
*Transportation Advisory Board
of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, April 1, 2020
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Lisa Freese, Joe MacPherson, Lyndon Robjent, Gina Mitteco, Chad Ellos, Brian Isaacson, Emily Jorgenson, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Molly McCartney, Innocent Eyoh, Andrew Emanuele, Matt Fyten, Peter Dahlberg, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Ken Ashfeld, Anne Kane, Paul Oehme, Robert Ellis, Jim Kosluchar, Jenifer Hager, Paul Mogush, Bill Dermody, Kevin Roggenbuck

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Freese at 9:04 a.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held via conference call.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved without change.

3. Approval of Minutes

Due to the pandemic, the March meeting minutes were not available. An action on the March 2020 minutes will occur at a future TAC meeting.

4. TAB Report

TAB Coordinator Elaine Koutsoukos provided a written summary of the minutes on the March 18, 2020 TAB meeting to the TAC. There were no questions or clarifications by the TAC.

5. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

Chair Freese reported that the Executive Committee met via teleconference prior to the meeting. The Committee discussed items on the TAC agenda and the potential of a federal stimulus bill. TAC members discussed the ramifications of the potential stimulus bill.

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

a) Streamlined 2020-2023 TIP Amendment: Vehicle Purchase for Rise, Inc.

Mr. Oehme presented this item. The TIP amendment request was submitted by MnDOT for the purchase of transit vehicles for Rise, Inc. MnDOT was awarded funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) under the Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Disabilities program. In order for the vehicle acquisition to occur, the TIP must be amended to reflect to purchase. The total cost of the acquisition is \$627,270, of which \$501,816 is provided by FTA.

Ms. Koutsoukos made a motion to recommend approval of the amendment, seconded by Mr. Eyoh. Motion carried.

3. Planning Committee (Kevin Roggenbuck, Chair)

Chair Freese announced that Kevin Roggenbuck will serve as chair of the TAC Planning Committee. As Mr. Roggenbuck was not present at the March 12 meeting of the TAC Planning Committee, MTS Staff David Burns provided a report of the Planning Committee meeting.

6. Special Agenda Items

1. Regional Solicitation Application Deadline (Steve Peterson, MTS)

Mr. Peterson provided an update on the application deadline for the 2020 Regional Solicitation, noting that TAB had taken action to move the deadline back one month to May 15. Mr. Peterson continued by noting that there was some question as to whether this would be enough time for agencies to submit applications and requested feedback from the TAC.

Mr. Keel noted that he does not anticipate Bloomington to have issues with the new extension. Mr. MacPherson asked about flexibility regarding the equity criteria should applicants be unable to perform the targeted outreach. The committee discussed whether meetings after the deadline should receive the full points for the equity criteria. Members of the committee also discussed whether it was feasible to extend the deadline for letters of support.

TAC members agreed that more discussion on this topic is needed to provide necessary input to TAB. A special TAC meeting will be scheduled later in April and prior to the TAB meeting.

2. Review of Transportation Policy Plan Supporting Chapters (Amy Vennewitz, MTS)

Ms. Vennewitz provided an overview of the changes to the supporting chapters of the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan, which will be amended in 2020. These chapters were provided to TAC members prior to the meeting. Members are encouraged to submit written comments.

Ms. Vennewitz noted that the Council is currently on schedule to provide the TPP for public comment by mid-June. Changes that will be presented to the TAC Planning Committee include language acknowledging the COVID-19 pandemic and the unknowns of its long-term impacts. The most significant changes occur in the Work Program chapter, in which three new COVID-related studies will be added. Comments on the amended TPP are requested by May 15.

7. Agency Reports

No agency reports were provided.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Prepared by:

David Burns