
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, January 2, 2019
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Doug Fischer, Lyndon Robjent, Brian Sorenson, John Doan, Brian Isaacson, Lisa Freese, Jan Lucke, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Lynne Bly, Amanda Smith, Bridget Rief, Andrew Emanuele, Dave Jacobson, Peter Dahlberg, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Ken Ashfeld, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Kim Lindquist, Robert Ellis, Jen Hager, Bill Dermody, Paul Kurtz

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lisa Freese at 9:02 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was moved by Bridget Rief and seconded by Robert Ellis. Motion passed.

4. TAB Report

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the December 19 TAB meeting.

5. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Lisa Freese, Chair)

Lisa Freese reported on the Executive Committee meeting, which focused on the agenda for the day and a proposed bylaw amendment. This amendment would change the meeting time of the monthly Technical Advisory Committee meetings to 9:30 am in order to better accommodate traffic congestion. This item will be brought to the February meeting for formal action. Also discussed was a request by Danny McCollough to participate on one of the TAC subcommittees. It was determined that the committee that appointed Mr. McCollough to TAC had been disbanded, and a new committee would have to be established in order to allow bicycle/pedestrian participation on the TAC-Planning Committee. Staff will look at options and provide additional clarity on this issue in the proceeding month.

B. Planning Committee (Jan Lucke, Chair)

The TAC-Planning Committee did not meet in December. Jan Lucke introduced items that will be presented on the January agenda.

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

2019-02 Program Year Extension: Ramsey County. Paul Oehme presented the item. Brian Isaacson moved and the recommended motion was seconded. Motion passed.

2019-03 2018 Highway Safety Improvement Program Project Selection. Paul Oehme presented the item. Doug Fischer moved and Karl Keel seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

2019-05 Program Year Change: City of Brooklyn Center. Paul Oehme presented the item. John Doan moved and Brian Isaacson seconded the recommended motion. Motion passed.

2019-04 2018 Regional Solicitation Funding Options. Steve Peterson presented the item. Mr. Peterson explained that the TAB desired to have TAC discuss provide input on the pros and cons of the remaining funding scenario options. He continued by explaining that the Base Scenario had been modified and was now referred to as the “Base Plus” Scenario. This, along with the Expansion-Heavy Scenario, were the two scenarios favored by TAB. Mr. Peterson provided the details of the two scenarios and explained that the TAC Funding and Programming Committee did not make a recommendation favoring one scenario or the other, but did recommend up to 10% over-programming. Mr. Peterson continued by discussing the options available should TAC support the 10% over-programming. Brian Isaacson asked whether there are any potential risks associated with over-programming above the traditional levels, to which it was discussed that there are certain risks associated with over-programming both too much and not enough. As some projects do not come to fruition during the expected time frame, it is advantageous to have other projects in the queue should funding become available.

John Doan made a motion to recommend to TAB adoption of over-programming of up to 10.5%. The motion was seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Fischer elaborated on his thoughts on the Base Plus and Expansion Heavy scenarios and proposed a third scenario, which related to the elimination of the City of St. Paul/HOURCAR project within the Base Plus Scenario. Bill Dermody made a motion to recommend to TAB two scenarios: the Base Plus Scenario with over-programming option 2 and the Expansion Heavy Scenario with over-programming option two. Motion was seconded by Brian Sorenson. John Doan proposed an amendment that the Base Plus Scenario with over-programming option 4 be added to the motion. Motion to add the amendment was seconded. The amendment to the motion failed to pass. Mr. Dermody’s original motion to recommend two scenarios passed.

6. Special Agenda Items

There were no special agenda items.

7. Agency Reports

Bridget Rief clarified that security wait times at checkpoints may not be available or up to date on the MSP Airport website.

Amanda Smith noted that the MPCA has two reports coming out within the week: “The Air We Breathe” and a biannual report on greenhouse gas emissions.

Lynne Bly noted that Scott McBride is transitioning from MnDOT to the private sector.

Brian Sorenson noted that he will be the new State Traffic Engineer for MnDOT and this will be his last TAC meeting.

Andrew Emanuele noted that FHWA will remain open during the government shutdown.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Prepared by:

David Burns