

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Metropolitan Council Building, 390 North Robert Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

### TAB POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes: April 12, 2012  
Metropolitan Council Chambers

Members Present: Randy Maluchnik, Co-Chair, Gerry Butcher, Karl Drotning, Adam Duininck, Ethan Fawley, Ron Have, Tom Heffelfinger, Aaron Isaacs, Jennifer Janovy, Paul Krause, Scott McBride, Lisa Peilen, Will Rossbach, Sue Sanger.

Guests and Staff: Todd Olson, Metro Cities  
Kirby Becker, Mn Department of Transportation  
Serge Phillips, Mn Department of Transportation  
Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator

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#### I. Call to Order.

Co Chair Maluchnik called the meeting to order at 12:40 PM.

#### II. Adoption of the Agenda.

Ms. Peilen moved, seconded by Mr. Have, to adopt the agenda. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### III. Approval of the Minutes from March 8, 2012.

Mr. Have moved, seconded by Mr. Butcher, to adopt the minutes from the March 8, 2012 TAB Policy Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### IV. Information Items and Action Transmittals.

##### a. Information: Regional Governance at the State Legislature.

Mr. Olson presented this item to the committee. Mr. Olson said Representative Mike Beard's has written a bill to create a regional transit governance board similar to the TAB's membership but without citizen members. The bill only had a reading; it was not introduced at committee. The bill would separate the role of transit operations and transit financing. The bill also reinstates property tax to pay for transit operations, expands the transit taxing district to include all seven counties but allows any community to opt out. This allows for the creation of many new transit providers and operators in any portion of the region.

Mr. Olson reviewed two other regional governance bills. The bill to stagger the terms of metropolitan Council appointees was vetoed by Governor Dayton and a bill to increase transit fares by 25 cents was voted down. Committee members discussed the bills and Mr. Olson answered questions from the committee.

##### c. Information: MnDOT Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan.

Mr. Becker presented this item to the committee. Mr. Becker described how this Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan is different from other plans because it is influenced by MnDOT's 50 Year Vision for transportation and places a greater emphasis on an integrated transportation system. Mr. Becker described the guiding principles and six key objectives of the Plan, the public input process used across the state and the feedback received at open houses.

Mr. Maluchnik said local governments want to be involved as partners and asked what strategies are developed for local governments to be true partners. Mr. Becker said MnDOT has not developed that yet but is working on it. Mr. Becker described how local governments can get involved in corridor planning through the Corridor Investment Management System. Mr. Becker also reviewed the development schedule and future stakeholder meetings.

Mr. Isaacs noted that some of the bulleted items in the key objectives could be at cross purposes with one another and asked how MnDOT would choose between competing priorities like preservation of the system vs. making new connections. Mr. Becker said they are equal importance.

Mr. Fawley asked what the biggest changes are from the previous statewide plan. Mr. Backer said this plan will be more multimodal, will have risk-based assessment and planning, will have broad coverage of performance measures but more defined in the modal investment plans and this plan truly is for all of Minnesota. Mr. McBride said MnDOT will seek public input during the preparation of the modal investment plans as well.

Committee members discussed how the Plan does not include investment priorities or discussion of resources to implement the Plan. Mr. McBride described the Governor's Task Force on Transportation Finance and said the group would provide a report to the state legislature during the 2013 session on transportation funding alternatives.

**b. Information: Extension and Reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU.**

Mr. Phillips presented this item to the committee. Mr. Phillips explained that SAFETEA –LU was extended again, this time to June 30, 2012. Mr. Phillips described it as a “clean” extension so it includes all the provisions of SAFETEA-LU and the same funding levels.

Mr. Phillips described the House and Senate bills for reauthorization; the Senate bill was passed through the committee and the full Senate but the House bill has not gone through the committee yet. Mr. Phillips reviewed the key provisions of MAP-21, the Senate bill and noted that it calls for increasing the size of the National Highway System by 60,000 miles and consolidates many of the current federal funding programs. Mr. Phillips reviewed MnDOT's reauthorization priorities with the committee and offered to assist the TAB in collaborating on a position.

The committee discussed the risks associated with allocating federal funds in the 2011 regional solicitation for program years 2015 and 2016.

**V. Other Business.**

Members did not raise any other business.

**VI. Adjournment.**

Mr. Maluchnik adjourned the TAB Policy Committee meeting at 2:00 PM.

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Minutes prepared by  
Kevin Roggenbuck,  
TAB Coordinator