

**SAINT CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING  
Thursday, September 30, 2021 @ 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, Sept. 30, 2021. Senior Transportation Planner Vicki Johnson presided with the following members:

Michael Kedrowski	Saint Cloud Metro Bus
Steve Voss	MnDOT District 3
Matt Glaesman	City of Saint Cloud
Chris Byrd	Benton County
Dan Knapek	Sherburne County
Nate Keller	City of Saint Joseph
Jon Halter	City of Sartell
Steve Foss	City of Saint Cloud
Brian Gibson	APO, Executive Director
Jon Norenberg	City of Waite Park
Alex McKenzie	APO, Planning Technician
Lynnae Kuklok	APO, Administrative Assistant
Jodi Teich	Stearns County

Zoom Attendees:

Vicki Johnson	APO, Senior Planner
Anna Pierce	MnDOT
Bobbi Retzlaff	Federal Highway Administration
Innocent Eyoh	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

Introductions were made.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No Members of the Public were present.

Mr. Voss made a motion to request an amendment to the TAC agenda to include an administrative modification of the FY 2021-2024 TIP to accommodate funding increase for the US 10 box culvert project 0502-115.

**Motion made by Mr. Voss, seconded by Ms. Teich. Motion Carried**

**Consideration of Consent Agenda Items**

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

**Consideration of FY 2023-2026 HSIP project prioritization/ Ranking**

Ms. Johnson summarized the Highway Safety Improvement Program. Previously project solicitation started at the beginning of September. Applications were handled by MnDOT. The APO's input was provided after applications were submitted. Changes now include involving MPOs in the process which includes submitting HSIP application to MPOs, MPOs reviewing and prioritizing projects before applications are submitted to Office of Traffic Engineering.

APO received three HSIP applications. 1. Stearns County roundabout at CSAH 2/Minnesota Street. 2. Sherburne County rural intersection safety street lighting at nine intersections. 3. Sherburne County mumble strip installation on CSAH 7 from TH 10 to east of 40<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE.

Ms. Teich spoke expressing concerns with CSAH 2/ Minnesota St. intersection. The concern being the number of crashes, near crashes and complaints. Ms. Teich is recommending a roundabout vs traffic signals or nontraditional intersection treatments because of high rates of speed, elevation & curve in the road. This is a reactive project. Mr. Keller also added there will be an increase in traffic at this intersection for anticipated growth in the area for St. Joseph expansion.

Sherburne county is requesting funding for two proactive projects. Mr. Knapek spoke about this current project coming out of 2010 safety plan looking to add lighting to T-intersections. Sherburne County is also proposing to add mumble strips at CSAH 7 from TH 10 to east of 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. Mr. Knapek stated this is also coming out of 2010 safety plan.

Ms. Teich expressed concerns as to how this is going to be evaluated for ranking systems. Ms. Teich is concerned with how ranking will affect OTE. Mr. Voss also expressed concerns with the ranking system. He likes the regional input but concerned how it will affect statewide projects especially rural vs urban. Mr. Byrd also expressed shared concerns with Mr. Voss with creating a metro vs rural divide and how projects will be prioritized. Mr. Gibson suggests an option would be to submit with equal prioritization. Ms. Pierce clarified that they don't really know how the ranking system will work but projects need to align with MTP goals. They will also look at year and funding availability.

Ms. Pierce recommends a ranking by year of all projects within a year. Apply for preferred year and rank accordingly. They do not know exactly how rankings will be used.

Ms. Teich stressed that prioritizing yearly will not always work when some projects are flexible in terms of timing. Also stressing that ranking proactive vs reactive projects is difficult because they are both equally important for public safety. Ms. Johnson concludes that the TAC recommend we rank all the same for the time being until a concrete answer on how rankings will be used.

**Motion by Mr. Byrd that all these projects are equally ranked and do not conflict with our adopted MTP. Ms. Teich Seconded the motion. Motion Carried**

### **Consideration of the 2020-2021 Stakeholder Engagement Plan Annual Report.**

Mr. Gibson reviewed the 2021 SEP Annual Report. The goals of the report are to measure progress toward achieving public engagement goals outlined in the SEP. Mr. Gibson identified our online presence and demographics of public reached. Mr. Gibson outlined APO's other efforts including speaking at meetings, press releases, email list, website, and newsletter. This report evaluates the effectiveness of activities to inform and engage the public and provides recommendations for improving public outreach and engagement. Mr. Gibson summarized the recommendations for improving public engagement including hybrid meetings, posting meetings on YouTube, targeting

BIPOC “ambassador” pilot program, social media, qualitative surveys, continuing newsletter, and will explore innovative tools.

**Motion to approve the review and recommendations from Mr. Glaesman. Mr. Voss seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

### **Consideration of amendment to the FY 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program**

Mr. Gibson stated the need to delete St. Joseph Birch Street Redevelopment Project and redirect funds to the Opportunity Drive study. Mr. Gibson also explained the staffing changes within the APO. Mr. Sandal has left the APO and Mr. McKenzie is the new Associate Planner. We are hiring for the planning technician position previously held by Mr. McKenzie. We need to add the St. Cloud Opportunity Drive Evaluation as recommended by Mr. Glaesman. We will be reviewing current operations for deficiencies and considering impacts of Heatherwood Road extension. No net change to CPG and no change to jurisdictional assessments (St. Cloud will be matching).

**Motion to approve the proposed amendment by Mr. Glaesman. Mr. Voss seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

### **Consideration of Administrative modification of the 2021-2024 Metro TIP to accommodate funding increase to 0502-115 culvert.**

Mr. Voss is requesting an administrative modification of the 2021-2024 TIP to accommodate a \$600,000 project cost increase for the box culvert on US 10 programmed in FY 2022. The new project cost, \$2 million, is a 43% increase from the previously programmed cost. Amendment to the TIP not needed but an administrative modification. Ms. Pierce states that since it is in both TIPs any changes to the new 2022-2025 TIP cannot be done until STIP is approved. After final approval it needs to be approved by the Policy Board. Changes to previous 2021-2024 TIP can be done today. Bobbi states you cannot take action on anything not approved by Federal Highway. Mr. Voss recommends we approve for current TIP and recommend modification of the next TIP when the Federal Highway approval comes through. Mr. Gibson recommends we take action today on recommending and wait for FHWA to approve before bringing it to Policy Board.

**Motion to recommend the administrative modification to 2021-2024 TIP by Mr. Foss. Mr. Voss seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Motion to recommend the administrative modification to 2022-2025 TIP by Ms. Teich. Mr. Keller seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

### **Other Business and Announcements**

Ms. Johnson summarizes safe routes program. Mr. Gibson describes household travel survey invitation.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.