

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 Robert Street North, Saint Paul

Committee Members Present:

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Hovland, James (Chair)	Boyles, Frank	Barber, Deb
Barnes, Michael	Anderson, Doug	McDonnell, Craig	Ulrich, Jon
Karwoski, Stan	Fox, Nick	Wosje, Jeff	Lindeke, William
Reich, Kevin	Windschitl, Mark	Staples, Jamez	Goins, William
Bailey, Myron	Hollinshead, Mathews	Goettel, Debbie	Geisler, Christopher
Giuliani Stephens, Mary	Foster, Amity	Swanson, Dick	
Look, Matt (Schulte, Scott)	Dugan, Peter Rick Olson		
ABSENT:	Hamann-Roland, Mary	Hansen, Gary	Gorecki, Bruce
Gaylord, Kathleen	McGuire, Mary Jo	Crimmins, Carl	Maluchnik, Randy
Tolbert, Chris	Petryk, Becky	Sandahl, Suzanne	
LIAISON/STAFF PRESENT:	Koutsoukos, Elaine TAB Coordinator	Freese, Lisa TAC Chair	Thompson, Nick MTS Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Hovland called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20, 2019.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

Motion by McGuire, seconded by Bailey, to approve the agenda of the November 20, 2019, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

III. PUBLIC FORUM

Invitation to the public to address the Board about any issue not on the agenda. There was no one in the audience who wished to speak on items not on the agenda.

IV. REPORTS

1. TAB Chair's Report

Hovland reported that the technical committees are discussing a change to the Streamlined TIP Amendment process so that the amendments start at the TAC Committee and would then appear on the TAB agenda as consent items. In January, TAB selects the Executive Committee members for the year. If TAB members are interested in serving on the Executive Committee, notify Elaine Koutsoukos by the end of December. Positions available are for two county members, one member a city of first-class, two other city members, one community member, and one member representing modal and remaining agency members.

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

MnDOT, Michael Barnes:

Barnes reported on Sue Mulvihill's retirement, the elevation of the Office of Sustainability, and general projects getting wrapped up.

MPCA, Craig McDonnell:

McDonnell reported that the draft plan of Phase II for the Volkswagen Settlement has been released. The public comment period closes on December 20, 2019 and there will be four public meetings across the state as a part of the this, as well as a webinar. Hovland asked which districts will be chosen to pilot electric school buses. McDonnell said it is a competitive process with a 60/40 split based on the offending vehicles throughout the state. Windschitl asked about infrastructure. McDonnell said there are funds available.

MAC, Bridget Rief:

Rief reported that the MAC is in the midst of its Capital Improvement Program. There has also been a soft launch of pre-booking for parking. McGuire asked about airport baggage claim improvements. Rief said the entire improvements are going to go through 2023. Goins brought up the closure of the hotel TSA checkpoint.

Metropolitan Council, Deb Barber:

Barber reported that Metropolitan Council chair resigned. Molly Cummings is serving as the acting chair. The governor is accepting applications. The terms are expiring for community representatives for District A, B, C, D, and for the transit and non-motorized representatives. Applications are open on the Council website.

3. TAC Chair's Report

Freese reported on the training for functional classification taking place tomorrow.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes from October 16, 2019

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Reich, to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2019, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

VI. ACTION ITEMS

Non-Consent

1. 2019-53 Streamlined TIP Amendment: Southwest Transit Buses

TAC Executive Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

There were no questions or comments from TAB members.

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by Windschitl, that:

The Transportation Advisory Board adopt an amendment into the 2019-2022 and 2020-2023 TIPs to change the type and number of buses for SouthWest Transit's Eden Prairie to Mall of America Connector Service (SP# TRS-TCMT-20B). **Motion carried.**

2. 2019-57 Streamlined TIP Amendment: Highway 15 Bridge Replacement, Hennepin County

TAC Executive Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

There were no questions or comments from TAB members.

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by Wosje, that:

The Transportation Advisory Board adopt an amendment into the 2019-2022 TIP to add Hennepin County's project replacing the CSAH 15 Bridge in Orono (SP# 027-615-025). **Motion carried.**

- 3. 2019-58** Streamlined TIP Amendment: Roundabout in Norwood Young America, Carver County

TAC Executive Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

There were no questions or comments from TAB members.

It was moved by Windschitl, seconded by Reich, that:

The Transportation Advisory Board adopt an amendment into the 2019-2022 TIP to add Carver County's construction of a roundabout in Norwood Young America (SP# 010-633-047). **Motion carried.**

- 4. 2019-59** Streamlined TIP Amendment: Johnson Parkway Trail, St. Paul

TAC Executive Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

There were no questions or comments from TAB members.

It was moved by McGuire, seconded by Hollinshead, that:

The Transportation Advisory Board adopt an amendment into the 2019-2022 and 2020-2023 TIPs to add mill and overlay work to St. Paul's Johnson Parkway Trail project (SP# 164-129-013). **Motion carried.**

- 5. 2019-60** Streamlined TIP Amendment: Brockton Interchange, Dayton

TAC Executive Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

There were no questions or comments from TAB members.

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Goettel, that:

The Transportation Advisory Board adopt an amendment into the 2019-2022 TIP to remove the auxiliary lane from Dayton's Brockton interchange project (SP# 229-112-002), as the auxiliary lane will be completed at the same time with a concurrent MnDOT project. **Motion carried.**

- 6. 2019-61** Approve Release of HSIP Application

TAC Chair Lisa Freese presented this item.

There were no questions or comments from TAB members.

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Boyles, that:

The Transportation Advisory Board approve the release of the 2022-2023 HSIP Solicitation for the Metro District. **Motion carried.**

VII. INFORMATION

1. Regional Solicitation Public Comment Report

Metropolitan Transportation Services Highway Planning & TAB/TAC Process Manager Steve Peterson presented this item.

Windschitl asked about the \$5 million going to transit – is it going to a certain place or globally. Peterson said it would go to transit globally. McGuire asked how these responses varied from previous solicitations. Peterson said more public comments were received this time and the comments were also more specific. Karwoski said having the comments go back to the technical committee allows them to weigh in. Karwoski voiced Washington County’s disagreement with the large commitment to ABRT. Reich asked for the technical committee’s input on the modal shift. Geisler commented he would like to hear from Funding and Programming how many fewer projects are funded by raising the maximum. Barber asked for feedback on the \$5.5 million, what happens if multiple projects are submitted. Lindeke asked about the comments related to reduced bike/pedestrian. Koutsoukos said one level was wanted so applicants knew what to apply for in their initial submission. Reich shared that while a tiered approach was floated as an idea, the technical committee has been hesitant. Karwoski commented on the various types of bridges and interchange bridge system being in a different tier. Geisler said removing the minimum does not mean we will stop spending the money on bridges. Reich mentioned that regional impact is driving bridges over a minimum. Peterson said often the bridges received are really small or really large, \$2-5 million versus \$60 million. Wosje reiterated the workgroup process. Peterson said the primary reason not to make this more inclusive to BRT was to make recommendations easier and give BRT projects a better chance of being funded. Ulrich asked about Transit Modernization available funds. Peterson said there is about \$22 million left in the categories. Ulrich said if an argument is that BRT and ABRT wouldn’t compete then what is the harm of having them together. Ulrich also asked why would the change not take place now versus waiting two years. He asked for TAC feedback. Peterson said \$7 million would not fund a full line, it is most likely more intended for a station on a line. Barber said the TAB may send it back to TAC, but it is more of a policy-level discussion. Wosje said developing a scoring methodology in this short time would be difficult. Ulrich said the benefit for BRT to be in would be to know how it would score. Wosje said he is supportive of the competitive market if a scoring methodology can be developed. Barber said the hope is that Metro Transit receives support from the legislature. Karwoski said, if we are putting the money where it scores the highest, we should let all BRTs compete. Goettel echoed that in order to score BRT and ABRT together a scoring methodology needs to be created. Geisler said this is a more transparent version of what has been happening the last few Solicitations. Ulrich said he thinks this should be sent back to the TAC to ask about scoring for this solicitation. Barber said for any highway and dedicated BRT there is other Federal funding available but for ABRT there is not. Giuliani Stephens brought up outdated maps and Washington County’s concern with the transit corridor. Geisler asked how many projects would have shifted over to Spot Mobility if it had existed previously or if there will be new projects. Peterson said 2-4 projects would have come out of Roadway and because it’s a new category it will most likely generate new projects. Windschitl asked if any points go towards a project that has gone through multiple solicitations but not been selected. Peterson said it is documented which projects apply multiple times and they generally move up the list but they do not receive additional points. Peterson said it is tough to build partial interchange projects and MnDOT does not have the same financial capacity they used to. Anderson said the process works better when more is heard and he encouraged more responses. Karwoski, Ulrich, and Barber commented on the Regional Solicitation workgroup process. Hovland asked for the approval process to be as streamlined as possible.

2. Regional Solicitation Bridge Analysis Feedback

Metropolitan Transportation Services Senior Planner Joe Barbeau presented this item.

Reich voiced appreciation for updating how we evaluate bridges and if we can incorporate it into the current solicitation that would be ideal but if more time is necessary then staff should take it. Goettel asked who makes up the workgroup. Barbeau said there are bridge engineers from most counties, Minneapolis, Saint Paul.

3. Draft Statewide Highway Safety Plan

Minnesota Department of Transportation Investment Planning Director Brad Utecht was present for this item.

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

4. Assessing Urban Quality Project

MPCA Research Scientist Monika Vadali was present for this item.

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

5. Coordinated Action Plan

Metropolitan Transportation Services Senior Planner Heidi Schallberg presented this item.

There were no questions or comments from TAB members.

VIII. ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

X. ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Jenna Ernst
Recording Secretary