

# Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board



**Meeting date:** August 21, 2024

**Time:** 12:30 PM

**Location:** 390 Robert Street

## Members present:

Chair, James Hovland  
1st Vice Chair, Mark Windschitl  
2nd Vice Chair, ~~Debbie Goettel~~  
(Kevin Anderson)  
~~Doug Anderson~~  
~~Myron Bailey~~  
Deb Barber  
~~Husniyah Bradley~~  
Kevin Burkart  
Aurin Chowdhury  
~~Carl Crimmins~~  
Peter Dugan  
John Fahey  
Amity Foster  
Chris Geisler

Gary Hansen  
Mary Liz Holberg  
~~Mark Jenkins~~  
Julie Jeppson  
~~Glen Johnson~~ (Brandon  
Wagenfeld)  
Stan Karwoski  
~~HwaJeong Kim~~ (Saura Jost)  
~~Frank Kohlasch~~ (Todd Biewen)  
William Lindeke  
John Morast  
Brian Martinson  
Mary Jo McGuire  
Becky Petryk

~~Jess Robertson~~  
Khani Sahebjam  
~~George Schember~~  
Mark Steffenson  
~~Jon Ulrich~~  
Christopher Vaughan  
Jeffery Weisensel

## Staff

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB  
~~Jeni Hager, TAG~~  
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 12:36 p.m.

## Agenda approved

Committee members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

## Public invitation

There were no members of the public who wished to speak to the TAB.

## Reports

### 1. TAB Chair's Report – Jim Hovland

Hovland reported that the TAB Executive Committee met prior to the TAB meeting and reviewed the agenda materials.

### 2. Agency Reports – MnDOT, MPCA, MAC, Metropolitan Council, Suburban Transit Providers MnDOT

Sahebjam reported on the groundbreaking for Hwy. 212. Hwy. 212 is a heavy truck route. Carver County is delivering the project. MnDOT is preparing for winter maintenance. In the past there were 440 maintenance workers and they are down to 330. For snowplowing, they have 216 plows out at a time. The low snow amount last year saved money and MnDOT was

able to update equipment. Statewide there have been 271 fatalities. This is an increase over the 234 fatalities at the same time in 2023.

#### MPCA

Biewen reported that MPCA received a \$200 million grant from the Climate Pollution Reduction Act. As a transportation focus, \$20 million will be focused on food delivery equipment. The Climate Action Framework has been in place for a couple years. MPCA will be updating the Framework and is recruiting for participants for the advisory groups. Anyone interested in serving on an advisory group, can sign up on the website, [Climate Action Framework | Our Minnesota Climate \(state.mn.us\)](https://www.state.mn.us/climateaction/framework/our-minnesota-climate).

#### MAC

Koutsoukos reported on Crimmins behalf. With the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) planning a 2025 update to procedures airplanes use to navigate as they depart MSP Airport, the organization hosted two virtual public meetings on August 14 and 15 to share more information and gather community input on the proposed updates. The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) and the Noise Oversight Committee (NOC) have been working with the FAA to ensure that information is shared with surrounding communities about the proposed updates to flight procedures. As the sole authority over where and how aircraft fly, the FAA is fully managing and implementing the planned update to the departure flight procedures, which are anticipated to be finalized in February 2025 and go into effect in August 2025. Members of the community can provide public comments on the proposed procedures. More information is available on the FAA website: [Community Engagement — Minneapolis-St. Paul | Federal Aviation Administration \(faa.gov\)](https://www.faa.gov/community-engagement/minneapolis-st-paul). Crimmins provided comments regarding the Riverview streetcar plan in St. Paul.

- The Riverview streetcar plan is projected to cost approximately 1 billion dollars.
- The Riverview streetcar plan as it stands today could limit access to the airport.
- Bus-rapid transit would be more affordable and should not affect airport access.
- As of now there is no plan to subsidize business owners on the Riverview route for disruption.

#### Metropolitan Council

Barber reported that the 2050 Regional Development Guide was released for public comment on August 15 through October 7, [Imagine 2050 - Metropolitan Council \(metrocouncil.org\)](https://www.metrocouncil.org/2050)

#### Suburban Transit Providers

Hansen reported that Suburban transit providers' ridership continues to increase. After a three-year absence, Maple Grove Transit State Fair bus service is returning on weekends and Labor Day from the Maple Grove Transit Station. Minnesota Valley Transit Authority has received delivery of five electric vehicles – the first in MVTA's fleet. These vehicles will operate primarily as part of Connect microtransit service and are expected to go into service during the fourth quarter of this year. MVTA again is offering service to the Renaissance Festival throughout the entirety of the festival and to all 12 days of the Minnesota State Fair. SouthWest Transit also is offering State Fair and Renaissance Festival service, except on Labor Day.

3. TAC Report – Jeni Hager, TAC Chair

### Approval of minutes

It was moved by Windschitl, seconded by Martinson to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2024, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

### Consent business

Consent business adopted

1. 2024-35: Streamlined 2024-2027 TIP Amendment Request – MnDOT MN 47 Drainage and Pedestrian Safety Project
2. 2024-36: Streamlined 2024-2027 TIP Amendment Request – MnDOT MN 3 Video Analytics Pilot

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Windschitl.

There were no comments or questions from TAB members.

Motion carried.

### Non-consent business

1. 2024-27: Public Comment Report and Recommend Adoption of the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (*Joe Barbeau, MTS*)

It was moved by Morast, seconded by Geisler, that the Transportation Advisory Board:

1. Accept the attached 2025-2028 TIP Public Comment Report and
2. Recommend adoption of the attached 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which includes the changes made in response to public comment.

There were no comments or questions from TAB members.

**Motion carried.**

### Information

1. Regional Safety Action Plan (*Heidi Schallberg, MTS; Renae Kuehl and Nicole Bitzan, SRF Consulting; Jessica Schoner, Safe Streets Research + Consulting*)

TAB members discussed the data and asked questions for follow-up.

2. Evie Network (*Russ Stark, City of Saint Paul, Mayor's Office; Erin Kayser, City of Saint Paul, Public Works; Joe Laurin, City of Minneapolis, Public Works; Paul Schroeder, CEO of HOURCAR*)

TAB members asked clarifying questions about the Evie program.

3. Regional Solicitation Evaluation Updates
  - Policymaker Workgroup (*Jim Hovland, TAB Chair*)
  - Active Transportation Workgroup (*Glen Johnson, Active Transportation Workgroup chair*)

### Items of TAB members

### Other business

### Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

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### Council contact:

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