

**SAINT CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING  
Thursday, June 26, 2025 @ 10 a.m.**

A meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization's (APO's) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 26, 2025. Senior Transportation Planner Vicki Johnson presided with the following people in attendance:

Voting Members:

Zac Borgerding	City of Saint Cloud
Matt Glaesman	City of Saint Cloud
Jon Norenberg	City of Waite Park
Nate Keller	City of Saint Joseph
Chris Byrd	Benton County
Jodi Teich	Stearns County
David Roedel	Sherburne County
Steve Voss	MnDOT District 3

Non-Member Attendees:

Vicki Johnson	APO, Senior Planner
Alex McKenzie	APO, Associate Planner
Trina Ness	APO, Administrative Specialist
Angie Stenson	Bolton & Menk
Robin Kaufman	Bolton & Menk

Online Attendees:

April Ryan	City of Sartell (Alternate for Kari Haakonson)
Kevin Mackey	Bolton & Menk
Raveena Bandaru	Bolton & Menk
Jason Gottfried	MnDOT MPO Coordinator
James Stapfer	APO, Planning Technician

**1. Introductions were made.**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No members of the public were present.

**3. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Approve minutes of the May 29, 2025, TAC meeting
- b. Receive staff report of June 12, 2025, Policy Board meeting
- c. Receive staff report of June 12, 2025, Central Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership (ATP-3)

*Ms. Teich made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Keller seconded*

*the motion. Motion carried.*

#### **4. SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL (SS4A)**

Bolton & Menk's Senior Transportation Planner Angie Stenson provided TAC representatives with an update on the work completed as part of the Safe Streets and Roads for All Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Study.

Ms. Stenson discussed the work the consultant team completed regarding the Safety Countermeasure Strategy Matrix and Toolbox Guide. This information lists various safety infrastructure improvements that can be implemented along with the desired focus area for those improvements, cost range, and overall crash reduction. The toolbox provides the same information, but in a more public facing/easy to understand way.

Ms. Stenson then moved to discuss the draft concepts and provide cost estimates for corridors and/or spot locations for safety improvements by jurisdiction. Several TAC representatives commented on some of the proposed corridor improvements. Mr. Glaseman also recommended to have the Bolton & Menk team complete a cost estimate/concept drawing for the Cooper Avenue corridor between Division Street and University.

Ms. Stenson also had TAC representatives review a draft of the Regional Safety Policy Commitment. This included the APO's Vision Zero Policy Commitment: ***"The APO is determined to eliminate traffic deaths and severe injuries on roadways within the APO completely by 2050. This goal is intended to reduce these crashes on average by 4% per year, reaching a 50% reduction in deaths by 2037 and a 100% reduction by 2050."***

Lastly, Bolton & Menk's Community Planning/Planning Project Manager, Robin Kaufman, outlined the proposed public engagement timeline for the plan. It is anticipated that the TAC will receive the final version of the report by the Sept. 25 TAC meeting.

Ms. Stenson stated that Bolton & Menk will be preparing to head out for public engagement the week of July 21, 2025. In order for them to present to the public the most finalized/complete draft, the Bolton & Menk team will need all technical comments on the draft materials presented to the TAC by no later than July 10, 2025.

Mr. Glaseman stated he would appreciate having some of these SS4A materials available during the comprehensive plan update engagement meetings the City of Saint Cloud is preparing to host in July/August.

#### **5. CONSIDERATION OF REVISIONS TO THE APO'S ATP-MANAGED SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (STBGP) SCORING CRITERIA**

Ms. Johnson reviewed what the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) is, that it is managed by the Central MN Area Transportation Partnership (ATP-3), and that it is primarily used as the region's road and bridge formula

program.

The current process for evaluating the APO's STBGP Projects was formally adopted in September of 2019. She stated that as of October 2024 the APO has a new Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Staff would like to revisit the current scoring criteria to address current political changes at the national level as well as better align the STBGP funding with the goals of the 2050 MTP.

Ms. Johnson reviewed the proposed changes to the application, received input and stated she would make the changes that were suggested and email the amended draft application to the TAC members for review and comment. She stated she would be presenting an updated version of the scoring criteria at the July TAC meeting.

## **6. CONSIDERATION OF SARTELL-ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL DISTRICT SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS) PLAN**

Mr. McKenzie reviewed that Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is an effort to improve walking, biking, and rolling to school so that it is safe, comfortable, and fun for all students. Mr. McKenzie stated the Sartell-St. Stephen SRTS plan focused on Pine Meadow Primary, Riverview Intermediate, and Sartell Middle School and revolves around the six E's:

- Equity – understand neighborhood where students face greater transportation barriers to ensure all students can safely walk, bike, or roll to school.
- Evaluation – uses surveys, observations, and data to identify the most critical safety issues around each school.
- Education – recommends safety programs to teach students traffic rules and safe Walking and biking skills.
- Encouragement – promotes fun and inclusive events to build a culture of active transportation.
- Engagement – listening to children, families, school staff, and community partners to build creative, equitable, and meaningful engagement opportunities into the program structure.
- Engineering – identifying and prioritizing infrastructure projects to make school routes safer and more accessible.

Mr. McKenzie collaborated with school principals, city and county staff, public health, law enforcement, and other community partners. APO staff and local partners conducted site visits during arrival/dismissal times, reviewed crash data, traffic volumes, and existing infrastructure. APO staff also conducted a walking audit for ½ mile around the schools. Public engagement on the planning effort included participation of 388 families via a survey and interactive mapping tool.

Key issues identified during this planning process were unsafe crossings; high traffic volumes and speeding; gaps in the sidewalk and shared use path network; a need for better signage and crosswalk visibility; and inconsistent driver behavior and lack of enforcement in school zones.

The project recommendations were:

- Categorized into High, Medium, and Low priority
- Evaluated based on needs, feasibility, and impact.
- Inclusive of existing projects programmed in CIPs.

Mr. McKenzie reviewed examples of planned projects; high, medium, and low priority projects; and proposed school projects. He went on to review programmatic recommendations which consist of:

- Education and encouragement campaigns.
  - National Bike to School Day.
  - Safety Town.
- Walk! Bike! Fun! Curriculum.
- Crossing guard support and training.
- Enhanced police enforcement.

Mr. McKenzie stated that grants and CIP projects are potential outcomes of the SRTS plan.

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Ms. Johnson will make proposed changes to STBGP application and send it to TAC members for additional input.
- Ms. Johnson will send reminders to TAC members for feedback regarding the SS4A plan to be sent to Bolton & Menk by July 10, 2025.
- Mr. Voss stated the Draft STIP 2026-2029 is out for review until July 7, 2025.
- Mr. Voss stated the MN Highway Freight Program grant launched on June 25.
- Mr. Voss stated the PROTECT grant solicitation will be out throughout the summer.
- Ms. Johnson stated the ATP-3 did not take up discussion on formula funding at the last meeting.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.