

**METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**  
 390 North Robert St., St. Paul MN 55101  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
 Wednesday, August 17, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Hargis, William, Chair	Hegberg, Dennis	Rossbach, Will
Stark, Russ	Johnson, Ken	Mussell, Richard	Gallagher, Steven
Have, Ron	Callison, Jan	Lilligren, Robert	Maluchnik, Randy
Peilen, Lisa	McBride, Scott	Heffelfinger, Thomas	Thornton, David
Petryk, Becky	Sanger, Sue	Gepner, David	
ABSENT:	Hovland, James	Bennett, Tony	Meyers, James
Westerberg, Andy	Reinhardt, Andrew	Whalen, Julia	Ulrich, Jon
Krause, Paul	Duininck, Adam	Tjornhom, Bethany	Swanson, Dick
Ward, Bart	Smith, Jill		
LIAISON/STAFF PRESENT:	Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator		

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum was present when Chair Hargis called the August 17, 2011 TAB meeting to order at 1:40 pm, Metropolitan Airports Commission Chambers at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. Lisa Peilen welcomed members to the MAC facilities and thanked all that prepared for the meeting.

**II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Motion by Lilligren, seconded by Gallagher, to adopt the agenda for the August 17, 2011 TAB meeting.  
 Motion carried.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Mussell, seconded by Lilligren, to approve the minutes from June 15, 2011 TAB meeting.  
 Motion carried.

**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.  
 There were no members of the public present to address the TAB at today's meeting.

**V. WELCOME NEW TAB MEMBER**

Chair Hargis introduced new TAB member Sue Sanger from St. Louis Park – representing Metro Cities.

**VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Technical Advisory Committee**

Mayasich reported that the Technical Advisory Committee met on August 3, 2011 and heard information about the following:

Bill Schreiber of Messerli & Kramer presented information about the 2011 Legislative session.  
 Serge Phillips of MnDOT presented on the versions of the Reauthorization of the Federal Highway Bill.  
 The TAC acted favorably on business items and forwarded them to the Programming Committee.

**B. Policy Committee**

Johnson reported that the Policy Committee Met on 8/17 and heard the following items:

Information: St. Croix River Bridge Funding

Project status report and information on the sources of funding and relationship to the highway investment strategies in the region's Transportation Policy Plan. Due to time constraints, this item did not appear before the Policy Committee.

Pat Bursaw, MnDOT presented the update including cost estimates and the share of the costs between Minnesota and Wisconsin. This bridge is required by statute to be replaced by 2018. Bursaw and McBride answered questions from members regarding the difference between the two states' costs, whether the funds are design specific or what would happen if another design is considered, and the timeline for Congress to exempt the bridge from the Wild and Scenic Rivers rules in order for the project to stay on schedule. McBride stated that MnDOT has given an 11/15/11 deadline for an answer whether the project can go forward.

Discussion and Action: Transportation Policy Plan Update Process

The Policy Committee discussed this item and acted favorably. Johnson stated that staff has worked with Commissioner Ulrich to revise the TPP update process as per the Policy Committee's direction. Staff has also worked with Council staff to modernize the TPP update process from the outdated version contained in the Prospectus. Lilligren questioned how the Planning Handbook (new Prospectus) will be crafted. Roggenbuck stated that this will likely be a work item for the Policy Committee in late fall 2011; Commissioner Ulrich will be notified.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Stark that the following three steps be added to the TPP development process that would get the full TAB more involved in reviewing the entire public comment record, and offering comments on the proposed changes based on the public comments. The three steps are:

1. Metropolitan Council staff presents the draft TPP to the full TAB and reviews the responses to the TAB's comments prior to starting the public comment process. (clarification of existing step)
2. Metropolitan Council staff provides the public comment summary to the full TAB via email. TAB discusses the comments and possible policy implications. (new step)
3. Metropolitan Council staff presents public comments and proposed responses to TAB for review and comment. (new step)

Motion passed.

Information, Discussion and Action: Transitway Guidelines

The Policy Committee heard an update and information by Mary Karlsson and Cole Hiniker on the ten items that are part of the Draft Transitway Guidelines. The Policy Committee asked questions but had no comments to forward to the TAB. The Metro Council Transportation Committee is scheduled to act on the Draft Guidelines on Monday 8/22 and the full Council will be acting on the same on 9/14. The guidelines will be available for public comment after these actions by the Council.

**C. Programming Committee**

Lilligren reported that the Programming Committee met on 8/11 and the agenda consisted of the following items:

Information: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project

Mark Fuhrmann gave an update on the Central Corridor LRT Line, including up to the minute photos of construction. The project is 20% complete.

The following action items were before the Programming Committee:

2011-54: 2011-2014 TIP Amendment for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit.

Motion by Lilligren, seconded by Hegberg:

That the TAB adopt an amendment to the 2011-2014 TIP to include the Section 5309: FY 2011 New Starts Allocations for Central Corridor Light Rail Construction.

Motion passed.

2011-55: Public Comment Report for the 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and TIP Adoption. Kevin Roggenbuck noted that the item has been revised since the initial mailing of the meeting packet, and is labeled “revised August 15, 2011”.

Sanger questioned why Highway 100 project in St. Louis Park was not listed in the MnDOT tables in the TIP. Bursaw stated that the project is moving forward but is not listed because the project is being fully scoped. It is MnDOT’s policy to have better project scope prior to listing a project in the TIP. This project is planned for a later year and will most likely be included in the next TIP update. Bursaw stated that the City of St. Louis Park is aware of the project status.

Motion by Lilligren, seconded by Callison:

That the TAB accepts the Public Comment Report and adopt the 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.

Motion passed.

2011-56: Contingency Planning for a New Federal Transportation Act.

Lilligren stated the Programming Committee heard a report from Serge Phillips, MnDOT, about the different reauthorization bill summaries that are made public and there was much discussion at the Programming Committee. Lilligren noted that 9/30/11 is the expiration of the federal gas tax and SAFETEA-LU and that contingency planning is very necessary. Heffelfinger questioned whether a 60-day delay in the Regional Solicitation scoring will affect the availability of funding. Roggenbuck stated that it will not have an effect on the funding, as these projects are programmed for 2016-2017. Hegberg noted that the TAB has not communicated to the FTA the difficulty of planning when existing Act is extended versus having a 6-year plan.

Motion by Lilligren, seconded by Rossbach:

That in the case where the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU results in a significant reduction in the federal funding allocated through the regional solicitation process, the Transportation Advisory Board follows a process to:

1. Fund all current obligations and direct the Funding & Programming Committee to adjust program years to balance the TIP by requesting that some projects be delayed to later program years; and
2. Delay the scoring process for the 2011 Regional Solicitation for a minimum of 60 days after the application due date on August 22 to allow time to understand the ramifications of the new transportation act.

Motion passed.

Information: 2011 Regional Solicitation

Lilligren reported that the Programming Committee received an update on the extension of the Regional Solicitation application deadline and schedule. There were no questions or comments.

## **VII. SPECIAL AGENDA**

### MSP Long-Term Comprehensive Plan

Dennis Probst, Metropolitan Airports Commission gave an update on the progress of the MSP International Airport Long-Term Comprehensive Plan and highlighted the many significant improvements that have been made. He also gave an update on noise mitigation issues.

## **VIII. ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS**

None.

## **IX. AGENCY REPORTS**

None.

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Hargis adjourned the regular meeting of TAB at 3:00 pm on Wednesday, August 17, 2011.

Following adjournment, the Metropolitan Airports Commission staff gave a short tour of a portion of the airport facility.

Respectfully submitted: LuAnne Major, Recording Secretary