

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
 390 North Robert St., St. Paul MN 55101
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
 Wednesday, November 17, 2010

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| MEMBERS PRESENT: | Hargis, William | Bennett, Tony | Berg, Dennis |
| Petryk, Becky | Johnson, Ken | Have, Ron | Maluchnik, Randy |
| Hovland, James | Meyers, James | Lilligren, Robert | Mussell, Richard |
| Peilen, Lisa | Stark, Russ | Ulrich, Jon | Krause, Paul |
| Smith, Jill | Thornton, David | Leppik, Peggy | Whalen, Julia |
| Tjornhom, Bethany | Gepner, David | Callison, Jan | Reinhardt, Andrew |
| Hegberg, Dennis | McBride, Scott | Heffelfinger, Thomas | |
| | | | |
| ABSENT: | Ward, Bart | Gustafson, Dan | Swanson, Dick |
| Craig, Matthew | Lampi, Steve | Haik, Chuck | |
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| LIAISON/STAFF PRESENT: | Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator | | |

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was present when Chair Hargis called the November 17, 2010 TAB meeting to order at 1:33 pm, Metropolitan Council Chambers, St. Paul.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Prior to adoption of the agenda, Ulrich commented on Items VI and VII on the agenda. He stated that because the MnPASS II study was a fundamental part of the TPP, the TAB should have seen the presentation at an earlier meeting. McBride stated that the MnPASS II study was completed in September and placed on the October TAB agenda but moved to November due to time constraints at the October meeting. Regarding Item VII on the TAB agenda, Ulrich pointed out that there are 2 more letters that should have been in the meeting packet (handed out at the meeting), and that this item should also have been heard at an earlier TAB meeting. Ulrich stated he does not disapprove of the agenda, he is just pointing out items of interest. Motion by Ulrich, seconded by Callison, to adopt the agenda for the November 17, 2010 TAB meeting. Motion passed.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Lilligren, seconded by Whalen, to approve the minutes from October 20, 2010 TAB meeting. Motion passed.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

Invitation to the public to address the Board about any issue not on the agenda. Public comment on the agenda items has occurred at the respective TAB subcommittee meetings. Shoreview bus rider, Norman Mofield, spoke on his unhappiness that bus shelters have recently been removed from along his route in Shoreview. Chair Hargis stated that the TAB does not intend to reply to public comments at the meeting, but rather will pass the issues on to the appropriate body/department, and reply after the issue has gone through the process and a formal reply can be given. Hargis thanked Mr. Mofield for appearing at the meeting and voicing his concerns.

V. RECOGNITION OF DENNIS BERG, ANOKA COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND MYRA PETERSON, WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Hargis presented plaques to outgoing members Dennis Berg, Anoka County and Myra Peterson, Washington County. Each spoke of their experiences on the TAB and voiced their pleasure to have served.

VI. SPECIAL AGENDA postponed from October meeting

MnPASS II Study

Nick Thompson, MnDOT Office of Policy Analysis, Research and Innovation

Thompson gave an update on the MnPASS II study. The last MnPASS lane will open on the Crosstown on Friday. The next phase will be MnPASS II. New MnPASS II corridors will be additional lanes, not existing lanes, and the next corridor will most likely set the stage for the policy on those that follow.

VII. SPECIAL REPORT

2030 Transportation Policy Plan: Scott County correspondence and the public comment report

Carl Ohrn appeared before the TAB to apologize to members for actions at the October TAB meeting. He stated that the TPP and related studies have been worked on for the last three years. The pre-public hearing draft of the TPP went before TAC Planning Committee, F&P Committee, Aviation Task Force, Full TAC, TAB Policy Committee and the full TAB. The suggestion that the TPP did not have a full airing before the board(s) caught him by surprise, but he stated he should not have been discourteous and apologized.

Arlene McCarthy, Director Metropolitan Transportation Services appeared before the committee to address issues that have surfaced concerning the 2010 Update of the *2030 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP)*. Correspondence between Scott County and Metropolitan Council was included in the packet and handed out at the meeting. McCarthy reviewed the development process, the public comment and responses, and what was adopted in the plan.

Following McCarthy's presentation, Ulrich reminded the TAB that they will be looking at the process(es) in the future. He questioned why the TAB would be voting on the TPP if they are only an advisory committee to the Council. He stated that, if the TAB is advisory then three things should occur:

1) The full TPP should be presented to the TAB, 2) After comments are made on the TPP, the full TAB should see the comments and responses – advise on that, and 3) A final Draft of the TPP should be brought to the TAB for advising.

Ulrich stated that the concern of Scott County is whether the TAB was allowed to advise as part of the process, and whether the process and TAB itself fulfills federal guidelines in terms of membership and standing. He stated the question still remains as to “who is the MPO?” according to the membership and according to federal guidelines (Metro Council or TAB).

Hargis stated that the TAB and TAB committees will be looking at the process(es) in the first quarter of 2011.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Technical Advisory Committee

Tim Mayasich reported that the TAC met on November 3, 2010 and heard information on:

Non-Motorized Pilot Program presentation by Joan Pisack from Transit for Livable Communities.

State Transportation Vision presented by Lynne Bly from MnDOT Office of Statewide Multimodal Planning.

The TAC also approved two action items also on the TAB agenda today.

B. Policy Committee

Johnson reported that the Policy Committee did not meet in November.

C. Programming Committee

Hovland reported that the Programming Committee heard information on the following item:

Information and discussion:

2011 Regional Solicitation

Kevin Roggenbuck gave a quick update of the 2011 Regional Solicitation.

TAC F&P committee and staff are working on writing criteria to implement directions from TAB on the solicitation policy issues that have been discussed in the past few months, and working on making technical changes and corrections to the previous draft for use in 2011. Some of the policy changes include: providing more emphasis on preservation-to be applied in the "A" minor augments category; include a project construction checklist to be used as an information item in each of the applications to provide construction elements and cost estimates in the application(s); revise the integration of modes category to better measure the value and benefit of bike/ped and transit elements included in highway projects and the bike/ped elements in transit capital projects such as park-and-ride facilities. Staff will work with MnDOT staff to provide guidance on selecting traffic signal update criteria, coordination of signals, and connection of signals on corridors and networks - projects that can provide good air quality benefit that is an eligible project component of the CMAQ program. The goal is to get a draft solicitation adopted by the TAB in January 2011, and hold an open house in February that will include applicants, cities, counties, transit providers, park boards, etc. The open house will cover criteria, programs, money available, types of projects, federal criteria rules, regional policies, etc. The solicitation is scheduled to begin in April 2011.

Kevin will provide periodic reports to the TAB.

Information and discussion:

Policy questions: Reallocation of federal funds from local projects dropped from the TIP and allocation of federal funds from unexpected appropriations.

Hovland directed members to the correspondence in the meeting packet that outlines the TAC F&P and TAC recommendations regarding reallocation of federal funds. He reported that the discussion of this is ongoing.

Hovland stated that the Programming Committee discussed and approved the following items. There were no objections to acting on Items 2010-66 and 2010-68 as consent in one action. Motion by Hovland, seconded by Whalen to approve TAB Action Items 2010-66 through 2010-68 (as listed below). Motion passed.

Item 2010-66: 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment: MnDOT.

Motion: That the TAB adopt an amendment to the 2011-2014 TIP to include MnDOT SP#2750-73 and SP1928-59: Cable Median Barrier Installation in New Hope-Brooklyn Park and South Saint Paul-Inver Grove Heights with federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding.

Item 2010-68: 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment request for SP#091-595-028: Union Depot Multimodal Transit Facility.

Motion: That the TAB adopt an amendment to the 2011-2014 TIP to include SP#091-595-025: Union Depot Multimodal Transit Facility, St. Paul – Construction (2010 High Speed Rail Grant).

A separate discussion was held on Item 2010-67: Process for distributing additional FFY 2011 Federal Funds: Hovland noted the two options listed in the motion. Discussion followed regarding the second option and population and State Aid needs distribution formula. Pat Bursaw, MnDOT, was present to further explain the formula and, at Hegberg's request, agreed to provide more detail at a later date.

Original motion from action transmittal for item 2010-67: That the TAB recommends two options with no preference for the TAB to consider in distributing additional federal funds:

- The first option is to pay off advance construction scheduled for 2014 and add those funds to the next solicitation for 2014.
- The second option is to award each of the smaller counties (Carver, Scott, Washington and Chisago) a minimum of \$750,000, and the rest of the funds should be distributed to the remaining four counties based on the state aid formula, with an emphasis on unfunded pavement preservation, ADA retrofit, or safety projects that require no environmental review or temporary or permanent right-of-way acquisition.

Motion by Hovland, seconded by Lilligren that the TAB adopt the second option as described in the action transmittal:

Motion: That the TAB recommend the following in distributing additional federal funds:

- To award each of the smaller counties (Carver, Scott, Washington and Chisago) a minimum of \$750,000, and the rest of the funds should be distributed to the remaining four counties based on the state aid formula, with an emphasis on unfunded pavement preservation, ADA retrofit, or safety projects that require no environmental review or temporary or permanent right-of-way acquisition.

Motion carried.

Lilligren stated that although he preferred the first option in committee, he will support the second option now. He requested that in future situations like this, the committee look into treating cities of the first class like the counties to also distribute funds to the cities of the first class.

IX. SPECIAL AGENDA

Metropolitan Area Transit Evaluation

Judy Randall, Office of Legislative Auditor stated that her office is non-partisan, independent office of the Legislative Branch. At the request of the Legislature, her office is conducting an evaluation of governance of transit in the Twin Cities Region. The report is scheduled to be released mid-January to the Audit Commission, then to the public. The report will contain recommendations from the Legislative Auditor's Office. Ms. Randall said she would come back and discuss the results with the TAB.

X. ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS

Gepner noted that speakers thanked the TAB at the Crosstown/I-35W opening last Saturday.

XI. AGENCY REPORTS

None.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Krause, seconded by Hovland and passed to adjourn the regular meeting of TAB at 3:15 pm on Wednesday, November 17, 2010.

Respectfully submitted: LuAnne Major, Recording Secretary