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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, April 1, 2015  
9:00 A.M.**

**Members Present:** Doug Fischer, Lyndon Robjent, Brian Sorenson, Chris Sagsveen, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Jan Lucke, Steve Bot, Elaine Koutsoukos, Mark Filipi, Michael Larson, Adam Harrington, Pat Bursaw, Amanda Smith, Beverley Miller, Danny McCullough, Karl Keel, Jean Keely, Steve Albrecht, Paul Oehme, Michael Thompson, Kim Lindquist, Bruce Loney, Jenifer Hager, Jack Byers, Paul Kurtz (Members Excused: Bridget Rief, Dave Christianson, Michelle Beaulieu)

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Mark Filipi moved and Tim Mayasich seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

**3. Approval of March Minutes**

The March 4, 2015 meeting minutes were approved as written. Tim Mayasich moved and Paul Oehme seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

**4. TAB Report**

Elaine Koutsoukos reported on the March 18, 2015 TAB meeting.

**Reports:**

**TAB Chair:** James Hovland was selected by the Council as the new TAB Chair. Chair Hovland welcomed new TAB members: Katie Rodriguez (Met Council rep replacing Adam Duinick), Patricia Schwietz, Suyapa Miranda, and Peter Dugan (new citizen reps).

**Met Council:** Katie Rodriguez reported the Council Chair Duinick will complete the 7-county meetings next week.

**Regional Solicitation Update:** Elaine Koutsoukos provided an update of the Regional Solicitation process. The scoring appeals deadline was February 27. Nine appeals were received and will be reviewed at the March 19 Funding & Programming Committee meeting. Met Council staff began preparing funding options across modal categories and these will be presented as information and recommendations made over the next few months.

**Action Items:**

1. 2015-12

**TAB Executive Committee**

New TAB Executive Board – Chair Jim Hovland, Mary Jo McGuire, Jon Ulrich, Kenya McKnight, Katie Rodriguez, Scott McBride, Kevin Reich, Mary Hamann-Roland, Nora

Slawik

2. 2015-07 Federal Funding Reallocation Policy
3. 2015-08 Scope Change Consultation Process Update
4. 2015-13 Scope Change: City of Minneapolis TE project
5. 2015-14 2015-2018 TIP Amendment: CSAH 18 at CR 62, Anoka County
6. 2015-16 2015-2018 TIP Amendment: HSIP Project, Minneapolis
7. 2015-17 Streamlined TIP Amendment: E 7th Street, St. Paul
8. 2015-18 Streamlined TIP Amendment: CSAH 135 Bridge, Henn. Co.
9. 2015-15 Regional Solicitation Funding Level Adjustments

**Information Items:**

- Modern Streetcar Policy Update

**5. Committee Reports**

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

Steve Albrecht reported that Duane Schwartz has retired from his position at the City of Roseville, and therefore a new representative from Metro Cities will be selected. Todd Olson has also left Metro Cities.

**B. Funding and Programming Committee** (Tim Mayasich, Chair)

**2015-19: MnDOT TIP Amendment**

Tim Mayasich presented this item. Karl Keel asked if this amendment follows the recently established process. Tim Mayasich responded that it does.

Tim Mayasich moved and Pat Bursaw seconded. Motion passed.

**2015-21: TIP Schedule**

Joe Barbeau introduced this item. Every year the TAC and TAB need to approve the schedule for establishing the TIP. This year's follows last year's schedule.

Tim Mayasich moved and Mark Filipi seconded. Motion passed.

**Information Item: Regional Solicitation Final Scores**

Elaine Koutsoukos explained that the final scores have been adopted following the Funding & Programming appeals process.

**Information Item: Regional Solicitation Development of Funding Alternatives**

Steve Peterson explained the attachment, which illustrates where each project falls using the "midpoint" formula that had been previously discussed. The last page of the attachment shows the number of projects that each county would be awarded under the "midpoint" formula. Steve Peterson also handed out a new map with this information.

Adam Harrington asked why there is 2017 funding for roadways. Steve Peterson responded that a special solicitation happened for 2017 for transit, but not for roadways, which provides this extra funding. Pat Bursaw added that these projects don't need as much lead time as transit projects.

Karl Keel asked how this distribution compares to previous years. Steve Peterson responded that modal ranges were based on historic data to create the "midpoint," so it should be about the same. Trails have

always traditionally been the most heavily-requested area, but since new subcategories were created with this solicitation it would be hard to create a comparison. Carl Ohrn said that the biggest change has been in reconstruction projects, and there has never been a transit modernization category before.

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

The Planning committee did not meet in March but will meet in April. Topics will include the streetcar policy work, system statements, forecasting, and the Freeway Principal Arterial Intersection Conversion Study. The next several months also have agenda items.

## **6. Special Agenda Items**

### **Principal Arterial Intersection Conversion Study** (Steve Peterson, MTS)

Steve Peterson provided a presentation. This study is needed to identify regional priorities, since many local governments request these types of improvements.

Steve Bot asked if the Highway 10 corridor in northwestern Hennepin County should be extended into Sherburne County. Perhaps it doesn't need to, since there is no funding impact. Steve Peterson said that if 7W has an interest in participating, it should be reasonable to do this.

Doug Fischer asked if the study is limited to converting the highways to freeways, or if low-impact intersection improvements will also be studied. Steve Peterson responded that both will be studied. J-turns and other alternative improvements will be considered.

Tim Mayasich asked what percentage of the study map is located on the local system, as opposed to MnDOT facilities. Carl Ohrn responded that it is somewhere between 10-20%. Tim Mayaisch, Chris Sagsveen, Lyndon Robjent, Lisa Freese, and Jen Hager asked questions regarding the process for soliciting local feedback into this process. Steve Peterson responded that local governments will be represented on a TAC and each corridor will have increased participation from the local governments.

Karl Keel asked if success will be based on how well local governments have planned for these corridors, including for instance the existence of access control policies. Steve Peterson said that that is the case.

Doug Fischer said that the study serve an important purpose and will fit into the comprehensive plan process and next TPP and solicitation.

Brian Sorenson asked if there will be a process for updating the results of this study, as conditions will continue to change. Steve Peterson responded that the prioritized lists will need to be updated to reflect changes.

Carl Ohrn added that more specific information about this study will be made available at TAB, the Council's Transportation Committee, TAC-Planning, and MnDOT's CIC.

### **Transit On-Board Survey** (Jonathan Ehrlich, MTS)

Jonathan Ehrlich presented an overview of the purpose and process for the Transit On-Board Survey.

Pat Bursaw asked when the funding will be needed. Jonathan Ehrlich responded by the fall of 2015, and the funds could come from 2016 and 2017 dollars.

Lyndon Robjent, Lisa Freese, Michael Thompson, Karl Keel, and Doug Fischer asked questions about the source of funds used to pay for this study. MTS has sent a request to TAB to use the special projects funding for this study, but has not received a response. TAC members expressed concern that using those funds would take away from other projects that might otherwise be considered as part of the Regional Solicitation. Elaine Koutsoukos, Pat Bursaw, Brian Isaacson, and Adam Harrington clarified that that is not the case, and that TAB set up the special projects funds explicitly for projects such as this.

Lyndon Robjent and Jack Byers stated that this is an important study and it should have a more permanent source of funds instead of collecting funds leftover from other projects. Jonathan Ehrlich said that this could be part of the result from the TBI Evaluation study, currently underway.

**Suburban Transit Providers (Jane Kansier, STA)**

Jane Kansier provided an overview of the structure and purpose of the STA providers.

Bruce Loney added that Shakopee has been working to bring jobs to Scott County, so that people do not need to leave the county for work. There is a big need for reverse commute transit options.

**7. Agency Reports**

Adam Harrington updated the TAC on the 2030 Service Improvement Plan (SIP). Outreach was conducted through November, which resulted in adding 24 projects to the 149 existing projects. The Regional SIP (RSIP) will be worked on next.

Mark Filipi introduced Noel Nix, who is a new Communications staffer dedicated to MTS needs.

Mark Filipi informed the group that revised housing performance scores are out for public comment as part of an amendment to the Housing Policy Plan.

**8. Other Business and Adjournment**

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

**Prepared by:**

Katie White