

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
Metropolitan Council
390 N. Robert St., St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1805

Notes of a Meeting of the
TAC-PLANNING COMMITTEE
Jan 14, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jean Kelly, Holly Anderson, Katie White, Amanda Smith, Kevin Roggenbuck, Ann Terwedo, Rachel Wiken, Michael Larson, Lisa Freese, Bob Byers, Jack Forslund, Elaine Koutsoukos, Bill Dermody

OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Vessel, Steve Peterson, Mark Filipi, Eriks Ludins (St Paul), Steven Hay (Minneapolis), Tony Hepplemen (WSB), Steve Lillehaug (Brooklyn Center)

1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by Lisa Freese

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted

3. Approval of the Minutes

Notes of the meeting of the Dec 2015 meeting were approved as submitted

4. Action Transmittal

2016-12: Functional Class City of St Paul # 1332 – 1336

Saint Paul staff Eriks Ludins presented on improvements to the arterial system in the West Midway area of the city. They requested A Minor Augmentors for Vandalia, Transfer Rd, Ellis and Territorial. This area of the city has extensive freight traffic and currently the truck route includes hard turns onto University Ave, which has narrowed turning radii because of LRT platforms and tracks. This has caused issue with trucks hitting buildings, etc.

The city is proposing improvements to Vandalia, Transfer Rd, Ellis and Territorial, which once completed, will create a parallel truck route, allowing trucks to stay off University and move between I-94, the BNSF yard on Pierce Butler, and Hwy 280.

The city initially submitted several requests for *Planned* Augmentors. The committee discussed and agreed with staff recommendation that they should be reviewed as existing augmentors, since the planned designation is only used for future unbuilt roads, and should not be applied over top of existing functional class roads.

Committee expressed concern with moving trucks off University and onto Territorial, which does have housing, including public housing complex. Mr Ludins said that the neighborhood district council has been an active participant in the NW Quadrant transportation Study and recognizes these concerns but were supportive of the movement

of freight traffic to these streets. There was also concern raised about bike traffic and the need to include improvements for bike and peds on these streets.

Committee moved to pass the recommendation as written, passed unanimously

2016-13: Functional Class City of Brooklyn Center #1339

Tony Hepplemen from WSB presented on behalf of the city. Brooklyn Center is requested an A Minor Reliever from TH 252 to Brooklyn Blvd. The alignment requested includes 66th Ave, Shingle Creek, and 69th Ave. The City hopes to build a highway interchange at TH252 and improve these roads to provide a parallel reliever route to I-694.

While I-694 in that area was not congested, staff and committee approved the request, as it met other characteristics and was a necessary reclassification to begin planning an interchange at that intersection. Staff also noted that previous actions sets precedent to approve this request. Committee raised questions regarding land use and alternative routes. Mr. Hepplemen highlighted other options, all with their own issues for access spacing and land use. Consensus was reached that the submitted route was best option for improvement.

MnDOT reviewed the proposal and concurs with the Metropolitan Council's concern that access spacing along portions of the route are not ideal, but are superior to other east-west alternatives for A Minor arterials (70th Avenue N). MnDOT anticipates that as improvements to the east and west of this area are made, traffic levels will increase, thereby underscoring the need for a reliever roadway.

Motion to move as submitted, passed unanimously.

2016-14: Functional Class City of Minneapolis #1337 & 1338

Steven Hay from Minneapolis presented the request to improve Nicollet Ave to an A Minor Reliever and add short segment of Planned Reliever at 31st Street (Kmart Site).

Committee raised concerns about the number of relievers for 35W in this area. Park/Portland and Lyndale area already parallel relievers. However, the street is functioning as such for a very congested I-35W. It is also a multimodal corridor and potential future street car route.

Motion to pass as requested, passed unanimously.

2016-15: RBTN Changes and Map Approval

Steve Elmer, Met Council staff, presented on the Regional Bikeway Trails Network (RBTN). Staff had allowed administrative or technical changes for the RBTN, which must fit into one of these 3 areas: 1) Designating official alignment within an established RBTN corridor 2) Establishing designated alignment outside RBTN corridor that is parallel to and within ½-mile of original corridor 3) Moving a designated alignment to a parallel location within ½-mile of original alignment.

Three requests were submitted, two from Dakota County and one from Scott County. After review, the Scott County withdrew their request.

Staff used a detailed matrix to designate if the changes met the 11 guiding principles of the RBTN development.

The committee reviewed the Dakota County requests.

1) : Designate CSAH 38 as the Tier 2 alignment for the existing Tier 2 corridor between Nicollet Avenue in Burnsville and TH 3 in Rosemount. Staff found this request met all RBTN criteria and recommended approval

2) Designate a Tier 1 alignment approx. 1/8-mile to 1/2-mile east of & parallel to RBTN Tier 1 corridor centered along Galaxie Ave between CSAH 42 and CSAH 32. Staff found this also met most criteria and should be approved.

Committee moved to accept the two Dakota County changes and use the amended map with these changes for the Regional Solicitation.

5 . Other business

Bob Byers asked the new activity based model be a future information item at the committee, especially how the new model and data will fit into the comp plan process. Met Council staff agreed to discuss further with Bob and present at future meeting on the topic.

6. Meeting Adjourned 2:12 PM