

Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting date: May 15, 2024

Time: 12:30 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

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

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

~~Jess Robertson~~ (Tom Newland)
Khani Sahebjam
George Schember
~~Mark Steffenson~~ (Judy Hanson)
~~Jon Ulrich~~ (Tom Wolf)
Christopher Vaughan
Jeffery Weisensel

Staff

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB
Jeni Hager, TAC
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 12:33 p.m.

Agenda approved

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Windschitl to approve the agenda. 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.

Reports

1. TAB Chair's Report – Jim Hovland
2. Hovland reported that the Legislature did not propose changes to Metropolitan Council governance. It is Police Recognition Week. Sustainable Eagan Advisory Commission (SEAC) Chair, Peter Dugan has been named the 2023 Minnesota Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA) Board and Commissioner Award recipient. Chair Dugan was selected through a committee scoring process that included peers from across the state who have improved the field of parks and recreation through volunteerism or support. Chair Dugan has served ten consecutive years on the SEAC including several years as the Commission Chair and ten years prior on the Advisory Planning Commission.

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

MnDOT

Sahebjam reported on construction season.

MPCA

There was no report.

MAC

Crimmins reported that Aer Lingus is flying four flights per week to Dublin. Delta airlines has added direct flights to Dublin also. Dublin is a hub for connecting international flights. Airline passengers are now exceeding 2019 passenger levels. There are more international flights and Sun County has expanded flights.

Metropolitan Council

Barber reported that first quarter ridership was 12.5 million passengers, an increase of 15 percent. ABRT ridership is up 31 percent and express ridership is up 16 percent. The last TPP Advisory Work Group meeting will be on Friday, May 17.

Suburban Transit Providers

Hansen reported that Maple Grove Transit MYRIDE microtransit service capacity and hours were expanded effective May 1. The expansion will assist in reducing trip denials and in providing a wide variety of trip purposes and will be especially beneficial in providing employment-based trips. Minnesota Valley Transit Authority Connect microtransit ridership is up 31 percent over a year ago and is at its highest level ever. Plans are to add zero-emission and autonomous vehicles to expand the service further into Scott County (Prior Lake and Shakopee) by late 2024/early 2025. MVTA is updating bus stop signs that will enable riders to get real-time information on routes via unique stop IDs and QR codes.

4. TAC Report – Jeni Hager, TAC Chair

Hager had no report other than agenda items.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Goettel to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2024, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**

Consent business

Consent business adopted

1. 2024-23: Streamlined TIP Amendment Request – Two New Projects

It was moved by Jeppson, seconded by Bailey.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business

1. 2024-25: Streamlined TIP Amendment Request – Six NEVI Projects

It was moved by Jenkins, seconded by Morast, that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend that the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2024-2027 TIP to add installation of six new National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program-funded charging stations:

- Within 1 mile from exit 205, 207, or 213 on I 94 (SP# 8825-1274);
- Within 1 mile from exit 30, 31 or 33 on I 94 (SP# 8825-1275);
- Within 1 mile from exit 17C, 234C or 235A on I 94 and I 35 (SP# 8825-1276);



- Within 1 mile from exit 235B, 237, 238, 239A, 239B, 240 or 241A on I 94 (SP# 8825- 1277);
- Within 1 mile from exit 147 on I 35 (SP# 8825-1278);
- Within 1 mile from exit 88B, 86, 85, 84 or 81 on I 35 (SP# 8825-1279).

with the amendment that project number 8825-1274 be reduced to a total project cost of \$750,000 and a federal cost of \$225,000.

Motion carried.

2. 2024-20: Program Year Extension Request: Washington County’s CSAH 17 (Lake Elmo Ave) and MN 36 Intersection Improvement Project (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair*)

It was moved by Karwoski, seconded by Goettel, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve the program year extension request for Washington County’s CSAH 17 (Lake Elmo Ave) and MN 36 intersection improvement project from 2025 to 2026.

Motion carried.

3. 2024-21: Regionally Significant TIP Amendment Request – US 10 Expansion Project (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair*)

It was moved by Jeppson, seconded by Geisler, that the Transportation Advisory Board release an amendment to the 2024-2027 TIP to add a regionally significant project expanding US 10 from two lanes to three lanes in Coon Rapids for public comment.

Motion carried.

4. 2024-22: Scope Change Request – Metro Transit Regional Mobility Hubs (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair*)

It was moved by Chowdhury, seconded by Anderson, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve Metro Transit’s scope change request to two hub locations and shift budget from technology amenities to multimodal amenities.

Bradley brought up concerns expressed. Shared Mobility Manager Meredith Klekotka shared details on the decision. Johnson asked for clarification on the roles of the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County. Marino asked for details on the existing program, Jenkins, Martinson, and Morast asked for specifics on the locations. Jeppson and Geisler reminded the TAB of the project’s history. Chowdhury shared context from the Minneapolis Council Members. Goettel noted that Hennepin County had not been contacted.

Motion carried.

5. 2024-26: Release 2025-2028 TIP for Public Comment (*Joe Barbeau, MTS*)

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by Jeppson, that the Transportation Advisory Board release the draft 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program for public comment.

TAB members discussed a proposed amendment.

Motion carried.

Information

1. Regional Solicitation Evaluation Updates

- Policymaker Workgroup (*Jim Hovland, Chair*)

The meeting covered the role of the working group, refresher of the history of the regional solicitation and current process, an overview of the Regional Solicitation evaluation process, discussion of evaluation goals, an update on the peer review and listening sessions that are being conducted as part of the evaluation, and future project planning. Members offered potential questions to ask peer agencies in upcoming peer interviews. On the discussion of the Regional Solicitation Evaluation goals, members emphasized



the need to coordinate as the updated TPP and 2050 Regional Development Guides are developed. Other suggestions and questions to consider during the evaluation included:

- The solicitation should express a clear intent on where to spend money and why it's important to fund.
 - The solicitation should clearly explain why certain data points are critical for application performance.
 - Make sure that all metrics are valuable and help achieve goals.
- **Active Transportation Workgroup (*Glen Johnson, TAB*)**

The workgroup met four times. With the feedback they received from TAB, they left their recommendation at spending \$15 million of Active Transportation with project selection. The group discussed what geographic equity looks like. They reviewed maps of where projects are located that are proposed to receive AT funding. Minneapolis has four projects qualifying for the AT funding and volunteers that two receive federal funding to provide more entities to receive AT funding for the pilot projects. The group will be talking about the requirements of the legislation, especially the complete streets requirement, as not all current Regional Solicitation applicants have streets. TAC recommends that they consider more than \$15 million. Work going forward will be discussing a potential 2025 application and also the 2026 solicitation. The group will be reviewing the MnDOT applications.

2. **2024 Regional Solicitation Funding Scenarios (*Steve Peterson, MTS*)**

Peterson presented information on three funding scenarios for distributing STPGP, CMAC, Carbon Reduction, PROTECT, and Active Transportation funds. TAB members shared concerns and asked clarifying questions.

3. **Transportation Funding Overview (*Amy Vennewitz, MTS*)**

The item was not covered.

4. **Scope Change Policy Update (*Joe Barbeau, MTS*)**

The item was not covered.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

Council contact:

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