SAINT CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING

Thursday, May 26, 2022 @ 10:07 a.m.

A meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization's (APO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at 10:07 a.m. on Thursday, May 26, 2022. Senior Transportation Planner Vicki Johnson presided with the following people in attendance:

In-Person TAC Members:

Michael Kedrowski Saint Cloud Metro Bus
Zac Borgerding City of St. Cloud
Jon Noerenberg City of Waite Park
Jodi Teich Stearns County
Andrew Witter Sherburne County

Non-Member In-Person Attendees:

Vicki Johnson APO, Senior Planner
Brian Gibson APO, Executive Director
Alex McKenzie APO, Associate Planner
James Stapfer APO, Planning Technician

Zoom Attendees

Anna Pierce MnDOT
Bobbie Retzlaff FHWA
Steve Voss MnDOT
Innocent Eyoh MPCA

Tracy Hodel City of St. Cloud Matt Glaesman City of St. Cloud Kari Theisen City of Sartell

Introductions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public were present.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve minutes of April 28, 2022, TAC meeting
- b. b. Receive staff report of May 12, 2022, Policy Board meeting

Mr. Kedrowski made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items. Ms. Teich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Consider FY 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modification

Ms. Johnson summarized MnDOT's request for an administrative modification to the APO's FY 2022-2025 TIP. Per the APO's Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), given the nature of these changes, a specific public comment period is not warranted for these changes. With all the proposed changes, fiscal constraint has been maintained. Ms. Johnson requested TAC recommend Policy Board approval.

Ms. Teich made the motion to recommend the FY 2022-2025 TIP modification for Policy Board approval. Mr. Witter seconded. Motion carried.

Consider draft FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program

Ms. Johnson summarized the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP spans four fiscal years, is updated on an annual basis, and lists all the projects receiving Federal and/or state funding. APO staff are now in the final stages of preparing the FY 2023-2026 for final approval and incorporation into the Minnesota State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Final approval of the document is anticipated in September 2022. Ms. Johnson requested TAC recommend Policy Board approval to release the draft document for 30-day public comment period on July 13, 2022. Mr. Voss added that MnDOT should be releasing a draft STIP beginning June 1. Ms. Johnson asked if MnDOT will share the changes they received regarding the Saint Cloud APO. Mr. Voss said they will share comments.

Ms. Teich made the motion to recommend the Policy Board release the draft FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program for public comment. Mr. Noerenberg seconded. Motion carried.

Consider modifications to the City of Saint Joseph ATP section

Mr. McKenzie summarized the Regional Active Transportation Plan (ATP). It aims to provide a long-range planning framework to support non-motorized forms of transportation in the Saint Cloud Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). The proposed projects in Saint Joseph included: a deleted bike lane from Lake Wobegon Trail to Fir Street NE and replaced it with projects 2 & 3. Project 2: Construct a sidewalk from CSAH 75 to Hickory Drive. Project 3: Install a shared use path from CSAH 75 to Fifth Avenue NE. Project 5: Added verbiage to include the option to construct a sidewalk or shared use path. Project 11: Realigned based on the most recent Southwest Beltline Study results. Project 13: Replaced shared use path with onroad bicycle facilities. Mr. McKenzie requested TAC recommend Policy Board approval to release the entire ATP document with modifications for a 30-day public comment period.

Mr. Noerenberg made the motion to recommend the Policy Board release the draft ATP with the proposed modifications for the 30-day public comment period. Mr. Witter seconded. Motion carried.

Consider the FY 2020 Transportation Performance Monitoring Report

Mr. Stapfer summarized the 2020 Transportation Performance Monitoring Report (TPMR). The report serves as an annual snapshot of the region to help the APO and its planning partners better understand current and anticipated performance of the transportation system and how well it is moving towards achieving the goals stated in the MTP. Mr. Stapfer requested TAC recommend Policy Board approval of the TPMR.

Ms. Teich made the motion to recommend Policy Board approval of the TPMR. Mr. Witter seconded. Motion carried.

Highway Safety Improvement Program prioritization criteria

At the March TAC meeting, APO staff recommended separating and prioritizing proactive/ data driven projects and reactive projects. The recommendation process would be much like the TAC currently handles the TA process, ranking to reflect the most pressing local needs. Ms. Teich thought if proactive projects are in line with the MTP goals that they should all be ranked equally. Ms. Teich said if any HSIP projects were to undergo a ranking process, she would feel the most comfortable with the reactive projects being ranked. Ms. Pierce added that it is up to the MPO if they want to rank projects and ranking would only be necessary if there is a tie breaker.

Ms. Teich made the motion to recommend Policy Board approval of a final prioritization/ranking process which would assign equal ranking to proactive/data driven projects and allow for a discussion based ranking/prioritization for reactive projects. Mr. Witter seconded. Motion carried.

Other Business and Announcements

Ms. Gibson said the APO is solicitating projects for the UPWP. Projects may be submitted to Brian Gibson via email. Ms. Teich asked if projects could be submitted under one application for CPG money. Mr. Gibson said CPG cannot be used for environmental work. Ms. Pierce confirmed that you can have one project and ineligible tasks can be a part of it. Mr. Eyoh announced the clean-diesel off-road DERA grant that impacts air pollution. Ms. Johnson will email out more information on the topic for the committee to review. Mr. Voss updated the group on the response to the IIJA.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.