

SAINT CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD
Thursday, October 14, 2021 – 4:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization Policy Board was held on Thursday, September 12 at 4:30 p.m. Raeanne Danielowski for Joe Perske APO Chair presided with the following members:

Leigh Lenzmeier	Stearns County
Rick Miller	City of Waite Park
Raeanne Danielowski	Sherburne County
Dottie Seamans	City of Sauk Rapids
Jodi Tiech	Stearns County
Kevin Kluesner	City of Saint Joseph
Jeff Westerlund	LeSauk Township
Jeff Goerger	City of Saint Cloud
Steve Heinen	Benton County
Dave Green	Metro Bus
Jeff Kolb	City of Sartell

Also in attendance were:

Brian Gibson	Saint Cloud APO
Vicki Johnson	Saint Cloud APO
Micah Johnson	Saint Cloud APO
Alex McKenzie	Saint Cloud APO

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Goerger motioned to approve the agenda, and Mr. Heinen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Approve Minutes of September 9, 2021 Policy Board Meeting
- b. Approve Bills Lists
- c. Approve Contract Extension for Mississippi River Bridge Planning Study
- d. Approve Thank You Letter to Senator Putnam
- e. Approve Administrative Modification to the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program
- f. Receive 3rd Quarter Financial Report
- g. Receive Notice of Contract Change for Southwest Beltline Corridor Study
- h. Receive Staff Report of September 30, 2021 Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee

Ms. Seamans motioned to approve the consent agenda, and Mr. Goerger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Consider Rankings of Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Projects

Ms. Johnson summarized HSIP (Highway Safety Improvement Program). The grant program is designed to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries. This is the engineering component of the zero deaths initiative. Projects are typically either proactive or reactive. Looking for low-cost high impact solutions. Typically, applications are submitted from County engineers to the APO and APO is supposed to be prioritizing/ ranking them.

First Project: Stearns County and the City of St. Joseph are proposing to construct a roundabout at the intersection of CSAH2 and Minnesota Street/Leaf Road on the west side of the city. The intersection currently has stop signs on the side streets with CSAH 2 being the through route.

Second Project: Rural Intersection Safety Street Lighting in Sherburne County. Intersections identified as "T" intersections rank as a high priority in our adopted "Rural Safety Street Light Policy".

Third Project: Installing Mumble Strips on a Segment of CSAH 7 Sherburne County.

The TAC recommended that the APO submit all applications with equal priority/ranking until we know more how rankings will be used.

Ms. Danielowski recommends Policy Board accepts the TAC recommendation of ranking everyone the same.

Mr. Goerger motioned to approve ranking all projects the same. Ms. Seamans seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Consider Amendment to 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program.

Mr. Gibson explained that the Saint Joseph Birch Street Redevelopment Study was requested to be deleted by the City. Those funds along with money saved from staffing changes at the APO would be redirected to support an operational review of Opportunity Drive including the I-94 interchange.

Mr. Goerger motioned to approve the amendment. Mr. Kluse seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Consider Stakeholder Engagement Plan Annual Review

Mr. Gibson explained that Federal regulations require Metropolitan Planning Organizations to periodically review the effectiveness of their public input procedures and strategies to ensure a full and open participation process. The APO annually reviews our public engagement activities to gain such insights. Mr. Gibson identified APO online presence; demographics of public reached. Mr. Gibson outlined APO's other efforts including speaking at meetings, press releases, email list, website and newsletter. Mr. Gibson outlined the effectiveness of activities to inform and engage the public and provides recommendations for improving public outreach and engagement. This includes hybrid meetings, posting meetings on

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

Mr. Goerger motioned to approve the annual review of Stakeholder engagement. Mr. Westerlund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Gibson outlines a possible November, December meeting to amend 2022-2025 TIP for increased cost of project.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.