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*Transportation Advisory Board  
Of the Metropolitan Council*

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**Minutes of a Meeting of the  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, March 6, 2019  
9:30 A.M.**

**Members Present:** Doug Fischer, Brian Isaacson, Lisa Freese, Emily Jorgenson, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Cole Hiniker, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Molly McCarthy, Innocent Eyoh, Andrew Emanuele, Jen Lehman, Peter Dahlberg, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Ken Ashfeld, Anne Kane, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Kim Lindquist, Jennifer Hager, Paul Mogush

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lisa Freese at 9:31 a.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda was moved by Brian Isaacson and seconded by Doug Fischer. No discussion. Motion passed.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the February 6, 2019 TAC minutes was moved by Cole Hiniker and seconded by Paul Oehme. Motion passed.

**4. TAB Report**

Elaine Koutsoukos reported that the February 20 TAB meeting was cancelled due to weather. However, an electronic vote was undertaken to cover items that were time-sensitive. All other items will be added to the March TAB agenda.

**5. Committee Reports**

**A. Executive Committee** (Lisa Freese, Chair)

Chair Freese noted that the Executive Committee met during the morning and talked about the meeting's agenda as well as upcoming items for the committees.

**B. Planning Committee** (Kevin Roggenbuck, Vice Chair)

Chair Freese noted that the February meeting of the TAC-Planning Committee had been cancelled.

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

**2019-15: TIP Amendment: US 212 Reduced Conflict Intersection.**

Paul Oehme presented this item, noting that is needed in order to revise the project scope and total cost of the US 212 and CSAH 36 reduced conflict intersection project. The scope was revised to add a reduced conflict intersection at US 212 and CSAH 36 and the total project cost was increased from \$1.14

million to \$1.949 million. A motion to approve the revised scope and adjusted cost of the project was moved by Karl Keel and seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **2019-16: TIP Amendment: I-94 Reconstruction.**

Mr. Oehme presented this amendment, which updates the project description and total projects cost of the I-94 project between Maple Grove and Rogers. He noted that the scope changes include additional rest area work and weigh-in-motion technology along the corridor. The scope change also includes temporary lane widening and crossovers during the 2019 construction year. This project is funded with state bond funds. Innocent Eyoh clarified that the addition of the lanes was necessary for construction and is a temporary change. A motion to approve the TIP amendment was moved by Karl Keel and seconded by Ken Ashfeld. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **2019-17 Program Year Change Request: Metro Transit.**

Mr. Oehme presented this item, noting that Metro Transit is requesting to delay the 2016 transit expansion project along Hennepin Avenue in Minneapolis from 2021 to 2023. This will ensure that the timing of the expansion is coordinated with a road reconstruction also occurring on Hennepin Avenue. A motion to approve the TIP amendment was moved by Brian Isaacson and seconded by Anne Kane. Motion passed unanimously.

### **6. Special Agenda Items**

#### **Freeway Improvement Plan Schedule.**

Metropolitan Council staff Joe Barbeau presented this item. Mr. Barbeau noted that the proposed TIP schedule does not divert much from schedules used in the past. He walked through the major milestones of the TIP schedule, noting that November 1<sup>st</sup> is when final approval must take place.

#### **Congestion Management Plan Update.**

Metropolitan Council staff Mark Filipi presented this item. Mr. Filipi explained that this item stems from feedback from FHWA from the Council's 2016 triannual TMA certification review, which recommended the Council develop a fully realized Congestion Management Process that adheres to federal regulations. The CMP is required under federal law, and was previously included within the Transportation Policy Plan. The CMP Plan is an updated, freestanding document that is more in-depth and includes extensive feedback from regional partners such as metro-area counties, cities, FHWA, and MnDOT. It follows the guidelines from the Congestion Management Process Guidebook published by FHWA. It is an ongoing process that will be taken forward in coming years. The goal is to assess somewhere between four and six corridors per year. The Plan includes a Policies and Procedures Handbook and a Transportation Trends report, the latter of which will be updated on an annual basis.

Karl Keel inquired if there was any attempt to estimate the cost effectiveness of any of the CMP strategies as part of the study. Mr. Filipi responded that the Council and its partners will attempt to evaluate and track the cost effectiveness to the greatest extent possible.

Brian Isaacson asked how the CMP will be used. Mr. Filipi noted that the next steps of the process is figuring out the best mechanisms to get the CMP integrated into the decision-making processes of decision makers throughout the metro area.

Doug Fischer inquired if there would be guidelines available to local stakeholders who wish to use the CMP Plan for their own project evaluation process. Mr. Filipi explained that this is one of the main goals of the Congestion Management Process, and it would be outlined in the Policies and Procedures Handbook.

## **7. Agency Reports**

Molly McCartney from MnDOT announced that the Governor and MnDOT has released a transportation package, which outlines MnSHIP investment strategies and projects. She continued by noting that Lynne Bly would be retiring from her post at MnDOT and that the vacancy is expected to be filled within the next month.

Adam Harrington from Metro Transit announced that they will be implementing quarterly bus and rail service changes, which will be primarily minor in nature.

## **8. Other Business and Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Doug Fischer and seconded by Brian Isaacson. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

### **Prepared by:**

David Burns