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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, September 2, 2015  
9:00 A.M.**

**Members Present:** Doug Fischer, Lyndon Robjert, Carla Stueve, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Mark Filipi, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Pat Bursaw, Bridget Rief, Beverley Miller, John Tompkins, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Jean Keely, Steve Albrecht, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Jim Kosluchar, Jenifer Hager, Jack Byers, Paul Kurtz (Members Excused: None)

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Tim Mayasich moved and Mark Filipi seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

**3. Approval of March Minutes**

The June 3, 2015 meeting minutes were approved as written. Karl Keel moved and Mark Filipi seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

**4. TAB Report**

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the August 19, 2015 TAB meeting.

**Reports:**

TAB Chair: James Hovland reported that the TAB Executive Committee meeting met prior to the TAB meeting. He announced that in September, 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. The public and TAB members not on the Executive Committee will have the opportunity to attend and observe the meeting, but will not have input. 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.

Defederalization Workgroup Update: Steve Albrecht, TAC Chair, reported on two meetings held by the workgroup. Defederalization involves moving federal funds from one project to another that also has federal funds 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. The work group is working on these issues. A draft policy will come to TAB.

TAB Bylaws: Proposed changes were reviewed, including adding the new TAB member added by the legislature representing the Suburban Transit Association and changes to quorum and voting.

### **Action Items:**

1. 2015-33 2015-2018 Streamlined TIP Amendment was approved for a MnDOT I-94 Unbonded Concrete Overlay Project (on today's Transp. Comm. Agenda)
2. 2015-36 2015 UPWP Administrative Amendment – added Regional Truck Highway Corridor Study as a product under the Freight Planning activity (on today's Transp. Comm. Agenda)
3. 2015-34 Approve 2016-2019 public comment report. Corrections and MnDOT projects added to the draft TIP
4. 2015-35 Adoption of 2016-2019 TIP (will go to Transp. Comm. In September)

### **Information Items:**

1. 2016 Regional Solicitation Schedule – reviewed timeline for developing and release of the next Regional Solicitation.
2. Heidi Schallberg presented an update on the Equity Workshops. A consultant was selected, Center for Policy Planning and Performance. A contract is working its way through the Procurement Office. When the contract is signed TAB members will work with the consultant on developing the workshop structure.
3. 2016 Unified Planning Work Program – The major project list was provided to TAB as information. The full UPWP will come before TAB in September.

### **5. Committee Reports**

#### **A. Executive Committee (Steve Albrecht, Chair)**

At this morning's TAC Executive meeting the defederalization item was discussed in detail. Jim Kosluchar is joining us from Fridley, taking over from Duane Schwartz from Roseville. Michelle Beaulieu is leaving St. Paul for San Francisco, and Bill Darmody will take over for her.

#### **B. Funding and Programming Committee (Tim Mayasich, Chair)**

#### **2015-37: Anoka County Scope Change**

Joe Barbeau presented this item. Tim Mayasich moved and Lyndon Robjent seconded. Motion passed.

#### **2015-39: Anoka County TIP Amendment**

Joe Barbeau presented this item. After TAB this item will be open for a one month public comment period and will be effective after the 2016-2019 TIP is adopted. Pat Bursaw clarified that the project was regionally significant before the amendment was proposed, which required this TIP amendment. Tim Mayasich moved and Karl Keel seconded. Motion passed.

#### **2015-40: Scott County Defederalization**

Tim Mayasich presented this item and a handout was provided with more information. A work group has been meeting on how to set policy and procedures for requests like this that may come in the future. Defederalization is a common practice nationwide and has happened in other non-Metro MnDOT districts. In the Metro district, this has been used for park and ride projects. This is an attractive tool for counties to use, since they typically have more than one federally-funded project. Lisa Freese explained the two projects that are affected by this proposal, and explained Scott County's strategy for paying for the defederalized project.

Karl Keel asked if TED funding was being sought for County Road 42; Lisa Freese clarified that the TED money would be used on US 169. Pat Bursaw applauded Scott County's efforts in leading this initiative. Pat Bursaw added that this group needs to find a way to ensure that the defederalized project will still be constructed, and that having a county board resolution is a good mechanism to do that. Lyndon Robjant, Michael Thompson, and Pat Bursaw articulated the risks if some pieces are advanced and leave other project pieces behind. Elaine Koutsoukos added that this item will not go TAB in September and instead will wait until October to ensure a county resolution is passed. Michael Larson and others suggested that the handout be changed to add clarity on the benefits of declining federal funds.

Tim Mayasich moved and Pat Bursaw seconded. Motion passed.

### **C. Planning Committee** (Lisa Freese, Chair)

#### **2015-36: 2016 Unified Planning Work Program**

Katie White presented this item. Lyndon Robjant asked if the recommendation from the A Minor study are included here; Katie White responded that they are, folded within some of the sections. Lyndon Robjant asked about the Strategic Capacity Expansion Study; Steve Peterson stated that it is very preliminary at the moment, but it should be completed before the next TPP. Mark Filipi suggested adding the Transportation System Evaluation to the table of 2017 and beyond projects. Steve Bot asked for clarification on how 7W projects are reflected in the UPWP. Connie Kozlak said that unless limited by a geographic designation, all projects in the UPWP include the 7W area. Steve Bot requested to add the I-94 study happening in the Albertville area. After the meeting, it was determined that the study is concluding in August 2015 and therefore does not need to be in the 2016 UPWP.

Lisa Freese moved and Elaine Koutsoukos seconded. Motion passed.

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

#### **Regional Solicitation** (Steve Peterson, MTS)

The schedule for the 2016 Regional Solicitation was presented by Steve Peterson.

Steve Peterson and Jessica Schoner presented the results of the Regional Solicitation Sensitivity Analysis. They highlighted a couple of pages, as the entire contents were reviewed in depth by Funding & Programming. Karl Keel asked what the next steps were for using the collected information. Steve Peterson said that the team will go one category at a time through each criteria and will take that information into consideration for presented options. The options are expected in November or December of this year. Karl Keel voiced approval of the analysis.

#### **Public Participation Plan** (Michelle Fure, Metropolitan Council Communications)

Michelle Fure presented on the status of the Council's Public Engagement Plan and the transportation division's Public Participation Plan. Adam Harrington asked if the PPP would focus specifically on tactics but not change how we operate or do business today; Michelle Fure agreed that that was an accurate description of the document. Lyndon Robjant asked if the PEP will interact with other agencies; Michelle Fure responded in the affirmative.

### **7. Agency Reports**

Bridget Reif reported that the Lake Elmo LCTP comment period has been extended to mid-September. The document will go to the board first and then TAC. The MSP preferred concept goes to the board and commission in the near future. The plans are similar to what was suggested in 2010 and are focused

primarily on land side operations. As has been in the news lately, the FAA has been making changes to the air operations. The CIP for 2016-2022 is coming in September and October as well. Typically the document shows about \$100 million in improvements; this new one shows about \$800 million.

Adam Harrington stated that we are about halfway through State Fair operations. Ridership is high and he encouraged TAC members to take transit to the Fair.

John Tompkins introduced himself as the new MnDOT – Freight representative.

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

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:22AM.

#### **Prepared by:**

Katie White