

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Friday, August 18, 2023 | 10:00a - 11:30a
Boardroom - Main Level of the Metro Transit Building

Attendance

MINUTES

In attendance:

TTAC Voting Members

Todd Pfitzer (Douglas County)
Eric Williams (PMRNRD)
Matt Cox (Council Bluffs)
Austin Rowser (Omaha)
Bruce Fountain (La Vista)
Derek Miller (Omaha)
Sherri Levers (Metro Transit)
Maurice Hinchey (NDOT)
Damion Stern (NDOT)

TTAC Non Voting Members & Guests

Tim Adams (WSP)

MAPA Staff

Laura Heilman
Carlos Morales
Josh Corrigan
Court Barber
Travis Halm
Michael Blank

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

Quorum was not met.

Pfitzer called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

Action Items

For TTAC Approval

A. Approval of the Minutes from the July 21, 2023 meetings

Pfitzer noted that we will vote on this next month, but there were otherwise no comments.

Recommendations to MAPA's Board of Directors

B. Approval of Adjusted Urban Area Boundary

Josh Corrigan presented the adjusted boundary.

Pfitzer asked whether a working group will be formed for jurisdictions to ask about existing conditions. Corrigan replied that there will be messages sent out for feedback, but a working group may also be considered. He additionally noted that Jim Boerner may be the person best suited for creating such a working group.

C. Approval of MAPA's Public Participation Plan

Court Barber presented the updated plan.

Pfitzer noted that the items that TTAC would normally approve would be put on next month's agenda since we don't have quorum.

Discussion Items

D. Joint Regional Planning Affiliation SS4A Planning Grant Application

Travis Halm presented on MAPA's joint application with the Southwest Iowa Planning Council for development of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for southwest Iowa communities.

E. Member Agency Updates (time permitting)

Williams noted that the Platte River bridge is moving to construction. The Elkhorn River bridge will hopefully move to construction in the near future.

Pfitzer discussed the ongoing efforts to input a trail along Military Avenue, and some of the benefits and frustrations of it. 168th and State will be closing soon for reconstruction and signalization.

Hinchey noted several NDOT bridge and highway reconstruction projects either at completion or still underway.

Cox noted that MAPA and Council Bluffs are currently working through consultant selection for the Council Bluffs Multimodal PEL study.

Morales discussed the successful efforts by members of the MAPA region to have NDOT change its requirements for what projects could be submitted, and the benefits this has brought to areas that are typically underfunded.

Rowser noted several projects Omaha is looking forward to for completion, especially Baby Bob and 168th street. 156th street and 108th street had some issues that were brought up, but are still moving forward.

Wacker talked about the good amount of feedback they received for their carbon reduction strategy. Currently we are working through our efforts to bring in more EV charging into the state, but right now we are limited by a state law that only allows utility companies to charge for kilowatt hours. We are hoping this law gets changed soon. We are also investigating complete street policies that NDOT currently have and can pursue.

Morales asked Wacker about the vulnerable road users assessment, which Wacker responded by clarifying on what that is in more detail, and that you can search up vulnerable road users and carbon reduction strategy on NDOT's website to find more information on them.

Fountain brought up the efforts to move forward on the Appleroad trail, as well as consultant selection moving forward for Giles Road widening.

Levers noted that Metro is still dealing with quite a large bottleneck on bus repair parts, so for the meantime you will expect more Moby buses out on the road to fill in for Metro bus repair delays.

F. Additional Business (time permitting)

Barber brought up an FHWA Training Opportunity for Designing Pedestrian Facilities for Accessibility (DPFA). It will be a two full day virtual course on November 28th and 29th. The course is in partnership with the City of Englewood, CO, and if you have any questions you can also ask Lindsey Button. This course will be looking at slopes and actual design of pedestrian facilities.

Williams asked if it is no cost and if consultants can attend, which Morales clarified that yes it is no cost and consultants can attend.

Pfitzer adjourned the meeting at 10:44 am.

Future Meetings & Events

- **NDOT Transportation Summit: Wednesday, August 23, 2023**
- **MAPA Board of Directors: Thursday, August 24, 2023**
- **TTAC Meeting: Friday, September 22, 2023**
- **Heartland 2050 Summit: TBD September 2023**
- **Council of Officials/MAPA Annual Dinner: Wednesday, October 04, 2023**

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