
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, January 6, 2016
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Doug Fischer, Lyndon Robjent, Brian Sorenson, Jim Grube, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Jan Lucke, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Mark Filipi, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Molly McCartney, Amanda Smith, Bridget Rief, Jane Kansier, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Jean Keely, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Kim Lindquist, Bruce Loney, Jim Kosluchar, Jenifer Hager, Jack Byers, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz (Members Excused: Steve Albrecht)

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Agenda

Mark Filipi moved and Tim Mayasich seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of March Minutes

The December 2, 2015 meeting minutes were modified under the TAB report, quoting the MAC representative speaking of a new facility at Longfellow and Cargo Road. Elaine Koutsoukos moved and Mark Filipi seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

4. TAB Report

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the December 16, 2015 TAB meeting.

REPORTS

TAB Chair's Report

Hovland recognized outgoing TAB members (Gerry Butcher, John Gunyou, Jennifer Janovy, Robert Lilligren, Patricia Schwietz) and thanked them for their service. The new Council appointed members beginning in January are Sue Sandahl, Jamez Staples, Brad Tabke, Doug Anderson, as citizen representatives; Kenya McKnight and Dave Van Hattam, as transit representatives; and Ethan Fawley, as non-motorized transportation representative.

Hovland informed the TAB members that the TAB Executive Committee is re-established every January and asked members to send an email to Elaine with their interest and he will provide a slate of members for selection at the January TAB meeting

TAB Bylaws Proposal

Task Force Chair Hamann-Roland reported that TAB directed the Bylaws Task Force to look at a broader range of alternates for all forms of representation on the TAB. Hamann-Roland requested that interested TAB members send an email to Elaine volunteering to serve on the Task Force. The Task Force will anticipate meeting in January.

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

No report from MnDOT, MPCA, or MAC.

Metropolitan Council: Katie Rodriguez provided information on the Council's newly established Advisory Committee on Equity-Related Policy. The Committee will advise the Council on advancing Equity in all Council areas. Applications for the Committee will be accepted through January 4.

ACTION ITEMS

Steve Albrecht, TAC Chair, and Steve Peterson, MTS staff, provided information on the Regional Solicitation schedule for TAB and an introduction to three Action Transmittals recommended by TAC (2015-50, 2015-51 and 2015-52). Per Chair Hovland's request the TAC made formal recommendations on three items that had been discussed in the committees.

1. 2015-50: Regional Solicitation Funding Categories – adopted the 10 application categories and will review the measure changes to accommodate railroad crossings and new roadways that will come from F&P and TAC.
2. 2015-51: Regional Solicitation Functional Classification Scoring – TAC reviewed three options for TAB direction (TAB decide to fund a project in each functional classification prior to release Solicitation, adjust scoring in several measures, or leave the decision until after the scoring is completed and make the determination). TAC forwarded a recommendation to adjust the scoring. TAB did not make a decision and asked the committees to provide pros and cons for each option for TAB to consider.
3. 2015-52: Regional Solicitation Cost Effectiveness Criterion – adopted by TAB to add the CE criterion to all the applications and directed the committees to discuss and approve measures.
4. 2015-49: 2016-2022 MAC CIP - approved

5. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Paul Oehme, Vice Chair)

In February an information item will be brought to the TAC to amend the bylaws to include the Suburban Transit Association on the membership to TAC-Planning. This item will be voted on in March. This follows the TAC bylaws Article VI, which prescribes the amendment process to the bylaws.

B. Planning Committee (Lisa Freese)

2016-06 Functional Classification Washington County. Lisa Freese presented this item. Lisa Freese moved and Jan Lucke seconded. Motion passes.

2016-07 Functional Classification City of Dayton. Lisa Freese presented this item. Carl Ohrn noticed a typo in the Recommended Motion where it says "collector" instead of "connector." Changes will be made to correct the report. Lisa Freese moved and Jim Grube seconded. Motion passes.

C. Funding and Programming Committee (Tim Mayasich)

2016-01 City of Minneapolis Scope Change. Tim Mayasich presented this item. Jen Hager presented the details of the work proposed. Tim Mayasich moved and Jen Hager seconded. Motion passes.

2016-02 City of Minneapolis TIP Amendment. Tim Mayasich presented this item. Tim Mayasich moved and Jen Hager seconded. Motion passes.

Information Item: Regional Solicitation. Tim Mayasich opened the floor to Steve Peterson to discuss a range of options available for the Regional Solicitation.

Doug Fischer said that the solicitation has typically funded one project for each functional classification. Elaine Koutsoukos asked for clarification that one project per functional class should be funded across the spectrum of funding pots (as opposed to one project of each functional classification in each funding pot); response was in the affirmative. Steve Peterson provided the option that all functional classifications be awarded funds, in addition to non-freeway principal arterials. Karl Keel said that the group shouldn't feel obligated to fund one of each because the group shouldn't be funding bad projects out of obligation. Tim Mayasich said that TAB retains the ability to not fund poorly-performing projects. Lyndon Robjent asked how many non-freeway principal arterials were submitted last time; the answer was between three and five. Doug Fischer moved that the TAC recommend funding at least one project in each A minor category and one project for non-freeway principal arterial, across the spectrum of categories. Lyndon Robjent seconded. Motion passes.

Jim Grube advocated for using lane miles instead of VMT points as a measure. Lyndon Robjent said that this would be a complicated measure, especially for interchanges. This has been discussed at the work group level in the past. Amanda Smith added that previously cost effectiveness was across all measures. The air quality piece needs VMT improvements, and lane miles don't accomplish this. Danny McCullough asked how adding pavement and wide shoulders would impact bicycles and pedestrians. Steve Peterson said that these improvements are made for freight traffic and can also be used to accommodate transit vehicles and facilities.

Doug Fischer asked why a one hour peak period count for delay is being used in the railroad impacts measure. Steve Peterson said this is easier for applicants who would have to manually count; doing a 12 or 24 hour count would be prohibitive for many local governments. Jim Grube asked how delay is measured elsewhere in the solicitation; the railroad impacts should be about safety and not delay. Elaine Koutsoukos clarified that safety is covered elsewhere in the solicitation.

The group agreed that option A presented under the emissions slide was preferable. The interchange, transit, and bicycle/pedestrian areas were agreed to.

2016-03 Solicitation Measures and Scoring Guidance. Steve Peterson presented the item. Tim Mayasich moved and Adam Harrington seconded. Motion passes.

2016-04 Solicitation Criteria Weighting and Measures. Steve Peterson presented the item. Tim Mayasich moved and Lyndon Robjent seconded. Motion passes.

2016-05 Solicitation Minimum and Maximum Funding Amounts. Steve Peterson presented the item. Bill Dermody requested to keep the multiuse trail maximum at \$5.5 million instead of reducing to \$3.5 million. Danny McCullough asked what the feedback was from the previous solicitation; Lyndon Robjent responded that local governments love this program and the solicitation was only able to fund about a

third of those that applied. This pool should be made available to more projects, which is possible if the maximum award is lowered. Tim Mayasich said that Funding & Programming agreed with the \$3.5 million. Michael Larson said that bigger projects have a large regional impact. Tim Mayasich moved and Doug Fischer seconded. Motion passes with three votes against.

2016-08 Solicitation Forms and Qualifying Criteria and Full Packet for Public Comment. Steve Peterson presented the item. Tim Mayasich moved and Jan Lucke seconded. Motion passes.

6. Special Agenda Items

MnDOT Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan (Jake Rueter, MnDOT)

Jake Rueter presented the item. Steve Bot asked if congestion can be a bigger part of the discussion in the framing of this plan. Jake Rueter responded that the materials are changing to highlight congestion in the metro area and in greater Minnesota.

7. Agency Reports

There were no agency reports.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:54AM.

Prepared by:

Katie White