

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

Wednesday, August 19, 2015
Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 North Robert St., St. Paul

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Hovland, James, Chair	Reich, Kevin	Butcher, Gerry
Crimmins, Carl	Goins, William	Hansen, Gary	Slawik, Nora
d’Almeida, Anani	Look, Matt	Maluchnik, Randy	Miron, Fran
Sanger, Sue	Ulrich, Jon	Tolbert, Chris	Rodriguez, Katie
Wosje, Jeff	McGuire, Mary Jo	Callison, Jan	Hamann-Roland, Mary
Thornton, David	Dugan, Peter	Gaylord, Kathleen	Petryk, Becky
Laufenburger, Denny	Swanson, Dick		
ABSENT:	Miranda, Suyapa	McKnight, Kenya	McBride, Scott
Van Hattum, David	Janovy, Jennifer	Lilligren, Robert	Fawley, Ethan
Schwietz, Patricia	Gunyou, John		
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 12:40 p.m. on Wednesday, August 19, 2015.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Chair Hovland noted an amendment to the agenda to add Information Item 3: 2016 UPWP. Motion by Hamann-Roland, seconded by McGuire to adopt the 08/19/15 agenda as amended. 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 the TAB meeting today. He announced that effective at its next meeting in October 2015, the Executive Committee will move to a larger room in the lower level of the Metro Council building, and the Executive Committee agenda will be posted online to inform the public a week prior to the Executive Committee meeting. The public and TAB members not on the Executive Committee will have the opportunity to attend and observe the meeting, but will not be allowed to participate in the meeting unless so requested. He stated that if members have issues that they would like to see addressed at the Executive Committee, that they contact a member of the Executive Committee who can raise the issue at the meeting.

Hovland also welcomed new member Jeff Wosje, the Suburban Transit Association (STA) appointment to the TAB. The TAB membership is now 34.

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

MnDOT: Scott McBride was not present at the meeting. No report.

MPCA: David Thornton – Nothing to report.

MAC: Carl Crimmins – Nothing to report.

Metropolitan Council: Katie Rodriguez – Nothing to report.

3. Technical Advisory Committee

Steve Albrecht – No report from TAC. items from the TAC are part of the items on today's TAB agenda.

4. Defederalization Workgroup Update

TAC Chair Steve Albrecht reported on this item. Defederalization involves moving federal funds from one project to another and will allow for saving money and moving projects forward more quickly – the objective is to streamline projects. There are issues to work out such as: how funding years are impacted, other funding partners' ability to meet their obligations, TAB previously approved projects must be delivered and completed as planned, etc. A work group is working on these issues this summer. A draft policy will come to TAB. Sanger stated that local projects should be considered, and Albrecht replied that there are local representatives on the task force and that the intent is for this to be a good tool to enable funding to go to counties and cities. Maluchnik noted the importance of streamlining at the federal level but that entities have different ideas on how to streamline. He questioned whether this is an appropriate for TAB to pursue. Albrecht agreed to add this to the TAC Work Plan to discuss.

5. TAB Bylaws

TAB Chair Jim Hovland opened discussion about the TAB bylaw changes. A vote on the changes is expected at the September TAB meeting. Discussion followed:

Article V - definition of a quorum. The TAB now has an even number of members. It was decided to change the "50 percent" to "**More than 50 percent**", and also change the part of the sentence "currently appointed Board membership" to "currently appointed Board membership, or task forces or committee membership".

Article X – bylaws amendments. The language will change to "a minimum of **18** affirmative votes..."

Members discussed the possible overlap of members from the same county/city but representing different entities (i.e. STA) on the TAB and whether there should be more geographic balance. Wosje said that there is a real interest in serving on the TAB and the STA would appreciate more clarity. Ulrich said that this is beyond the TAB's control since elected officials change and the legislature didn't address geographic balance, and he suggested the STA bylaws address this; the STA can look to the TAB bylaws for guidance. Sanger suggested adding a sentence to the TAB bylaws discouraging appointments from the same county/city (it was noted that page 8, Article VI, Section F of the bylaws has a section on diversity of appointments).

V. CONSENT ITEMS

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

1. Approval of the Minutes from June 17, 2015

VI. ACTION ITEMS

1. 2015-33: 2015-2018 Streamlined TIP Amendment, I-94 Unbonded Concrete Overlay Project, MnDOT
Steve Albrecht presented this item.

Motion by Look, seconded by Hamann-Roland that the Transportation Advisory Board adopt the amendment to the 2015-2018 TIP to adjust the project description and funding levels for MnDOT's Interstate 94 unbonded concrete overlay project (SP# 6283-234).

Motion carried.

2. 2015-36: 2015 UPWP Administrative Amendment

Steve Albrecht presented this item. MTS Manager Systems Planning Connie Kozlak came forward to answer questions. Sanger questioned if there has been any consideration given to looking into the costs of freight to the road system. Kozlak responded that MnDOT has truck counts, but not axle counts.

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The action today is to recommend adoption of the amendment to the UPWP to add this study. However in addition, TAB members suggested some amendments to the proposed work scope; that the study analyze weight restrictions on heavily-used truck routes, and that the study advisory group include local planners and engineers.

Look asked whether the results of the study will be used in the implementation or direction to determine Corridors of Commerce (CoO) projects that are awarded funding. Kozlak stated that she believed that in the past MnDOT did look at ADT (volumes), and added that CoO is a statewide program and the same information may not be available to the entire state. Albrecht added that he felt this will be a tool that cities/counties can use when preparing their applications.

Motion by Maluchnik, seconded by Swanson that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2015 UPWP to add the Regional Truck Highway Corridor Study.

Motion carried.

Gaylord recommended wording changes to the draft RFP for the consultant - Task 10: may/will, as well as/may. She also suggested an addition to Task 6: address the structural capacity of the pavement and of the bridges (Kozlak stated staff may include the language in a different area rather than Task 6).

3. 2015-34: 2016-2019 TIP Public Comment Report

MTS Senior Planner Joe Barbeau presented this item. Look noted comment #6 from Anoka. He stated that Anoka County did apply for STP funding for grade separation for a rail crossing but scored in last place because of the criteria. He suggested that the TAB establish criteria with more emphasis for Railroad Crossing Safety Projects, and score differently than in the past. This will be an item the TAB can consider in the next Regional Solicitation.

Motion by Butcher, seconded by Hansen that the Transportation Advisory Board accept the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Public Comment Report.

Motion carried.

4. 2015-35: Final 2016-2019 TIP

MTS Senior Planner Joe Barbeau presented this item.

Motion by Butcher, seconded by Gaylord that the Transportation Advisory Board adopt the 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Motion carried.

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. 2016 Regional Solicitation Schedule

MTS Planning Analyst Steve Peterson presented this item. There were no questions from committee members.

2. Equity Workshops

MTS Senior Planner Heidi Schallberg presented this item. Councilmembers Barber and Rodriguez and TAB members Look and Dugan participated in the initial review of three consultant proposals. Barber, Rodriguez and Dugan also held brief telephone interviews with each of the consultants, and made the final selection of the consultant. A contract will be awarded to the Center for Policy, Planning and Performance, a local St. Paul firm. Once a contract is in place, Schallberg will contact members who have expressed interest in providing input for the workshop planning (one or more sessions). A minimum of two workshops with anticipated full Council and full TAB participation are proposed, beginning in the first part of September. The consultant has been asked to create a "safe zone" where opinions can be stated freely. The focus will be the definition of equity as it relates to transportation (and the TAB/Regional Solicitation).

2. 2016 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

MTS Senior Planner Katie White presented this item. She shared a handout of a high level summary of non-routine work that will be included in the UPWP.

Hovland said that the UPWP is TPP and federal fund driven and quarterly reports are submitted to MnDOT and FHWA. The TAB may want to receive progress reports for the UPWP work, TPP items, and other

issues that staff can accommodate that are important for the TAB to address that are not federally required. This could be effective to inform new TAB members of the work that the TAB does.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS

Goins stated that he and Maluchnik participated in a tour of the FedEx Express operations at the airport. He proposed an evening of observation/tour of either FedEx Express operations at the airport or FedEx Ground (in Mahtomedi) as schedules permit. Tours can usually accommodate 15-20 people. TAB Executive Committee can discuss and contact him.

IX. ADJOURNMENT - Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.