

Minutes

TAB Technical Advisory Committee



Meeting Date: February 2, 2022

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Virtual

Members Present:

- Chair, Jon Solberg, MnDOT
- Joe MacPherson, Anoka Co
- Lyndon Robjent, Carver Co
- Erin Laberee, Dakota Co
- Brian Isaacson, Vice Chair, Ramsey Co
- Chad Ellos, Hennepin Co
- Lisa Freese, Scott Co
- Emily Jorgensen, Washington
- Andrew Witter, 7W
- Karl Keel, Bloomington
- Charlie Howley, Chanhassen
- Robert Ellis, Eden Prairie

- Jim Kosluchar, Fridley
- Paul Oehme, Lakeville
- Ken Ashfeld, Maple Grove
- Marcus Culver, Roseville
- Michael Thompson, Plymouth
- Jenifer Hager, Minneapolis
- Jim Voll, Minneapolis
- Paul Kurtz, St. Paul
- Bill Dermody, St. Paul
- Steve Peterson, Council MTS
- Michael Larson, Council CD

- Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB Coordinator
- Mehjabeen Rahman, MPCA
- Bridget Rief, MAC
- Matt Fyten, STA
- Adam Harrington, Metro Transit
- Praveena Pidaparathi, MnDOT
- Vacant, DEED
- Danny McCullough, SNMTC
- Andrew Emanuele (ex-officio)

= present

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Solberg called the regular meeting of the TAB Technical Advisory Committee to order at 9:00 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

The committee approved the agenda with no changes. Therefore, no vote was needed.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Ashfeld and seconded by Jorgensen to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2022 regular meeting of the TAB Technical Advisory Committee. **Motion carried** unanimously.

(Meeting minutes for the March 4, 2020, meeting will be presented for approval at a future committee meeting.)

TAB Report

Koutsoukos reported on the January 19, 2022, TAB meeting.

Business – Committee Reports

Executive Committee (Jon Solberg, Chair)

Chair Solberg reported that the TAC Executive Committee met prior to the TAC meeting. The committee discussed the agenda, the minimal potential number of agenda items for TAC's March meeting, and committee staffing changes. Joe Barbeau will staff TAC and Bethany Brandt-Sargent will take over staffing of the Funding & Programming Committee.

1. [2022-10: TAC Bylaws](#) (Joe Barbeau, MTS)

Joe Barbeau, MTS, reminded members that this was an information item last month, adding that little has changed since then. The update was undertaken primarily to incorporate technical working groups. Several other changes were proposed including adding two members, reducing the term lengths for TAC and standing committee chairs from three years to two, adding vice chairs to the standing committees, and clarifying opportunity for public input at meetings.

Culver noted a reference the chair's third year in Article V. This conflicts with the new two-year term. Barbeau said that staff would make change that reference to the chair's second year.

It was moved by Culver and seconded by Ellos that the Technical Advisory Committee adopt the TAC bylaws as revised, including the amended language in Article V, changing the chair's third year to second year. **Motion carried** unanimously.

2. [2022-11: Streamlined TIP Amendment: MnDOT US 52 Median Crossovers](#) (Joe Barbeau, MTS)

Barbeau said that the item is a TIP amendment request from MnDOT to change the termini and increase the length of a project and that no funding change is requested. Solberg said that this project was pulled out of a larger project, at which time the description was not changed, leading to the need for an amendment.

It was moved by Isaacson and seconded by Freese that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to expand the length of MnDOT's US 52 median crossovers and temporary shoulder widening project in Dakota County. **Motion carried** unanimously.

Planning Committee (Emily Jorgensen, Chair)

Jorgensen reported on the Planning Committee meeting, which had no action items.

Funding & Programming (Michael Thompson, Chair)

1. [2022-08: Program Year Extension Request: Washington County CSAH 15 Safety Improvements](#)

Thompson said that Washington County is requesting a program year extension to enable the rumble-strips to be placed later following a recently planned resurfacing of roadway segments. The Funding & Programming Committee unanimously recommended approval as requested. It was moved by Kosluchar and seconded by Jorgensen to recommend that TAB approve Washington County's program year extension request to move its CSAH 15 rumble-strip and striping project from fiscal year 2022 to fiscal year 2023. **Motion carried** unanimously.

2. [2022-09: Program Year Extension and 2022-2025 TIP Amendment Request: Dakota County North Creek Greenway](#)

Thompson said that the Funding & Programming Committee recommended approval of this item unanimously. Barbeau said that the request is unusual in that it includes a TIP amendment alongside a program year extension. The inclusion of a TIP amendment is needed because the total cost increase percentage triggers a need for one. There has been some question related to the cost increase from its original \$600,000 to the \$2,300,000 shown now, as it was funded through the Regional Solicitation. The cost increase is related to the structure length and soil condition. It was moved by Oehme and seconded by Culver to recommend that TAB approve Dakota County's program year extension request to move its North Creek Greenway project (SP# 019-090-023) from 2022 to 2023 and recommend that the Council approve an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP reflecting this change along with a cost increase and technical corrections. **Motion carried** unanimously.



Information

1. [Electric Vehicle Planning Study Findings](#) (Tony Fischer, MTS)

Tony Fischer, MTS, introduced Brendan Jordan, Great Plains Institute, who provided a presentation on the Electric Vehicle Planning Study.

Harrington said that communities near freeways are overburdened by emissions and suggested that building multifamily housing near freeways is not equitable. He asked whether there is engagement with the automobile manufacturers, particularly the “big 3,” to support engagement around charging infrastructure. He also suggested using e-bikes as a marketing tool, as opposed to a funding tool, given their recent popularity. Jordan said that electric vehicles can play a role in reducing the impact of emissions near freeways, particularly with medium- and heavy-duty diesel vehicles. He said that there are investments being made for publicly available charging, particularly from the Volkswagen settlement, and suspects some will be made by other automakers in the future. He added that the e-bike market is worth looking into more, specifically the freight bike industry.

Keel noted that Bloomington’s strategic plans include support for EV conversion and reduction in greenhouse gasses, but he said he struggles with what that means. He added that the city fleet is a small percentage of vehicles, so the struggle is how to support the community, leading to the question of who oversees implementation and how to broaden the focus across communities. Jordan said that he has heard this question from a lot of local governments; therefore, there was a focus on things like model ordinances and technical assistance. Keel asked what an appropriate level of government would be. Jordan said there are roles for local, state, regional, and federal government.

Ellis asked whether the study included outreach to the Department of Labor and Industry about building code requirements for charging facilities, adding that the state building code has rendered cities unable to require such facilities and the Department of Labor and Industry has been issuing cease and desist orders to cities that have tried to establish such requirements. Fischer replied that MnDOT is taking the statewide lead in coordinating agencies and has invited the Department of Labor and Industry into the discussion for this reason.

Solberg asked what the next steps are from the Council. Fischer said that it will be up to TAB when it comes to funding projects through the Regional Solicitation. He added that Council staff resources may be assigned.

2. [MnDOT Metro District CRRSAA Funding](#) (Molly McCartney, MnDOT)

Molly McCartney, MnDOT, provided an overview of MnDOT Metro District funding distribution for the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act (CRRSAA).

Agency Reports

Solberg said that MnDOT has recently released a notice of funding opportunity for RAISE grants. MnDOT is looking to local partners to understand what potential projects they will submit, specifically locally supported ideas on the trunk highway system. Any single agency can only submit three applications and each award maximum is \$25M.

Koutsoukos said that the 2022 Regional Solicitation is on track to be released in mid-February, though some production is still occurring, so a specific date has not been declared.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the TAB Technical Advisory Committee meeting of February 2, 2022.

Approved this 6th day of April 2022.

Committee Contact:

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