

Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting date: October 18, 2023

Time: 12:30 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

Chair, James Hovland
1st Vice Chair, Mark Windschitl
2nd Vice Chair, Trista Martinson
Doug Anderson
~~Myron Bailey~~
Deb Barber
Carl Crimmins
Peter Dugan
Amity Foster
Chris Geisler
Debbie Goettel
Gary Hansen
Mary Liz Holberg
Mathews Hollinshead

Mitra Jalali
Mark Jenkins
Julie Jeppson
Glen Johnson
Stan Karwoski
Sheila Kauppi
~~Frank Kohlasch~~
~~Emily Koski~~ (Elliot Payne)
Andy Lewis
William Lindeke
Randy Maluchnik
Brian Martinson
Becky Petryk

Jess Robertson
George Schember
~~Mark Steffenson~~ (Judy Hanson)
Jon Ulrich
Jeffery Weisensel
~~Janet Williams~~
Tom Workman

Staff

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB
Jeni Hager, TAC
Charles Carlson, MTS Director

Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Hovland called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:32 p.m.

Agenda approved

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Windschitl to approve the agenda. Committee members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

There was no one who wished to speak to the TAB.

Reports

1. TAB Chair's Report – Jim Hovland
Chair Hovland reported out on TAB Executive items.
2. Agency Reports – MnDOT, MPCA, MAC, and Metropolitan Council
MnDOT
Kauppi reported on the TZD efforts and position filling.
MPCA
There was no report from MPCA.
MAC

Crimmins reported on the current airport growth, specifically SunCountry's. A workgroup is being created to work on sustainable airplane fuel.

Metropolitan Council

Barber reported that Council staff have produced an interactive map of the 2024-2027 draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as a way to more easily find and learn about transportation projects across the region. This map has similar project-level information as the tables that are displayed in the official TIP document, but it is easier to navigate and find projects planned in your area. We intend to update this map each year. The Council is hosting a set of 2050 Transportation Policy Plan workshops for technical staff from TAC and its subcommittees as well as other groups that are helping review draft materials for the TPP. The workshops are meant to review initial drafts of the 2050 TPP's policies and actions that will guide how the region invests to achieve regional goals and objectives. The policy and action topics are structured around the goals and objectives that were introduced to TAB in September and small collaborative teams from different agencies have been working with Council staff to prepare the initial drafts for the workshops. Three workshops will be held on November 1, 3, and 6; all covering the same content so participating staff only need to attend one of the three dates. The workshops will feature an open house-style introduction along with facilitated small group discussions. Last night (Tues Oct 17) Metro Mobility staff hosted its first in-person community conversation since 2020. Staff and riders gathered to share experiences with Metro Mobility, including areas of concern, fresh new ideas, and strategies for improving service. As a large group, they discussed recent developments, trends, and service updates. Then broke into smaller groups to identify what's working and what needs to improve. Another meeting will be held online October 25 11:30-1:00pm

STA

Hansen reported on ridership growth. Hansen also reported that Minnesota Valley Transit Authority will receive the Minnesota Public Transportation Association Management Innovation award at the MN / WI Public Transit Conference. The award recognizes MVTA's Sustainability Plan, which also was recognized nationally by the FTA as Most Transformative.

3. TAC Report – Jeni Hager, TAC Chair

Hager had nothing to report outside of agenda items.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Goettel to approve the minutes of the (date), 2023, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

Consent business

Consent business adopted

1. 2023-49: Four Streamlined TIP Amendment Requests - Project Adjustments

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by Lewis.

Motion carried.

2. 2023-50: Streamlined TIP Amendment - St. Michael Multiuse Trail

It was moved by Windschitl, seconded by Goettel.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business

1. 2023-45: TIP Amendment for new TPP Projects (Jeni Hager, TAC Chair)

It was moved by Ulrich, seconded by Geisler, that the Transportation Advisory Board release



for public comment an amendment to the 2024-2027 TIP to add two regionally significant projects:

- Corridors of Commerce-funded I-94 lane expansion from Albertville to Monticello in Wright County (SP# 8680-189) and
- Construction of US 169 interchange at CSAH 59 in Scott County (SP# 070-659-001)

There were no questions or comments from TAB members.

Motion carried.

2. 2023-46: Scope Change Request – SW Transit Mobility Hub (Jeni Hager, TAC Chair)

It was moved by Maluchnik, seconded by Goettel, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve SouthWest Transit's scope change request to remove procurement, operation, and maintenance of carshare vehicles from its Transit Mobility Hub project at SouthWest Station with no reduction in federal funds.

TAB members voiced concerns for the request. Barber shared the context of this project in relation to the Green Line and the current microtransit model. SW Transit CEO Erik Hansen addressed specific TAB member questions.

Motion carried.

3. 2023-47: TIP Amendment Request – SW Transit Mobility Hub (Jeni Hager, TAC Chair)

It was moved by Windschitl, seconded by Hansen, that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend approval of SouthWest Transit's request to add its Transit Mobility Hub project at SouthWest Station (TRS-TCMT-22F) to the 2024-2027 TIP.

There were no comments or questions from TAB members.

Motion carried.

4. 2023-48: Program Year Extension Request – Blaine, TH 65 (Jeni Hager, TAC Chair)

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by Jeppson, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve Blaine's request to move the Regional Solicitation project for its Trunk Highway (TH) 65 at 99th Avenue grade separation (SP 106-010-020) from 2024 to 2026.

Jeppson shared request background.

Motion carried.

Information

1. METRO transitway construction update (Nick Thompson, Metro Transit)
TAB members touched on the regional aspect.
2. Regional Solicitation Survey Kickoff (Bethany Brandt-Sargent, MTS Planning; Dan Edgerton, Zan)
TAB members discussed survey design and specifics.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Council contact:

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