

SAINT CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD
Thursday, February 11, 2021 – 4:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization Policy Board was held on Thursday, February 11th at 4:30 p.m. APO Chair Joe Perske presided with the following members participating via the Zoom app or telephone access:

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| Commissioner Joe Perske | Stearns County |
| Mayor Rick Miller | City of Waite Park |
| Commissioner Raeanne Danielowski | Sherburne County |
| Ryan Daniel, CEO | Metro Bus |
| Mayor Dave Kleis | City of Saint Cloud |
| Paul Brandmire | City of Saint Cloud |
| Tim Elness | City of Sartell |
| Jeff Goerger | City of Saint Cloud |
| Dottie Seamans | City of Sauk Rapids |
| Beth Schlangen | Benton County |
| Jared Gapinski | Benton County |
| Scott Hedlund | Sauk Rapids |
| Jon Halter | City of Sartell |
| Andrew Witter | Sherburne County |
| Steve Foss | City of Saint Cloud |
| Brian Gibson, Exec Director | Saint Cloud APO |
| Amber Blattner | Saint Cloud APO |
| Vicki Johnson | Saint Cloud APO |
| Alex McKenzie | Saint Cloud APO |
| Fred Sandal | Saint Cloud APO |

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Goerger motioned to approve the agenda, and Mr. Brandmire seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Miller-yes; Danielowski-yes; Daniel-yes; Brandmire-yes; Perske-yes; Kleis-yes; Goerger – yes; Seamans – yes; Elness – yes; Motion Passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: No members of the public were in attendance.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Approve Minutes of January 14, 2021 Policy Board Meeting (*Attachment A*)
- b. Approve Actual Bills List for January and Anticipated Bills Lists for February and March (*Attachments B1 – B2*)
- c. Approve Liability Coverage Statutory Tort Limits (*Attachment C*)
- d. Approve Technical Corrections to APO Stakeholder Engagement Plan (*Attachments D1 – D2*)
- e. Approve PM2, PM3, and Transit Safety Performance Targets (*Attachment E*)
- f. Receive Staff Report for January Meeting of Active Transportation Advisory Committee (*Attachment F*)

g. Receive Staff Report for District 3 Area Transportation Partnership Meeting
(Attachment G)

Mr. Kleis motioned to approve the consent agenda, and Ms. Seamans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Miller-yes; Danielowski-yes; Daniel-yes; Brandmire-yes; Perske-yes; Kleis-yes; Goerger – yes (abstain from item a); Seamans – yes; Elness – yes; Motion Passed.

Consider FYs 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments and Administrative Modifications (Attachments H1 - H3)

Ms. Johnson provided a summary of the changes to the TIP that were requested by the following entities: Stearns County, City of St. Cloud, City of Sartell, City of Sauk Rapids, WACOSA , ConnectAbility of Minnesota, and MnDOT. Ms. Johnson noted the public comment period ran from December 30, 2020 through January 29, 2021 and 11 online surveys were taken. Reactions were mostly positive, but some participants indicated disapproval, but it was not clear what they disapproved of. Ms. Johnson noted that a memo was sent to members on February 2, 2021 regarding a MnDOT modification. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on February 4, 2021 and recommended Policy Board approval.

Mr. Kleis motioned to approve the TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications, and Mr. Goerger seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Miller-yes; Danielowski-yes; Daniel-yes; Brandmire-yes; Perske-yes; Kleis-yes; Goerger – yes; Seamans – yes; Elness – yes; Motion Passed.

Consider FY 2025 Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Project Prioritization (Attachments I1 – I7)

Ms. Johnson gave an overview of the process for the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP). STBGP is a federal funding source that is used by states and localities for projects to preserve and improve the conditions and performance of any Federal aid highway, bridge and tunnel projects on any public road, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and transit capital projects including intercity bus. The project funds come from 80% federal funding (maximum) and 20% local. Saint Cloud APO is expected to receive \$2,135,120 of Federal funding in 2025. APO received six applications: City of Sartell 15th Street North expansion, Stearns County CSAH 81 resurfacing, Stearns County CSAH 133 resurfacing, City of Saint Cloud 2nd Street South reconstruction, City of Sauk Rapids Second Avenue South reconstruction, and Sherburne County CR 65/45 Avenue realignment. Ms. Johnson asked if there were any questions. Mr. Perske asked if the Sartell project was going to 19th or to Townline Road. Mr. Halter confirmed Phase 1 would go to 19th Avenue from Pine Cone Road to improve access for neighborhoods and the high school. At the February 4th TAC meeting they made the proposed recommendations: the City of Sauk Rapids would be awarded \$1,135,120, and Sherburne County would receive

the remaining one million dollars. Mr. Goerger asked if the City of Sauk Rapids received 30% would that allow the St. Cloud projects to also receive 30%. Ms. Johnson said that that would be possible but was not sure if the city would accept only 30% funding because once a project receives funding you cannot ask for more. Ms. Danielowski mentioned that Sherburne County has not received funds in 21 years and the project would benefit the St. Cloud area. Mr. Foss explained the TAC logic on recommending the two chosen projects. Mr. Foss said in the past we have funded projects at a low level, giving a smaller percent to more projects, but that can create problems if the project costs increase and the share of Federal funding falls below the 30% threshold, so we decided to start funding them at a higher level.

Ms. Danielowski motioned to approve the TAC recommendation of the City of Sauk Rapids being awarded \$1,135,120 and Sherburne County being awarded \$1,000,000, and if additional federal funding became available they would fund the two projects up to the 80% maximum, and then fund the next ranked St. Cloud project and Ms. Seamans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Miller-yes; Danielowski-yes; Daniel-yes; Brandmire-yes; Perske-yes; Kleis-yes; Goerger – yes; Seamans – yes; Elness – yes; Motion Passed.

Consider FY 2025 Transportation Alternatives Project Prioritization (Attachments J1 – J2)

Ms. Johnson summarized what Transportation Alternatives (TA) are and how funding works. Ms. Johnson summarized that there were 16 applications received districtwide to compete for the \$1,600,000 available. The St. Cloud APO received one application from the City of Sartell. The City of Sartell would like to complete four trail and sidewalk connections. They requested \$367,040 of Federal funding. Ms. Johnson requested approval of the assignment of 10 regional priority points to the City of Sartell's TA project.

Mr. Goerger motioned to approve the City of Sartell's TA project, and Ms. Danielowski seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Miller-yes; Danielowski-yes; Daniel-yes; Brandmire-yes; Perske-yes; Kleis-yes; Goerger – yes; Seamans – yes; Elness – yes; Gapinski – YES; Motion Passed.

OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Gibson noted that there are new members and that he is open to meeting with anyone who wants to learn more about the APO. Ms. Danielowski suggested Mr. Gibson give a summary to all Policy Board members. Mr. Gibson said he will provide a summary at the next Policy Board meeting. Mr. Perske noted that Ms. Schlangen has joined the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 p.m.