
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, April 3, 2013
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Jon Olson, Lyndon Robjent, Tom Johnson, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Cory Slagle, Kevin Roggenbuck, Patrick Boylan, Adam Harrington, Pat Bursaw, Innocent Eyoh, Bridget Rief, Susan Moe, Beverly Miller, Jim Gromberg, Karl Keel, Jane Kansier, Chuck Ahl, Duane Schwartz, Steve Albrecht, Kim Lindquist, Richard McCoy, Jenifer Hager, Allen Lovejoy, Paul Kurtz

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

Chair Pat Bursaw welcomed Bridget Rief, who replaces Bob Vorpahl as the MAC representative on TAC.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as written.

3. Approval of March Minutes

The March 6, 2013 meeting minutes were approved as written.

4. TAB Report

K. Roggenbuck reported that the TAB met on Wednesday, March 20th.

At the TAB meeting Ted Schoenecker, MnDOT State Aid, presented information on regionally selected projects in 2013. He explained the adjustments that are being made based on the directions of the TAB. Ted also showed that about \$28 million remains in 2013 after making these adjustments, and described how the unused federal funds could be redistributed by adding federal funds to regional projects that will be authorized before the end of the FY (June) and by allocating the remaining funds to the seven counties for preservation, safety and ADA projects.

TAB discussed the redistribution of 2013 funds for more than an hour. The Board chose to deal with it three ways, in priority order:

1. Add federal funds to regional solicitation projects yet to be authorized in FY 2013;
2. Allocate the remaining funds to the seven counties for preservation, safety and ADA projects based on the state aid formula described by Ted;
3. Allow counties to choose any federally eligible project other than preservation, safety and ADA, including adding funds to project yet to be authorized, within the next few days.

Two action items for the TIP amendment to include the 2011 solicitation projects and the rail crossing safety projects:

1. TAB accepted the public comment report for the amendment, held a 21-day public comment period and collected 52 comments. Comments were received from project sponsors:

- a. Corrected the location of a rail crossing project in Carver County
 - b. Changed program years for two Hennepin County projects, putting the one they wanted in 2017; and
 - c. Adjusting the CMAQ funding for the STP Bike/Walk project to be partially in 2015 and 2016.
 - d. Received 49 comments from residents of Plymouth requesting that I-494 be reconstructed to six lanes between TH 55 and I-94.
2. TAB adopted the amendment to include the projects as adjusted based on public comments.
 3. Staff will send a notice to project sponsors announcing that has been approved by the Board and will be finalized soon by FHWA – get busy.

Amy Vennewitz described the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan and the work started on the Plan update including:

- influence by Thrive (development framework) and it will be performance based (MAP-21)
- the approach that will be taken using task forces and partner agency work groups;
- inclusion of portions of Wright and Sherburne counties, now part of the urban area;
- public participation plan and schedule.

4. Special Agenda Items

- **Transportation Policy Plan** (Connie Kozlak)

Connie Kozlak gave an update on the development of the new Transportation policy Plan which needs to be completed by the end of 2014. Thrive MSP 2040 (which in the past was known as the Regional Development Framework) will provide overall regional policy direction and goals, community level population forecasts. The TPP will set specific transportation goals. . Changes since the last TPP include: a new 2040 forecast, MAP 21 which includes performance based planning requirements; Census expanded urbanized area boundary to Wright and Sherburne counties; new studies including the Highway BRT and the Bike Master Plan and legislative changes. She suggested TAC members pay close attention to how Thrive is developing because it will have ramifications for the Transportation Policy Plan.

- **MnDOT's proposed STIP and HIP** (Brian Isaacson, MnDOT)

Brian Isaacson gave a presentation on MnDOT's Metro proposed 2014-2017 STIP and the 2018-33 Highway Investment Plan. He said the Draft 2014-17 TIP is due April 15, and requires TAB/Met Council Adoption and MnDOT approval as part of the STIP. MnSHIP 2018-33 draft is due April 15. The 2018-23 with the STIP completes the 10-year plan. Years 11-20 are less definitive. MnDOT must finalize and submit it to legislature by August. MAP-21 focuses spending on the NHS and requires statewide performance targets for pavement, bridges and mobility. The 20 year highway invest plan links policies and strategies from the TPP and MnDOT statewide transportation Policy Plan to Capital improvements made on Twin City highways.. For FY 2017 MnDOT has developed a revised method for funds distribution: the statewide performance program (\$408M) will go to interstate pavements and national Highway System bridges and NHS performance. He described the investments by Program for FY 2017. The key changes in the STIP will be increased pavement investment level in 2017 and in the mobility program. The potential mobility projects for 2014-2017 are CMSP: I-494 Dynamic shoulder lanes (TH 55-I-94, I35W N Auxiliary Lanes between CR C to I-694; and other CMSAP projects TBD. ATM (projects TBD); Managed Lanes: MnPASS Implementation; I-35W BRT/Lake St. Access; Strategic Capacity: TH 610 ROW

and 105th Street Crossing (part of TH 610 project). He summarized key MnSHIP changes: from 2018-23, the statewide performance program identifies funding for statewide performance needs; increased pavement investment levels, and an increased focus on NHS. From 2024-33, the funding scenario is bleak with almost all spending supporting preservation to minimum levels, little more.

6. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Pat Bursaw, Chair)

P. Bursaw said the group would like to be able to guarantee delivery of the program. Tim's group had many recommendations, some of which are being implemented, such as more regular project status reporting. We are likely to have some funding issues and we need to work on other suggestions e.g., "defederalizing" (and how that works in other regions) and other financing mechanisms. Pat asked that if anyone had other ideas they should send them to Kevin and we will share them with the TAC.

B. Funding and Programming Committee (Karl Keel, Chair)

Action item 2013-17: 2014-2017 TIP Schedule. K. Keel moved and C. Ahl seconded a motion that the Transportation Advisory Board adopt the proposed schedule for the 2014-2017 TIP. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Action Item 2013-18: 2013 Funding Reallocation. K. Keel moved and S. Albrecht seconded a motion that the TAB adopt an amendment to the 2013-2016 TIP to add seven placeholder projects, one for each county, using a total of \$17,568,279 in federal Surface Transportation Program funding in 2013 with the provision that project details would be submitted by sponsors to enable the air quality conformity exemption or analysis to be determined by the Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee.

Ted Schoenecker explained a table showing 2013 local federal Aid Program Changes which include identification of additional projects that can be accelerated. L. Freese said that some of these projects on the list are either in or beyond their sunset years and it is sending the wrong message to give additional funds to these late projects. A couple of county TAC members said it was challenging to quickly put together new projects for these funds. One of the city TAC members asked for a report from each county on how these additional funds were spent. C. Ahl asked if the interchange project was awarded additional funds. T. Johnson explained that Hennepin County decided to put their share of the additional county target funds to new elements of the existing interchange project. P. Bursaw said that by the time the TIP amendment goes to the TAB we will have more details. The chair called the question and the **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Action item 2013-19: Transit Section 5310 Projects. K. Keel moved and R. McCoy seconded a motion to recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board adopt an amendment to the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the attached list of 18 projects with \$979,200 in federal funding in 2013 using federal Section 5310 funding. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Action item 2013-20: Program Year policy Changes. K. Keel moved and R. McCoy seconded a motion recommending that the Transportation Advisory Board adopt the revised Regional Program Year Policy. The policy includes a revision that would change the approvals from TAC to TAB, and the extension requests would be on TAB's consent list. **MOTION CARRIED.**

C. Planning Committee (Allen Lovejoy, Chair)

Allen Lovejoy said the first meeting of the TPP partner agency task force will be held on April 25th. The task force is comprised primarily of TAC Planning committee members and will be meeting four or five times during the development of the TPP to provide review and comment on an on-going basis.

7. Agency Reports

K. Roggenbuck said the Steering committee for the Regional Solicitation Study met on March 20th. An internet survey was sent to 3C stakeholders. Of the 115 survey recipients, only two TAB members responded. The consultants are preparing a history of the solicitation. A workshop is schedule for May 6th; the venue is yet to be determined. Over 100 persons will be invited to it. The survey results will be presented at the May workshop. .

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 AM.

Prepared by:

Ann Braden