

# T Transportation Committee

**For the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 28, 2010**

## ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date July 27, 2010  
Prepared:  
Subject: Adoption of Draft 2030 Transportation Policy Plan for Purposes of a Public Hearing and Authorization for Public Hearing

### **Proposed Action:**

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Adopt the Draft 2030 Transportation Policy Plan including any necessary modifications to incorporate comments made by TAB on July 21, the Transportation Committee on July 26 and the Metropolitan Council on July 28, for purposes of a public hearing.
2. Authorize that a public hearing on the Draft 2030 Transportation Policy Plan be held on September 27, 2010, at 5 pm at Heywood Office Building, with continued acceptance of public comments until 5 pm, October 7, 2010.

### **Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:**

Connie Kozlak, Manager MTS Systems Planning, presented this item. She stated that the TAB has considered this item and did not add additional comments other than the comments made by the TAB Policy Committee. She stated that any comments from the Transportation Committee and Council will be incorporated prior to posting the TPP on the web for public comment. Kozlak answered Scherer's question explaining what project "reassessment" means. In response to McFarlin, Kozlak also stated that a report of the public comments will be prepared including the type of comment, number of comments and the disposition of the comment(s).

Motion by Scherer, seconded by Leppik, and passed unanimously.

Business Item:

## Transportation Committee

2010-267 SW

**Meeting date: July 26, 2010**

**Council meeting: July 28, 2008**

### ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	<b>July 20, 2010</b>
Subject:	<b>Adoption of Draft 2030 Transportation Policy Plan for Purposes of a Public Hearing and Authorization for Public Hearing</b>
District(s), Member(s):	<b>All</b>
Policy/Legal Reference:	<b>Mn Statute 473.146, 23 CFR 450.322</b>
Staff Prepared/Presented:	<b>Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651-602-1754) Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Dir. Finance &amp; Planning (651-602-1058)</b>
Division/Department:	<b>Metropolitan Transportation Services</b>

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1. Adopt the Draft 2030 Transportation Policy Plan including any necessary modifications to incorporate comments made by TAB on July 21, the Transportation Committee on July 26 and the Metropolitan Council on July 28, for purposes of a public hearing.
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### Background

The Council, as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization, is required by both state and federal law to prepare and update a long-range transportation plan for the region every four years. The proposed plan meets the federal and state requirements and supports the Council's adopted Regional Development Framework.

The current Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) was adopted in January, 2009. However, the Highway and Aviation chapters were not substantially revised at that time due to ongoing studies. Those studies have now been completed, and the plan has been updated to include the results. Other plan chapters have not been substantially rewritten, but have been modified as necessary to reflect changes that have occurred over the past 18 months. The draft plan, available at [ftp://ftp.metc.state.mn.us/Trans/TPP\\_July2010/](ftp://ftp.metc.state.mn.us/Trans/TPP_July2010/), currently tracks changes to all chapters except 5,6 and 10. For ease of readability, the public hearing draft will not include tracked changes.

Federal law requires the Council to prepare a plan in conformance with federal transportation and air quality requirements. The plan must follow federal guidance and has been drafted to address the federal requirements. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has been asked to concur that the plan meets air quality conformance requirements. The MPCA letter of concurrence will be included in the draft plan prepared for public hearing.

During June and July, the preliminary draft plan was reviewed by the Council's Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) Policy Committee, the TAB's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and its planning and aviation committees. Comments from those groups have been incorporated into the plan being reviewed by Council members on July 26 and 28. The TAB will consider the plan on July 21, and their comments will be reported to the Transportation Committee on July 26. Staff will incorporate the recommended modifications and edits from TAB, the Transportation Committee, and the Council into a Draft 2030 TPP document that will be the subject of the September 27 public hearing.

In addition to the public hearing on September 27, it is proposed that four informational open houses be held on the Draft 2030 TPP in September. The dates of the open houses have not yet been set, but it is intended to hold one in downtown St Paul at the noon hour and three evening open houses in various suburban locations. Times and locations will be posted on the Council's website.

### **Rationale**

The adoption of the Draft 2030 TPP and setting a public hearing date will allow the plan to move forward for public review and comment as required by law. Staff can then compile and address the comments received and produce a final 2030 Transportation Policy Plan for adoption by the Council in November.

### **Funding**

None required.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

No known opposition. Support has been indicated by the TAB and TAC.