

Minutes

TAC Planning Committee



Meeting Date: August 10, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Virtual

Members Present:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anoka Co – Jack Forslund | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hennepin Co – KC Atkins | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Paul – Bill Dermody |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carver Co – Jack Johansen | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metro Transit – Patrick Haney | <input type="checkbox"/> Scott Co – Nathan Abney |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chanhassen – Charlie Howley | <input type="checkbox"/> MAC – Bridget Rief | <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban Transit Assoc – Grace Almeida |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council Community Development – Michael Larson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minneapolis – Kathleen Mayell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TAB Coordinator – Elaine Koutsoukos |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council MTS – Dave Burns | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MnDOT – Lindsey Bruer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington Co – Sara Allen |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dakota Co – Gina Mitteco | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MPCA – Innocent Eyoh | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> West Saint Paul – Ross Beckwith |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FHWA – Josh Pearson (ex-officio) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ramsey Co – Scott Mareck (Chair) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = present, E = excused |

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Mareck called the regular meeting of the TAC Planning Committee to order at 1:01 p.m.

Agenda Approved

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

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB Coordinator, seconded by David Burns, MTS Planning, to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2023, regular meeting of the TAC Planning Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment on Committee Business

There were no public comments.

Business

1. **2023-44:** Adoption of the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program

David Burns presented the draft 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Burns described the purpose of the UPWP, its budget, and anticipated changes after TAC Planning related to documenting Complete Streets planning activities.

Chair Mareck asked for an explanation about the amount of staff hours proposed for Safe Routes to School activities. David Burns answered it represents an estimate of existing activities. Chair Mareck asked if this accounts for new work to implement the state active transportation program. Burns answered that is reflected in Task A: Planning & Programming Process. Amy Vennewitz clarified Complete Streets activities are not exclusively Safe Routes to School work. Vennewitz there are few references to the “Complete Streets” term in Met

Council plans, but much of its existing transit, pedestrian, and bicycle planning work is clearly related to these concepts. Vennewitz said the intent is to document that staff work already exceeds the new federal requirement for spending 2.5% of planning funds on Complete Streets. Vennewitz said this does not describe additional work, but feedback is welcome on specific Complete Streets work the region would like included. Josh Pearson, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), said this is a documentation requirement and they expect all metropolitan planning organizations will be able to meet this requirement.

Innocent Eyoh, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), requested coordination with MPCA on planning activities related to climate change, air quality, and environmental justice. Innocent Eyoh referenced need to address recent legislative changes that introduce new requirements for MPCA and the Met Council. Eyoh mentioned that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency may be tightening air quality standards for PM2.5 (fine particulate matter pollution) and setting vehicle electrification standards. Eyoh mentioned a working group with Met Council, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and the Minnesota Department of Health to prevent re-entering non-attainment status. Amy Vennewitz said that Task C: Long Range Planning has subtasks related to equity, climate change, and air quality related activities and the Transportation Policy Plan.

Kathleen Mayell asked via chat if the action is to adopt the draft or adopt the final UPWP. Mayell said the draft has not been released for public comment the City of Minneapolis usually submits comments. Amy Vennewitz suggested “draft” and “pending public comment” to the motion language. Vennewitz described the process for incorporating technical comments in the committee process; the final plan adoption is by the Metropolitan Council. Chair Mareck described this as the first-step in a multi-layered review process.

It was moved by Michael Larson, Met Council Community Development, seconded by Innocent Eyoh that the TAC Planning Committee recommend adoption of the 2024 Draft Unified Planning Work Program subject to public input.

Motion carried unanimously.

Information

There were no information items.

Other Business

There were no other business items.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Council Contact:

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