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*Transportation Advisory Board  
Of the Metropolitan Council*

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**Minutes of a Meeting of the  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, October 5, 2016  
9:00 A.M.**

**Members Present:** Doug Fisher, Lyndon Robjent, Brian Sorenson, Carla Stueve, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Jan Lucke, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Pat Bursaw, Innocent Eyoh, Bridget Rief, Andrew Emanuele, Dave Jacobson, John Shoffner, Peter Dahlberg, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Jean Keely, Steve Albrecht, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, , Bruce Loney, Jen Hager, Jack Byers, Bill Dermody (Excused: Paul Kurtz)

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Albrecht at 9:03 a.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Pat Bursaw moved and Dave Jacobson seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

**3. Approval of August Minutes**

Pat Bursaw moved and Lisa Freese seconded. Motion passed.

**4. TAB Report**

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the August 17, 2016 TAB meeting.

**REPORTS**

**TAB Chair's Report:** Hovland reported that the TAB Executive Committee met prior to the TAB meeting. The Executive Committee continued discussion from last month about funding the TBI. The TAC has asked for more guidance on this subject. The Executive Committee also discussed unique projects. There is a need to decide what standards should be established by TAB to help guide the TAC in determining what qualifies as a unique project.

**Agency Reports (MnDOT, MPCA, MAC and Metropolitan Council)**

MnDOT: Scott McBride reported that the construction is at its midway mark through the construction season and a lot of progress is being made on many projects.

Metropolitan Airports Commission: Carl Crimmins reported that a public hearing would be held that evening on the Transportation Network Companies (TNC) ordinance and Delivery ordinance.

Metropolitan Council: Katie Rodriguez reported that Metro Transit was awarded System of the Year by American Public Transit Association. Metropolitan Council Chair Adam Duinck was present and spoke about the status of Orange Line and SWLRT.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

1. 2016-40: Approved 2017 UPWP
2. 2016-41: Approved Scope Change: Dakota County to US 52/CSAH 42 interchange reconstruction
3. 2016-42: Approved TIP Amendment: Dakota County Scope Change
4. 2016-44: Approved 2017-2020 TIP Public Comment Report
5. 2016-45: Approved 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Bill Goins (Fed Ex) and Bridget Rief (MAC) provided information on the September tour of Terminal 2 baggage system and Fed Ex with an educational focus on the network of ground freight, express, business pick-up, and aircraft transportation.

### **5. Committee Reports**

#### **A. Executive Committee** (Steve Albrecht, Chair)

Steve Albrecht said that an email will go out to Funding & Programming members and scoring committee chairs to discuss changing the October F&P meeting date.

**2016-54 Travel Behavior Inventory Funding.** Steve Albrecht said that TAB directed TAC to find a funding solution for the TBI using regional funds. Jonathan Ehrlich presented a slideshow describing the TBI, the proposed changes to its program, and a possible funding solution incorporating funds through TAB. Tim Mayasich asked who owns the model. Jonathan Ehrlich responded that the Council manages the model in trust on behalf of the region. Doug Fischer asked what would happen if it was not funded. Jonathan Ehrlich responded that the Council cannot fund it on its own. The Council would then ask for \$7M and operate the TBI on its traditional cycle. Another option would be to do nothing, which would put all major projects in jeopardy and produce less accurate data. Doug Fischer asked that since the model is used for transit purposes, has FTA or CTIB been approached to fund this. Jonathan Ehrlich responded that FTA would not contribute because then it would be obligated to fund every other model in the country. CTIB's funding makes this an eligible expense but has not been approached. Doug Fischer asked if this funding would come from the STP program. Jonathan Ehrlich responded that it is STP eligible, and CMAQ funds can be flexed to STP. Doug Fischer said that the local units of government use the model by adjusting it to local data needs; would it be possible for the Council to do this work on behalf of the counties. Jonathan Ehrlich responded that the Council will continue to provide the model for use to counties as they need it. All projects will continue to need to be validated at the local level.

Pat Bursaw said that MnDOT is supportive of this funding approach, and that the region has a responsibility to fund it since everyone has a stake in improving the data it needs. Dave Jacobson asked if the model really needs new and better data. Jonathan Ehrlich said that this proposal is consistent with best practice and regional needs. Collecting less data would cause model credibility issues. Tim Mayasich asked what the local share of the project is. Jonathan Ehrlich said that the Council has several funding sources from which to draw. Jan Lucke said she supports the approach, and asked if it was submitted through the regional solicitation. Jonathan Ehrlich responded that it submitted for 2017 funding and was rejected, and it had different funding splits. It was submitted for 2017-2019-2021 elements as well with the current splits. Jan Lucke asked if other regions use STP funding; Jonathan Ehrlich said yes. Jan Lucke asked how it was funded in previous years, and Jonathan Ehrlich provided the background from 2010, 2000, and 1990.

Steve Peterson said that the TBI should be funded with this strategy, and that doing so now is the best form of risk management. There is an opportunity cost to using the old funding strategy, and there is no opportunity cost threat to other projects submitted through the solicitation. Tim Mayasich expressed concern that more “off the top” funding arrangements would threaten other projects. Doug Fischer said that county projects wouldn’t be at risk with a poor model. Karl Keel said that the cost is rather insignificant in the larger solicitation picture.

Doug Fischer moved and Lyndon Robjent seconded that the chairs of F&P and Planning should convene a subcommittee to meet on this subject to come up with a recommendation. Motion passes.

#### **B. Planning Committee** (Lisa Freese, Chair)

**2016-47 Transportation Public Participation Plan.** Lisa Freese introduced this item. Mai Thor presented more detailed information on the PPP. Lisa Freese moved and Tim Mayasich seconded. There were no questions. Motion passes.

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

**2016-47 Minneapolis Scope Change.** Tim Mayasich introduced this item. Jen Hager introduced Forrest Hardy from Minneapolis staff, who described the project in more detail. There were no questions. Tim Mayasich moved the recommended motion and Jack Byers seconded. Motion passes.

**2016-48 Minneapolis TIP Amendment.** Tim Mayasich said that since the dollar value change is so small a TIP amendment is not needed. However the item will continue to TAB in case they do decide to change the dollar value to a larger number. Tim Mayasich moved to table this item and Michael Thompson seconded. No discussion. Motion passes.

### **6. Special Agenda Items**

**Counties Transit Improvement Board.** Mary Richardson of Richardson Richter & Associates provided an overview of the CTIB Program of Projects and the changes that have been made since the exit of Dakota County. There were no questions.

**Unique Projects Process.** This item was delayed until November due to time constraints.

### **7. Agency Reports**

Andrew Emanuele notified the group that the Council’s TMA Certification Review is happening November 2 and 3. There will be a public meeting the evening of November 2.

### **8. Other Business and Adjournment**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM.

**Prepared by:**

Katie White