

**Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
May 30, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization's (APO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 30, 2019 at Stearns County Public Works. Senior Planner, Vicki Johnson, presided with the following members present:

Doug Diedrichsen	Metro Bus
Ben Anderson	Stearns County Parks
Chris Byrd	Benton County
Bill Schluenz	Waite Park
Jon Halter	Sartell/SEH
Jodi Teich	Stearns County
Matt Glaesman	Saint Cloud
Todd Schultz	Sauk Rapids
Krista Anderson	SRF
Vicki Johnson	Saint Cloud APO
Brian Gibson	Saint Cloud APO
Alex McKenzie	Saint Cloud APO
Alison Henning	Saint Cloud APO
Dorothy Sweet	Saint Cloud APO

CONSIDER MINUTES OF APRIL 4 AND MAY 2, 2019:

Ms. Teich motioned to approve the April 4 and May 2, 2019 TAC meeting minutes, and Mr. Glaesman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: N/A

2045 MTP MODEL RUN AND PRELIMINARY RING ROAD MODEL RESULTS:

Krista Anderson of SRF presented a preliminary ring road model for consideration in the 2045 MTP. A PowerPoint presentation included information on the following:

- Existing Congestion.
- Residential Growth–Existing to 2045: Growing by 18% from 2015 to 2045.
- Commercial Growth-Existing to 2045: Growing by 68% and exceeding residential levels results in trip patterns shifting away from existing markets due to high growth in other areas.
- Year 2045 No Build Congestion: Changes for under-capacity, approaching-capacity, and over-capacity lane miles for existing and 2045 No Build were presented. Key areas included TH 10, 23, 15 and I-94 south.
- Year 2045 MTP Scenario Projects and change from No Build were presented. Information was obtained by the APO from local jurisdictions.
- Year 2045 Build Congestion: Showed some relief to congested roadways.
- Year 2045 Ring Road Scenario Assumptions: Four lane divided, mostly at grade.

- Year 2045 Ring Road Scenario: Increase in volume of 43,000 along 33rd Street South. Showed improvements, but still over capacity.

Mr. Gibson stated that we need to get fiscally constrained projects in the MTP and asked members for any changes to the projects list and asked if the ring road projects were included in the MTP. Mr. Halter, Sartell/SEH, said there were some changes on projects #15 and #19, and that he would send the changes to the APO staff. Mr. Glaesman said he and Steve Foss would contact the APO Planning Technician regarding changes.

The members discussed the illustrative list. Ms. Teich commented that if projects are on the illustrative list, we can lobby for them in Washington, D.C. Mr. Gibson agreed that it would hold weight as a regional project. Members discussed the ring road and agreed that the Policy Board will ultimately decide if they want the ring road or not. Mr. Gibson said that if counties wanted to start putting ring road projects in the MTP, they could, but it would be up to the counties.

Mr. Gibson said we will have one more model run which will be the final run. He will take this to the Policy Board in June. Ms. Teich said Stearns County had no additional projects. Mr. Byrd, Benton County, said he would be adding some ring road projects to the base list.

Ms. Teich motioned to recommend Policy Board acceptance of the 2045 MTP Model Run and the Ring Road Model Results. Mr. Schluenz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DRAFT 2045 MTP PROJECT LIST:

The APO staff has been in contact with the jurisdictions in the past few weeks regarding the Draft 2045 MTP project list. Maintenance and expansion projects were defined. Jurisdictions were asked to review the project list and notify the APO of any changes or corrections.

Mr. Byrd motioned to recommend Policy Board approval of the 2045 MTP Project list to include the changes to Projects #15 and #19, as stated by Mr. Halter, and the addition of Benton County's projects, per Mr. Byrd. Mr. Halter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FY 2020-2023 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROJECT ADDITION:

Senior Planner Vicki Johnson reported that since the last approval, Kelvin Howieson of MnDOT added a CSAH 75 Stearns County project to the TIP, which will be determined by Stearns County. This project is allocated for 2022 and will have a payback in 2023. Other changes included district wide set asides, funding source change for Metro Bus for facilities improvement. Mrs. Johnson asked that any changes to the TIP be sent to her.

Mr. Byrd motioned the recommend Policy Board approval of the TIP project addition, and Ms. Teich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN (BPAC) UPDATES:

Alison Henning, Transportation Planner, reviewed the background history of the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), and the activities of the current BPAC. Mr. Gibson reminded the members that the BPAC is a subcommittee of the TAC and that they will make recommendations to the TAC. The BPAC currently meets tri-annually. Ms. Henning reported that we are finishing up Safe Routes to School for District 742. Bike/ped counts are done in the spring and fall at 26 locations. The auto counter is being placed on a different trail each week. The APO is in the process of developing a Regional Active Transportation Plan. Talks will begin with jurisdictions about their goals and visions pertaining to bike and ped. Ms. Henning reviewed a Trail Survey, created by the APO, which will document cracks on the trails as well as clearances, intersections, signage, drainage and overall trail ratings. The survey, along with a special app, will give us a better picture of trail conditions.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Johnson updated the TAC members on HSIP funding. Several millions of dollars are available for projects. Solicitation will start around October. She encouraged the jurisdictions to submit their project requests as they will be looking for low cost, high impact projects.

TIP Amendment Schedule: Mrs. Johnson requested feedback on how the amendment schedule, which was changed to four times a year, is working for the jurisdictions. Ms. Teich commented that she appreciates the reminders that are sent out, and Mr. Glaesman said he likes the 4 x year schedule.

Mrs. Johnson stated that a TA Committee representative is needed from the TAC for a two-year commitment. She described the typical duties of the TA Committee representative from the TAC. Ms. Teich volunteered for the two-year commitment.

Doug Diedrichsen, Metro Bus, announced that the ConneX pilot project in Sartell has been extended another six months. Ridership on ConneX seems to be trending upward. Senior and community groups as well as schools are starting to use this service. One TAC member added that they have used ConneX when his children have missed the school bus.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Byrd motioned and Ms. Teich seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.