

OMAHA-COUNCIL BLUFFS METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING AGENCY  
Transportation Technical Advisory Committee  
Minutes of December 4, 2015 Meeting

The Transportation Technical Advisory Committee met on Friday, December 4, 2015, at Metro, 2222 Cuming Street, Omaha, Nebraska. Mr. Denny Wilson opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

VOTING MEMBERS

Denny Wilson	Sarpy County Public Works
Dean Dunn	City of Bellevue Public Works
Chris Shewchuk	City of Bellevue Planning Department
Greg Reeder	City of Council Bluffs Public Works
Kris Faris	City of Gretna Public Works
John Kottmann	City of La Vista Public Works
Murthy Koti	City of Omaha Public Works
Todd Pfitzer	City of Omaha Public Works
Derek Miller	City of Omaha Planning Department
Mark Stursma	City of Papillion Planning Department
Jeff Thompson	City of Papillion Public Works
Dan Freshman	City of Ralston Public Works
Dan Kutilek	Douglas County Engineers Office
Bruce Fountain	Sarpy County Planning Department
Scott Suhr	Iowa Department of Transportation
Curt Simon	Metro Transit
Tim Weander	Nebraska Department of Roads – District 2
Brad Zumwalt	Nebraska Department of Roads – Lincoln
Eric Williams	Papio-Missouri River NRD

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Greg Youell	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
Bryan Guy	City of Omaha Public Works
Bill Herr	Sarpy County Public Works
Maurice Hinchey	Nebraska Department of Roads – District 2
Larry Legg	Nebraska Department of Roads – Lincoln
Jeff Soula	Nebraska Department of Roads – Lincoln

GUESTS

Kyle Kovar	3M Company – Traffic Safety Division
Jim Kollbaum	AECOM
Jeff Sockel	Alfred Benesch & Company
Jason Carbee	HDR, Inc.
Matt Kruse	Lamp, Rynearson & Associates
Matt Shimerdla	The Schemmer Associates

STAFF

Michael Felschow	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
Mike Helgerson	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
Jeff Spiehs	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
Megan Walker	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion #1: Approval of the minutes of the October 23, 2015 Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting.

Motion by: Tim Weander  
Second by: Dan Freshman  
Motion Carried

## B. 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendment

Mr. Helgerson said there were no comments resulting from the public comment period for the LRTP Amendment. The database is now corrected that was used in the Amendment.

Motion #2: Seeking approval of the MAPA Board of Directors at their December 10, 2015 meeting of the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Amendment.

Motion by: Todd Pfitzer  
Second by: Jeff Thompson  
Motion Carried

## C. UPWP Amendment

Mr. Youell told the Committee there is an Amendment to the UPWP to cover the Sarpy County Transit Study. Olsson and Associates will take the lead in the study. The Amendment identifies additional funding from FTA with the contract coming to \$135,000 with local matches coming from jurisdictions in Sarpy County, MAPA and Metro.

\$40,000 will be deobligated in federal planning funds from this year. MAPA is working on a mini grant program as part of Heartland 2050 for local planning activities and will be ready next fiscal year.

Motion #3: Seeking approval of the MAPA Board of Directors at their December 10, 2015 meeting of the UPWP Amendment.

Motion by: Curt Simon  
Second by: Bruce Fountain  
Motion Carried

## D. Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)

Mr. Helgerson said there will be a call for projects for TAP. The committee met to review the policies used last year and they have decided to stay with the existing policy guide.

Motion #4: Seeking approval of the MAPA Board of Directors at their December 10, 2015 meeting of Transportation Alternative Program.

Motion by: Murthy Koti  
Second by: Greg Reeder  
Motion Carried

## E. Surface Transportation Program (STP)

Mr. Helgerson said the Policy Selection Committee for STP has been meeting and a few changes are being made based upon the last review of projects although there were no applications selected for STP last year. The MAPA staff found issues with the way measuring was being done for future needs on roadways. What they propose doing is using the 15 points which couldn't be used in previous reviews and breaking it up between the level of service in future years and also leveraging some of the data from Metro Travel Improvement Study (MTIS) in the reliability index. They'll be looking at the way a corridor is functioning today as well as whether it's a priority for investment of service transportation funds.

The reliability index is one of the measures as a performance measure in MTIS. It's taking all of the trips along a particular corridor establishing what the median trip is and looking what the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile trip is. The ratio is between the longer trip and the median trip. There is bridge criteria that measures structural efficiency or if it's functionally obsolete. Intersections will require looking at the reliability at the approach involving all directions to see what the reliability is and compare that to any of the legs that may be failing.

MAPA recommended to the Project Selection Committee (ProSeCom) that it eliminate the separate application form for alternative transportation projects because much time and effort has been invested in the TAP policy guide that's basically two "pots" of money trying to measure the same thing. The

recommendation made was to have applications to the TAP Committee for all of these alternative transportation projects and if, in the case where \$10 million worth of requests for the TAP Committee, that committee would make a recommendation to ProSeCom that part of it be programmed and set aside. Between 10% and 25% of the STP funding will be used for systems management or alternative transportation program projects.

Taking all of the regional projects of these types and evaluating them against each other will result in the best projects recommended moving forward and it will also build in flexibility in regional spending. ProSeCom recommends after the end of the approval of the TIP each year, there will be a meeting about the criteria for the next year, what is the balance of funding, how it's been awarded between jurisdictions, who's applying, who's getting funding and insuring the spirit of equity within the process.

Motion #5: Seeking approval of the MAPA Board of Directors at their December 10, 2015 meeting of Surface Transportation Program.

Motion by: Todd Pfitzer  
Second by: Scott Suhr  
Motion Carried

#### F. Coordinated Transportation Committee (CTC)

Ms. Walker said at the CTC's October meeting, they proposed and approved an amendment to their policy guide to include language in the contracting process where agencies who are receiving 5310 funding will have to include financial assurances for the year in which they receive funding to make sure they have the local match. It is now brought to TTAC for their approval.

Motion #6: Seeking approval of the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee of the Coordinated Transportation Committee Amendment.

Motion by: Dan Freshman  
Second by: Curt Simon  
Motion Carried

#### G. Call for Projects

Mr. Felschow said the call for projects for the FY 2017 TIP project selection process begins today, December 4, 2015, with applications due January 8 to then be reviewed by the MAPA staff. The applications will go to committees in February. The TIP will be developed with the draft ready for approval in April and the final draft ready in June. Projects being called are TAP projects for both Nebraska and Iowa with \$2.4 million in funds available for Nebraska and \$725,000 available in Iowa. For 5310 funds, there is \$550,000 available and Iowa STP there is \$1.9 million. For STP funding in Nebraska, only projects will be looked at that are already in the existing TIP illustrative years as applications for the next additional fiscal year. The TIP shows \$15 million being programmed as an estimate for the FY 2020. Funding dollars may fluctuate depending on the approval of FAST Act and how much is actually allocated.

#### H. Funding Obligation and Project Status

Mr. Felschow said the MAP-21 FY 2015 Obligation Limit is \$1 million for STP and \$74,000 for TAP but once the Bill is signed by the President, it's hoped the amounts will increase. For Iowa, there is a carry-over balance of \$8.7 million for Highway Program and \$287,000 for Enhancement Program. Beginning balances for STP-Nebraska Total Projects is \$101 million and Iowa is \$15.6 million; TAP Nebraska is \$3.7 million for Total Projects and Iowa is \$700,000. Metro's Total Projects balance is \$60 million and 5310 is \$2.9 million.

#### I. 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan

Ms. Walker said the first phase of outreach for the FY 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan will begin in January with scenario development following in the winter and spring in conjunction with MTIS. Scenario planning will end in the summer with the draft prepared in the fall and the final document ready in the spring of 2017. Nearly 500 surveys have been completed with 6 presentations given. The Transportation Plan is being done in the traditional counties and the Vision Plan will be done with the RPA and more rural counties in conjunction with the Heartland 2050 Plan which includes those counties.

## J. Transportation Activities

Mr. Felschow presented transportation activities to the TTAC:

- MTIS – Phase 2
- Little Steps Big Impact
  - 3-year Grant submitted to NDOR
- EV Meeting
  - Grand Development and partner coordination
- Vanpool Program
  - NDOR reviewing CMAQ submission
- B-Cycle
  - Development of Policy and agreements

## K. Subcommittee Report Back

Ms. Walker presented the TTAC's Subcommittee Report

- Coordinated Transit Committee (CTC)
  - October 21 meeting discussion
    - Approved 5310 policy guide amendment
    - Informal coordination activities
- ProSecom: conducted sessions on criteria refinement
- TAP-C: conducted sessions on criteria refinement
- AC Swap: started the development of a MOU

## L. Update on the Transportation Re-authorization

Mr. Youell said the Transportation Bill has been passed by the U.S. Senate with the assumption the President will be signing it today (December 4, 2015). It's an increase in funding and has a total of \$305 billion in the Bill over 5 years. \$70 billion is coming from non-fuel tax, non-transportation sources.

STP funding does not exist anymore and is now STBGP (Surface Transportation Block Grant Program) and it doesn't affect how STP works. We are at \$9.9 billion and it increases 1% per year. At the end of the 5 years, we should have 10% more funds per year than what's being received presently.

Transportation Alternatives Program has a slight increase. We're at \$820 million and increases to \$850 million by FY 2018. TAP is now being called STP Set-Aside.

Metropolitan Planning Funding and Policy is at \$313.6 million this year and will increase to \$358.5 million in FY 2020.

The Transit Representation has some language changes. Bridges' Off-system bridge set-aside is preserved and there is now an On-system where non-NHS bridges are now eligible under NHPP.

CMAQ funding increased to \$2.4 billion from our present \$2.2 billion.

The entire FY 2015 total money that will be received by NDOR is \$278 million and Iowa DOT receives \$474 million.

## M. Additional Business

The LOCATE meeting will be held on Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.

The public meeting for 180<sup>th</sup> Street from Dodge to Maple Streets will Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

MAPA calendars are ready for pick-up.

## N. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

**DATE:** November 25, 2015

**TO:** Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC)

**FROM:** Dennis Wilson, Chairman  
Greg Youell, MAPA Executive Director

**RE:** December 4, 2015 TTAC Meeting

The MAPA TTAC will meet Friday, December 4, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Metro Building at 2222 Cuming Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102. The TTAC meeting will be held in the Metro Training Room on the lower level. Please enter the building through Metro's front door and follow the signs to the Metro Training Room on the lower level. The agenda item materials can be accessed by clicking on the linked agenda item titles. The agenda is also available at the MAPA offices and online at <http://www.mapacog.org/boards-and-committees/58-agendas>.

## **AGENDA**

### **For TTAC Approval/Review**

A. Meeting Minutes – The committee will consider approval of the October 23, 2015 TTAC meeting minutes. (Action Item) (Attachment)

### **Recommendations to the Board**

B. 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Amendment – Staff will present and request recommendation for Board approval of amendment to the 2040 LRTP. (Action Item) (Attachment)

C. UPWP Amendment – Staff will present an amendment to the UPWP for additional funding for transit planning. (Action Item) (Attachment)

D. Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) – Staff will present and request approval of the TAP Committee (TAP-C) recommendations for the TAP project selection criteria, application, and policy guidelines for the FY 2017 TIP. (Action Item) (Attachment)

E. Surface Transportation Program (STP) – Staff will present and request approval the ProSeCom recommendations for the STP project selection criteria, application, and policy guidelines for the FY 2017 TIP. (Action Item) (Attachment)

F. Coordinated Transportation Committee CTC - Staff will present and request approval the CTC recommendations for the FTA 5310 project selection criteria, application, and policy guidelines for the FY 2017 TIP. (Action Item) (Attachment)

### **Discussion Items**

G. Call for Projects – Staff will review the TIP development schedule. MAPA is calling for TAP, 5310, and STP priority of illustrative projects for development of the FY 2017-2020 TIP cycle. MAPA will also request applications for FY 2017 activities to utilize planning (PL) funding (Information Item) (Attachment)

H. Funding Obligation and Project Status – Staff will review the annual funding obligation and project status. (Information Item)

I. 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan – Staff will conduct a planning session regarding the LRTP public involvement strategies, the transportation vision plan, and the plan goals and objectives. (Information Item)

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- J. Transportation Activities – Staff will provide transportation re-authorization update. (Information Item)
- K. Subcommittee Report Back – Staff will provide a report back on TTAC’s sub-committees activities. (Information Item)
- L. Update on the Transportation Re-authorization - Staff will provide information on the re-authorization of the transportation bill
- M. Additional Business  
Upcoming Meetings:  
Board of Directors: December 10th  
Coordinated Transit Committee: December 16th, TTAC:
- N. Adjournment

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