

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD  
Metropolitan Council  
390 N. Robert St., St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1805  
Minutes of a Meeting of the  
FUNDING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE  
February 22, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Oehme (Chair, Chanhassen), Lynne Bly (MnDOT Metro District), Colleen Brown (MnDOT State Aid), Robert Ellis (Eden Prairie), Innocent Eyoh (MPCA), Jenifer Hager (Minneapolis), Craig Jenson (Scott County), Emily Jorgensen (Washington County), Elaine Koutsoukos (TAB), Jen Lehmann (MVTA), Joe Lux (Ramsey County), Joe MacPherson (Anoka County), Gina Mitteco (MnDOT Bike & Ped), Ryan Peterson (Burnsville), Steve Peterson (Metropolitan Council), Jason Pieper (Hennepin County), Michael Thompson (Plymouth), Anne Weber (St. Paul), and Joe Barbeau (staff)

OTHERS PRESENT: David Burns (Metropolitan Council) and Forrest Hardy (City of Minneapolis)

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order just after 1:30 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

MOTION: Koutsoukos moved to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Lux. The motion was approved unanimously.

**3. Approval of the Minutes from the January 18, 2018, Meeting**

MOTION: Thompson moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

**4. TAB Report – Information Item**

Koutsoukos reported on February 21, 2018, TAB meeting. TAB Chair Jim Hovland introduced new TAB Members. Ted Schoenecker has been appointed by Ramsey County to the TAC and will serve as the Vice-Chair. Nine action items were approved: a streamlined UPWP amendment; three streamlined TIP amendments; two scope changes and accompanying TIP amendments; and a program year extension. TAB also recommended the Airlake Airport 2035 Long Term Comprehensive Plan to the Council.

**5. Scope Change: City of Minneapolis North Loop Pedestrian Project – Action Item 2018-22**

Barbeau said that the City of Minneapolis was awarded just over \$1 million for its North Loop Pedestrian Improvements Project in the 2014 Regional Solicitation. The project was awarded to install curb extensions and/or achieve ADA compliance at 23 intersections. While few specific improvements at specific intersections were named, one such instance was a pedestrian median at the intersection of 2nd Street North and 7th Avenue North. The City wishes to eliminate seven of the 23 intersections, along with that pedestrian median. The seven intersections are being completed in another local project that is also scheduled for 2019. The City also wishes to add a signal replacement, sidewalk work and accessible pedestrian signal push buttons to the project scope. This project scored 788 points out of 1,000 and was the second ranked project out of four applications, all of which were funded, in the Pedestrian Facilities category. The City provided two funding options, one for which all federal funding is retained and one for which 80 percent of the cost of removed elements is removed. Staff added an option for which only 54 percent of that amount was removed, based on the original funding ratio.

Mitteco asked whether the pedestrian median is replacing bump-outs, thereby still reducing the crossing distance. Forrest Hardy, City of Minneapolis confirm this to be the case.

Ryan Peterson asked how the signal replacement fits into the project. Brown replied that it is not federally eligible. Barbeau said that the full federal amount could still be retained due to the other elements being added. Steve Peterson said that TAB members like to see project elements being done elsewhere and TAB-funded projects being extended.

MOTION: Hager moved to recommend approval of the scope change request, with no federal funding removed, but federal funds not being included for the signal replacement. Seconded by Ellis. The motion was approved unanimously.

Steve Peterson said that TAB members suggested that applications be less specific so fewer will have to go through the scope change process.

**6. Scope Change: Scott County CSAH 21 / TH 13 Reconstruction – Action Item 2018-23**

Barbeau said that Scott County was awarded \$4,929,040 in Surface Transportation Block Grant funds for the 2020 fiscal year in the Roadway Reconstruction/Modernization category of the 2016 Regional Solicitation to reconstruct the CSAH 21/TH 13 intersection; reconstruct the CSAH 21 intersection with Main Avenue to right-in/right-out; replace and add traffic signals at the CSAH 21 intersections with TH 13 and Arcadia Avenue; adjust the TH 13 intersection with Pleasant Street to 3/4 access; and construct turn lanes, trail/sidewalks, pedestrian amenities, and transit amenities. Following public review, the County would like to change the western limits from Arcadia Avenue to West Avenue to include pavement rehabilitation work and construction of a 3/4 access intersection at Duluth Avenue; change the southern limits on TH 13 from Pleasant Avenue to Franklin Trail; change the CSAH 21 signals at Arcadia and TH 13 to roundabouts; and change the right-in/right-out at Main to a 3/4 intersection for northbound traffic on Main. This project scored 568 points out of 1,100 and had a 56-point scoring gap over the highest un-funded project in the Roadway Reconstruction/Modernization category (Minneapolis's 37th Avenue Reconstruction, which scored 512). No scorers reported a significant score reduction and the project would score at least 542 points. Given the minor changes to the periphery of the project area, no alternate federal funding amounts are shown. Jenson said that turnover of elected officials led to the need for a new public participation process, which led to the proposal.

MOTION: Thompson moved to recommend approval of the scope change request. Seconded by MacPherson. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mitteco asked whether there were concerns about pedestrian crossings at the roundabouts, to which Jenson replied there were not. Lehmann added that the intersection at Main will have pedestrian signals and serve as the primary pedestrian crossing.

Mitteco asked how much speed will be reduced. Jenson said he was unsure but that it is a 30 mile-per-hour zone.

Oehme said that the original application included mill and overlay further north. Jenson said that the northern project limit has not changed.

**7. Draft Congestion Management Program Plan Scope of Work – Information Item**

David Burns, Metropolitan Council, presented on the Congestion Management Program Plan., which must be completed by March of 2019. Following consultant selection, likely in May, the process will take eight to nine months. Steve Peterson said that the RFP will not be prescriptive in its impact on the Regional Solicitation. He added that TAB is interested in seeing more east-metro representatives. There may also be interest in having representation from Chisago County or Wisconsin.

**8. 2019-2022 TIP Development Schedule – Information Item**

Barbeau shared the 2019-2022 TIP development schedule, which is essentially the same as the 2018-2021 TIP development schedule.

**9. Other Business**

Oehme said that the scope change work group has met once and will have one or two more meetings.

Koutsoukos said that one more TAB orientation meeting will be held on March 15.

Brown said that letters were sent to sponsors of 2019 projects to gauge interest in moving to 2020, as 2019 is currently overprogrammed. Members can contact her if they are interested.

**10. Adjournment**

MOTION: Ellis moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Lux. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.