

**Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 30, 2020**

A Zoom meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization's (APO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2020. Senior Transportation Planner Vicki Johnson presided with the following members participating via zoom or telephone access:

Chris Byrd	Benton County
Jodi Teich	Stearns County
Bobbi Retzlaff	FHWA
Steve Voss	MnDOT, Dist #3
Jon Halter	SEH/Waite Park/Sartell
Shawn Pierce	Metro Bus
Randy Sabart	Saint Joseph
Andrew Witter	Sherburne County
Steve Foss	Saint Cloud
Matt Glaesman	Saint Cloud
Kurt Franke	ATAC
Vicki Johnson	Saint Cloud APO
Brian Gibson	Saint Cloud APO
Alex McKenzie	Saint Cloud APO
Fred Sandal	Saint Cloud APO
Dorothy Sweet	Saint Cloud APO

Attendance was recorded and introductions were made.

Senior Planner, Vicki Johnson read the guidelines for an electronic meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: No members of the public were participating.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (Approval of TAC minutes of Feb. 27, 2020, Accept staff report of Mar. 11, 2020 Active Transportation Small Adv Com mtg, Accept staff report of Mar 12, 2020 Policy Board mtg, Accept staff report of Apr 2, 2020 Central MN Area Transportation Partnership mtg):

Randy Sabart motioned and Jodi Teich seconded the approval of the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote: Voss-yes; Teich-yes; Byrd-yes; Pierce-yes; Halter-yes; Sabart-yes; Witter-yes; Foss-yes; Glaesman-yes; Johnson-Abstained)

FY 2020-2023 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS:

Senior Transportation Planner, Vicki Johnson, reviewed the changes which required the TIP amendment. WACOSA has requested to include the purchase of a replacement vehicle in FY 2021. The Public Comment period will be ongoing through May 8. Public outreach included two open houses, two Facebook live events, and an online survey.

Jodi Teich motioned to approve the TIP Amendment, and Jon Halter seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote: Voss-yes; Teich-yes; Byrd-yes; Pierce-yes; Halter-yes; Sabart-yes; Witter-yes; Foss-yes; Glaesman-yes; Johnson-Abstained)

UPDATE ON REGIONAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN:

APO Associate Transportation Planner, Fred Sandal, presented information about the progress APO staff have made thus far in the development of the region's Active Transportation Plan. Mr. Sandal provided some information about some of the data collection efforts currently used by

APO staff. He also outlined the public engagement tools staff have been using to obtain public feedback on the existing system. APO staff have been using a SurveyMonkey online survey that has generated over 65 responses as of April 30. Mr. Sandal also said staff have been using an interactive mapping tool – a Wikimap – to allow residents to map out their current routes (both by bike and by walking) and identify destinations they travel to and/or barriers they see. Because of the stay-at-home order in place and social distancing, it makes it challenging to obtain public input. Mr. Sandal asked for the TAC’s assistance in sharing both tools out to residents.

FY 2022-2025 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE:

Senior Transportation Planner Vicki Johnson reviewed the FY 2022-2025 timeline which is closely modeled off the MnDOT Dist. 3’s timeline for the development of the District’s Area Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. Johnson reviewed the key deadlines. Members were encouraged to contact Ms. Johnson if there are issues with the schedule.

Jodi Teich motioned to approve the TIP Development timeline, and Chris Byrd seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote: Voss-yes; Teich-yes; Byrd-yes; Pierce-yes; Halter-yes; Sabart-yes; Witter-yes; Foss-yes; Glaesman-yes; Johnson-Abstained)

FY 2021-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT SCHEDULE:

Ms. Johnson provided TAC members with a proposed schedule for the FY 2021-2024 TIP amendment process. For the past two years the APO has worked to streamline the amendment process in order to ensure no project changes get inadvertently missed. This amendment schedule has been used by the APO for the past two years and has been working quite well. Ms. Johnson presented a schedule which would allow four opportunities to amend the FY 2021-2024 TIP starting in December 2020. The schedule pertains primarily to first year changes of a TIP.

Steve Voss motioned to approve the TIP amendment schedule for FY 2021-2024, and Matt Glaesman seconded the motion. Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote: Voss-yes; Teich-yes; Byrd-yes; Pierce-yes; Halter-yes; Sabart-yes; Witter-yes; Foss-yes; Glaesman-yes; Johnson-Abstained)

OTHER BUSINESS:

APO Executive Director Brian Gibson discussed the APO’s Visioning Survey that was electronically distributed to TAC members in March. This survey is to assist in the development of a vision for the next update to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). He reminded TAC members to take the survey and provide him with any questions or feedback. Mr. Gibson is hoping to unveil this survey to the public and will be working with Ms. Johnson and Mr. Sandal to determine some ways to facilitate public engagement around the visioning process. Mr. Gibson did state he had received some initial feedback from City of Saint Cloud’s Community Development Director Matt Glaesman concerning some of the questions pertaining to land use. Mr. Glaesman had expressed concern that getting multiple jurisdictions to agree to a single agreed-upon policy would be rather difficult. He suggested APO staff provide summaries of land use policies each jurisdiction has adopted and incorporate that into the MTP. He felt that would be a more realistic approach – based upon his experience – than trying to get multiple city councils and county boards to agree to a single vision pertaining to land use. Mr. Gibson and Mr. Glaesman agreed to continue discussion on this topic separately.

City of Saint Cloud Engineer Steve Foss brought up the possibility of assembling a regional group to discuss the potential to reduce speed limits on various roadways. Due to a change in Minnesota statutes allowing jurisdictions to adjust speed limits on roadways, Mr. Foss has had

an influx of calls into his office about changing speeds on several local roadways. City of Sartell Engineer Jon Halter had said Sartell has also received requests and would be interested in being a part of this group. Stearns County Engineer Jodi Teich and Benton County Engineer Chris Byrd expressed concerns about altering speed limits on roadways without doing some sort of engineering speed study. They also brought up the need to include law enforcement in the discussions. Ms. Johnson responded that as Chair of the Toward Zero Death committee, she would look into getting local law enforcement involved. Another concern discussed was the need to do this on a consistent basis not block-by-block. APO staff will work on establishing a working group to discuss this issue further.

Mr. Gibson thanked everyone for their patience and understanding of the technical issues at the beginning of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.