
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, July 5, 2017
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Doug Fischer, Lyndon Robjent, Brian Sorenson, Jim Grube, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Lyssa Leitner, Andrew Witter, Elaine Koutsoukos, Mark Filipi, Anna Flintoft, Brian Isaacson, Innocent Eyoh, Neil Ralston, Andrew Emanuele, Jen Lehmann, Peter Dahlberg, Danny McCullough, Steve Albrecht, Paul Oehme, Robert Ellis, Jim Kosluchar, Jen Hager (Excused: Jeff Rossate, Karl Keel, Jean Keely, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz)

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 Brian Isaacson. No discussion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was moved by Paul Oehme and seconded by Doug Fischer. No discussion. Motion passed.

4. TAB Report

There was no report provided from the June TAB meeting.

Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Steve Albrecht, Chair)

The Executive Committee did not meet today. Today we welcome Robert Ellis from Eden Prairie, and Brian Isaacson who is taking over at MnDOT from Pat Bursaw.

B. Planning Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

The committee met in June and its information items are on today's agenda.

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

The committee did not meet in June.

6. Special Agenda Items

TMA Certification Review. (Andrew Emanuele, FHWA and Katie White, MTS) Andrew Emanuele spoke to the results of the TMA Certification Review and Katie White provided the Council perspective on those results. A brief discussion of the Congestion Management Process followed. Jim Grube commented that the A Minors are mostly managed by the counties, which have different ideas for access and mobility than the cities within the counties. It is difficult to balance these priorities between

the county and city level, and would be especially difficult at a regional level. This would be a big change for the region. Lyndon Robjent commented that the Regional Solicitation no longer awards points for projects that contribute to access management. Mark Filipi said that the Council is establishing a regional oversight committee for local governments to assist with this work, as part of a recommendation from a federal peer exchange that was hosted in May. Doug Fischer said that congestion on the freeways is creating congestion on the A Minors.

Regional Solicitation Criteria Weighting Working Group Updates. (Joe Barbeau, MTS) Joe Barbeau provided an update on the Regional Solicitation. Lyndon Robjent commented that the percentage of points awarded to Risk Assessment should be higher for roadway projects since those are inherently more risky than trails projects. Doug Fischer said that many interchange projects are expecting MnDOT to contribute but it has become harder for MnDOT to commit their portion of the funding. This is why interchanges need their own application category. Elaine Koutsoukos said that projects claim to have full funding available at the time of their application, but most of the withdrawals have been due to funding issues, not scope issues. Many projects are looking for bonding, which is unreliable. Lyndon Robjent said that projects should be given an extra bonus for having worked through these issues already.

TPP Update: Transit. (Cole Hiniker, MTS) Cole Hiniker provided an overview of the current language in the TPP on transit investments, and talked about what changes might be seen in the next TPP. Jim Grube highlighted the importance in Transit Market Areas in promoting the linkages between land use and transportation investments. Lisa Freese asked how often the Transit Market Areas map is updated. Cole Hiniker said that the data is very fine grained, so it comes out after the Census is completed. However the map is a guide, not a rule, and transit providers are flexible in working with local communities on service improvements. Jim Grube asked if the park and rides are experiencing vacancies in all service provider territories. Cole Hiniker said that all of them are; Metro Transit has about 2/3 of all park and ride spaces under its ownership.

Doug Fischer said that Dial A Ride service could be improved to serve the less dense neighborhoods. Jen Lehmann clarified that the suburban transit providers have updated their Service Improvement Plans. Jim Grube asked if ABRT is influencing land use. Cole Hiniker responded that it addresses existing demand. BRT can expand the influence zone at certain transit nodes. Jim Grube said that ABRT has a significant impact on the A Minor system since it stops in traffic and creates congestion. Cole Hiniker responded that some of these buses carry 40% of the people traveling along these corridors. Lyssa Leitner said that the University of Minnesota is doing a research study of the impact of ABRT on roadway travel. Robert Ellis asked about the potential for connected/autonomous vehicles to become a replacement to transit investments. Cole Hiniker responded that CAVs can be used to explore new demand options and supplement transit. Mark Filipi said that MTS is modeling the CAV impact on roadway infrastructure for the next TPP.

7. Agency Reports

Innocent Eyoh said that the MPCA continues to evaluate how best to spend the VW settlement money. The next one is July 12 from 1pm-3pm at MPCA offices. They would appreciate increased involvement.

Mark Filipi said that Adam Duininck is resigning as Chair of the Metropolitan Council. Alene Tchourumoff has been named as his replacement.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:47am.

Prepared by:

Katie White