
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, May 4, 2016
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Paul Kurtz, Doug Fischer, Innocent Eyoh, Danny McCullough, Michael Larson, Carla Stueve, Bridget Rief, Lisa Freese, Tim Mayasich, Pat Bursaw, Steve Albrecht, Elaine Koutsoukos, Bill Dermody, Steve Peterson, Kim Lindquist, Michael Thompson, Karl Keel, Jenifer hager, Jim Kosluchar, Bruce Loney, Paul Oehme, Steve Bot, Jack Byers, Jan Lucke, Lyndon Robjent, Adam Harrington, Brian Sorenson, Jean Keeley (Excused: none)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Steve Albrecht at 9:03 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Pat Bursaw moved and Doug Fischer seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of April Minutes

Elaine Koutsoukos moved and Pat Bursaw seconded. Motion passed.

4. TAB Report

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the April 20, 2016 TAB meeting.

REPORTS

TAB Chair's Report

Jim Hovland introduced new TAB member Mayor Jeffrey Lunde, Brooklyn Park, appointed by Metro Cities.

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

MnDOT: Scott McBride reported that MnDOT submitted three FAST LANE applications, one in the metro area for I-35W.

MPCA: David Thornton reported that the metro area had another Air Pollution Alert, which resulted from agriculture burning in Kansas.

MAC: Carl Crimmins reported that the Lake Elmo Long Term Comp Plan was approved. An Intercontinental hotel will start construction at the airport this summer. A solar panel will be added to Terminal 2 this summer.

Metropolitan Council: Katie Rodriguez reported that development has started along the planned Green Line and Blue Line extensions.

TAB Bylaws Task Force

Hamann-Roland reported on proposed changes to the TAB Bylaws. The changes will be sent to the TAB members 10 days prior to the next TAB meeting for action at the next TAB Meeting.

TAC Report

Steve Albrecht reported on additional information on DBE and environmental requirements in response to TAB's questions on the Federal Fund Exchange (Defederalization). The policy and process will come before TAB at future meetings as information and approval.

ACTION ITEMS

1. 2016-26: Adopted the Functional Classification Map for the 2016 Regional Solicitation.
2. 2016-27: Recommended that the Metropolitan Council adopt the statewide ITS architecture through resolution.
3. 2016-28: Approved the scope change for St. Louis Park Beltline Station Park & Ride and federal funding reduction to \$6,453,054.
4. 2016-29: Approved the 2017-2020 TIP Implementation Schedule

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. FAST Act
2. Allocation of 2017 and 2018 Federal Funds
3. Legislative Update by Metropolitan Council and Citizens League
4. A Line Bus Rapid Transit – tour next month

5. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Steve Albrecht, Chair)

Steve Albrecht reported that the Executive Committee discussed the results of last month's TAB meeting and the federal funds reallocation process.

B. Planning Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

The Planning committee did not meet in April, but will meet in May. One of the items will be information on the activity based model and what that means for comprehensive plan updates. Lisa Freese encouraged TAC to send any staff who would be involved in those processes to the next meeting to hear the presentation.

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

2016-31 Hennepin County Scope Change. Tim Mayasich presented this item. The federal funds for the project were removed in January but the draft policy still states that scope changes must come before this committee to ensure that the original project is still completed. Karl Keel indicated that the staff report should say "county" instead of "city." Tim Mayasich moved and Michael Thompson seconded. Motion passes.

2016-32 TIP HSIP Solicitation. Tim Mayasich presented this item. Doug Fischer asked what crash data should be used since the 2015 data is only partially available. Elaine Koutsoukos noted that the information does not include a solicitation release date. Staff will contact MnDOT with these questions

and will email the response to the group. Tim Mayasich moved and Pat Bursaw seconded. Motion passes.

Information Item: Streamlined Amendment Update. Joe Barbeau presented the information about the amendments that have not come in front of the TAC. There were no questions.

Information Item: Federal Funds Exchange. Tim Mayasich and Joe Barbeau provided information on the status of the federal funds exchange process. Karl Keel and Doug Fischer highlighted the benefit that this process could have to the region in helping local agencies save 15-20% of total project costs. Pat Bursaw added that this process is happening at the statewide level for non-metro funds.

6. Special Agenda Items

2016 and 2017 Federal Funding Distribution. Amy Vennewitz presented the various scenarios that could be explored with the increase in available federal funds. Tim Mayasich asked for an explanation on the unique projects. Amy Vennewitz responded that there is no definition or process for these funds, but that it makes sense to put out a request for these with the rest of the solicitation since some applicants may find that their project doesn't fit in the ten available categories. Karl Keel suggested that the new funds be awarded to MnDOT to help them meet their needs. Amy Vennewitz said that this has happened before but can cause accounting and programming swings that skew their workload. Also, MnDOT focuses on NHPP roads instead of more local facilities. Karl Keel suggested using the federal funds allocation policy for these funds. Doug Fischer suggested using the new funds for projects that were just 'below the line' on the previous solicitation since these projects have already been vetted. Amy Vennewitz responded that it may be unlikely that those projects would be ready to go in 2016 or 2017. Amy Vennewitz said that funding the Travel Behavior Inventory data collection will be submitted in the unique project category. Doug Fischer said that other region-wide projects could be submitted, such as signal painting or overlays, which has been done before.

MnDOT Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan. Katie White prepared items on behalf of MnDOT staff. There was a short video and two handouts. Pat Bursaw added that available funds still do not keep up with basic wear and tear on the roadway system.

7. Agency Reports

Adam Harrington said that Metro Transit has made several service improvements since March. CMAQ funding will be taking effect in two areas soon: the A Line opening June 11 and increased service on East 7th in St. Paul in late 2016 or early 2017. There will also be service improvements on Franklin Avenue and Rice Street this fall.

Elaine Koutsoukos provided an update on the solicitation. The measures have been built and testing will begin today. A workshop has been scheduled for May 16 from 1:30-3:00pm in LLA. There will be five trainings this summer which are TBD, and a video tutorial on how to use the online system will be available as well for those who want a refresher. It will be nearly identical to the last round.

Tim Mayasich asked for an update on the MTS restructuring. Amy Vennewitz responded that a decision will be made within the next two weeks. Regional Administrator Wes Kooistra has met with TAB members, counties, Council members, staff, and CTIB. There was also an internal staff survey.

Steve Peterson said that an email will be sent out today asking if 2018/2019 projects can move up to 2016/2017 to take advantage of the new money.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:23AM.

Prepared by:

Katie White