

**St. Cloud Area Planning Organization
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 4, 2017**

A regular meeting of the St. Cloud Area Planning Organization's (APO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was held on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 10:00AM at Stearns County Public Works. Mr. Joseph Mueller, Senior Transportation Planner presided with the following members present:

Mike Nielson	Sartell/WSB
Chris Byrd	Benton County
Jon Mason	MnDOT, Dist #3
Ben Anderson	Stearns County Parks
Jeff Miller	Stearns County
Brian Gibson	St. Cloud APO
Joseph Mueller	St. Cloud APO
Dorothy Sweet	St. Cloud APO

The TAC meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. Mr. Nielson motioned to approve the October 2016 TAC meeting minutes and the TAC agenda with one addition (TIP amendment). Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PROJECTS OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE LIST:

Mr. Mueller announced the main focus of the meeting was to obtain input from a technical standpoint in the creation of a list of regional priorities. The priorities list will be used by the Board members to highlight the APO's transportation-related needs and priorities when they meet with congressional staff in Washington DC and St. Paul. The priorities list from 2015 was reviewed and included Expanding I-94, Transportation Funding Equity for Central MN, Connect Northstar Commuter Rail to St. Cloud, and position St. Cloud Regional Airport as a Regional Hub.

Mr. Mueller added several other possible projects for consideration: I-94 expansion, Northstar Rail Extension, Hwy 10 Pedestrian Safety, Continue the Lake Wobegon Trail, Increase passenger air transportation options, Illustrative projects from LRP, Bike Share, Additional Mississippi River Crossing, Sauk River Bridge to connect Industrial Park West to Division St, Improving truck movement on Hwy 15 through 2nd St, Division St, and 3rd intersections.

Mr. Miller stated that Stearns County is still interested in the CR 134 expansion from West Oaks to Pinecone Road and Sartell CSAH 133 alignment from 19th Avenue.

Mr. Nielson said Roberts Road is Sartell's #1 project, and the city wants to move it from the illustrative list to the west Metro corridor project and planning dollars for CR134 and CSAH 133. He felt Sartell should take another look at Roberts Road and review the cost. He thought it was more of a St. Cloud issue.

The TAC members discussed whether the list should be prioritized but decided to let the Board members prioritize the list.

The TAC members discussed several of the additional projects suggested by Mr. Mueller. After much discussion, the TAC members generally felt the airport issue was premature. They felt strongly about restoring funding equity, expanding I-94, Northstar and connecting the Lake Wobegon Trail. In addition, Roberts Road alignment, expansion of CR 134 to four lanes and CSAH 133 new alignment were also important.

2017 TIP AMENDMENT:

Mr. Mueller announced that he was just notified this morning (1-4-2017) that MnDOT awarded a FY 2017 Section 5310 Project to WACOSA on Nov. 18, 2016 for a replacement bus. MnDOT has directed the APO to review the award, and if the award is consistent with the transportation program goals and priorities in the APO planning area, that the APO amend the project into our FY 2017 TIP. Total cost: \$76,000, Federal Funds \$60,800, Local Funds \$15,200. The funds come from an Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and People with Disabilities program, and is not competing with any of our funds. Mr. Nielson motioned to add this to the TIP contingent upon review by the APO, and was seconded by Mr. Byrd. Motion carried to amend the TIP upon review by the APO. Concern was expressed about the late notices we have been receiving to amend our TIP.

ADJOURNMENT:

The TAC meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.