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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, November 2, 2016  
9:00 A.M.**

**Members Present:** Doug Fischer, Lyndon Robjant, Brian Sorenson, Carla Stueve, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Jan Lucke, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Steve Peterson, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Pat Bursaw, Innocent Eyoh, Bridget Rief, Dave Jacobson, Peter Dahlberg, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Jean Keely, Steve Albrecht, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Kim Lindquist, Bruce Loney, Jim Kosluchar, Jen Hager, Jack Byers, Bill Dermody

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Albrecht at 9:00 a.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda was moved and seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

**3. Approval of July Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes was moved and seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

**4. TAB Report**

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the October 19, 2016 TAB meeting.

**REPORTS**

**TAB Chair's Report:**

Jim Hovland reported that the TAB Executive Committee met prior to the TAB meeting. TAB Executive Committee membership selection occurs each January and members will be asked to submit interest in serving to the Chair by December. TAB Executive Committee directed staff to prepare information for Funding & Programming Committee on Regional Solicitation inflation factors for discussion prior to project selection and to develop scenarios for base mid-range, expansion emphasis, and reconstruction emphasis. There was continued discussion about funding the TBI.

**Agency Reports (MnDOT, MPCA, MAC and Metropolitan Council)**

MnDOT: Scott McBride reported that the construction season is coming to an end.

Metropolitan Airports Commission: Carl Crimmins reported that a public hearing was held on the Transportation Network Companies (TNC) ordinance, which was approved. The ordinance will go into effect January 1, 2017. Solar panels have been added to the top of the parking ramp at Terminal 1 and all lighting has been changed to LED. Solar panels will be added to Terminal 2 next.

Metropolitan Council: Katie Rodriguez reported that Nick Thompson was hired as the new director of MTS. Council Member Rodriguez attended Rail~Volution and showed a video from the conference.

### **TAC Report**

Steve Albrecht reported that TAC acted on several action items appearing before TAB. The Travel Behavior Inventory was discussed and a subcommittee of TAC Planning and TAC Funding & Programming was created to look into the scope of the project and ways the project can benefit counties and cities. TAC ran out of time to discuss the unique projects criteria.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. 2016-51: Approved a streamlined TIP amendment to adjust the scope of MnDOT's I-94 resurfacing project.
2. 2016-50: Approved Public Comment Report and 2017-2020 TIP amendment to change the scope of Dakota County's US 52/CSAH 42 interchange project.
3. 2016-49: Approved Transportation Public Participation Plan to send to Metropolitan Council for public comment.
4. 2016-47: Approved scope change for the City of Minneapolis's Anderson School Pedestrian Crossings and Bikeway Safe Routes to School project

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Jonathan Ehrlich, MTS staff, presented information on the Travel Behavior Inventory (TBI). A motion was made and passed at TAB directing staff to prepare Regional Solicitation funding scenarios assuming \$2.7 million off the top for the TBI.

### **5. Committee Reports**

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

Steve Albrecht introduced Nick Thompson, the new Director of Metropolitan Transportation Services.

**2016-54 Travel Behavior Inventory.** Joe Barbeau said that the work group established to discuss the funding of the Travel Behavior Inventory (TBI) and Regional Model did not make a funding-related recommendation but did make the following recommendations:

- That a graphic representation of the TBI and Regional Model's timeline and expenditures be provided by staff.
- That local partners be included on associated consultant selection committees.
- That Council modeling staff establish a regional transportation modeling work group, inclusive of the counties and other interested agencies, to establish how to best assure that the Regional Model is of optimal use to the Council's regional partners.
- That a scope of work be provided.
- That a breakdown of funding sources be provided.

Dave Jacobson asked what sources the Metropolitan Council's contribution would come from. Jonathan Ehrlich said that the Council's sources are non-federal but the exact sources are not yet determined; they will be determined through the Council's budgeting process. Steve Peterson said that the request is for \$1,000,000, \$850,000 in 2019, and \$850 in 2021, for a total of \$2,700,000 in regional funds from the 2016 Regional Solicitation. The request will be for \$850,000 in subsequent Regional Solicitations. Karl Keel asked whether Regional Solicitation funds are used for overhead. Elaine Koutsoukos, Pat Bursaw,

and Jonathan Ehrlich replied that the funds would not be used for overhead. Adam Harrington said it makes sense to inform TAB that the TBI and Regional Model help the regional acquire regional funds.

Doug Fischer moved and Tim Mayasich seconded to recommend that if the TBI and Regional Model are funded by TAB, that the work group's recommendations be included with the decision and that TAC accept the direction from TAB to include the TBI and Regional Model in the funding scenarios. Motion passed.

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

The Planning Committee did not meet in October and will most likely meet in November.

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

**2016-52 Three Rivers Park District Scope Change.** Paul Oehme introduced this item. Staff had suggested elimination of \$83,200 for the Edina portion and \$42,168 for the Brooklyn Park portion of the project. The Funding & Programming Committee recommended a reduction of only \$83,200. Doug Fischer said that past practice has been to reduce federal funding when work is reduced and asked why the Funding & Programming Committee requested the smaller reduction. Paul Oehme replied that it was a small amount of funding and that the applicant will incur added costs. Thompson added that he made the motion at the Funding & Programming Committee and felt that the Brooklyn Park portion of the project would still meet its goal.

There were no questions. Tim Mayasich moved and Doug Fischer seconded recommending the scope change be approved with a \$125,368 federal reduction. Motion passed.

**2016-53 Three Rivers Park District TIP Amendment.** Paul Oehme introduced this item. There were no questions. Paul Oehme moved and Karl Keel seconded the recommended motion, adjusted to reflect the funding recommendation in 2016-52. Motion passed.

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

**Evaluation of Unique Projects.** Steve Peterson shared the unique projects that have been applied for as part of the 2016 Regional Solicitation. Dave Jacobson asked why the unique projects category exists, to which Steve Peterson replied that some projects have been funded by TAB over the years. Innocent Eyoh added that TAB feels that there can be some beneficial projects that do not fit into the scoring criteria. Lyndon Robjent said that unique projects are risky, as they have not been through an evaluation process. He added that including them in the Roadway System Management category could be worth considering. Several members expressed the desire to not forward any recommendation on the unique projects that have been submitted. Innocent Eyoh suggested that a way to rate projects with regional benefits could be explored. Doug Fischer suggested that the vehicle charging station project could be submitted for CMAQ funds and if it cannot score well in some criteria than it would not be funded. Innocent Eyoh said that project like the diesel retrofit project, shown on the slideshow as federally ineligible, have been funded in other regions. Tim Mayasich said that the Regional Solicitation process has been around for years and should continue to be adhered to.

**Regional Solicitation Preliminary Scores.** Steve Peterson shared the 2016 Regional Solicitation scores, which are still in draft form pending applicant appeals at the November 17 Funding & Programming

Committee meeting. The Transit Scoring Committee wanted to share three concerns: due to outlier projects, proportional score assignments led to the effective nullification of some measures; the equity measure was not effective at catching negative externalities; and three arterial bus rapid transit projects in the Transit Modernization category were continuations of projects funded in the Transit Expansion category in the 2014 Regional Solicitation.

**Congestion Management Safety Plan 4.** Michael Corbett, MnDOT, and Paul Morris, SRF, presented on the fourth phase of the Congestion Management Safety Plan (CMSP). Jan Lucke asked whether there is any redundancy between the CMSP and the Council's Principal Arterial Intersection Conversion Study, to which Steve Peterson replied that there has been a great deal of coordination between the two studies. Jan Lucke asked if the results from the Principal Arterial Intersection Conversion Study would contribute to future Regional Solicitations, to which Steve Peterson replied that CMSP projects are funded by an existing MnDOT source, rendering the Study unlikely contribute to the Regional Solicitation. Steve Bot said that the "Recurring Congestion" and "Travel Time Reliability" maps indicate that data in Sherburne and Wright Counties is not included.

**MnPASS System Study Phase 3.** Brad Larsen, MnDOT, presented on the third phase of the MnPASS System Study.

#### **7. Agency Reports**

Bridget Rief said that the Airport hotel lease has been signed. Site work has started and the hotel is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2018.

Doug Fischer said that Joe McPherson is Anoka County's new Assistant County Engineer.

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

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

**Prepared by:**

Joe Barbeau