

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

Thursday, Sept. 29, 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, Sept. 29, 2022. Senior Transportation Planner Vicki Johnson presided with the following people in attendance:

In-Person TAC Members:

Michael Kedrowski	Saint Cloud Metro Bus
Tom Cruikshank	MnDOT District 3
Todd Schultz	City of Sauk Rapids
April Ryan	SEH – City of Sartell
Andrew Witter	Sherburne County
Jodi Teich	Stearns County
Matt Glaesman	City of Saint Cloud
Randy Sabart	City of Saint Joseph
Chris Byrd	Benton County
Tracy Hodel	City of Saint Cloud

Non-Member In-Person Attendees:

Vicki Johnson	APO, Senior Planner
Brian Gibson	APO, Executive Director
Alex McKenzie	APO, Associate Planner
James Stapfer	APO, Planning Technician

Zoom Attendees

Scott Saehr	City of Sartell
Justin Anibas	SEH – for City of Sartell
Chad Jorgenson	SEH – for City of Sartell
Angie Tomovic	MnDOT District 3 State Aid
Bobbi Retzlaff	FHWA
Innocent Eyoh	MPCA

Introductions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public were present.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve minutes of Aug. 25, 2022, TAC meeting
- b. Receive staff report of Sept. 8, 2022, Policy Board meeting
- c. Consideration of the 2023 TAC meeting schedule

Mr. Byrd made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF THE 2021 LOCAL HUMAN SERVICES TRANSIT COORDINATION PLAN

Mr. Cruikshank presented on the Local Human Services-Public Transit Coordination Plan. The purpose of the plan is a statewide effort to evaluate existing transportation providers, identify the unmet needs and services, and establish transportation related goals for Region 7W/Saint Cloud APO area. The plan is updated every five years. As a requirement of the FAST Act, grantees under the Section 5310: Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program must have projects under a "locally developed coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan" to receive federal funding. Some of the planning elements included demographic data, rider surveys, transportation resource provider surveys, focus group surveys, stakeholder planning workshops, and looking back on previous efforts from the 2017 plan. The 2021 LCP goals and strategies include expanding services within the Saint Cloud metro to outer lying areas and developing public awareness campaigns for transit. Mr. Cruikshank reviewed the plan adoption timeline. They hope to have it completed by the end of October 2022.

Ms. Teich made the motion to recommend the Policy Board approve the Local Human Services Transit Coordination Plan. Mr. Byrd seconded. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF 2022 AMENDMENT TO THE APO'S STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP)

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) ensures the public is given ample opportunity to access, review, and comment on plans, studies, and other documents as they are being developed. The SEP helps members of the public and affected organizations understand how to participate effectively in the APO's planning processes. Mr. McKenzie said the most significant update to the SEP was the procedure for filing a formal Title VI complaint. The SEP now encourages those who wish to file a complaint to do so using MnDOT's online complaint form. APO staff launched public input for the SEP for a 45-day period from Aug. 3 to Sept. 16, 2022. Mr. Eyoh asked how outreach is conducted to the BIPOC communities to make sure they are involved in the process. Mr. McKenzie said that the interested stakeholders list, used to email information to, has organizations that reach out to BIPOC communities.

Mr. Glaesman made the motion to recommend the Policy Board approve the amendment to the SEP. Mr. Schultz seconded. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF THE 2022 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP) ANNUAL REPORT

This document is reviewed annually and looks at the effectiveness of reviewing procedures and strategies contained in the participation plan to ensure a full and open participation process. Mr. McKenzie summarized the APOs public engagement efforts over the last year. Facebook is the APO's primary form of social media/advertising. Recommendations include hiring a community liaison for hard-to-reach populations, joining a community organization, and attempting to reach a younger audience with TikTok.

Mr. Witter made the motion to recommend the Policy Board approval of the 2022 SEP. Mr. Kedrowski seconded. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF PM1, PM2, PM3 TARGETS

Mr. Stapfer summarized the performance measurement targets. These targets are federally required and included in the MTP and TIP. Targets must be maintaining or improving. If targets are not met, MnDOT must transfer funds. PM1: Transportation Safety applies to all public roads and is reviewed every year. PM2: Infrastructure refers to pavement condition and it is reviewed every four years. PM3: System Performance, includes travel time reliability.

Ms. Teich made the motion to approve PM1, PM2, PM3 targets. Ms. Hodel seconded. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF 2024-2027 GREATER MINNESOTA HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HSIP) PROJECTS

HSIP projects are designed to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads. This is a federal program that seeks out low cost, high benefit solutions. Funding is typically split 90/10. The 2024-2027 HSIP solicitation kicked off on Monday, Sept. 12 by the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Office of Traffic Engineering (OTE). Applications are due to OTE by no later than Wednesday, Nov. 23. The City of Sartell, the City of Saint Joseph, and Benton County have all applied for this solicitation. Ms. Ryan summarized the City of Sartell's proactive driven project on Pinecone Road and Seventh Street for a traffic signal installation. Mr. Sabart summarized the City of Joseph's proactive project to improve pedestrian crossing along CSAH 75 at Fourth Avenue, 12th Avenue, 16th Avenue, and 20th Avenue. Mr. Sabart believed this request will be delayed for this solicitation because some improvements have already been implemented and further discussion needs to take place. Mr. Byrd summarized the reactive project request from Benton County for a roundabout construction at CSAH 1/Mayhew Lake Road and CSAH 29/35th Street in Sauk Rapids.

Ms. Teich made the motion to recommend Policy Board ranking/prioritization for HSIP funding consideration. Mr. Glaesman seconded. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Johnson announced solicitations will be opening soon for STBGP and TA and she will be sending out more information as she receives it. There will be an October TAC meeting. Mr. Eyoh said MPCA completed the Climate Action Plan which outlines a framework to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across the state by 50% by 2030 and to be net zero by 2050.

Mr. Eyoh also announced a planning grant for residents from communities of less than 10,000 to combat things such as reducing flood risk as well as stormwater and wastewater mitigation. He will send more information out via Ms. Johnson.

Mr. Eyoh announced MPCA is looking to fill a climate energy planning position. Mr. Eyoh will email Ms. Johnson the additional information.

Ms. Teich noted that Oct. 27 would not work well for a TAC meeting due to several county engineers being out of town as well as the AMPO conference. Ms. Johnson will send out a doodle poll to see what date works best for everyone.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.