
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 7, 2018
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: John Sass, Chad Ellos, Ted Schoenecker, Lisa Freese, Jan Lucke, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Brian Isaacson, Innocent Eyoh, Bridget Rief, Jen Lehmann, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Robert Ellis, Jim Kosluchar, Jen Hager, Jack Byers, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz (Excused: Doug Fischer)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Freese at 9:02 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was moved by Karl Keel and seconded by Mark Filipi. No discussion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was moved by Bridget Rief and seconded by Paul Oehme. Motion passed.

4. TAB Report

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the February 21 TAB meeting.

Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

Lisa Freese reported on the Executive Committee meeting. The scope change committee will meet again next week.

B. Planning Committee (Jan Lucke, Chair)

Jan Lucke reported the results of the Planning Committee.

2018-17 Functional Classification Change: Ramsey County. Jan Lucke introduced the item. There were no questions. Jan Lucke moved and Michael Thompson seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

C. Funding and Programming Committee (Paul Oehme, Chair)

2018-22 Scope Change: City of Minneapolis. Paul Oehme presented the item. Adam Harrington moved and Jack Byers seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

2018-23 Scope Change: Scott County. Paul Oehme presented the item. Michael Thompson moved and Innocent Eyoh seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

Information: TIP Schedule. The TIP schedule is available to outline the process through the end of the year.

6. Special Agenda Items

TPP Update. (Michelle Fure, Tony Fischer, and Cole Hiniker, Metropolitan Council) Michelle Fure, Tony Fischer, and Cole Hiniker presented updates and changes to the draft TPP that will be voted on by TAC in April.

Bridget Rief asked what trends are discussed under Challenges/Opportunities #2. Michelle Fure responded that demographic trends are the primary focus, as well as the increase in VMT due to an increasing population base. Innocent Eyoh asked if #4 with an emphasis on technology could include the coming investment in electric vehicle charging stations. Michelle Fure agreed. Robert Ellis asked if the security of the technology systems that are coming online is discussed. Michelle Fure said that it's not now but could be incorporated.

Brian Isaacson said that the increased \$20-30 million from MnDOT is the result of the legislature shifting general funds to MnDOT; this cannot be guaranteed to be supplied by future legislatures. Karl Keel commented that the message should be that MnDOT does not have enough money, since the counties are now contributing to state road projects, as opposed to messaging that MnDOT does not need the money due to county participation. Brian Isaacson agreed and said that it was the former story that convinced the legislature to provide the additional \$20-30 million last year.

Adam Harrington asked what the difference was between connected vehicles and autonomous vehicles. Tony Fischer responded that connected vehicles talk to each other or the roadway infrastructure; autonomous vehicles move without drivers. There is some overlap in the technologies.

Lisa Freese asked that, if the 169 PAC provides clarity on the connection into downtown Minneapolis, could that be added to the TPP draft. Cole said yes, if that is provided by May. This is also true if the legislature includes spending for the D Line by the end of session.

Volkswagen Settlement. (Amanda Smith, MPCA) Amanda Smith presented on the draft Beneficiary Mitigation Plan. Ted Schoenecker asked what an "old" diesel truck is. Amanda Smith responded that in general it is pre-2009. Ted Schoenecker asked if "clean" diesel trucks can be purchased; Amanda Smith responded yes. Peter Dahlberg asked about communications with private industry. Amanda Smith responded that MPCA has been running a similar program (without VW money) for over ten years now so the agency is familiar with the challenges of reaching out to these operators; however the application pool has always exceeded the amount of funds available.

Bridget Rief asked if there was a deadline to actually spend the money, as late 2018 awards will be difficult to fit into a 2019 budget. Amanda Smith responded that some flexibility can be accommodated; many of these purchases are custom orders. The funds are available on a reimbursement basis. Jack Byers asked what happens to the replaced vehicles. Amanda Smith responded that it must be scrapped. Robert Ellis asked if the lack of auction value is a deterrent to participating in the program. Amanda Smith responded that the existing MPCA program has always been oversubscribed with similar

stipulations. Lisa Freese asked if school buses owned by private school bus providers qualify. Amanda Smith responded yes.

7. Agency Reports

Brian Isaacson reported that Corridors of Commerce projects will be picked by the end of April due to requests from the legislature. The 60 day clock started with a deadline of April 16.

Bridget Rief reported that the MSP airport was voted the best airport in North America for the second year in a row.

Elaine Koutsoukos reported that regional solicitation funds are overprogrammed for 2019 (per policy). Letters were sent asking projects to move to 2020. The value is about \$6 million.

Innocent Eyoh reiterated that comments on the VS Beneficiary Mitigation Plan are due March 19.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:29AM.

Prepared by:

Katie White