

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
Metropolitan Council
390 N. Robert St., St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1805
Minutes of a Meeting of the
FUNDING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE
January 18, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Oehme (Chair, Chanhassen), Lynne Bly (MnDOT Metro District), Colleen Brown (MnDOT State Aid), Robert Ellis (Eden Prairie), Innocent Eyoh (MPCA), Anna Flintoft (Metro Transit), Jack Forslund (Anoka County), Jenifer Hager (Minneapolis), Jarrett Hubbard (Scott County), Emily Jorgensen (Washington County), Karl Keel (Bloomington), Jim Kosluchar (Fridley), Elaine Koutsoukos (TAB), Jen Lehmann (MVTA), Joe Lux (Ramsey County), Gina Mitteco (MnDOT Bike & Ped), Ryan Peterson (Burnsville), Steve Peterson (Metropolitan Council), Jason Pieper (Hennepin County), Nancy Spooner-Mueller (Minnesota DNR), Michael Thompson (Plymouth) Anne Weber (St. Paul), and Joe Barbeau (staff)

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Elmer (Metropolitan Council) and Elizabeth Stiffler (City of St. Paul)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: Keel moved to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Koutsoukos. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes from the December 21, 2017, Meeting

MOTION: Bly moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Keel. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. TAB Report – Information Item

Koutsoukos reported on the January 17, 2018, TAB meeting. TAB Chair Jim Hovland reported that Lisa Freese, TAC Chair, selected that Paul Oehme, Chanhassen, as chair of the TAC Funding & Programming Committee and Jan Lucke, Washington County, as chair of the TAC Planning Committee. Ten action items were approved including selecting TAB Executive Committee Members, three scope change requests, two TIP amendments, the MnDOT Performance Measures Memorandum of Understanding, the functional classification map, the Regional Solicitation public comments, and the release of the Regional Solicitation.

5. Program Year Extension Request: St. Paul Washington Tech Safe Routes to School – Action Item 2018-15

Barbeau said that The City of St. Paul received \$816,000 in Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funding for program year 2018 in the 2016 Regional Solicitation. The City's local match is not yet available but the City states that it will be available during the 2019 program year. Granting of the extension will allow the project to be obligated in 2019 but will not guarantee federal reimbursement prior to 2022.

Brown said that the applicant had wanted the project to be funded in fiscal year 2020. Elizabeth Stiffler said that the City's 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Budget process was cancelled, rendering the local funds unavailable for 2018.

Lux said Rice Street will be crossed and given the study on that street that is wrapping up, the 2019 program year may be a better fit.

MOTION: Ellis moved to approve recommendation that the program year extension request be granted. Seconded by Lux. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Scope Change: City of Minneapolis 6th Street Overhead Signal Additions – Action Item 2018-10

Barbeau said that the City of Minneapolis was awarded \$1,049,400 in Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds in the 2014 HSIP Solicitation to install overhead signal amenities along 6th St. in Downtown Minneapolis. The city wishes to remove two pedestrian curb ramps, two accessible pedestrian signals, and two pedestrian countdown timers to avoid conflict with future projects. The city also wants to add two curb extensions.

Bly asked when the future projects will be done, to which Hager replied, that they are scheduled for fiscal year 2020.

MOTION: Keel moved to recommend approval of the scope change request with \$944,444 in federal funds. Seconded by Lux. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. TIP Amendment: City of Minneapolis 6th Street Overhead Signal Additions – Action Item 2018-11

Barbeau said that the TIP amendment should reflect the funding amount recommended in item 2018-10. Brown said that she would like to adjust the TIP description to associate the project to two other projects.

MOTION: Keel moved to recommend approval of the TIP amendment request with the updated funding amount and description language. Seconded by Eyoh. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. Scope Change: City of Minneapolis U of M Protected Bikeways – Action Item 2018-12

Barbeau said that the City of Minneapolis was awarded \$1,030,294 in STP (Transportation Alternatives) funding in the 2014 Regional Solicitation to construct the University of Minnesota Protected bikeways project. The City wishes to remove the 10th Avenue Bridge segment from the project because that is being completed in another project. The city also wishes to extend the 10th Avenue segment from 5th Street to 8th Street. Hager added that the 10th Avenue River Crossing received state bond funds and the result will be a fully-protected bicycle lane. Construction will occur in 2019.

Oehme asked why the new length from 5th Street to 8th Street was not included in the original application. Hager replied that the City recently installed an east-west bicycle connection on 8th Street.

Barbeau provided federal funding options that included removal of inflation with and without credit for the additional segment.

MOTION: Thompson moved to recommend approval of the scope change with removal of funding attributable to the removed portion of the project. Seconded by Ryan Peterson. The motion was approved unanimously.

9. TIP Amendment: City of Minneapolis U of M Protected Bikeways – Action Item (2018-13)

MOTION: Keel moved to recommend approval of the TIP amendment request, reflective of the new funding amounts discussed in item 2018-12. Seconded by Thompson. The motion was approved unanimously.

10. Regional Bicycle Barriers Study – Information Item

Steve Elmer, Metropolitan Council, presented on the Regional Bicycle Barriers study, which identifies about 675 barrier crossing points and places the top 450 points into three tiers. Bly suggested that scoring should consider the distance to the nearest crossing. Hager asked whether people understand that the results of the study will impact the Regional Solicitation and said that most cities were not aware of the connection. Steve Peterson said that the outreach efforts for the Congestion Management Safety Plan will consider this.

11. Other Business

Oehme said that the scope change policy does not address new project elements and it may be valuable to form a subgroup to consider these. Oehme, Brown, Hager, Mitteco, Keel, and Koutsoukos volunteered to participate.

Steve Peterson said that the TPP may be released for public review in May and the final version may be released in August or September.

Bly said that MnDOT's Corridors of Commerce solicitation is available for comments through February 5. Steve Peterson said that the Council is submitting 10 applications along with roughly 25 other applications being submitted in the region.

Koutsoukos said that she will invite everyone on the Committee to TAB new-member training sessions.

12. Adjournment

MOTION: Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Steve Peterson. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.