

Minutes

TAB Technical Advisory Committee



Meeting Date: June 1, 2022

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Virtual

Members Present:

- Jon Solberg, Chair, MnDOT
- Joe MacPherson, Anoka Co
- Lyndon Robjent, Carver Co
- Erin Laberee, Dakota Co
- Brian Isaacson, Vice Chair, (relieved by Scott Mareck) Ramsey Co
- Chad Ellos, Hennepin Co
- Lisa Freese, Scott Co
- Emily Jorgensen, Washington Co
- Andrew Witter, 7W

- Karl Keel, Bloomington
- Charlie Howley, Chanhassen
- Robert Ellis, Eden Prairie
- Jim Kosluchar, Fridley
- Paul Oehme, Lakeville
- Ken Ashfeld, Maple Grove
- Marcus Culver, Roseville
- Michael Thompson, Plymouth
- Jenifer Hager, Minneapolis
- Jim Voll, Minneapolis
- Paul Kurtz, Saint Paul
- Bill Dermody, Saint Paul

- Steve Peterson, Council MTS
- Michael Larson, Council CD
- Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB
- Innocent Eyoh, MPCA
- Bridget Rief, MAC
- Matt Fyten, STA
- Adam Harrington, Metro Transit
- Praveena Pidaparathi, MnDOT
- Colleen Eddy, DEED
- Vacant, MN DNR
- Danny McCullough, Bicycle
- Vacant, Pedestrian
- Andrew Emanuele (ex-officio)

= present

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Solberg called the regular meeting of the TAB Technical Advisory Committee to order just after 9:00 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

The committee approved the agenda with no changes. Therefore, no vote was needed.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Ashfeld and seconded by Isaacson to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2022, regular meeting of the TAB Technical Advisory Committee. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment on Committee Business

None.

TAB Report

Barbeau reported on the May 18, 2022, TAB meeting.

Business – Committee Reports

Executive Committee (Jon Solberg, Chair)

Chair Solberg reported that the TAC Executive Committee met prior to the TAC meeting and discussed the agenda for today's meeting, along with a brief discussion related to the future of the in-person versus virtual meeting format.

1. [2022-27: Streamlined 2022-2025 TIP Amendment – MnDOT I-35W / I-494 Interchange Bridge, and Reconstruction](#) (Joe Barbeau, MTS)

Barbeau said that the request is to increase the total cost of, add two new funding sources to, and advance construct the I-494 reconstruction, interchange construction, and bridge replacement projects. The MnDOT portion includes the addition of pavement rehabilitation. New Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and INFRA funding is being added. The Bloomington portion being moved from 2025 to 2023 and advance-constructed to coincide with the MnDOT portion.

Keel said that while two of the project lines show Bloomington as the sponsor, the entire activity is in MnDOT's purview. Chair Solberg added that Bloomington's funding contribution is recognized. He then stated that the project had a greenhouse gas analysis, though that analysis is not a complete picture. The analysis evaluates the operations and construction improvements.

It was moved by MacPherson and seconded by Keel to recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to increase the total cost of, add two new funding sources to, and advance construct MnDOT and Bloomington's I-494 reconstruction, interchange construction, and bridge replacement projects. **Motion carried** unanimously.

Planning Committee/TPP Technical Working Group (Emily Jorgensen, Chair)

The TAC Planning Committee did not meet. Jorgensen provided an update on the TPP Working Group's first meeting.

Funding & Programming (Michael Thompson, Chair)

1. [2022-24: Adoption of the Draft 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\), Pending Public Comment](#)

Oehme introduced the item in Chair Thompson's absence. The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a \$5.6 Billion four-year list of federally funded transportation projects required for all metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). Barbeau showed a brief [presentation on the TIP](#), followed by a [Metro Transit presentation](#) from Nick Thompson and a [MnDOT presentation](#) from Molly McCartney.

Dermody suggested that TAC wait until its August meeting to make its recommendation, as the public comment period is ongoing and the public could help identify issues with fiscal constraint or consistency with the TPP. Barbeau replied that the technical committees are making a technical recommendation, that the TIP is technically correct and contains all the projects and information necessary. Under the Council's adopted process, the TAC does not review and recommend the responses to the public comment. Once TAC has completed the technical review that piece of the process is complete. Public comments going straight to TAB is common to several Council plans and programs. He added that a delay would not jeopardize approval of the TIP.

Eyoh asked how IIJA funding is being used for climate change strategies and for improving transportation impacts on residential areas. McCartney said that MnDOT is still learning what the formula funds and discretionary grants are to be used for.

Howley asked how the 20% match is being planned for on the transit projects. Nick Thompson replied that Regional Transit Capital Bonding is sufficient for 2022, though the out-years have not been budgeted and Metro Transit's legislative request and may need to be adjusted.

It was moved by Dermody to delay approval of the draft 2023-2026 TIP until the August committee meeting. The **motion failed** for lack of a second.

McCartney added that waiting until August could cause delay in approval of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Peterson added that a public comment summary can be provided at the August meeting.



It was moved by Keel and seconded by Oehme to recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend to TAB adoption of the draft 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program, with consideration for public comments with the understanding that staff will provide a public comment committee summary at the August meeting. **Motion carried** unanimously.

2. [2022-26: Program Year Extension Request: Hennepin County University Avenue / 4th St. Bikeway](#)

Barbeau introduced the item. Hennepin County received \$5,500,000 from the 2018 Regional Solicitation to improve bicycling access and safety on University Avenue from the I-35W Bridge to Oak Street SE in Minneapolis in program year 2022. The county is requesting an extension of the program year to 2023. This request is being made because the project, which interacts with six potential E Line arterial bus rapid transit stations, cannot be granted federal authorization until environmental documentation is completed for the E Line. MnDOT Metro District State Aid can use the released 2022 funding to for earlier reimbursement of advanced construction.

Chair Solberg asked Ellos to describe how the need for this action came about. Ellos said that Hennepin County recently learned that it could not receive authorization to bid its project until E Line environmental work is completed.

It was moved by McCullough and seconded by Eyoh to recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board approve Hennepin County's program year extension request to move its University Avenue and 4th Street Bikeway from fiscal year 2022 to fiscal year 2023.

Information

1. [Regional Solicitation Schedule](#) (Steve Peterson, MTS)

Peterson updated the committee on the 2022 Regional Solicitation. Scoring is underway. Following completion of scoring, applicants will have the opportunity to appeal scores. Appeals should be based on errors as opposed to objective opinions. An outreach effort will involve asking residents to suggest how to distribute funds within the parameters of TAB's established funding ranges.

Other Business

Solberg said that MnDOT has hired Nancy Daubenberger as its Commissioner. He also said that the State Multimodal Transportation Plan (SMTP) public comment period will open this month.

Eyoh said MPCA is encouraging private, public, and non-profit applications to apply for the Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) grant program and that he would provide material for Barbeau to forward to members. The application deadline is August 4. He also said that the public comment for the Draft Climate Change Framework Action has closed.

Solberg said that as of now, there are no urgent items for a July meeting, though the meeting will remain scheduled until about ten days prior, in case of an urgent need.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned.

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