

TAB PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes: May 18, 2011
Metropolitan Council Chambers.

Members Present: Jim Hovland, Co-Chair, Robert Lilligren, Co-Chair, Jan Callison, Ken Johnson, Randy Maluchnik, Scott McBride, Becky Petryk, Jill Smith, Dick Swanson, David Thornton, Jon Ulrich, Andy Westerberg.

Guests and Staff: Pat Bursaw, MN/DOT Metro Program Management
James Andrew, Metropolitan Council
Carl Ohrn, Metropolitan Council
Amy Vennewitz, Metropolitan Council
Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator

I. Call to order.

Co-Chair Hovland called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM.

II. Adoption of the Agenda.

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

III. Approval of the Programming Committee minutes from April 20, 2011.

Mr. Lilligren moved, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, to approve the minutes from the April 20, 2011 TAB Programming Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. Information Items and Action Transmittals.

(a). Information: 2011 Regional Solicitation.

Mr. Roggenbuck informed the committee that the Metropolitan Council concurred with the TAB's adoption of the 2011 regional solicitation criteria at their meeting on May 11 and the solicitation was announced on May 12. Mr. Roggenbuck reviewed some of the key dates in the 2011 solicitation process and answered questions from the committee.

(b). 2011-44: 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment: MN/DOT.

Mr. Hovland said TAC Chair Tim Mayasich is unable to attend today's meeting so Carl Ohrn will present the TAC items. Mr. Ohrn presented this item to the committee, describing the project, funding sources and said it is consistent with the region's Transportation Policy Plan (TPP).

The committee discussed the proposed Minnesota Vikings football stadium in Arden Hills and whether the TPP needed to be amended or if there would be a study of the stadium's transportation impacts. Mr. Ohrn said it depends on the scope of the project and the source of funds. The Council is unsure at the moment. Mr. McBride said MN/DOT is working with Ramsey County and a press release will be provided very soon. The committee discussed how much input the region might have on the decision to locate the stadium.

Mr. Swanson moved, seconded by Mr. McBride, to recommend adoption of the TIP amendment as described in action transmittal 2011-44. The motion passed by voice vote.

(c). 2011-45: 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment: MN/DOT.

Mr. Ohrn presented this item to the committee. Mr. Ohrn described the project and explained how savings from the Lafayette Bridge made these funds available. MN/DOT is taking advantage of the traffic control already in place with the Lafayette Bridge replacement underway by constructing this project now rather than later.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Swanson, to recommend adoption of the TIP amendment as described in action transmittal 2011-45. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

(d). 2011-46: Scope Change Request, 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment and Program Year Change: City of Maplewood.

Mr. Ohrn presented this item to the committee. Mr. Ohrn described the original project scope and design as a split diamond interchange on TH 36 at TH 61 and English Street, but further study showed that the interchange would not function as well as expected. Both MN/DOT and the city of Maplewood now support a new design; building a separate interchange at English Street and TH 36. Mr. Ohrn explained that the proposed scope change conflicts with the interchange spacing criteria in the TPP because the interchange at English Street is less than one mile from the interchange at TH 61. Mr. Ohrn said the technical committees discussed whether the revised scope would be eligible in the regional solicitation and whether the revised scope provides the same benefits as the original scope. The technical committees decided to support the scope change request. Mr. Ohrn answered questions about the technical committee discussion and the project from the committee.

Mr. Hegberg moved, seconded by Mr. McBride, to recommend adoption of the TIP amendment as described in action transmittal 2011-46. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

(e). 2011-47: Draft 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area: TAC.

Mr. Andrew presented information to the committee about the draft 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Andrew explained the purpose of the TIP, explained the TAB's role in preparing and adopting it including key criteria for adoption and approval, described which agencies program projects and the sources of funding used, and reviewed the TIP development schedule. Committee members asked that Mr. James' presentation be sent to the TAB members.

Ms. Bursaw provided an overview of MN/DOT's portion of the draft 2012-2015 TIP. Ms. Bursaw explained MN/DOT's revenue assumptions, project selection process, and the Better Roads program. Ms. Bursaw explained that MN/DOT's percentage of the federal funds allocated in the TIP is less than the percentage of total funding allocated show in Figure 2. Ms. Bursaw also explained that the Better Roads program will be funded through existing sources and savings realized on larger projects. Ms. Bursaw closed by saying the MN/DOT program of projects reflect performance based needs with an emphasis on preservation of the trunk highway system.

Ms. Bursaw answered questions from the committee about progress toward meeting the district's pavement performance targets and how the Transportation Program Investment Committee decides which projects to include in the Program.

Ms. Vennewitz presented information about transit funding and project programming to the committee. Ms. Vennewitz described the different sources of funding used for transit operating costs and capital projects, and how the Transportation Policy Plan gives direction to the capital planning process. Ms. Vennewitz described the Metropolitan Council's six-year capital improvement program and said its three priorities are to maintain the current system and expand the system – in that order. Expansion will occur both through Building Transitways and expanding the bus system. The committee discussed the sources of funding for capital projects and Ms. Vennewitz responded to questions about bonding authority and debt service. The committee also discussed the cost of doubling transit ridership by 2030 as described in the TPP. Ms. Vennewitz said the capital and operating costs to double transit ridership are described in the Transportation Policy Plan (pages 152 through 157) and offered to come back and explain the implementation costs in more detail.

Mr. Swanson moved, seconded by Mr. Lilligren, to recommend adoption of the draft 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area for the purpose of holding a public hearing on June 15, 2011. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

(f). Discussion: Contingency Planning for the New Federal Transportation Act.
Mr. Hovland noted the time and said Mr. Roggenbuck will present this item to the full TAB.

V. Other Business.

Members did not raise any other business.

VI. Adjourn

Mr. Lilligren moved, seconded by Ms. Smith, to adjourn the Programming Committee meeting at 1:30 PM. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote and Co-chair Hovland adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:
Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator.