solicitation Survey Results
2. 2040 Transportation Policy Plan Update
3. Transportation System Performance Evaluation
4. Minnesota State Highway Investment Plan, presented by MnDOT

Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Steve Albrecht, Chair)

The Executive Committee did not meet today.

B. Planning Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

No report.

C. Funding and Programming Committee (Tim Mayasich, Chair)

2017-16 Draft 2018-2021 TIP for Public Comment. Paul Oehme introduced the item. Joe Barbeau, Mary Gustafson, and Molly McCartney presented on the agency components of the TIP. Innocent Eyoh noted that the MPCA included a letter in the TIP indicating the compliance of the TIP with air quality regulations. Paul Oehme moved, Jan Lucke seconded the recommended motion. Motion passes.

6. Special Agenda Items

Legislative Update. (Lesley Kandaras, Metropolitan Council) Lesley Kandaras provided an overview of the outcomes of the 2017 Legislative session. There were no questions.

TED Program Changes and Update. (Philip Schaffner, MnDOT) Philip Schaffner provided an overview and update to the TED program, including new application and scoring changes. Joe Lux asked what the split is between metro and the outstate. Philip Schaffner responded that about two-thirds of the number of projects are located in the outstate, but two-thirds of the money is located in the metro.

However this is dependent on the number and types of applications submitted. Michael Thompson asked how to indicate a private contribution to a project is committed. Philip Schaffner said that at least a letter of support indicating the financial commitment should be provided with the application. Doug Fischer asked which program (TED or TEDI) would be applicable to a TH grade separation. Philip Schaffner responded that an applicant could apply to both. Adam Harrington asked about how this relates to potential new employers, such as Amazon, who build employment centers first and then ask for transportation improvements later. Philip Schaffner said that the number of jobs accessed is a scoring criteria, and the application also asks who is likely to benefit from those jobs. These are qualitative scoring areas to evaluate if a project has taken this issue into consideration. Adam Harrington recommended that transit operators be included in these conversations.

Regional Solicitation Survey Results/Top 20. (Steve Peterson and Joe Barbeau, MTS) Steve Peterson and Joe Barbeau presented on issues that will be discussed before the next regional solicitation is finalized. Doug Fischer asked if the connector criteria could be modified so that those projects score better. Steve Peterson said that connectors can only apply for reconstruction money, and none of the other categories. Adam Harrington suggested that the transit working group should consider the issue of geographic balance; attaining geographic balance in transit project involves comparing apples and oranges. Doug Fischer suggested agency application awards to achieve geographic balance, not just geographic boundaries. Bill Dermody added that geographic balance should not be used to pick bad projects for funding.

Michael Thompson raised the issue of equity scoring in the Heywood II project. Doug Fischer said that equity has been bastardized because points are awarded just for having a project in an ACP50 area. Jack Byers suggested that training be provided to TAC on this subject, and Jan Lucke added that TAB should be involved too.

TPP Update: Transportation System Performance Evaluation. (Russ Owen, MTS) Russ Owen presented the TSPE which must be completed before each TPP update. Doug Fischer asked about the source of the pavement condition slide. Tony Fischer responded that the data came from MnDOT's system.

Public Participation Plan. (Mai Thor, Metropolitan Council) Mai Thor presented some changes that have been made to the PPP. There were no questions.

7. Agency Reports

Neil Ralston said that the Crystal airport LTCP has been completed and sent to the Council for review. It will be at the July TAC-Planning meeting.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:01am.

Prepared by:

Katie White