

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Metropolitan Council Building, 390 North Robert Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

TAB POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes: May 12, 2011
Metropolitan Council Chambers

Members Present: Ken Johnson Co Chair, Russ Stark, Co-Chair, Adam Duininck, Steve Gallagher, David Gepner, Ron Have, Paul Krause, James Meyers, Will Rossbach, Bethany Tjornhom.

Guests and Staff: Carl Ohrn, Metropolitan Council
Mary Karlsson, Metropolitan Council
Ethan Fawley, Fresh Energy
Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator

I. Call to Order.

Co Chair Stark called the meeting to order at 12:35 PM.

II. Adoption of the Agenda.

Mr. Krause moved, seconded by Mr. Duininck, to adopt the agenda. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

III. Approval of the Minutes from March 10, 2011.

Mr. Meyers moved, seconded by Mr. Have, to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2011 TAB Policy Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. Information Items and Action Transmittals.

a. Information: Regional "A" Minor Arterial Study.

Mr. Ohrn and Ms. Karlsson presented this item to the committee. Mr. Ohrn explained why the "A" Minor Arterial System was created in 1990 and how the passage of ISTEA in 1991 provided funding for improvements on the system in the regional solicitation process. Mr. Ohrn described the four types of "A" Minor Arterials and reviewed the work program. The work will include examining a sample of "A" Minor Arterial projects funded through the regional solicitation. Mr. Ohrn said the TAC, TAB and Metropolitan Council role in the study has not yet been determined.

Mr. Ohrn reviewed the schedule. Mr. Stark asked that preliminary work be brought back to the Policy Committee before the March 2012 end date.

b. 2011-43: Twin Cities Roadway Functional Classification Map.

Mr. Ohrn presented this item to the committee. Mr. Krom explained how the region's roadway functional classification system and map are updated and said the purpose of adopting the map is to finalize the system for the 2011 regional solicitation. Mr. Ohrn explained that the technical committees use the direction in Appendix D of the Transportation policy Plan to decide if the requested functional classification is appropriate.

Mr. Roggenbuck called the committee's attention to a table of changes in Eden Prairie that was accidentally left off the TAC mailing and asked the Policy Committee to recommend adoption of the map including the changes shown on the table.

Mr. Have moved, seconded by Mr. Meyers, to recommend adoption of the regional roadway functional classification map, including the table of changes in Eden Prairie, as the official map for the 2011 regional solicitation. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

c. Information: Review of Regional Transportation Planning and Programming Processes.

Ms. Roggenbuck presented this item to the committee. Mr. Roggenbuck reviewed several items provided to the committee that describe the working relationship between the Metropolitan Council and the TAB.

Ms. Stark described comments and suggestions made at the April TAB meeting and the TAB Executive Committee meeting. Mr. Stark said the next step is to come back with suggested language at the next Policy Committee meeting, and directed staff to work with Mr. Ulrich to draft the language.

d. Information: Electric Vehicles and the Gasoline Tax.

Ms. Johnson began the discussion of this item with the committee. Mr. Johnson said the increased use of electric vehicles will have an impact on gasoline tax revenues. The committee discussed the cost of electric vehicle chargers and the future for alternative fueled vehicles. The committee also discussed whether mileage based users fees might someday replace the gasoline tax.

Ethan Fawley, Fresh Energy, addressed the committee as a public input opportunity. Mr. Fawley commented on how the technology in electric vehicles is improving and that there is an unmet demand for electric vehicles now.

Mr. Roggenbuck said the MPCA is working on a marketing plan to find locations for electric vehicle recharging station in the Twin cities and will bring a proposal to the TAC funding and Programming Committee in June. Mr. Roggenbuck said a MN/DOT representative will speak to the full TAB about mileage based user fees on May 18 as the Special Agenda item.

V. Other Business.

Mr. Gepner reminded the committee that the 7th annual TAB bike event is scheduled for June 30 in the Forest Lake area. Written information will follow.

VI. Adjournment.

Mr. Stark adjourned the TAB Policy Committee meeting at 1:45 PM.

Minutes prepared by
Kevin Roggenbuck,
TAB Coordinator