

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
 390 North Robert St., St. Paul MN 55101
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
 Wednesday, November 16, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Hargis, William, Chair	Hegberg, Dennis	Rossbach, Will
Stark, Russ	McKnight, Kenya	Duininck, Adam	Gallagher, Steven
Have, Ron	Callison, Jan Stenglein, Mark - alt	Lilligren, Robert	Maluchnik, Randy
Peilen, Lisa	McBride, Scott	Heffelfinger, Thomas	Thornton, David
Krause, Paul	Sanger, Sue	Gepner, David	Siddiqui, AJ
Donahoe, Margaret	Drotning, Karl	Van Hattum, David	Swanson, Dick
Westerberg, Andy	Hovland, James	Bennett, Tony	Meyers, James
	Reinhardt, Andrew	Whalen, Julia	Ulrich, Jon
ABSENT:	Petryk, Becky	Mussell, Richard	Tjornhom, Bethany
LIAISON/STAFF PRESENT:	Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator		

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was present when Chair Hargis called the November 16, 2011 TAB meeting to order at 1:30 pm, Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 North Robert St., St. Paul.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Hargis noted that Representative Beard will be late to the TAB meeting. The committee will proceed with business items until Rep. Beard's arrival. Motion by Maluchnik, seconded by Meyers, to adopt the agenda as revised for the November 16, 2011 TAB meeting.

Motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Krause, seconded by Lilligren, to approve the minutes from October 19, 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. SPECIAL AGENDA

State Representative Michael Beard (35A), Chair, House Transportation and Policy Committee.

Beard stated that he was the Chair of the Legislative Audit Committee when the audit was performed and that the Metro Council governance should be looked at first before considering transit governance. Suggestions for reform are being discussed and Beard is assembling ideas about Transit Governance. Public meetings have not been scheduled, yet.

Hargis suggested this is a funding issue not a governance issue. Beard replied that General Fund money is still used for transit even though CTIB was formed and MVST money is dedicated to it. Beard said investment in Southwest Corridor LRT should only be done if we know how to fund its operation. Beard answered questions from the Board about the potential makeup of an elected Metropolitan Council and the state government's role in transportation funding.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Technical Advisory Committee

Mayasich reported that the Technical Advisory Committee met on November 2, 2011 and heard information about the following:

- Update from Craig LaMothe, Metro Transit, on the SWLRT Corridor.
- Corridor Branding Update from Bruce Howard, Metro Transit, regarding line color names and overall system name.

The TAC also discussed the selection of a new TAC Chair, scheduled for January 2012, and acted favorably on items appearing on the TAB agenda today.

B. TAB Executive Committee

Hargis reported that the Executive Committee Met on November 10, 2011 and discussed the following items (notes included in TAB mailing):

Appointment of new TAC Chair, update on TAB membership interviews by Metro Council.

Process for I-35W/Cedar Ave CMAQ awards to MVTA.

2011 regional solicitation and contingency planning for new federal Act.

Transportation Planning Handbook (*old Prospectus*).

“A” Minor Arterial Study. MnDOT invitation to Collaborative Corridor Planning Workshop.

The TAB/Met Council Leadership meeting took place on November 14, 2011. This group has been meeting approximately quarterly. The November 14 meeting included discussions about extending the invitation to additional council members, timing and funding of projects, regional solicitation process and independent review of scoring, Planning Handbook updates, Council TAB appointment process. The meetings deal mostly with the processes, and not solutions. Lilligren added that it is important to be sure that processes are evolving as funding issues evolve.

C. Policy Committee

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

D. Programming Committee

Hovland reported that the Programming Committee met on November 10, 2011 and the agenda consisted of the following items:

Information: Update on the 2011 regional solicitation; revised schedule through project scoring.

Roggenbuck presented an update on the 2011 regional solicitation schedule (included in packet mailing).

2011-64: Sunset Date Extension for Ramsey County SP#62-596-03 (STP) and SP#62-696-026 (HSIP) TH 10/CSAH 96 Interchange Construction

Bennett reported that there were questions from Callison at the Programming Committee whether this project is related to the proposed Vikings Stadium. Stenglein was present for Callison at the TAB; Bennett asked that Stenglein relay to Callison that this project has been in the TIP and MnDOT plans long before the Vikings Stadium plans; it is not a result of the proposed Vikings Stadium but coordination with the I-694/TH10/TH 51 project.

Motion by Hovland, seconded by Bennett:

That the TAB approve a one year sunset date extension from March 31, 2012 to March 31, 2013 for Ramsey County SP#62-596-03 (STP) and SP#62-696-026 (HSIP), TH 10/CSAH 96 Interchange Construction.

Motion passed.

2011-65: Scope Change and TIP Amendment Request from MVTA for SP#TRS-MVTA-11, Buses and Operating Funds for I-35W Transit Service

Members discussed the conditions by which an exception to the process should be granted and the need to develop criteria for granting exceptions. Ulrich suggested an exception policy be discussed by the Policy Committee. Swanson added that exceptions should not come “easy” to project sponsors; he has concerns that

there are other regional needs that are not being met. Peilen said procedure and policy is important because it builds confidence in the process. Ulrich suggested a passage by 2/3 majority TAB for granting exceptions. Roggenbuck stated that it would be more appropriate for the Programming Committee to develop an exception policy since that committee makes the decisions on funds. Hargis said the Programming Committee will take up this task.

Motion by Hovland, seconded by Ulrich:

That the TAB adopt two amendments to the 2012-2015 TIP to revise the project scope and cost of SP#TRS-MVTA-11; I-35W Transit Limited Express Service and Technology and to include a new project, Cedar Avenue BRT Station-to-Station Service.

2011-66: Sunset Date Extension Request from MVTA for SP#TRS-MVTA-11, Buses and Operating Funds for I-35W Transit Service

Motion by Hovland, seconded by Krause:

That the TAB approve a request for a one year sunset date extension from March 31, 2012 to March 31, 2013 on SP#TRS-MVTA-11, Buses and Operating Funds for I-35W Transit Service.

Motion passed.

2011-67: 2012-2015 TIP Amendments for Safe Routes to School Projects in Blaine, Fridley, Minnetonka, and Burnsville.

Motion by Hovland, seconded by Siddiqui:

That the TAB approve 2012-2015 TIP Amendments for Safe Routes to School Projects in Blaine, Fridley, Minnetonka, and Burnsville.

Motion passed.

VII. ITEMS OF TAB MEMBERS

Since there are new members to the TAB, members suggested some items for discussion at future TAB meetings. Van Hattum requested an update on the Legislative Auditor's Report; Lilligren suggested a presentation on Transportation Funding; Hovland added that members may also benefit from a presentation from Donahoe on the Transportation Alliance report on transportation funding and ideas for new sources of funding.

VIII. AGENCY REPORTS

None.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hargis adjourned the regular meeting of TAB at 2:50 pm on Wednesday, November 16, 2011.