

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Metropolitan Council Building, 390 Robert Street No., Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

TAB PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes: February 16, 2011
Metropolitan Council Chambers.

Members Present: Jim Hovland, Co-Chair, Robert Lilligren, Co-Chair, Tony Bennett, Mark Stenglein (for Jan Callison), David Gepner, Bill Hargis, Dennis Hegberg, Ken Johnson, Randy Maluchnik, Scott McBride, Richard Mussell, Becky Petryk, Jill Smith, Dick Swanson, David Thornton, Jon Ulrich, Andy Westerberg, Julia Whalen.

Guests and Staff: Tim Mayasich, TAC Chair, Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority
Lars Impola, MN/DOT Metro District Traffic Engineer
Pat Bursaw, MN/DOT Metro Program Management
James Andrew, Metropolitan Transportation Services
Carl Ohrn, Metropolitan Transportation Services
Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator

I. Call to order.

Co-Chair Hovland called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM.

II. Adoption of the Agenda.

Mr. Swanson moved, seconded by Ms. Petryk, to adopt the agenda. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

III. Approval of the Programming Committee minutes from January 19, 2011.

Mr. Mussell moved, seconded by Ms. Whalen, to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2011 TAB Programming Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. Information Items and Action Transmittals.

Information: 2011 Regional Solicitation.

Mr. Roggenbuck informed the committee that the draft 2011 regional solicitation criteria are on the Programming Committee's agenda for adoption for the purpose of holding a public meeting on March 2 to discuss the funding programs, solicitation criteria and process with interested members of the public. The draft solicitation criteria were prepared after addressing a number of technical comments raised by applicants and reviewers during the previous solicitation and several policy questions raised by the Met Council and TAB. Mr. Roggenbuck reviewed other key dates leading up to project selection in approximately one year.

2011-23: Draft 2011 regional solicitation criteria.

Mr. Andrew presented this item to the committee. Mr. Andrew presented information about the schedule for the 2011 regional solicitation, the four federal transportation programs (STP-UG, CMAQ, TE and BIR) in the regional solicitation as well as the HSIP. Mr. Andrew described the TAB's role in allocating federal transportation funds and some

of the changes made for this solicitation. Mr. Andrew answered questions from the committee.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Swanson, to recommend adoption of the draft 2011 regional solicitation criteria for the purpose of a public meeting on March 2 as described in action transmittal 2011-23. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2011-22: 2011 Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) solicitation: MN/DOT.

Mr. Impola presented this item to the committee. Mr. Impola described the HSIP and explained the role his department in MN/DOT plays in evaluating and implementing HSIP projects. Mr. Impola described the major changes made to the HSIP evaluation criteria, including withholding 30% of the funds for proactive safety projects that will come from county safety plans currently being developed. Mr. Impola then described the differences between proactive and reactive safety projects and answered questions from the committee.

Ms. Petryk moved, seconded by Mr. Swanson, to recommend approval of the HSIP solicitation criteria, including withholding 30% of the funding for proactive projects, as described in action transmittal 2011-22. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2011-16: Sunset date extension request: Dakota County.

Mr. Mayasich presented this item to the committee and said Dakota County is seeking a one-year sunset date extension for SP# 91-090-47, Mississippi River regional trail (Pine Bend segment). Mr. Mayasich described the trail project and the need for the sunset date extension. Mr. Mayasich said the county has been working diligently on the project but has met unexpected problems in the project design that require getting an easement from a private land owner. Mr. Mayasich said the TAC felt the sunset date extension was warranted and recommended approval of a one-year extension to March 31, 2012.

Ms. Petryk moved, seconded by Mr. Swanson, to recommend approval of the sunset date extension as described in action transmittal 2011-16. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2011-17: Sunset date extension request: Metro Transit.

Mr. Mayasich presented this item to the committee and said Metro Transit is seeking a one-year sunset date extension for SP# TRS-TCMT-10B, purchase of six articulated buses to be used in new express service in the I-394 corridor. Mr. Mayasich explained that the economic downturn has affected Metro Transit's market for this service and they want to wait until the market improves before purchasing the vehicles and implementing the service. Mr. Mayasich said the TAC felt the sunset date extension was warranted and recommended approval of a one-year extension to March 31, 2012.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Lilligren, to recommend approval of the sunset date extension as described in action transmittal 2011-17. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2011-18: 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment: Metro Transit.

Mr. Mayasich presented this item to the committee and described the geothermal heating/cooling project that Metro Transit requests be amended into the TIP. Mr. Ohrn

described the source of the federal funds, the TIGGER II program, explaining that it was established for projects that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Mr. Mayasich said the amendment is necessary to include this new project and new funding in the TIP and that the project also meets the tests of fiscal constraint, air quality conformity and consistency with the regional transportation plan.

The committee discussed the project location and whether it was replacement of existing equipment. Mr. Thornton said he was familiar with the project and explained that the geothermal heating/cooling system will be installed in a new facility being built mainly to accommodate storage of Central Corridor LRT vehicles.

Mr. Mussell moved, seconded by Ms. Smith, to recommend adoption of the TIP amendment as described in action transmittal 2011-18. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2011-19: 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment: St. Paul.

Mr. Mayasich presented this item to the committee and said the city of St. Paul received federal funds through the TIGGER II program for a planning grant to develop a Complete Streets policy. The project meets the tests of fiscal constraint, air quality conformity and consistency with the regional transportation plan. Ms. Smith said the results could be useful to other cities and St. Paul should make them available on their website. The committee agreed to ask St. Paul to make the results available.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Whalen, to recommend adoption of the TIP amendment as described in action transmittal 2011-19. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2011-20: 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment: MN/DOT.

Mr. Mayasich presented this item to the committee and described the proposed interchange project on TH 169 at 93rd Avenue in Brooklyn Park. Mr. Mayasich said the reason for the amendment is that MN/DOT's Cultural Resources unit will not begin their review of the project until it is in the TIP and STIP. Mr. Mayasich said the project has funding and it meets the tests of fiscal constraint, air quality conformity and consistency with the regional transportation plan.

Ms. Whalen moved, seconded by Ms. Smith, to recommend adoption of the TIP amendment as described in action transmittal 2011-20. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2011-21: 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment: MN/DOT.

Mr. Mayasich presented this item to the committee. Mr. Mayasich explained that MN/DOT requests to replace a state funded cable median barrier project in the TIP and STIP with a longer project funded with federal HSIP money. Mr. Mayasich described the project location on TH 169 in Brooklyn Park. The project meets the tests of fiscal constraint, air quality conformity and consistency with the regional transportation plan.

Mr. Swanson moved, seconded by Mr. Thornton, to recommend adoption of the TIP amendment as described in action transmittal 2011-21. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

V. Other Business.

Members did not raise any other business.

VI. Adjourn

Mr. Hovland adjourned the Programming Committee meeting at 1:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted:
Kevin Roggenbuck,
TAB Coordinator.