SAINT CLOUD AREA PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY BOARD
Thursday, September 10, 2026 – 4:30 PM

A regular meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization Policy Board was held on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. Chair Jared Gapinski presided with the following members present:

Jake Anderson	City of Saint Cloud
Scott Brodeen	City of Saint Cloud
Mike Conway	City of Saint Cloud
Dottie Seamans	City of Sauk Rapids
Frank Theisen	City of Waite Park
Jeff Bertram	Stearns County [Alternate for Joe Perske]
Raeanne Danielowski	Sherburne County
Jeff Westerlund	Le Sauk Township
Ryan Daniel	Metro Bus

Also in attendance were:

Brian Gibson	Saint Cloud APO
Vicki Johnson	Saint Cloud APO
Alex McKenzie	Saint Cloud APO
James Stapfer	Saint Cloud APO
Trina Ness	Saint Cloud APO
Rich Neumeister	Citizen

Absent:

Tim Elness	City of Sartell
Adam Scepaniak	City of Saint Joseph

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. INTRODUCTIONS

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Theisen motioned to approve the agenda. Ms. Seamans seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

No members of the public were present when meeting began.

5. CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

a. Approve Minutes of August 13, 2026, Policy Board Meeting
b. Approve August Bills Lists
c. Receive Report on Technical Advisory Committee Meeting July 30, 2026

d. Receive 6-month Budget-to-Actual Report

Mr. Bertram motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. Ms. Seamans abstained. Motion carried.

6. CONSIDER FY 2027-2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

APO Senior Transportation Planner Vicki Johnson stated that public comment for the FY 2027-2030 TIP began on July 15, 2026, and concluded on Aug. 14, 2026, in accordance with the APO's Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). Throughout the public comment period the APO:

- Published a legal notice in the newspaper of record, St. Cloud Live.
- Several social media posts.
- Contacted individuals who have expressed interest in APO planning activities via email.
- Contacted those organizations that work closely with traditionally underrepresented populations.
- Developed 11 online surveys pertaining to the projects listed in the TIP that have yet to be constructed. These surveys did not contain advance construction projects listed in the TIP that are only awaiting federal reimbursement. We had 73 responses to the online surveys.
- Posted information about how to provide public comment on the Draft 2027-2030 TIP on the APO website, the AP's Facebook page, the APO's Instagram account, the APO's YouTube channel, and the APO's Nextdoor account.
- Hosted an in-person open house at the Saint Cloud branch of the Great River Regional Library on Tuesday, July 28, and virtual open house via Facebook Live on Monday, Aug. 3, 2026.
- Shared social media information with social media accounts connected to local agencies and jurisdictions.

Ms. Johnson stated APO staff received several responses from social media posts (particularly Facebook and Nextdoor) and the different online surveys. These responses were made available to the jurisdiction/agency that is the road authority of the area the response pertained to and are also included in Chapter 5 or Appendix C of the Draft TIP.

Mr. Anderson motioned to approve the FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Theisen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. DISCUSS E-BIKES

APO Executive Director, Brian Gibson provided background information about e-bikes and other electric devices that are becoming more common. He noted the problems they create when they are used on shared-use paths.

Great discussion was had by Board members, who agreed that:

1. APO staff should create graphics and text for a general social-media campaign to help educate residents (but especially parents) about the differences between the various electric mobility devices;
2. APO staff should create an information campaign for parents and students and work with school districts to distribute the information, and
3. Facilitate the development of a draft regional policy for electric mobility devices that the Board members could take back to their individual jurisdictions for consideration. Board members felt strongly that there should policy consistency across all jurisdictions to avoid confusing the public.

8. OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Gibson stated that at the direction of the Policy Board during the August 2026 meeting, he contacted our lobbyist in Washinton DC and inquired as to whether she felt it would be wise for Mr. Gibson to attend the Transportation Alliance Washington DC trip. She encouraged Mr. Gibson's attendance.

Mr. Gapinski stated he spoke with Mr. Sands from the St. Cloud Holiday Inn, and he was not aware of a Hwy 15 study. Mr. Gapinski suggested Mr. Gibson reach out to him.

Mr. Conway asked if the closing of Park Avenue during the Hwy 23 reconstruction is intended to be permanent. Ms. Johnson will check with MnDOT. Mr. Conway stated the community's main concern is truck traffic on residential streets due to the closure.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Anderson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Conway seconded the motion. Mr. Gapinski adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.