

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

Wednesday, October 21, 2015  
Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 North Robert St., St. Paul

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Hovland, James, Chair	Fawley, Ethan	Butcher, Gerry
d'Almeida, Anani	Swanson, Dick	Hansen, Gary	Slawik, Nora
Van Hattum, David	Look, Matt	Maluchnik, Randy	Miron, Fran
Sanger, Sue	Ulrich, Jon	Tolbert, Chris	Rodriguez, Katie
Wosje, Jeff	McGuire, Mary Jo	Janovy, Jennifer	McKnight, Kenya
<del>Thornton, David</del> (Shannon Lotthammer – alt)	<del>McBride, Scott</del> (Tim Henkel – alt)	Gaylord, Kathleen	Schwietz, Patricia
Laufenburger, Denny	Miranda, Suyapa	Reich, Kevin	Hamann-Roland, Mary
Petryk, Becky	Goins, William		
ABSENT:	Gunyou, John	Lilligren, Robert	Dugan, Peter
	Crimmins, Carl	Callison, Jan	
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 12:35 p.m. on Wednesday, October 21, 2015.

#### II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Hamann-Roland, seconded by Gaylord to adopt the 10/21/15 agenda. Motion carried.

#### III. PUBLIC FORUM

Invitation to the public to address the Board about any issue not on the agenda. There were no members of the public present to address the TAB at today's meeting.

#### IV. REPORTS

##### 1. TAB Chair's Report

Hovland reported that the TAB Executive Committee met prior to this TAB meeting. The Exec. Committee met in a larger room to accommodate observers, if any. There were no observers at today's meeting. The Executive Committee members were given an overview of today's TAB agenda and a preview of prospective items for the 11/18/15 TAB meeting. The 2015 Work Plan was also discussed. The Citizen's League, along with a broader group (approx. 19) from the metropolitan community, are looking into what the Metropolitan Council should look like from a form of governance standpoint. The League will report to the legislature in February or March with recommendations of what the regional governance model should look like in their view.

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

MnDOT: Tim Henkel introduced himself and is sitting in for Scott McBride at this meeting. There was no further report from MnDOT.

MPCA: Shannon Lotthammer – gave an update from last month's TAB meeting report on the EPA final rule on the ozone standards. On October 1, the EPA issued their rule. They chose the highest level that they were considering, which is 70 parts/billion. Minnesota and the Twin Cities will continue to be in attainment of that standard. Right now we are monitoring and measuring air quality that is consistently better than that standard. We will need to look at any downwind communities that have ozone issues, and

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whether the Twin Cities has any contribution to that. At this time with the level at 70 parts/billion, we do not think that we have any downwind issues that need to be addressed. Some strategies that could be taken to try to mitigate the ozone level problem are: continue work to deal with traffic congestion and build out the transit system, work with industries to reduce volatile organic compounds (i.e. paint, dry cleaning). The MPCA has had an annual solicitation for the last couple of years for grant dollars to help switch to low VOC technologies; there is more information on their website.

Lotthammer also suggested that members read the report that the PCA and Dept. of Health recently issued: "Life and Breath" on their website, which looks at the impacts of air pollution on human health in the Twin Cities area.

MAC: Carl Crimmins – was not present at the meeting.

Metropolitan Council: Katie Rodriguez – nothing to report.

### **3. Technical Advisory Committee**

Steve Albrecht reported that the TAC has begun work on the 2016 Regional Solicitation. MTS Planning Analyst Steve Peterson will give an update later in today's meeting.

## **V. CONSENT ITEMS**

Motion by Miron, seconded and carried to approve the consent items below.

1. Approval of the Minutes from September 16, 2015

## **VI. ACTION ITEMS**

1. 2015-41: 2016-2019 TIP Amendment: CSAH 116, Anoka Co.

Albrecht presented this item. The project was discussed at the last TAB meeting, this item is a follow-up to accept the public comments. There were no comments received during the 21-day public comment period. Motion by Reich, seconded by Look that the Transportation Advisory Board accept the public comments and adopt an amendment to the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to increase the project length of its CSAH 116 reconstruction project (SP #002-716-015) to extend the project's eastern terminus to .1 mile east of Van Buren Street and its western terminus to Crane St.

Motion carried.

## **VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Hovland stated that staff is trying to work on scheduling the equity workshops for a time/place when most people may be able to attend. Today's TAB meeting is scheduled for approximately 1 hour to allow for the first equity workshop immediately following. Hovland encouraged TAB members to attend the workshop for at least an hour, if schedules permit.

1. 2016 Regional Solicitation

MTS Planning Analyst Steve Peterson presented this item.

Questions and discussion from members included:

- the need to find a way for connectors to compete - maybe in a road construction area
- trails @ \$5.5M should maybe be changed to \$3.5M or a number between, in order to fund more projects
- requested further explanation of cost effectiveness
- changes to equity measures not listed - why?
- requested further explanation of existing vs new transit riders - how measured, and also bundling and the need for clarity to applicants
- desire to discuss the funds distribution based on number of applications, may be a built-in status quo bias
- creativity needed for the region (public/private partnerships?), or learn from other cities/MPOs in the country

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- share consultant's summary from last regional solicitation review to help to new TAB members and as a reminder
- how do we support creative multi-modal projects?

There has not been a Reauthorization of MAP-21 yet, we are assuming the status quo unless we hear otherwise.

Hovland suggested that Peterson provide more detail of what the discussion and issues were for each of the Key Discussion Topics for the November/December TAB meetings. This will guide the TAB discussions at those meetings.

#### **VIII. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS**

Hovland stated that there are two conversations to be had at two planned workshops on the equity issue. The purpose workshop #1 today is to reach a common understanding of what we all mean when we use the term "equity". Workshop #2 will focus on how the definition of equity from workshop #1 relates to the transportation system and TAB work and policy-driven investments, how it fits into the different categories in the Regional Solicitation, and what the appropriate point allocations given to equity in the different categories in Regional Solicitation.

Discussion followed regarding the most convenient times/days to hold the second workshop, which could last about 3 hours, and the importance for TAB member attendance.

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT - Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.**