

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

Thursday, February 3, 2022 @ 10 a.m.

A meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization’s (APO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 3, 2022.

Senior Transportation Planner Vicki Johnson presided with the following people in attendance:

In-Person TAC Members:

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|-------------------|---|
| Tom Cruikshank | MnDOT District 3 (Alternate for Steve Voss) |
| Randy Sabart | City of Saint Joseph |
| Dave Blommel | City of Waite Park |
| Scott Saehr | City of Sartell |
| Jodi Teich | Stearns County |
| Michael Kedrowski | Saint Cloud Metro Bus |
| Chris Byrd | Benton County |

Non-Member In-Person Attendees:

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|---------------|-------------------------|
| Vicki Johnson | APO, Senior Planner |
| Brian Gibson | APO, Executive Director |
| Alex McKenzie | APO, Associate Planner |
| April Ryan | City of Sartell |

Zoom Attendees:

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|----------------|---|
| Bobbi Retzlaff | Federal Highway Administration |
| Ben Anderson | Stearns County Parks |
| Kari Theisen | City of Sartell |
| Innocent Eyoh | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) |
| Steve Voss | MnDOT District 3 |
| Jeff Lenz | MnDOT District 3 |
| Andrew Witter | Sherburne County |

Introductions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public were present.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Johnson listed the contents of the consent agenda, including:

- Approve minutes of Sept. 30, 2021, TAC meeting
- Receive Technical Advisory Committee Attendance Record for 2021
- Receive Staff Report of Oct. 7, 2021, Central Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership Meeting
- Receive Staff Report of Oct. 14, 2021, and Jan. 13, 2022, Policy Board meetings
- Receive Staff Report of Jan. 13, 2021, Central Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership Meeting
- Receive Staff Report of Jan. 27, 2022, Active Transportation Advisory

Committee (ATAC) Meeting

- Receive Staff Report on Speed Limit Working Group Status

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

CONSIDERATION OF FY2022-2025 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS

Ms. Johnson summarized the proposed changes to the TIP including:

- Removing Benton CSAH1 reclamation from CSAH 29 to 0.25 miles south of CR78 in Sauk Rapids (the project will still be completed, but will no longer utilize Federal funds)
- Advance constructing street lighting at various Sherburne County highway intersections from 2024 to 2023 (Federal reimbursement will remain in 2024)
- Advance constructing Phase 3 of the ROCORI trail from Cold Spring to Rockville from 2023 to 2022 (Federal reimbursement will remain in 2023 and 2024)
- Increasing project funding for MnDOT's replacement of Bridges 73875 and 73876 on I-94 over the BNSF railroad tracks one-half mile west of the MN-23 interchange. Project costs have increased from \$1,600,000 to \$2,209,000
- Adding the installation of Dynamic Message Signs, cameras, and fiber optics on I-94 from US-71 in Sauk Center to MN-24 in Clearwater, for a total cost of \$500,000.

She summarized the public input received on the proposed changes.

Mr. Byrd moved and Ms. Teich seconded approval of all proposed changes. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER FY 2026 SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (STBGP) PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

Ms. Johnson provided a brief overview of the STBGP and introduced the three project applications that the APO received.

Mr. Saehr provided some details about the City of Sartell's application to complete the 15th Street North corridor from Pinecone Road to 19th Avenue N. He asked for clarification if the city could amend its application to include only right-of-way in order to make it possible for the city to receive any left-over or supplemental funds and still meet the minimum 30% Federal funding threshold.

Mr. Voss provided some details about what is currently known and unknown about the potential for additional funding through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). He stated if additional funds were to become available for 2026, it would come back to the APO for reconsideration.

Ms. Johnson introduced the Stearns County proposal to replace the bridge on CSAH 75 over the Sauk River.

Ms. Teich provided additional project details.

Ms. Johnson introduced Benton Counties proposal for a full-depth reclamation of CSAH 3 between CSAH 1 and CR 44.

Mr. Byrd provided additional project details.

Ms. Johnson summarized the APO's staff's preliminary scores and ranking of the projects, which was:

1. Stearns County Bridge Replacement on CSAH 75
2. Sartell Construction of 15th Street North
3. Benton County Reclamation of CSAH 3

Mr. Byrd moved, and Ms. Teich seconded, awarding the \$2.135 million STBGP allocation to the Stearns County bridge replacement project on CSAH 75.

There was more discussion about the timing and potential amounts of additional funds being available and how those funds might be distributed. Mr. Voss suggested that because there was a lot of uncertainty right now that the APO get through this process and then do a separate prioritization process for additional funds should they become available.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Byrd moved, and Mr. Saehr seconded, following the APO staff's ranking for prioritization of the remaining two projects. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER FY 2026 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

Ms. Johnson noted that only a single project was submitted.

Mr. Blommel summarized the project proposal, constructing a shared-use path adjacent to 15th Avenue N in Waite Park.

Ms. Teich noted that the project would occur in County right-of-way and the County fully supports the project.

Ms. Teich moved, seconded by Mr. Blommel, to award 10 local priority points to the City of Waite Park project. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Johnson reminded members about the deadline to submit TIP project amendments. She also asked if any members would be interested in serving on the region's Toward Zero Deaths committee.

Ms. Teich stated that if the meeting times could be change she could attend more often. Ms. Johnson said she will poll the members to see if another time could be found.

Mr. Sabart asked about the requirement that the TAC meet in person.

Mr. Gibson stated that both the APO counsel and MnDOT counsel have said that - short of an emergency declaration by the Governor - that meetings of the TAC must be in-person to comply with the State's open meeting laws.

Mr. Witter noted that the Met Council has been meeting and voting virtually.
Mr. Gibson said he will look into the matter.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.