

**Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)**

Wednesday, December 21, 2016
Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 North Robert St., St. Paul

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Hovland, James, Chair	McGuire, Mary Jo	Goins, William
Bigham, Karla	Wosje, Jeff	McKnight, Kenya	Look, Matt
Ulrich, Jon	Callison, Jan	Sanger, Sue	Reich, Kevin
Tolbert, Chris	Crimmins, Carl	Tabke, Brad	Rodriguez, Katie
Petryk, Becky	Anderson, Doug	Sandahl, Suzanne	Maluchnik, Randy
Staples, Jamez	McBride, Scott	Gaylord, Kathleen	Van Hattum, David
Fawley, Ethan	Laufenburger, Denny	Swanson, Dick	Thornton, David
Hamann-Roland, Mary	Hansen, Gary	Dugan, Peter	
ABSENT:	Lunde, Jeffrey	Parsons, Rolf	Miranda, Suyapa
LIAISON/STAFF PRESENT:	Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB Coordinator		

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was present when Chair Hovland called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:40 p.m. on Wednesday, December 21, 2016.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Hamann-Roland and seconded to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

Invitation to the public to address the Board about any issue not on the agenda. Hamman-Roland introduced Michael Bourban, a senior at Apple Valley High School. Hamman-Roland has been mentoring Bourban, who is interested in public administration and politics.

IV. REPORTS

1. TAB Chair's Report

Hovland reported the TAB Executive Committee met prior to TAB and discussed the items that are on the agenda today. The Executive Committee discussed the possibility for the TAB to act on the Regional Solicitation scenarios, but decided to leave the item as information and give the TAB time to give direction to the TAC. Then the TAB will act at their January meeting as originally scheduled.

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

MnDOT: Scott McBride – reported that MnDOT has submitted three applications to the USDOT for FAST Lane funds: 1) a grade separation in Morehead, 2) an application in Duluth, and 3) I-35W MnPASS from Highway 36 to Highway 10. The MnPass application includes an upslope from mill & overlay to new concrete pavement and some spot mobility improvements. McBride said he expects that the announcement of the recipients will be made prior to 1/20/17.

MPCA: David Thornton – reported that Minnesota is slated to receive \$43.6M for emission reduction projects from the VW settlement for the 2 liter diesel engines. A settlement was reached this week on the 3 liter engines and will be another \$3M+. This money will be used for electric vehicle infrastructure and diesel emission projects. A trustee will be assigned by the court to manage the funds. He expects the money will start flowing to projects by the end of summer or fall 2017.

MAC: Carl Crimmins – reported that discussions with TSA indicated that the Thanksgiving security lines at MPS went smoothly. The TSA has increased staff and received more canine units. They expect the Christmas lines to be smooth as well. The MAC received an award for the best restrooms in North America. Members asked questions about the 5,000 space parking ramp. Bridget Rief - MAC Director for Airport Development was present to explain the construction schedule and existing facilities.

Metropolitan Council: Katie Rodriguez – nothing to report.

3. Technical Advisory Committee

TAC Chair Steve Albrecht's report was deferred to the action items below.

V. CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Bigham, seconded by Gaylord and carried to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2016 TAB meeting.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

Albrecht revisited the streamlining criteria as a reminder to TAB members.

1. 2016-61: Streamlined TIP Amendment: MnDOT

Albrecht presented this item. There were no questions or comments from committee members.

Motion by Look, seconded by Sandahl:

That the Transportation Advisory Board adopt the amendment to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program to increase the cost and separate elements from MnDOT's I-35 maintenance and bridge replacement project (SP# 8280-47).

Motion passed.

2. 2016-62: Streamlined 2017 UPWP Amendment: Metro Transit, FTA TOD Planning Grant Funds

Albrecht presented this item. There were no questions or comments from committee members

Motion by Hamman-Roland, seconded by Callison:

That the TAB adopt one amendment to the 2017 UPWP to reflect the receipt of Blue Line Extension TOD Planning Grant funds.

Motion passed.

3. 2016-56: Metropolitan Airports Commission Capital Improvement Program

Albrecht introduced Metropolitan Transportation Services Senior Planner Russ Owen who presented this item. Bridget Rief – MAC, was also present to answer questions if needed. In response to questions from committee members, Owen explained that an environmental assessment of the parking ramp and other projects for the first 5 years of MAC projects was done in the last Long Term Comprehensive Plan (LCP) for MSP, and Rief explained the demand for parking and the possibility of losing offsite parking in the future. Rief also explained how MAC is working with various groups to address alternative modes to reach the airport (Riverview Corridor planning, bicycle needs, Metro Transit Route 54), and the different revenue sources for projects at MAC.

Motion by Look, seconded by Gaylord:

That the Transportation Advisory Board accept the staff analysis of the MAC 2017-2023 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and forward these comments to the Metropolitan Council for its consideration.

Motion passed.

Following the motion and in answer to McGuire, Rief stated that MAC's mission states that MAC should help people of all abilities and all modes get to the airport.

4. 2016-58: Regional Solicitation Inflation Factor

Albrecht presented this item, and gave a historical background of inflation factors in the past.

Motion by Bigham, seconded by Hamman-Roland:

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That the Transportation Advisory Board not adopt an inflation adjustment for projects programmed in the 2016 Regional Solicitation.

Motion passed.

5. 2016-60: Travel Behavior Inventory and Regional Model

Metropolitan Transportation Services Manager Highway Planning & TAB/TAC Process Steve Peterson presented this item.

Motion by Maluchnik, seconded by McKnight that the TAB approve \$2.7 million from the 2016 Regional Solicitation for the TBI and Regional Model with the following TAC Work Group's recommendations:

- That a consultant selection committee for TBI and modeling related activities include local agency representation.
- That Council modeling staff establish an on-going regional transportation mode technical work group, inclusive of the counties and other interested agencies, to advise on how to best assure that the Regional Model is of optimal use to the Council's regional partners.

Sanger made an amended motion, seconded by Hamman-Roland to add the word "cities" to the bullet points. The amended motion was accepted by Maluchnik and McKnight.

Amended motion:

That the TAB approve \$2.7 million from the 2016 Regional Solicitation for the TBI and Regional Model with the following TAC Work Group's recommendations:

- That a consultant selection committee for TBI and modeling related activities include local *city, county and* agency representation.
- That Council modeling staff establish an on-going regional transportation mode technical work group, inclusive of the counties *and cities* and other interested agencies, to advise on how to best assure that the Regional Model is of optimal use to the Council's regional partners.

Discussion:

Bigham stated that the TBI is very important, but questioned whether TAB could have been more creative with how MnDOT's portion of the TBI is funded and if it could have been spread out over time, as she said this will take dollars away from very good, needed projects. Callison suggested that rather than fund contingent projects in 2022, then use those funds for MnDOT's portion of the TBI. Reich noted the depth and breadth of vetting that has gone into this item. Look questioned the robust nature of this proposal versus what was done in the past, and whether the information gathering and frequency is absolutely critical.

Anderson called the question.

Amended motion passed.

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Regional Solicitation Draft Funding Scenarios

Metropolitan Transportation Services Manager Highway Planning & TAB/TAC Process Steve Peterson presented this item and explained each of the five scenarios to the committee.

Discussion:

Bigham asked if any of the projects in the transit modernization category are new. Peterson said he could provide that information to her, some are in the start of the development process, some are new. Bigham questioned how a project that has not started can be in the modernization category and suggested refining the definitions of expansion and modernization. In response to Sanger, Peterson gave some examples of the differences in expansion and modernization. Hovland suggested combining transit expansion and modernization categories in the future.

Peterson stated that the F&P Committee has recommended the Base Scenario (with the 2022 projects – to achieve some geographical balance) with the understanding that there could be some input from TAB. Later in the meeting he explained F&P's reasons for recommending this scenario.

Bigham asked about the survey that is distributed to applicants for feedback after the Regional Solicitation process. She requested that staff go back through meeting minutes of the committees, gather comments and feedback, and create a memo which will help to create a baseline of some recommendations or common themes. Looking at these concerns and feedback could help to prepare for the next Regional Solicitation process.

Koutsoukos stated that there were some anomalies noted during the scoring process. After the scoring process is complete, surveys are sent out to applicants, scorers, committee members and TAB members. Analysis will also be performed on the measures and weighting to help TAB decide what weights they want to see in the next solicitation. McGuire suggested also surveying the entities that did not apply to find out if they feel there are barriers preventing them from applying.

Hovland said that the TAB makes the ultimate decision about the scoring mechanism structure in all categories and subcategories.

Dugan noted that the TBI will feed information into future applications, and aid the fast growing counties. Much discussion centered around geographical balance/equity, in this specific Regional Solicitation and also over time. Koutsoukos can provide a 10-year look at the geographical balance of the solicitation. McKnight also said it is critical to look at economic equity as well.

Hovland asked for input from TAB to pass on as guidance for the TAC.

Some members expressed their preference for a certain scenario: Van Hattum supported the Transit Bike/Walk Heavy Scenario. Fawley was interested in the conversation that took place at F&P around the Preservation/Maintenance Heavy (Modernization) Scenario and said that with no transportation bill, there will be challenges this session, he is interested in maintaining existing infrastructure; he favored this option along with the Base option. Hamman-Roland agreed with Fawley in that we must maximize our projects, in the queue and ready to go and modernization makes a lot of sense. Peterson said that there was interest at F&P in Modernization and Highway Heavy scenarios. Several members expressed preference to have the TAC look at a mixture between the Base scenario and the Modernization Heavy scenario.

McBride thanked staff for the preparation and amount of work put into the visuals presented today that aid the TAB in their discussions.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT - Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.