

# TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Friday Jul 22, 2022

Metropolitan Area Planning Agency  
2222 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68102  
402-444-6866

## MINUTES

In attendance:

### Voting Members

Matt Cox (City of Council Bluffs)  
Pat Dowse (City of La Vista)  
Derek Miller (City of Omaha)  
Mark Stursma (City of Papillion)  
Dan Kutilek (Douglas County)  
Lauren Cencic (Metro)  
Maurice Hinchey (NDOT)  
Damion Stern (NDOT)  
Dan Owens (Omaha Airport Authority)  
Dennis Wilson (Sarpy County)  
Curtis Nosal (NDOT)  
Bruce Fountain (City of La Vista)

### Non Voting Members

Jessica Smith (Benesch)  
Katie Saurno (Olsson)  
David Anderson (Felsburg Holt & Ullevig)  
Dean Dunn (City of Bellevue, Virtual)  
Darla Hugaboon (Iowa - FHWA, Virtual)

### MAPA

Carlos Morales  
Jim Boerner  
Court Barber (Virtual)  
Michael Blank

Dennis Wilson called the meeting to order at 10:02am.  
Quorum was met.

## Action Items

For TTAC Approval

### **A. Approval of the Minutes from the May 20 and June 17, 2022 meetings**

Someone moved to approve both sets of minutes, seconded by Kutilek. Motion carried.

Recommendations to MAPA's Board of Directors

### **B. Amendment 8 - FY2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Court Barber brought Amendment 8 to TTAC. TAP-MAPA spending authority is being increased to align with IJA estimates through FFY2027. The increased estimate enables MAPA to maintain fiscal constraint for the shift in funding for Papillion's project.

Censic moved to approve Amendment 8, seconded by Miller. Motion carried.

### C. UPWP Amendment 1

Carlos Morales brought Amendment 1 to TTAC.

- Budget table change for carry over from Iowa DOT FY 2022 funds per Iowa DOT direction.
- Change label in contract budgets (budgets were switched to reflect actual funding) for:
  - 260 Little Steps Cleaner Air Campaign.
  - 260 Travel Demand Services (80/20)
- Narrative addition to City of Omaha PL funding narrative, no change in funding amount.

Miller moved to approve Amendment 1, seconded by Hinchey. Motion carried.

## Discussion Items

### D. NDOT Presentation on the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program

**NDOT [Curtis Nosal]:** Craig's Boss, project manager for statewide NEVI. Funding for this came from the Bipartisan infrastructure bill, with funding towards new electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Deadline for submitting is August 1st. NEVI Program Basics: \$6 Million/Year over 5 Years, and is a 80/20 Program. There are various types of EV charging stations, with the one NEVI is focused on is DC Fast Charge. Electric infrastructure is not something NDOT usually dealt with, so this has been a learning experience.

BIL Program Goals:

- Goal 1: Develop a program for how the State of Nebraska intends to use the apportioned NEVI Program Funds consistent with statutory requirements.
- Goal 2: Support the national goal of a network of 500,000 interconnected EV chargers that by 2030 provides/ensures convenient, reliable, affordable and equitable experiences for all users.
- Goal 3: Review designated Alternative Fuel Corridors and consider additional corridors as part of the sixth round of Request for Nominations.
- Goal 4: Develop a plan that supports the broader Justice40 Initiative of 40% of benefits form of federal investments in climate a clean energy infrastructure are distributed to disadvantaged communities.

Every 50 miles is the requirement for a charger on I-80.

Plan Development Tasks:

- Develop Nebraska Program Framework.
- Map Current Locations/Future Conditions.
- Identify/Select Locations.
- Program Evaluation.

We have around 2,600 fully electric vehicles across the state of Nebraska, or about 0.16% of vehicles. In District 2 (Omaha area) it's 0.27%.

NDOT has used surveys for engagement, and we far exceeded what we expected to get back on our first survey, which had around 11,000 responses. Additionally for engagement we have the NDOT webpage.

Nebraska recently passed legislation for P3, and while NDOT is not using it yet, we are moving to implement it.

**Mark Stursma:** For qualifying sites, we are focused on building out the I-80 corridor for every 50 miles. If you're under 50 miles, do you still qualify for a site?

**Curtis Nosal:** It is possible, just you would have less priority. The fact is the country is not uniform, there are places out in the Rockies or in western Texas where there are large gaps of electric charging stations, and even gas stations.

**Dan Owens:** Is the electric infrastructure included in the cost?

**Curtis Nosal:** It is.

?: How many chargers at each station?

**Curtis Nosal:** It will be four, but we will have to see if Washington [DC] will be more lenient and changes on four and allows more of a variance for how many chargers per station.

?: Can Tesla charge at these stations?

**Curtis Nosal:** They should be able to yes, it's just that other electric cars can't charge at Tesla chargers, they instead have to use universal charges.

**Carlos Morales:** Does Buy America apply?

**Curtis Nosal:** Yes. One last thing, if anyone else has any questions, feel free to reach out to me.

## E. Safe Streets for All Update

**MAPA [Jim Boerner]:** The Bipartisan infrastructure bill provides a lot of funding also towards projects related to Safe Streets for All. Funding for these types of projects are given more leeway relative to other transportation projects, more local focused. MAPA's Safe Streets for All plan will include all related projects across all eligible entities. For this we need to incorporate the National Road Safety Strategy Guidance.

Application details:

- Requirements:
  - Applicant geography bound by census tracts.
  - Multiple applications from overlapping geographies not allowed.
  - Evaluation of local roads.
- Plan:
  - MAPA submitting Joint Planning Grant application.
  - City of Omaha is a co-applicant.
  - Requesting City Council resolution for support in August.
  - MAPA application to TTAC and Board next month.

MAPA application covers all MPO members - please don't apply separately! We are currently in year 1 of 5.

## F. Committee & Subcommittee Bylaws Update

**MAPA [Carlos Morales]:** One of things we are looking at in our bylaws is representation. There was a Federal comment on our lack of meeting Quorum. We are also looking at our project selection committee and other subcommittees and how to get them to be representative of our projects.

## G. Member Agency Updates

**MAPA [Carlos Morales]:** Safe streets for all is consuming most of the work we are doing, the reconnecting communities. Reconnecting communities looks at how to alter a highway, be it cap it, tear it down, and so on, to reconnect communities. We have a grant section where we are constantly feeding discretionary funding.

**Lauren Censic, Metro Transit:** We are getting some changes to get access to additional funds. We did the MetroNEXT plan, which shows what new routes and frequencies we want by 2030, which focuses on not just our current service area but potential future service area. We are doing an art contest for middle and high school students to make a painting celebrating transit in Omaha, submissions due at the end of this month. Lastly, we opened a new station for ORBT, and it is already being used and going well.

**Dan Kutilek, Douglas County:** Update on 180th Street and other county projects.

**Dan Owens, Omaha Airport Authority:** We have 3-4 months left on the project to rebuild the roadway entrance to the airport. We have completed a section of roadway up to the third level of the garage. In the last couple of weeks we secured a discretionary grant through the Bipartisan infrastructure bill to rebuild some of the roadway to add an extra lane and an entire canopy over the entire pickup and dropoff area. We are also under design right now to redesign and expand the terminal building. We should be finished with design sometime next year.

**Pat Dowse, City of La Vista:** Update on the Applewood Creek Trail progress, lane closures, and additional bike and ped improvement projects.

**Bruce Fountain, City of La Vista:** We received the bike and pedestrian grant through Heartland 2050.

**Maurice Hinchey, NDOT:** The work around Highway 75 is underway, with some sections already being paved. There were going to be more sections paved but there were some problems at the cement plant. In the downtown, the two bridges over 24th are all done. Someone decided to avoid using the detour at Dodge street so the driver moved the barriers, drove around the construction equipment, and flew off an incomplete section, destroying part of the truck. Next day when the driver came to get the truck, he told the police someone stole it, to which the driver was asked if it was stolen, how did he know where to go to get it.

**Mark Stursma, City of Papillion:**[Work at 132nd and Lincoln for signal installation. Helping to prepare a lawsuit pertaining to easements on 84th.

**Dennis Wilson, Sarpy County:** We are looking towards a possible project on Harrison street. Bellevue took over Fort Crook bridge, and we thank them for that.

## H. Additional Business

**MAPA [Jim Boerner]:** Sarpy County I-80 project, we now have the survey and interactive map out, we would like your thoughts on that, and that will be open until August 10th on MAPA's website.

**A motion to adjourn was made at 11:18am.**