

SAINT CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD
Thursday, February 12, 2026 – 4:30 PM

A regular meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization Policy Board was held on Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. Vice Chair Jake Anderson presided with the following members present:

Scott Brodeen	City of Saint Cloud
Mike Conway	City of Saint Cloud
Tim Elness	City of Sartell
Frank Theisen	City of Waite Park
Joe Perske	Stearns County
Raeanne Danielowski	Sherburne County
Josh Bentley	Le Sauk Township [Alternate for Jeff Westerlund]
Michael Kedrowski	Metro Bus [Alternate for Ryan Daniel]

Also in attendance were:

Brian Gibson	Saint Cloud APO
Vicki Johnson	Saint Cloud APO
Alex McKenzie	Saint Cloud APO
Trina Ness	Saint Cloud APO
Adam Fulton	MnDOT
Tom Cruikshank	MnDOT
Russel Fellbaum	MnDOT
Zach Whitley	MnDOT
Anne Buckvold	Resident

Absent:

Adam Scepaniak	City of St. Joseph
Dottie Seamans	City of Sauk Rapids

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. INTRODUCTIONS

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Perske asked to add 322nd Street and Heatherwood Road to discussions at the end of the agenda.

Mr. Conway motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Theisen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Ms. Buckvold, an advocate for rail, spoke regarding passenger rail service available to residents in the region.

5. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Approve Minutes of January 8, 2026, Policy Board Meeting
- b. Approve January Bills List
- c. Approve FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments & Modifications
- d. Approve Not Waiving Statutory Tort Limits
- e. Receive Report on Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting
- f. Receive Report on Area Transportation Partnership (ATP-3) Meeting

Mr. Conway motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Danielowski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. CONSIDER FY 2028-2030 CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP) CANDIDATE PROJECTS

Ms. Johnson gave the background of the different planning documents (MTP Vision, MTP Projects, TIP Projects), and how projects get into the TIP. Ms. Johnson went on to discuss some of the different federal funding options available for local projects (CRP, Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP), Transportation Alternatives (TA), Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), National Highway System (NHS), and Railroad Safety. Most of the programs are Federally funded.

Ms. Johnson explained what CRP is and how it was developed under the Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act (IIJA) which expires in November of 2026. The goal of the CRP is to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from on-road highway sources. She went on to explain how the funding works. 80% of the local construction costs can be reimbursed by the Federal government, with a 20% local match for eligible construction costs. To be eligible for CRP formula dollars, proposed projects MUST align with the state's Carbon Reduction Strategy (CRS):

- Electrification
 - Charging Stations
- Travel Options
 - Plan, design, engineer, install and maintain infrastructure network improvements for walking, rolling, and biking
 - Add high-capacity transit options
 - Add intercity and regional public transit options
- Low Carbon Infrastructure and System Management
 - Implement intersection improvements, traffic signal improvements to reduce delays, and improve traffic flow, invest in low-cost design and maintenance

improvements (i.e. roundabouts).

Ms. Johnson then explained urban versus rural regarding our planning area.

The APO received one CRP application for the FY 2028-2030 solicitation within the APO's urban area: the City of Waite Park's 10th Avenue S roundabout at the intersection of MSAS 103 (10th Avenue S) and First Street S. The Cost Effectiveness Score for this project is \$1,871.98 (dollars spent per ton of CO2 reduction).

The TAC ranked this project number one, and it will utilize the CRP funding for FY 2028-2030.



Mr. Conway motioned that the City of Waite Park be ranked as the priority project and given APO funds for the FY 2028-2030 solicitation. Mr. Elness seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. CONSIDER FY 2030 SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (STBGP) CANDIDATE PROJECTS

Ms. Johnson reviewed what STBGP (primarily road & bridge) funding is, our regional target of federal dollars for our planning area (20.53%), and how much of a local match is needed (20%). She also discussed what ATP-3 is and explained that applications are submitted from member jurisdictions (local only) and are evaluated based upon technical

criteria which is outlined in the application.

Ms. Johnson went on to discuss the scoring guidelines, the applications received, and reviewed TAC recommendations.

Saint Cloud APO received three applications for FY 2030:

- City of Sauk Rapids 11th Street N reconstruction
- City of Saint Cloud Ninth Avenue/10th Avenue reconstruction
- City of Waite Park 10th Avenue S expansion and roundabout

The total request for funding was \$5,914,000. We have \$2,402,010 available.

Sauk Rapids 11th Street N Reconstruction

Reconstruction of MSAS 101 (11th Street N) from Second Avenue N to Sixth Avenue N, including roadway, sidewalk, storm water, sanitary sewer, and water main improvements

Cost Summary	Amount	% of Total
Federal	\$1,744,000	60%
Local	\$1,166,000	40%
Total	\$2,910,000	100%



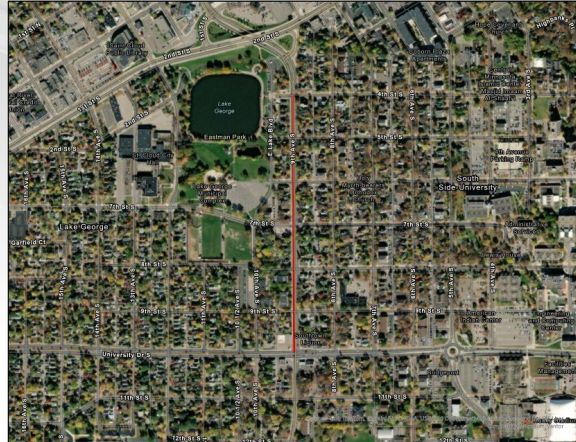
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City of Saint Cloud Ninth/10th Avenue Reconstruction

Reconstruction of public utilities, roadway, and sidewalks on MSAS 145 (Ninth Avenue) from University Drive to Second Street N



Cost Summary	Amount	% of Total
Federal	\$2,170,000	33%
Local	\$4,330,000	67%
Total	\$6,500,000	100%

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City of Waite Park 10th Avenue S Expansion

Expansion of MSAS 103 (10th Avenue S) from MN 23 to 100' south of railroad tracks. Installation of roundabout at intersection of 10th Avenue S and First Street S



Cost Summary	Amount	% of Total
Federal	\$2,000,000	60%
Local	\$1,348,400	40%
Total	\$3,348,400	100%

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APO TAC Recommendations

Applicant	Project Title	TAC Ranking	Requested STBGP funds	Requested STBGP Funding %	Proposed Funding	Proposed STBGP Funding %
City of Sauk Rapids	Reconstruction of MSAS 101 (11 th St N) from 2 nd Ave N to 6 th Ave N, including roadway, sidewalk, storm water, sanitary sewer, and water main improvements	3	\$1,744,000	60%	\$0	0%
City of Saint Cloud	Reconstruction of public utilities, roadway, and sidewalks on MSAS 145 (9 th Ave) from University Drive to 2 nd St N	2	\$2,170,000	33%	\$1,201,005	18%
City of Waite Park	Expansion of MSAS 103 (10 th Ave S) from TH 23 to 100' S of RR tracks. Installation of RAB at intersection of 10 th Ave S and 1 st St S	1	\$2,000,000	60%	\$1,201,005	36%

Anticipated STBGP funding available for FY 2030 solicitation: **\$2,402,010.**

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Mr. Conway motioned to approve the TAC recommended priorities/ranking. The STBGP funding be split between the City of Waite Park’s 10th Avenue South project, and the City of Saint Cloud’s Ninth/10th Avenue project. Each will receive \$1,201,005. Ranking the projects as the City of Waite Park’s project receiving the number one ranking, the City of Saint Cloud’s project receiving the number two ranking, and the City of Sauk Rapids’ project receiving the number three ranking. Mr. Brodeen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

8. CONSIDER FY 2030 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES (TA) CANDIDATE PROJECTS

Ms. Johnson explained what TA is, and how funding is divided in the state of Minnesota. She explained what the Area Transportation Partnership (ATP-3) is, and its role in the funding, as well as the APO’s role in the program.

Ms. Johnson stated that MnDOT District 3 received five applications, three were from the Saint Cloud APO:

- City of Sauk Rapids’ Mayhew Lake Road Trail Extension
- City of Saint Joseph’s River’s Bend Trail Connection
- City of Saint Cloud’s Heatherwood Road/Beaver Island Trail Extension

She went on to explain each project, and what regional priority points are and how they affect the funding.

City of Sauk Rapids Mayhew Lake Road Trail Extension

Construction of grade separated 10-foot-wide trail along the east side of Mayhew Lake Road NE/CSAH 1 from Storm Street NE CSAH 29



Cost Summary	Amount	% of Total
Federal	\$421,740	80%
Local	\$105,435	20%
Total	\$527,175	100%

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City of Saint Joseph River's Bend Connection Trail

Construction of grade separated 10-foot-wide trail along College Avenue S/County Road 121 between Kennedy Community School and River's Bend Park.



Cost Summary	Amount	% of Total
Federal	\$286,945	80%
Local	\$71,736	20%
Total	\$358,681	100%

Note – this map has been updated to reflect full scope of project

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City of Saint Cloud Heatherwood Road/Beaver Islands Trail Extension

Construction of a multimodal path that is the missing 1.5-mile link between the existing segments of the Beaver Islands Trail (SCSU to Clearwater Road and Opportunity Drive to the City of Clearwater).



Cost Summary	Amount	% of Total
Federal	\$400,000	80%
Local	\$100,000	20%
Total	\$500,000	100%

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Ms. Johnson explained the TAC’s recommendations, as seen below.

TAC Preliminary Scores and Rankings

Applicant	Project Title	TAC Ranking	Priority Point Distribution
City of Sauk Rapids	Construction of grade separated 10-foot-wide trail along the east side of Mayhew Lake Road NE/CSAH 1 from Storm Street NE CSAH 29	1	10
City of Saint Joseph	Construction of grade separated 10-foot-wide trail along College Avenue S/County Road 121 between Kennedy Community School and River’s Bend Park.	3	0
City of Saint Cloud	Construction of a multimodal path that is the missing 1.5-mile link between the existing segments of the Beaver Islands Trail (SCSU to Clearwater Road and Opportunity Drive to the City of Clearwater).	2	5

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Mr. Theisen motioned to approve the TAC recommended preliminary scores and rankings with the City of Sauk Rapids' project ranked first, receiving ten priority points. The City of Saint Cloud's project ranked second, receiving five priority points. The City of Saint Joseph's project ranked third. Mr. Conway seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9. RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON STATE OF PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION FOR PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE TO ST. CLOUD REGION

Mr. Fulton gave a background covering the State Rail Plan Executive Summary, State Rail Plan passenger goals, and then spoke regarding the Twin Cities-St. Cloud-Fargo/Moorhead Corridor Study (TCFM).

10. RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON US-10 STATE OF PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Mr. Cruikshank, due to time constraints, gave a brief overview of the US-10 studies and projects. There are two studies being done on US-10.

- Preliminary Engineering and Design Study on 15th Avenue SE Interchange Preliminary Design & Haven Township area low-cost improvements
- Adjacent Corridor Study/US-10 Saint Cloud to Little Falls

11. 322ND STREET AND HEATHERWOOD ROAD

Mr. Perske had to leave before this item came before the board, so it was not discussed.

12. OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

No other business or announcements.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Anderson adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.