

Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting date: April 17, 2024

Time: 12:00 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
Kevin Burkart
Aurin Chowdhury
~~Carl Crimmins~~
Peter Dugan
John Fahey
Amity Foster
~~Chris Geisler~~ (Sam Villela)

Debbie Goettel
Gary Hansen
Mary Liz Holberg
Mark Jenkins
Julie Jeppson
Glen Johnson
~~Stan Karwoski~~ (Karla Bigham)
~~Hwa Jeong Kim~~
Frank Kohlasch
William Lindeke
~~John Morast~~
Brian Martinson
~~Becky Petryk~~

Jess Robertson
~~Khani Sahebjam~~
George Schember
Mark Steffenson
Jon Ulrich
Christopher Vaughan
Jeffery Weisensel

Staff

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

Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Hovland called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:07 p.m.

Agenda approved

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

Public invitation

Bill Goins spoke on behalf of finding ways for studies to be competitive in the Unique Projects application category in the next Regional Solicitation.

Reports

1. TAB Chair's Report – Jim Hovland

Chair Hovland reported on the TAB Executive Committee meeting discussion.

2. Agency Reports – MnDOT, MPCA, MAC, Metropolitan Council, Suburban Transit Providers

MnDOT

There was no report from MnDOT.

MPCA

Kohlasch reported that MPCA is working with various port authorities to replace diesel with

electrification.

MAC

There was no report from MAC.

Metropolitan Council

Barber reported that the region began receiving funds as part of the federal IIJA bill for Carbon Reduction activities. The Council approved using the Carbon Reduction funding in the 2022 Regional Solicitation for years 2023, 2024, and 2025 for almost \$24 million. The Council formed the Climate Action Workgroup. The Council recommends allocating the Carbon Reduction funds for the years 2026 and 2027 in the 2024 Regional Solicitation. The funding totals approximately \$16 million. For the years 2028 and beyond, the Council requests that the funding be considered a part of the Regional Solicitation Evaluation and a specific process be designed to allocation the funds.

STA

Hansen reported that Suburban Transit Association Board appointed Burnsville City Council Member and Minnesota Valley Transit Authority Board Chair Dan Kealey STA's TAB alternate. Suburban transit providers report MVST receipts as expected to slightly higher. Maple Grove Transit MYRIDE microtransit service remains strong, and capacity and service hours will be expanded on May 1. MVTA's fixed route ridership is up 16% and Connect microtransit ridership is up 24% compared to 2023. MVTA 4FUN Bus and Concert Series special service have successfully started including, for the first time, to Xcel Energy Center.

Advisory Council for Traffic Safety

Jeppson reported on the on the work of the Advisory Council; created in 2023, to advise the governor and commissioners on transportation safety and health. Jeppson presented information a new product created through MN IT Services that shows the types and locations of crash data in Minnesota. The application will go public soon.

3. TAC Report – Jeni Hager, TAC Chair

Hager reported TAC postponed the action on the Greenhouse Gas targets at the request of FHWA.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Jenkins to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2024, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

Consent business

Consent business adopted

1. 2024-18: Streamlined TIP Amendment – Two Project Adjustments (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair*)

It was moved by Holberg, seconded by Hansen.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business

1. 2024-16: Scope Change Request – Hennepin County CSAH 52 (Nicollet Ave) and CSAH 66 (Golden Valley Rd) Improvements (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair*)

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by Bailey, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve Hennepin County's scope change request to remove planned safety improvements at CSAH 52 (Nicollet Avenue) and 67th Street with full retention of federal funds.

Motion carried.

2. 2024-17: Program Year Extension Request – MnDOT US8 HSIP Project (Jeni Hager, TAC Chair)

It was moved by Bigham, seconded by Goettel, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve the program year extension request for MnDOT's US 8 intersection access project (SP # 1308-29S) to move from 2025 to 2026.

Motion carried.

Information

1. Regional Solicitation Updates

- Policymaker Workgroup – April 25 (*Steve Peterson, MTS*)
- Active Transportation Workgroup (*Glen Johnson, TAB*)
- 2024 Unique Projects Scores (*Brian Martinson, TAB*)
- Regional Solicitation Survey Results (*Bethany Brandt-Sargent, MTS*)
- 2024 Regional Solicitation Scores and Funding Scenarios (*Steve Peterson, MTS*)

Holberg brought up the need to add a line for geographic balance. Goettel asked about cost-effectiveness of projects. Ulrich noted certain projects have a direct impact versus funded studies. Bradley noted the importance of an equity focus. Chowdhury asked about the race and ethnicity results. Members discussed the importance of a safety focus and details of scoring.

2. Transportation Funding Overview (*Amy Vennewitz, MTS*)

Members were encouraged to seek input directly from the communities.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Council contact:

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