

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Friday, March 17, 2023 | 10:00a
Boardroom - Main Level of the Metro Transit Building

Minutes

In attendance:

TTAC Voting Members

Matt Cox (City of Council Bluffs)
Kristine Stokes (City of Gretna)
Krista Wassenaar (City of Omaha)
Bryan Guy (City of Omaha)
Todd Pfitzer (Douglas County)
Craig Wacker (NDOT)
Tim Weander (NDOT)
Eric Williams (PMRNRD)
Dennis Wilson (Sarpy County)
Bruce Fountain (City of La Vista)

TTAC Non Voting Members

Jessica Smith (Benesch)
Bart Pugh (Schemmer)*
Kaine McClelland (NDOT)*

MAPA Staff

Michael Helgerson
Carlos Morales
Jim Boerner
Court Barber
Travis Halm*
Lindsey Button*
Michael Blank

** Attended virtually. Voting members are not eligible to vote while attending virtually and do not count for quorum.*

Dennis Wilson (Sarpy County) called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Action Items

For TTAC Approval

A. Approval of the Minutes from the February 17, 2023 meeting.

Todd Pfitzer moved to approve the minutes, Krista Wassenaar seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Recommendations to MAPA's Board of Directors

B. DRAFT MAPA FY2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - Open Public Comment Period

Carlos Morales presented the FY2024 UPWP budget table.

Todd Pfitzer asked about more details into complete streets and the funding specifics related to it.

Carlos Morales responded in more detail about the federal requirements surrounding complete streets, and some examples of ongoing policies around the metro from some local jurisdictions.

Mike Helgerson added some details regarding the funding amounts for complete streets.

Eric Williams asked about the status of the design specifics from Omaha, which was answered by Krista Wassenaar.

Eric Williams also asked about the competitive process for complete streets funding for the region, and the timeline.

Mike Helgerson explained the competitive process further and the goals of where the funding will hopefully go, and the timeline for it

Tim Weander asked about the status of the Omaha Beltline study.

Carlos Morales explained further about what the Omaha Beltline study is, and that it was pushed back another year due to project readiness.

Tim Weander moved to approve the UPWP, Todd Pfitzer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. Amendment 6 to the FY2023 Transportation Improvement Program

Court Barber presented the amendment, which includes changes to two NDOT projects.

Tim Weander moved to approve the UPWP, Krista Wassenaar seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

D. Sarpy County I-80 Interchange Planning & Environmental Linkages Study

Jim Boerner presented the results of the study which concluded earlier this year.

Mike Helgerson added more details into the process and outcome of the PEL and evaluating outcomes, and its relation to NEPA.

Dennis Wilson asked about next steps after PEL and if there will need to be another selection for the next step.

Mike Helgerson clarified that there will need to be another selection process, but the next step will be conducted by NDOT so they will be carrying it out.

Bruce Fountain asked about any other further details on the next steps after PEL, which was answered by Mike Helgerson and Tim Weander.

E. MAPA Committee Equity Survey

Court Barber briefed the committee on the survey that is going out to members of RPAC, TTAC, CTC, ProSeCom, and TAP-C.

F. Nebraska State Transportation Alternatives Program Funding

Carlos Morales provided information on NDOT's call for projects.

Mike Helgerson provided more detailson the call for projects and that Iowa still has a hold on their funding.

Eric Williams asked about details into the application process and funding amounts, and who is excluded with regards to the TMA.

Carlos Morales and Mike Helgerson gave more details into the process and underlying requirements, and also suggested contacting Jeffery Soula and Jodi Gibson at NDOT for more information.

Eric Williams asked further about how realistic the current process is and the ability for rural communities to apply.

Craig Wacker explained further about the pot of money, the past process for project awarding, and what NDOT expects.

Eric Williams and Michael Helgerson discussed further the situation surrounding the exclusion of the TMA to the NDOT TAP funding.

G. Federal Discretionary Grant Opportunities

Michael Blank provided an update on discretionary funding.

Court Barber, Carlos Morales, and Michael Helgerson provided further details about the history of MAPA's role in discretionary funding, and the discretionary grant website provided by the Atlanta Regional Commission.

H. Member Agency Updates

Craig Wacker mentioned that NDOT is meeting with several people to figure out and coordinate carbon reduction funding. He additionally noted that all four of the state MPOs have received carbon reduction funding.

Krista Wassenaar discussed several new Omaha construction projects, mostly out in West Omaha, some of which relate to utilities and bridges, are underway. She also disclosed information on the current process for the construction of the Baby Bob bridge, with it hopefully started this year.

Eric Williams disclosed information on new bridge projects the NRD is working on, specifically around Sarpy and Cass Counties.

Kristine Stokes discussed new trail and planning projects ongoing.

Mike Helgerson discussed the upcoming free Brownfields Workshop on March 30th, register now. He also discussed that there are many new funding opportunities relating to climate and carbon reduction from the IJA and other Federal funding sources.

Tim Weander noted that there is an upcoming State Highway Commission meeting, it will be in District 2 next Friday.

I. Additional Business

Tim Weander moved to adjourn the meeting, Krista Wassenaar seconded the motion at 11:10 am.

Future Meetings & Events

- **MAPA Board of Directors: Thursday, March 23, 2023**
- **Brownfield Event: Thursday, March 30, 2023**
- **TTAC Meeting: Friday, April 21, 2023**

Meeting Quorum: The presence of ten (10) members of TTAC at an officially called meeting shall constitute a quorum.