

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

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

TAB PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes: November 10, 2011
Metropolitan Council Chambers.

Members Present: Jim Hovland, Co-Chair, Tony Bennett, Jan Callison, David Gepner, Dennis Hegberg, Paul Krause, Robert Lilligren, Scott McBride, Dick Mussell, Becky Petryk, AJ Siddiqui, Dick Swanson, David Thornton, Dave Van Hattum, Andy Westerberg.

Guests and Staff: Tim Mayasich, Chair, Technical Advisory Committee
Beverly Miller, Minnesota Valley Transit Authority
Arlene McCarthy, Metropolitan Council MTS
Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator

I. Call to order.

Co-Chair Hovland called the meeting to order at 12:40 PM.

II. Adoption of the Agenda.

Ms. Callison moved to amend the agenda to move items IV.d. (2011-65) and IV.c. (2011-66) up on the agenda to precede item c. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swanson and passed unanimously by voice vote.

III. Approval of the Programming Committee minutes from October 13, 2011.

Mr. Swanson moved, seconded by Mr. Westerberg, to approve the minutes from the October 8, 2011 TAB Programming Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. Information Items and Action Transmittals.

(a). **Information: Update on the 2011 regional solicitation: revised schedule through project scoring.**

Mr. Roggenbuck said the staff has resumed the 2011 regional solicitation, as per the TAB's direction. Staff has begun reviewing responses to the qualifying criteria and the project scoring groups are being filled. Mr. Roggenbuck reviewed the revised schedule to complete the project scoring with the committee and noted that applicants have been informed that federal funding is still unknown at this time.

(b). **2011-65: Scope Change Request: Minnesota Valley Transit Authority.**

Mr. Mayasich described the four actions requested in this item and discussion at the November 2 TAC meeting. Mr. Mayasich said the TAC recommendation is to deny the scope change request and re-allocation of CMAQ funds because it is inconsistent with adopted TAB policy, but also said the technical committees realize the Cedar Avenue transit project is important to the region.

Mr. Roggenbuck explained how the proposal would re-allocate CMAQ funds for service operations on the Cedar Avenue transit corridor through the I-35W transit project scope

change, the re-allocation of part of the Met Council's 2003 CMAQ award for expansion buses, and with savings on the I-35W transit project from construction of the UPA project.

Ms. McCarthy described how the Met Council no longer had funding available for the Cedar Avenue transit service after the legislature cut funding for transit operations and the Met Council filled the funding gap. Ms. McCarthy said the requirements of the UPA have all been met and the project is completely done. There is no contractual requirement in the UPA agreement regarding which transit provider operates the service in Cedar Avenue.

Mr. Hovland asked why the operating cost for the Cedar Avenue transit service was not included in the 2005 CMAQ application for Cedar Avenue buses and equipment. Ms. Miller said the MVTa assumed that the operating funds would come from another source and were not required to identify them in the 2005 regional solicitation. The committee discussed adopted policy on redistribution of federal funds awarded through the regional solicitation when a project is dropped from the program.

Mr. Thornton moved, seconded by Mr. McBride, to recommend approval of the scope change request and re-allocation of CMAQ funds described in action transmittal 2011-65, including the sunset date extension requested in action item 2011-66.

Mr. Lilligren cautioned that the TAB could be encouraging bad legislative behavior and setting a bad precedent with this recommendation. Mr. Hovland said the TAB should develop written guidelines to describe circumstances where the TAB could deviate from its adopted procedures.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

(c). 2011-66: Sunset Date Extension Request: Minnesota Valley Transit Authority.

Recommendation to approve the sunset date extension was included in the previous motion.

(d). Discussion: (2011-60 passed Sept. 8, 2011) MPCA Request for CMAQ Funds for Electric Vehicle Recharging Infrastructure.

Mr. Hovland introduced this item to the committee and said the TAB referred this item back to the Programming Committee for more discussion and responses to additional questions. The committee felt the issue is whether a project like this should be publicly funded and felt the discussion should be at the full TAB. Mr. Hovland said the item will be moved to the December TAB agenda.

(e). 2011-64: Sunset Date Extension Request: Ramsey County.

Mr. Mayasich presented this item to the committee and explained that the project has been delayed in receiving municipal consent from Arden Hills and delayed in acquiring right-of-way. Mr. McBride said the reconstruction of the I-694 interchanges with TH 10 and TH 51 also contributes to the county's request for a sunset date extension.

Mr. Swanson moved, seconded by Mr. McBride, to recommend approval of the sunset date request as described in action transmittal 2011-64 and ask Ramsey County staff to explain the delays to the full TAB on November 16. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

(f). 2011-67: 2011-2015 TIP Amendment for the City of Blaine, City of Fridley, City of Minnetonka and the City of Burnsville.

Mr. Mayasich presented this item to the committee and explained that these funds were recently allocated by MnDOT.

Mr. Siddiqui moved, seconded by Mr. Westerberg, to recommend adoption of the TIP amendment as described in action transmittal 211-67. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

V. Other Business.

Members did not raise any other business.

VI. Adjourn.

Mr. Hovland adjourned the meeting at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator.