

Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting date: December 18, 2024

Time: 12:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

Chair, James Hovland
 1st Vice Chair, Mark Windschitl
 2nd Vice Chair, Debbie Goettel
 Doug Anderson
~~Myron Bailey~~
 Deb Barber
~~Husniyah Bradley~~
 Kevin Burkart
~~Aurin Chowdhury~~
 Carl Crimmins
 Peter Dugan
 John Fahey
~~Amity Foster~~ (Timothy Marino)
 Chris Geisler

Gary Hansen
 Mary Liz Holberg
 Mark Jenkins
 Julie Jeppson
 Glen Johnson
 Stan Karwoski
~~Hwa Jeong Kim~~ (Saura Jost)
~~Frank Kohlasch~~ (Todd Biewen)
 William Lindeke
~~John Morast~~
 Brian Martinson
~~Trista Martinson~~ (Mary Jo McGuire)
 Becky Petryk

~~Jess Robertson~~
 Khani Sahebjam
 George Schember
~~Mark Steffenson~~
 Jon Ulrich
 Christopher Vaughan
 Jeffery Weisensel

Staff

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB
 Jeni Hager, TAC
 Charles Carlson, MTS Director

Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Hovland called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:07 p.m.

Agenda approved

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Windschitl to approve the agenda. Committee members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

There was no one who wished to address the TAB.

Reports

1. TAB Chair's Report – Jim Hovland

Hovland reported that the TAB Executive Committee met prior to TAB and discussed the letter relative to MnDOT's strategy around GHG reductions and pressure on MnDOT by the legislature. The letter isn't ready to share yet and there are things going on that may affect how the letter gets crafted, including input from MnDOT and MPCA. We will hold the letter until January and submit letter for TAB's consideration that meets the needs of the time. MnDOT is already doing some of the things that TAB was suggesting by that date. TAB needs two city representatives to volunteer to serve on the TAB Executive Committee in 2025. Hovland recognized outgoing TAB members Mark Windschitl, Chris Geisler, and Kevin Burkhart, and outgoing TAC Chair Jeni Hager

2. Agency Reports – MnDOT, MPCA, MAC, Metropolitan Council, and Suburban Transit Providers

MnDOT

Sahebjam reported we are at 447 fatalities in the state, which are an additional 38 fatalities since the November TAB meeting. In 2023 at this time, there were 380 fatalities. The breakdown of fatalities are 44 pedestrian, 8 bicycles, 76 motorcycles, 22 ATVs, and 1 snowmobile.

MPCA

Biewen reported on Climate Grants: MPCA has a number of grants to help prepare communities for climate change impacts and take climate action. RFPs that are currently open are resilience planning grants, implementation grants for community resilience, and local climate action grants. Learn more about the RFPs and what is eligible here. [Grants to prepare Minnesota for climate change | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency](#); Transportation: MN has been chosen by EPA to receive a multi-million dollar grant to fund 19 electric school buses. For the Volkswagen program, MPCA continues to manage 700 projects across MN, and there are still three years of VW funding ahead.

MAC

Rief reported that, for the 12 days around Thanksgiving, they had 451,000 passengers come through the terminals, which is a 5 percent increase over last year. They are anticipating 725,000 passengers from December 20 through January 6, an increase of 9 percent over last year. The Airport Foundation kicked off their MSP Creates Art Exhibit; employees and their families submit art that is displayed in Concourse C until May.

Metropolitan Council

Barber reported on transit service improvements. Route 223 suburban local service was restored in Roseville, Little Canada, and Maplewood; Improved frequency on Metro Orange Line; and increased frequency on several local and express routes, including routes 4, 54, 94, and 250. New microtransit service will be coming on board in January in Woodbury serving Woodbury, Oakdale, and Lake Elmo; and in Roseville serving Roseville, Arden Hills, and Shoreview. Will be finalizing Network Now plans in early 2025. Three new BRT lines will open in 2025, with the launch of the Gold Line in less than 100 days.

Suburban Transit Providers

Hansen reported Maple Grove Transit and Plymouth Metrolink are making progress on their joint transit study to improve service connections in the NW metro. The first of Minnesota Valley Transit Authority's five fully electric e-Jest microtransit vehicles has been put into service before a broader launch of the vehicles when MVTA Connect service expands to Shakopee and Prior Lake on January 13. The vehicles are managing winter weather effectively and meeting EV range expectations. MVTA is partnering with Buck Hill Ski Area to promote a seasonal weekend service pilot that will connect Buck Hill to the Burnsville Mall, Orange Line BRT, and Burnsville Transit Station services to help improve accessibility to the ski area and assist with overflow parking needs on weekends. The pilot service is slated to start as part of MVTA's January 13 service change. SouthWest Transit is working through regulatory matters to launch autonomous vehicle service within a few weeks.

3. TAC Report – Jeni Hager, TAC Chair

Hager reported that Joe MacPherson, Anoka County, was selected to be the TAC Chair for 2025-2026.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Windschitl, seconded by Anderson to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2024, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried.**



Consent business

Consent business adopted

1. 2024-49: 2025-2028 Streamlined TIP Amendment: Sherburne County Government Center Electric Vehicles and Charging Stations
2. 2024-53: 2025-2028 Streamlined TIP Amendment Ramsey County and Saint Louis Park Projects Cost Increases
3. 2024-54: 2025-2028 Streamlined TIP Amendment: New Hennepin County Charging Ports and MnDOT NEVI Program Charging Stations

It was moved by Holberg, seconded by Martinson.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business

1. 2024-48: Regional Significant 2025-2028 TIP Amendment – I-494 E-ZPass Extension and Improvements (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair; Robbie King, MTS*)

It was moved by Geisler, seconded by Windschitl, that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2025- 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a regionally significant project to extend E-ZPass, reconstruct mainline pavement, improve drainage, rehabilitate bridges, and add ADA improvements on I-494 from Penn Avenue to 34th Avenue, I-494 from US 169 to MN 100, and I35W from 86th St to 76th Street.

Motion carried.

2. 2024-50: Scope Change and Program Year Extension Request – CSAH 153 Reconstruction Project (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair*)

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by McGuire, that the Transportation Advisory Board approve Hennepin County's scope change request to reduce its CSAH 153 reconstruction project and move the program year from 2025 to 2026.

Motion carried.

3. 2024-51: Review of Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) 2025-2031 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair*)

It was moved by Karwoski, seconded by Jeppson, that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend that the Metropolitan Council: • find that the Metropolitan Airport Commission's CIP process included adequate public participation; • approve the proposed 2025 CIP runway rehabilitation and extension project at Lake Elmo Airport which meets the dollar threshold and significant effects criteria for Council approval; and • find the remaining CIP projects to be consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan and forward any additional project comments to the Metropolitan Council for its consideration.

Motion carried.

4. 2024-52: Adoption of 2024 Safety Performance Targets (*Jeni Hager, TAC Chair; Jed Hanson, MTS*)

It was moved by Goettel, seconded by Anderson, that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of the Option A 2025 safety performance targets based on the 2020-2024 Minnesota Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) goal, which advance a long-term goal of zero deaths: • Number of all fatalities: no more than 74 • Fatal injuries per 100 million VMT: no more than 0.26 • Number of all serious injuries: no more than 464 • Serious injuries per 100 million VMT: no more than 1.64 • Pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities and serious injuries: no more than 115

TAB members discussed the safety trends and targets.

Motion carried.

Information

1. Imagine 2050 Transportation Policy Plan Draft Changes in Response to Comments (*Jed Hanson, MTS*)

There was a request to remove reference to current cost participation policies between counties and cities because these have to go through county board processes and each county settles on different reasons. A change will be made to remove the reference. There was a question about the Transit Investment Plan on language regarding updating the Regional Transit Vision. It is not mentioned in the Work Plan and there was a question on the schedule. There will be a conversation with partners before committing to the project and are open to adding it to the work program in the future after determining the scope.

Items of TAB members

Other business

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Council contact:

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