
*Transportation Advisory Board
Of the Metropolitan Council*

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, November 7, 2012
9:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Jon Olson, Lyndon Robjert, Tom Johnson, Tim Mayasich, Lisa Freese, Kevin Roggenbuck, Mark Filipi, Adam Harrington, Pat Bursaw, Innocent Eyoh, Robert Vorpahl, Susan Moe, Jim Gromberg, Karl Keel, Jennifer Levitt, Chuck Ahl, John Powell, Duane Schwartz, Kim Lindquist, Richard McCoy, Steve Hay (for Jenifer Hager), Allen Lovejoy

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. Pat Bursaw introduced and welcomed Jim Gromberg, recently appointed to the TAC by DEED.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Jurisdictional Alignment presentation will be made at next month's meeting. The agenda was approved as revised.

3. Approval of March Minutes

The October 3, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as written.

4. TAB Report

K. Roggenbuck reported that the TAB met on October 17th and voted to suspend the policy and programming subcommittee meetings on a 6-month trial basis, effective November through April. All action items forwarded by the TAC and all discussion items will be taken up by the full TAB at one monthly meeting. With many new members and lots of discussion at the full TAB, it is hoped that elimination of the subcommittees will save time.

TAB did not take up discussion of the action item forwarded by TAC to amend the Transportation Policy Plan to include the Bottineau LPA and transitway study results. Golden Valley, Hennepin County and the Met Council mutually requested postponement to November so all three parties could have more time to negotiate. TAB also decided to schedule the November meeting on the 28th because the Golden Valley City Council will vote on a resolution of support for the LPA on November 20.

Mary Karlsson gave TAB an information presentation on the findings and conclusion of the "A" Minor Arterial study. Action to accept the study on today's agenda will go through the TAB and then to the Council.

Koryn Zewers made a presentation on the preliminary analysis of the impacts of MAP-21 on regional planning and programming. Margaret Donahoe reported the Transportation Alliance's long-range vision for transportation called Roadmap 2040. She highlighted a large number of needed highway and transit improvements and cited a \$30 billion shortfall. Libby Starling wrapped things up by discussing Thrive MSP 2040 and collecting comments from the members. The TAB expressed interest in seeing the alternative growth scenarios in a few months

5. Special Agenda Items

Cole Hiniker, Metropolitan Council staff, reported on the Highway Transitway Corridor study which is just getting started. It is a feasibility study to determine which highway corridors would be most feasible to incorporate a transitway (such as BRT service). This 9-12 month study will be a lead-in to the next TPP. The 8 corridors identified for concept plan development include TH 212, TH 169, I-394, I-94 west, TH 65, TH 36, I-35E North and I-35E South. Additional corridors already under study will be coordinate with this study. The study will be lead by a project management team comprised of Metro transit, MnDOT, counties and suburban transit providers. A technical advisory group and policy stakeholder group will also be established, likely incorporated existing corridor groups.

6. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee (Pat Bursaw, Chair)

P. Bursaw gave an update on the Federal Program Delivery Task Force which will have a final meeting after today's TAC. The group has revised two TIP management policies/procedures—for extending the project program year (the sunset date has been eliminated) and the scope change policy. The group's recommendation will go to the Funding and Programming Committee this month for review and approval.

Action Item 2012-40: Annual certification of TAC Aviation Task Force: T. Mayasich moved and J. Olson seconded a motion to approve the membership roster for the TAC Aviation Advisory Task Force so the group can assist with the Council's annual review of the MAC CIP. **MOTION CARRIED.**

B. Funding and Programming Committee

Update on MAP-21/eligibility of 2012-15 TIP projects/local program impacts: it appears that the 2013 projects can be accomplished, but it is not certain about future year projects. MnDOT has an ongoing work group looking at how MAP-21 is affecting the STIP. In the 2014-2016 program years, there are different programs with different funds available. It is very complicated and will require that decisions are made on a statewide basis. The region is further ahead in thinking about federal projects and selecting them consistent with federal programs, so they could be better positioned than the rest of the state. The MnDOT work group is meeting November 19 and in early December. P. Bursaw encouraged TAC members to sit in on the meetings if they so choose.

Action Item 2012-36: TIP Amendment Lake Street Access to I-35E: K. Keel moved and T. Johnson seconded a motion that the TAB adopt an amendment to the 2012-2015 or the 2013-2016 TIP to include SP#027-603-049, \$2million for MN061-Lake Street Access to I-35W, preliminary engineering. **MOTION CARRIED**

Action Item 2012-37: TIP Amendment, Transportation Interchange Facility. K. Keel moved and T. Johnson seconded a motion that the TAB adopt an amendment to either the 2012-2015 or the 2013-2016 TIP to include SP#027-030-028 for the Transportation Interchange facility in Minneapolis. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Ed Hunter, project manager, said the interchange project is under construction and FHWA and FTA are in agreement on the reallocation of funds and would like to see the funding shown in the most recent TIP.

Action Item 2012-39: TIP Amendment, Midtown Greenway Bridge Study. K. Keel moved and T. Johnson seconded a motion that the TAB adopt an amendment to either the 2012-2015 or the 2013-2016 TIP to include SP#027-070-006, \$14,735 for a Midtown Greenway corridor Bridge Study from France Avenue to the Mississippi river Bridge. **MOTION CARRIED.**

C. Planning Committee (Allen Lovejoy, Chair)

Mary Karlsson gave a brief summary presentation on the Minor Arterial study, focusing on its 8 conclusions and recommendations. The TAB developed and in partnership with local road authorities implemented the "A" Minor Arterial administrative classification system in the early 1990s, more than 20 years ago. On the region's behalf, the Metropolitan Council initiated the "A" Minor Arterial System Evaluation Study given the amount of time passed since the last comprehensive study of the system, the availability of new data and analysis tools, and the active traffic management (ATM) and lower cost/high benefit project directions set in the *2030 Transportation Policy Plan* (Nov. 2010). The Metropolitan Council (Council) initiated the "A" Minor Arterial System Evaluation Study in October 2011 and performed it under the advisement of a Project Management Team, Technical Steering Committee, the MnDOT Capital Improvements Committee, and the TAB Policy Committee. The study's Draft Final Report was made available for TAC, TAB, and Council Transportation Committee review and comment on September 28, 2012. Council staff is scheduled to answer questions and accept comments at TAC, TAB, and Council Transportation Committee meetings in September, October, and November 2012.

Action Item 2012-38: "A: Minor Arterial Final Report. K. Keel moved and C. Ahl seconded a motion that the TAB accept and recommend metropolitan Council accept the "A: Minor Arterial System Evaluation Final Report with four revisions:

Study Recommendation 1

- Include the text from the Regional Development Framework & TPP in an attachment to clearly demonstrate the cause & effect relationship of the policy (p. 5)
- Give an example of how the TPP should more fully explain the purpose of the "A" Minor Arterial system and the difference between "A" and "B" Minor Arterials (p. 6)

Study Recommendation 2

- The four types should be maintained and definitions updated, including revisiting the definitions of developed and developing areas as part of Thrive MSP 2040. (p.7)

Study Recommendation 3

- Strike, "... as appropriate within the context of all transportation system needs." from the recommendation. (p.11)

Discussion focused on recommendation 6 c which stated that as part of the upcoming Regional solicitation evaluation, the TAB and TAC should balance the desire to increase the maximum grant amount with the desire to award funding to a large number of different projects. C. Ahl said this could mean fewer grants. T. Johnson noted that projects are becoming more expensive and the feds are covering smaller amounts, so this needs policy discussion at a higher level. P. Bursaw asked if there is an inherent imbalance in the awarding of funds. T. John said an "imbalance" doesn't necessarily imply a problem. C. Ahl suggested saying that there is a "disparity". A. Lovejoy moved and C. Ahl seconded a motion that the TAB accept and recommend the Metropolitan council accept the "A" Minor Arterial System Evaluation Final Report. **MOTION CARRIED.**

7. Agency Reports

There were no agency reports.

8. Other Business and Adjournment

There was no other business.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 AM

Prepared by:

Ann Braden