

Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting date: January 17, 2024

Time: 12:30 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

~~Chair, James Hovland~~
1st Vice Chair, Mark Windschitl
2nd Vice Chair, Trista Martinson
Doug Anderson
Myron Bailey
~~Deb Barber~~
Husniyah Bradley
Carl Crimmins
Peter Dugan
Jon Fahey
Amity Foster
Chris Geisler
~~Debbie Goettel~~
Gary Hansen
Mary Liz Holberg

Mark Jenkins
Julie Jeppson
Glen Johnson
Stan Karwoski
HwaJeong Kim
Frank Kohlasch
Aurin Chowdhury
William Lindeke
John Morast
Brian Martinson
~~Becky Petryk~~

Jess Robertson
Khani Sahebjam
George Schember
Mark Steffenson
Jon Ulrich
Christopher Vaughn
Jeffery Weisensel
Janet Williams

Staff

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB
Jeni Hager, TAC
Charles Carlson, MTS Director

Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Vice-Chair Windschitl called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:30 p.m.

Agenda approved

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Bailey to approve the agenda. Committee members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

There was no member of the public who wished to speak.

Reports

1. TAB Chair's Report – Mark Windschitl, 1st Vice Chair

Windschitl recognized outgoing Minneapolis TAB member Emily Koski and alternate Elliot Payne. Windschitl welcomed new and reappointed members:

- MnDOT – Khani Sahebjam
- Council TAB District A – Doug Anderson, Samantha McKinney (alternate)
- Council TAB District B – John Morast (replacing Randy Maluchnik)
- Council TAB District C – Husniyah Bradley, Andy Lewis (alternate)
- Council TAB District D – Glen Johnson, Brandon Wagenfeld (alternate)
- Transit – Amity Foster, Timothy Marino (alternate)

- Transit – Christopher Vaughan, Nathan Hemann (alternate)
- Non-motorized – Brian Martinson, Alexander Ask (alternate)
- Anoka County – Julie Jeppson, Mike Gamache (alternate)
- Carver County – John Fahey (no alternate)
- St. Paul – HwaJeong Kim, Saura Jost (alternate)
- Minneapolis – Aurin Chowdhury, Katie Cashman (alternate)

2. Agency Reports – MnDOT, MPCA, MAC, Metropolitan Council, STA

MnDOT

Sahebjam had no report.

MPCA

Kohlasch reported that EPA announced that Minneapolis and St. Paul school districts received just under \$69 million for electric school bus implementation; it will bring about 198 electric buses. MPCA has posted their Climate Action Plan, [Climate Action Framework | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency \(state.mn.us\)](#), and it is available for public comment.

MAC

Crimmins reported that they are bringing in a new navigation system for take-offs and landings at the airport. It is being introduced by the FAA. Noise Oversight Committee will meet January 31, agenda is available on the website, [NOC | Metropolitan Airports Commission \(metroairports.org\)](#). In-person and virtual meeting formats are available.

Metropolitan Council

MTS Director Carlson reported on behalf of Barber that Metro Transit and Met Council leaders spent several days last week riding the train and stopping at stations to hear directly from riders about their experiences riding light rail. Leaders who participated in the light rail listening session tour included General Manager Lesley Kandaras, Metro Transit Police Chief Ernest Morales III, Chief Operating Officer Brian Funk, Met Council Chair Charlie Zelle, and Transportation Committee Chair Deb Barber. Riders said they appreciated the opportunity to be heard and to share their praise as well as their frustrations. Feedback gathered over the course of the tour will inform ongoing efforts to improve conditions through an expanded, onboard official presence and other strategies noted in Metro Transit's Safety & Security Action Plan.

STA

Hansen reported that Maple Grove Transit reports slow growth in express ridership, noted primarily during mid-week. MYRIDE microtransit service remains strong, and progress is being made in procuring small buses. The agency is planning significant transit station maintenance and repair and considering digital information and signage enhancements this year. Minnesota Valley Transit Authority's 2023 ridership increased 27% overall compared to 2022 ridership. This includes a 34% increase in weekend ridership and a 212% increase in special service ridership due in large part to a significant increase in Renaissance Festival ridership. MVTA Connect microtransit service provided 110,000 rides in 2023 – a 25% increase over 2022. Plymouth Metrolink overall ridership increased 35% over 2022. Click and Ride (micro-transit) ridership increased 35% over 2022 and 26% over 2019 pre-pandemic ridership. To meet this demand, they are planning to add more Click and Ride services this year. Southwest Transit total ridership is up 20% over last year with Prime up 28% to a record 142,614 microtransit rides. Southwest's 494 corridor fixed route service is set to begin later



this year.

3. TAC Report – Jeni Hager, TAC Chair

No report.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Geisler to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2023, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

Consent business

1. 2024-06: Streamlined TIP Amendment Request – Three Project Adjustments (Jeni Hager, TAC Chair)

It was moved by Jenkins, seconded by Williams.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business

1. 2024-01: Selection of TAB Executive Committee for 2024 (Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB Coordinator)

It was moved by Jeppson, seconded by Morast, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve the Executive Committee for 2024:

- the Board Chair – Jim Hovland
- the Member representing the MnDOT – Khani Sahebjam
- the Member representing the Metropolitan Council – Deb Barber
- two members representing the county Board members – Debbie Goettel (Hennepin County) and Mary Liz Holberg (Dakota County)
- one member representing the Board members from the cities of the first class – Aurin Chawdhury (Minneapolis)
- two members representing the Board members from the remaining cities – Mark Windschitl (Chaska) and Mark Steffenson (Maple Grove)
- one member representing the citizen Board members (Peter Dugan)
- one member representing the modal and remaining agency Board members – Brian Martinson (non-motorized)

Motion carried.

2. 2024-02: Adoption of 2024 Safety Performance Targets (Jeni Hager, TAC Chair)

It was moved by Martinson, B., seconded by Martinson, T. , that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of the 2024 safety performance targets with no more than:

- Number of all fatalities: 82
- Fatal injuries per 100 million VMT: 0.29
- Number of all serious injuries: 532
- Serious injuries per 100 million VMT: 1.89
- Pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities and serious injuries: 131

With the ultimate goal of zero.

Jeppson asked if there is data on contributing factors. Members discussed the difficulty of the conflict with the goal of zero deaths.

Motion carried.



3. 2024-03: Scope Change Request for South Saint Paul Marie Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility (Jeni Hager, TAC Chair)

It was moved by Holberg, seconded by Lindeke, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve South Saint Paul's scope change request to remove the 2nd Street and 7th Avenue improvements from its Marie Avenue bicycle and pedestrian facility (SP# 168-104-011) with no reduction in federal funds.

Motion carried.

4. 2024-04: Scope Change Request and TIP Amendment for Inver Grove Heights Curb Ramp Reconstruction (Jeni Hager, TAC Chair)

It was moved by Holberg, seconded by Johnson, that the Transportation Advisory Board:

Approve Inver Grove Heights's scope change request to remove four curb ramps from its ADA curb ramp project (SP# 178-030-001) with no reduction in federal funds, and

Recommend approval of an amendment to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) reflecting the scope change.

Motion carried.

Information

1. 2024 Regional Solicitation Update (Steve Peterson, MTS)
2. Regional Solicitation Evaluation Work Group Structure (Steve Peterson, MTS; Molly Stewart, SRF)

Members discussed the working group membership makeup and various decision points.

Items of TAB members

Add recap of discussion.

Other business

Add recap of discussion.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

Council contact:

Jenna Ernst, Recording Secretary
Jenna.Ernst@metc.state.mn.us