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*Transportation Advisory Board  
Of the Metropolitan Council*

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**Minutes of a Meeting of the  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, December 7, 2016  
9:00 A.M.**

**Members Present:** Joe McPherson, Darren Oak, Carla Stueve, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Ann Pung-Terwedo, Andrew Witter, Elaine Koutsoukos, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Pat Bursaw, Innocent Eyoh, Bridget Rief, Kris Riesenber, Dave Jacobson, Peter Dahlberg, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Jean Keely, Steve Albrecht, Michael Thompson, Kim Lindquist, Jim Kosluchar, Jen Hager, Jack Byers, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz (Excused: Paul Oehme, Bruce Loney)

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Albrecht at 9:00 a.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda was moved by Tim Mayasich and seconded by Pat Bursaw. No discussion. Motion passed.

**3. Approval of July Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes was moved by Pat Bursaw and seconded by Tim Mayasich. No discussion. Motion passed.

**4. TAB Report**

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the November 16, 2016 TAB meeting.

**REPORTS**

**TAB Chair's Report:** Jim Hovland reported that the TAB Executive Committee membership selection occurs each January and members will be asked to send in interest in serving to the Chair by December 31. The Funding & Programming Committee will be finalizing the Regional Solicitation scores at their next meeting and five funding scenarios will be presented as information at the December TAB meeting, with final project selection in January.

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

MnDOT: Scott McBride reported that FAST Lane funding is available with an application deadline in December. MnDOT submitted three applications this year and will look at the opportunity to submit again after finding out the guidance.

Metropolitan Airports Commission: Carl Crimmins reported that roadways are under construction to make room for parking and hotel. One-third of restaurants in Terminal 1 have been redone. Two-thirds will be re-bid in January.

Metropolitan Council: Katie Rodriguez introduced Nick Thompson, the new director of MTS.

**TAC Report:** Steve Albrecht reported that TAC acted on several action items appearing before TAB.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. 2016-59: Streamline TIP Amendment: Metro Transit, 12<sup>th</sup> Street Transit Ramp
2. 2016-52: Scope Change: Three Rivers Park District
3. 2016-53: TIP Amendment: Three Rivers Park District Scope Change
4. 2016-54: Travel Behavior Inventory and Regional Model
  - Motion: TAB vote on TBI funding at December TAB meeting
  - Motion: Accept TAC recommendation to include recommendations from Work Group
    1. That consultant selection committees for TBI and modeling related activities include local agency representation.
    2. That Council modeling staff establish a regional transportation modeling work group, inclusive of the counties and other interested agencies, to establish how to best assure that the Regional Model is of optimal use to the Council's regional partners.
    3. That Council staff provide a graphic version of TBI and modeling activities.
    4. That a scope of work be provided.
    5. That a breakdown of funding sources be provided.

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Regional Solicitation Unique projects

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **A. Executive Committee** (Steve Albrecht, Chair)

Steve Albrecht clarified the conditions under which the chair of TAC or its subcommittees will vote. While the TAC Bylaws say that the Chair is a voting member, it is the practice that that Chair will vote only in the case of a tie.

Steve Albrecht said that the TAC is exploring changing the meeting time from 9:00am to 9:30am. Contact Katie White if you have a strong preference either way.

##### **B. Planning Committee** (Lisa Freese, Chair)

**2016-55 Carver County Functional Classification Change.** Lisa Freese presented the item. There were no questions. Lisa Freese moved and Pat Bursaw seconded the recommended motion. Motion passes.

**2016-56 Metropolitan Airports Commission Capital Improvement Program.** Lisa Freese introduced the item. MTS Senior Planner Russ Owen presented an overview of the action. Lisa Freese moved and Bridget Rief seconded the recommended motion. Motion passes.

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

**2016-58 Regional Solicitation Inflation Factor.** Tim Mayasich introduced this item. There was good discussion at Funding & Programming and the final vote was not unanimous. Steve Peterson guided the conversation through the packet materials.

Tim Mayasich moved and Pat Bursaw seconded having a 2% inflation factor for 2020 and 3% in 2021.

Pat Bursaw said that there is an expectation through the solicitation that inflation will be added. The inflation decision should be made before applicants have submitted their applications to ensure that expectations are set early on. Perhaps Funding & Programming can work with staff to create a structure for building this in to future solicitations.

Joe McPherson said that many good projects were submitted and this group should aim to fund as many of those as possible. Adam Harrington supports the motion because it has been past practice to provide advance notice to applicants about an inflation factor being added to assist with costs in future years. There are not many options for transit funding, so these federal funds should be used to get these projects completed, which means using accurate numbers and inflation.

Danny McCullough said that the goal should be to fund as many projects as possible, but 2% is a good middle ground. Michael Thompson asked what the 2019 decision was. Steve Peterson responded that there was no decision on early years because the dollar amounts in those years are much smaller. Karl Keel and others said that the federal cost is usually much less than 80% because the locals pick up significant project costs, and inflation would fall into that category.

Tim Mayasich said that the motion was made to reflect the Funding & Programming conversation. This is a transition year, and applicants assumed there would be inflation added at a later time. Steve Albrecht noted that Robert Ellis of Eden Prairie had reached out to him with similar concerns about using an inflation factor. Pat Bursaw said the purpose of a lower inflation factor is to allow for more projects to be funded. Kris Riesenbergs said that the TIP needs to have project costs in the year of expenditure.

Adam Harrington said that "inflation" is a misnomer here since actual inflation is much higher; it should be renamed to accurately reflect what the adjustment does. Carl Stueve said that she voted for the F&P action but will vote against an inflation factor here due to the project list results. Karl Keel said that the 2-3% is so small it might as well be 0%.

Tim Mayasich withdrew the motion.

Karl Keel moved and Tim Mayasich seconded a 0% inflation factor. Motion passes.

Pat Bursaw said that the group will need to find a way to accurately reflect project costs for the TIP. Adam Harrington said that outreach needs to happen to applicants to let them know that the terms of the solicitation have changed.

## **6. Special Agenda Items**

**Regional Solicitation Draft Funding Scenarios.** Steve Peterson shared the draft project lists. Karl Keel expressed gratitude for the tables and colors used to explain the scenarios. There were no questions.

## **7. Agency Reports**

There were no agency reports.

**8. Other Business and Adjournment**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

**Prepared by:**

Katie White