

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 Robert St. North, St. Paul

Committee Members Present:

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Hovland, James, Chair	Laufenburger, Denny	Hamann-Roland, Mary
Bigham, Karla	Tabke, Brad	McGuire, Mary Jo	Gaylord, Kathleen
Villella, Sam	Ulrich, Jon	Reich, Kevin	Anderson, Doug
Callison, Jan	Look, Matt	Crimmins, Carl	Staples, Jamez
Dugan, Peter (Fox, Nickolas)	Swanson, Dick (Jeppson, Julie)	McKnight, Kenya (Hollinshead, Mathews)	Rodriguez, Katie
Sanger, Sue	McBride, Scott	Tolbert, Chris	Thornton, David
Van Hattum, David	Christensen, Carrie	Sandahl, Suzanne	Fawley, Ethan
Maluchnik, Randy	Goins, William	Hansen, Gary	
ABSENT:	Parsons, Rolf	Wosje, Jeff	Petryk, Becky
	Giuliani Stephens, Mary		
Liaison/Staff Present:	Koutsoukos, Elaine TAB Coordinator	Albrecht, Steve TAC Chair	Thompson, Nick MTS Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Hovland called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:36 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2017.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Gaylord, seconded by Hamann-Roland, to amend the agenda of the December 20, 2017, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to include an item introduced by Katie Rodriguez: the Metropolitan Council Chair's letter to MnDOT regarding the Corridors of Commerce program. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

Invitation to the public to address the Board about any issue not on the agenda. There was no one in the audience who wished to address the Board.

IV. REPORTS

1. TAB Chair's Report

Hovland reported that there were certificates of appreciation to award to Tim Mayasich for the last 23 years of service and the last 3 years serving as the Chair of TAC Funding and Programming; Steve Albrecht for the last 3 years serving as the Chair of TAC; and Lisa Freese for the last 3 years serving as the TAC Planning Chair, as well as welcoming her into service as the new Chair of TAC in 2018.

Mayasich praised the TAB for the work accomplished, expressing his belief that the process of TAB is sound and has stood the test of time.

Hamann-Roland thanked Mayasich for his work in Ramsey County specifically.

Albrecht thanked TAB members for the support and dedication to TAC's work. Freese said she is looking forward to the next 3 years working with TAB on the Regional Solicitation and TPP.

Hovland then addressed the letter from Chair Tchourumoff to Commissioner Zelle, asking the TAB whether they want to support the Metropolitan Council Chair's letter to MnDOT regarding the Corridors of Commerce and funding disbursement. Peterson presented the funding portion of his information item, sharing how the funding from MnDOT has changed to performance-based requirements and thus the bulk of funding would go to Greater Minnesota, not the Metro area. Scott McBride said that the deadline for comments on Corridors of Commerce is today. He said the Council's work with the TPP is shining a light on the issue of how funding is distributed. Rodriguez shared that focus on preservation means that Corridors of Commerce may be the only mobility money that we have right now. Hamann-Roland stated that the language in the letter is consistent with the position of Metro Cities. Gaylord shared that the Executive Committee discussed this and the suggestion was to support the Metropolitan Council Chair's letter.

It was moved by Gaylord, seconded Hamann-Roland, that:
TAB do a letter or resolution of support of the comments and at least get it to MnDOT to express concerns about the scoring criteria.

Look expressed concern regarding criteria language being changed from intent of law. Hovland responded that it seems to share different ways to look at the regional balance. Rodriguez said that 8th criteria is regional balance and MnDOT is trying to determine what that balance is and it was consistent with our practices. Look asked whether we are only wanting it changed to benefit the Metro over Greater Minnesota. Hovland reiterated that population could be a way to determine regional balance. Sanger said the number of vehicles that would use a project could be another way to weight it. Goins shared that as the freight/commerce representative, he thinks it is critical that commerce and commuters are addressed together, called for a balanced approach, considering that the Metro can become a bottleneck for all, if not addressed. He reported on his experience at the World's Fair meeting with 117-member countries. He said the United States was in competition with Argentina and Poland and since representing the United States was the Metro area of Minneapolis/St. Paul, congestion markets and how they compete is a key factor. Embassies told him that they looked at our Metro area and questioned the sustainability of 12-15 million visitors. Goins stressed that we're competing with the rest of the world. McGuire commented that the support of the Metropolitan Council letter is because TAB Executive Committee did not have time to craft their own letter due to the deadline being today. Reich shared that he feels it's important that this body make a statement because this group is a collection of entities. McBride echoed the importance but said he is in Commissioner Zelle's chair, representing MnDOT, and so will abstain from voting.

Following the discussion, the vote was taken and the motion carried.

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

MnDOT: McBride echoed that comments on the Corridors of Commerce project selection process are due today. He said that letters were sent out for freight project selected and letters will go out soon announcing the projects selected for the TED program. Goins asked if we can add an update on TED to future agenda.

MPCA: Thornton had nothing to report.

MAC: Crimmins reported that several awards have been given for solar arrays installed and for construction innovation. Bridget Rief shared MAC work to ensure Atlanta outage doesn't happen here in the Twin Cities. Rief said that Atlanta has two separate power feeds that come together in one room with a switch to then change power and a fire happened in room with the switch. She shared that in the Twin Cities we have power sources in four locations in Terminal 1 with backups for each one and the switches in different locations. If there were a power outage it will be localized, limited to a concourse or part of a concourse. There is emergency power as well, in some areas even redundancy for emergency power. Life saving devices, restrooms, and escalators work under emergency power. Villela asked how much solar power we're garnering. Bridget said it is 4 megawatts.

Hollinshead said Crimmins commented on the parking extension. Hollinshead said a December 11th New York Times article said that airports are losing money because of ride-sharing so parking is not as relevant, why then are 5,000 more parking spots being built, are we the exception? Crimmins said our current parking is reaching the end of its life. Rief said that app-based ride-shares impact rental car and taxi numbers, but not any parking numbers. Current ramps reach end of design life at 2030 so thinking is to build these ramps to work with app-based ride sharing or autonomous vehicles. St. Paul and Bloomington operate off of conditional use permits and cities could pull at any time, so this is also to protect the airport in case they do. When it's cold outside, they see parking increases and, when parking rates are increased, the usership goes down and then comes back up. Hollinghead shared that he asks this question because he wants to drive ridership to transit.

Metropolitan Council: Rodriguez reported that the Metropolitan Council's contract offer to drivers/operators was overwhelmingly approved. She expressed her appreciation for the drivers/operators. Rodriguez further shared that in interviewing for TAB positions there was a lot of interest. TPP chapters also go out this Friday. Presentations to counties have started, then will go through TAB and TAC process January through March.

Hovland recognized Sue Sanger for her service in the event that she does not return to the TAB because of her retirement from St. Louis Park City Council.

3. Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Report

Albrecht said he would hold his report until the action items.

V. CONSENT ITEMS

Note: Items listed as Consent Items will be enacted by one motion with no separate discussion. If discussion on an item is desired, the item will be removed from the Consent list for separate consideration.

1. Approval of Minutes from November 15, 2017

It was moved by Gaylord, seconded by Hamann-Roland, to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2017 regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. Motion carried.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

1. 2017-42 Streamlined TIP Amendment: CSAH 14, Anoka County

TAC Executive Chair Steve Albrecht presented this item. No comments or questions.

It was moved by Look, seconded by Gaylord, that:

TAB adopt the amendment into the 2018-2021 TIP to reduce the cost and change the pavement type from concrete to bituminous on Anoka County's CSAH 14 resurfacing project (SP # 002-614-042). Motion carried.

2. 2017-28 TIP Amendment: Accept Public Comment and Approve I-394 and MN-62 Re-striping Projects, MnDOT, Regionally Significant

TAC Chair Steve Albrecht presented this item. Sanger asked if HOV lanes will stay as is. McBride said yes.

It was moved by Gaylord, seconded by Callison, that:

TAB accept the public comments and adopt an amendment to the 2018-2021 TIP to add a project to re-stripe lanes on I-394 and MN 62 (SP # 8825-665). Motion carried.

3. 2017-44 TIP Amendment: US 169, MnDOT

TAC Chair Steve Albrecht presented this item. Crimmins asked what lifecycle of concrete is versus bituminous. McBride answered that it varies based on subgrade and what you do on it (reconstructing or replacing). On this project it is a concrete overlay so we get benefit of current structure, anticipating 30-50 year life span on these. Crimmins said he wants to be sure that we are not saving money now to spend later. McBride said MnDOT anticipates long life. Look said that in Anoka County they prefer to do this but can't because of proposed development coming in that requires redoing part of the road.

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by McBride, that:

TAB approve an amendment to the 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to change the termini and costs for two concrete overlay projects on US 169 (SP # 7007-34 and SP# 7008-111). Motion carried.

4. 2017-38 2018 Regional Solicitation: Adopt Regional Bikeway Transportation Network Map

TAC Chair Steve Albrecht, presented this item, which identified changes to the Regional Bikeway Transportation Network map. Callison asked if only corridors on these maps are eligible for funding. Albrecht responded that the map does not indicate eligibility; it is used in prioritization. All trails are still eligible. She asked standards of criteria. Steve Elmer responded that guided principles are in the TPP. Callison asked if anything was controversial in the proposed changes. Elmer replied nothing was too controversial, but not requests were added. Hollinshead asked if there were maps online with higher magnification. Elmer said the new proposed map is not yet online but will be updated. Look asked for value of proposed changes. Elmer said we don't get to that specificity because they are not projects yet, half of the bikeways on the map is already built in some fashion. Look asked if we would be adopting a plan that we don't know financial impact of, Elmer stated that is correct. McGuire asked about timeframe – 2015 established in 2040 TPP, how often do we update this RBTN. Elmer said there could be revisions in between the 4 year update. Sanger asked what are high priority new trails. Elmer said some trails extend existing corridors. Albrecht added that in Dakota County part of the process was to verify that the trails mapped were possible, funding available, etc. He feels Dakota County has been realistic in steps and who are the partners involved. Sandahl asked if cities individual added trails appear in regional plans. Elmer said no, this is to provide the arterial backbone, not all city plans are included. Hovland asked if taking existing

system and modifying or is this separate and distinct. Albrecht said this plan informs the local plans. Hovland asked if Fawley is part of the group that met to review the changes. Fawley responded that he is not part of the group but finds it important to establish regional priority. He expressed his support.

It was moved by Hamann-Roland, seconded by Reich, that:

TAB approve the RBTN Update Map for use in the 2018 Regional Solicitation. Motion carried.

5. 2017-39 MAC 2018-2023 Capital Improvement Program

TAC Chair Steve Albrecht presented this item. Hollinshead asked what the public comment period is. Russ Owen responded that he believes it is a 60 day comment period and the public hearing was on November 6. He believes the public comment period is over now.

It was moved by Crimmins, seconded by Hamann-Roland, that:

TAB accept the staff analysis of the MAC 2018-2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and forward these comments to the Metropolitan Council for its consideration. Motion carried.

6. 2017-41 Proposed Safety Measures and Short-Term Targets

TAC Chair Steve Albrecht presented this item. Van Hattum asked if there is tracking of distracted driving with this system. David Burns said the Council is not tracking distracted driving but he thinks MnDOT is. Callison asked consequence of not making goals. Burns said that for the MPO there is no consequence. However, for the State, the consequence is that the State is required to use obligational authority equal to the baseline year for each SIP highway safety improvement portion meant only for safety projects. Callison asked if that meant more resources for the Metro area, Burns said the targets are for the Metro area but ramifications are only to MnDOT on state-level. McGuire asked if numbers increase every year, where do they come from. Burns said MnDOT adopted a 3% reduction from 2015 fatality numbers and 5% reduction from 2016 in crash rate. McGuire asked if it is to our benefit to set low bars so then we don't get penalized for not meeting them. Burns replied that there is no penalty or benefit for not meeting targets. This is supporting the state.

It was moved by Maluchnik, seconded by Jeppson, that:

TAB adopt the safety performance measures and short-term targets for the Metropolitan Council Planning Area. Motion carried.

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. MnDOT Project Selection Process

MnDOT Project Selection Process Manager Philip Schaffner presented this item.

Hovland asked how we can help. Schaffner said that MnDOT is gathering concerns and ideas over the next few months will develop a general draft, then will bring to TAC and TAB for detailed discussion then. McGuire asked how stakeholders are being involved. Schaffner said they are meeting with existing stakeholders and has formed a policy advisory group that has non-traditional members on it to include local business, environmental perspectives. Sanger said she took a non-random sample in her neighborhood to see if they knew how project section decisions were made. She shared that people said there was no citizen input, how can citizens get involved earlier than

public comment time. She said another question was why is technology not being used to give access (webcasts) and if politics could be taken out of decision making process. Political influence affects transparency. Goins said there is a desire to educate citizens with transparency. Goins wants to know the return on investment for Minnesota citizens. Schaffner said they will be back in the spring with an outline of scoring components.

2. Regional Solicitation

Metropolitan Transportation Services Senior Planner Joe Barbeau presented this item. No questions or comments.

3. TPP Update – Highway and Freight Investments, Aviation Chapter Available

Metropolitan Transportation Services Manager Steve Peterson presented this item.

Hovland asked if they still wanted input, Peterson said yes, send to himself or Elaine Koutsoukos. Hovland asked how TAB members could access the chapters. Koutsoukos said she would send the link out to TAB members when posted on Friday.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS

Anderson said we skipped over public forum. Chair Hovland invited the public to comment. No questions or comments.

Goins shared that he wanted to focus on four accomplishments from the World Expo – Argentina won the bid for 2023 over Poland and the United States. There were 20 representatives from Minnesota, 10 from U.S Department of State. Goins thought it was one of the best team efforts he has seen. 1: US is now a member again of the Bureau of International Expositions, first time since 2002. The US last hosted in 1984. There were over two years of effort to go before House, Senate, President, etc. to become a member again. 2: A strong expo plan was adopted which is easily adaptable for the future. 3: The political and public support from MN and US was tremendous, over 1,000 people engaged in the effort. Senator Amy Klobuchar encouraged us to keep coming back. 4: The recognition from countries around the world was an accomplishment. Goins expressed that there is the desire to go after it again in 2027.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Jenna Ernst
Recording Secretary