

SAINT CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD
Thursday, March 12, 2020 – 4:30 p.m.
Great River Regional Library, St. Cloud, MN

A regular meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization Policy Board was held on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. at the Great River Regional Library. Chair Rick Miller presided with the following members present:

Mayor Rick Miller	Waite Park
Matt Glaesman (Alt for J Goerger)	Saint Cloud
Council Member Paul Brandmire	Saint Cloud
Mayor Dave Kleis	Saint Cloud
Council Member Dottie Seamans	Sauk Rapids
Supervisor Jeff Westerlund	LeSauk Township
Commissioner Joe Perske	Stearns County
Commissioner Leigh Lenzmeier	Stearns County
Commissioner Raeanne Danielowski	Sherburne County
Ryan Daniel, CEO	Metro Bus
Brian Gibson, Exec Director	Saint Cloud APO
Dorothy Sweet	Saint Cloud APO
Vicki Johnson	Saint Cloud APO
Alex McKenzie	Saint Cloud APO
Fred Sandal	Saint Cloud APO

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

INTRODUCTIONS: Introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Dave Kleis motioned and Sauk Rapids Council Member Dottie Seamans seconded the motion to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

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

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: (Approval of Feb 13, 2020 Policy Board Meeting Minutes, Bills Lists for February and March, TH-15 Operations Improvement Study Contract & MnDOT Joint Powers Agreement, Executive Director Travel Request, Active Transportation Advisory Committee Staff Report, and TAC Staff Report)

Mr. Ryan Daniel motioned and Commissioner Perske seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION – SAINT CLOUD GROWTH AND PLANNING:

Matt Glaesman, Saint Cloud Community Development Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the growth and planning that is currently taking place in the city of Saint Cloud. Over the past several years, the City of Saint Cloud has won over 30+ awards for its achievements in friendliness, livability, businesses, workforce, planning, and community engagement, to name a few. The City is planning for Greenfields, Brownfields, and more and has fostered development by using the themes of: Collaborate, Be Flexible, Approve, Be Consistent, Inform, and Coordinate. Mr. Glaesman reviewed maps and architectural drawings which showcased opportunities for growth and redevelopment in Downtown, East Side, and the Riverfront areas,

as well as residential and commercial development areas. Saint Cloud is planning for current needs as well as for 50 years into the future. Mr. Glaesman responded to inquiries regarding the location of the Amtrak station, the Electrolux plant, and the Airport. The City continues to positively market the area with a variety of development and reasonable prices.

CONSIDER AMENDMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATION TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP):

Senior Planner Vicki Johnson reported that this is the second of four planned amendments for the FY 2020-23 TIP. The changes were prompted by MnDOT and Metro Bus. MnDOT changes involved deleting nine districtwide set asides for projects in 2020, eight set asides in 2021, ten set asides in 2022, 11 set asides in 2023, and adding one project per MnDOT Office of Freight & Commercial Vehicle Operations for 2022. MnDOT also added an administrative modification whereby two projects are changed from 2020 to 2021. Metro Bus changes involved deleting a total of three projects, one in 2021, one in 2022, and one in 2023. A 30-day public comment was completed on March 7, 2020. An online survey was created with one person responding, and two people attending the open house. One negative comment was received regarding a Metro Bus project. The TAC recommended Policy Board approval at their Feb. 27 meeting. ***Ms. Raeanne Danielowski motioned, and Mr. Ryan Daniel seconded to approve the TIP amendments and administrative modification. Motion carried.***

CONSIDER 2020 REGIONAL PROJECT PRIORITIES:

Mr. Gibson reviewed the most updated version of the regional priorities booklet, which will accompany the Executive Director and the Chair on their annual trip to Washington DC March 30-April 2 for distribution to the congressional staff. The booklet incorporates the suggested changes made by the TAC and the Policy Board members at previous meetings. The major priorities include Extension of Northstar Commuter Rail to Saint Cloud, Widening I-94 between Albertville and Monticello along with endorsements from St. Michael, Monticello, Otsego and Wright County, Urban Beltline Arterial divided into several areas, Reconfiguring Taxiways at the Saint Cloud Regional Airport, and Earmarks. Other unfunded transportation needs included Stearns County Road 134, Pedestrian Crossing in Saint Joseph, Scout/Dehler Drive Connection in Sartell, Heatherwood Road, Field Street in Saint Joseph, and CSAH 1 in Stearns County. The TAC recommended Policy Board approval at their February 27 meeting. With the outbreak of the Coronavirus, the Executive Director and Board Chair will be deciding soon if they will be going to Washington DC. ***Ms. Dottie Seamans motioned, and Mr. Paul Brandmire seconded to approve the priorities booklet. Motion carried.***

Note: The trip to Washington DC, originally scheduled to occur March 30 – April 2, was canceled on March 23rd due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CONSIDER 2018 TRANSPORTATION PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT:

Mr. Alex McKenzie, APO Planning Technician, reviewed the 2018 Transportation Performance Monitoring Report which tracks our region's progress toward achievement of transportation goals, serves as a benchmark to evaluate and quantify progress, improves investment accountability and transparency, and is an annual snapshot of our region's transportation system. Mr. McKenzie reviewed the following Measures, Trends, Scorecard Results, and Targets, and responded to questions and comments:

Goal #1: Maintain and Enhance Transportation Safety

Number/Rate of Crashes, Fatalities, Serious Injuries, Non-Motorized Fatalities and Suspected Serious Injuries, Chemical Impairment and Distracting Driving Crashes

Goal #2: Increase System Accessibility, Mobility, and Connectivity

Non-Interstate (US 10, 75, 23) NHS Reliability, Vehicles Miles Traveled, Number of Annual Fixed Route/Dial-a-Ride/Northstar Commuter Bus Transit Riders

Goal #3: Efficiently Manage Operations and Cost-Effectively Preserve the System

Interstate and Non-Interstate Pavement Conditions, National Highway System Bridge Conditions, All Bridges' Conditions, Mechanical Failures, and Transit State of Good Repair

Goal #4: Support the Economic Vitality of the APO Area by Enabling Global

Competitiveness, Productivity, and Efficiency while enhancing travel and tourism.

Truck Travel Time Reliability, Tri-CAP Trips, Air Passengers at Saint Cloud Regional Airport, and Amtrak Ridership

Goal #5: Promote Energy and Environmental Conservation

Air/Water Quality, Percentage of Transportation Investments in Minority and Low-Income Environmental Justice Census Blocks, Transit Vehicle Using Alternative Fuel, Vehicles

Registered/Sold by Powertrain and Fuel Types

The TAC recommended Policy Board approval at their Feb. 27 meeting. Mayor Kleis commented that this was really great information and suggested sending out this information in press releases. **Mr. Paul Brandmire motioned, and Commissioner Joe Perske seconded to approve the report. Motion carried**

CONSIDER REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PLAN (RIIP):

Ms. Johnson explained the background of the RIIP document and how it came about. While the TIP document concentrates on Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration regulations, the APO staff felt it did not provide a comprehensive view of all surface transportation projects in the region. After discussion with MnDOT personnel, it was decided to create a companion document (RIIP) to the TIP which would include all projects, both in the TIP and those that are locally funded, no matter how large or small or significant to provide transparency to the public. The document shows what is happening in infrastructure projects in the APO area regardless of funding sources. The RIIP is for information only, contains simpler language, and is not subject to any federal or state requirements. It is an "informational only" document that can be used by the jurisdictions to be aware of projects that may be of interest to them and to enhance coordination efforts between jurisdictions. The RIIP will be updated annually and will be based off the approved Capital Improvement Programs (CIP's). The TAC recommended Policy Board approval at their Feb. 27 meeting. **Mayor Dave Kleis motioned, and Mr. Paul Brandmire seconded the approval of the RIIP document. Motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Gibson commented that he expects the April meeting to be very short.

Commissioner Perske commented that considering the important decisions the Policy Board makes, he was concerned that there was no representation from three jurisdictions at today's meeting. Neither the Policy Board member nor the alternates were in attendance from the three jurisdictions.

Mr. Gibson responded to an inquiry from Mr. Brandmire about the status of the RTCC.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.