

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



May 17, 2024 10:00 AM

Boardroom - Main Level of the Metro Transit Building

MINUTES

In attendance:

TTAC Voting Members

Mike Kleffner (City of Papillion)
Sherri Levers (Metro Transit)
Pat Dowse (City of La Vista)
Kevin Carder (City of Omaha)
Dan Owens (OAA)
Austin Rowser (City of Omaha)
Eric Williams (PMRNRD)
Tom Goodbarn (NDOT)
Jarrold Walker (NDOT)
Bryan Guy (City of Omaha)
Denny Willson (Sarpy County)
David Goedeken (City of Bellevue)*
Andy Wicks (City of Council Bluffs)*
Scott Suhr (Iowa DOT)*

TTAC Non-Voting Members & Others

Travis Halm (Iowa DOT)*
Joan Green (E&A)*
Maurice Hinchey (NDOT)
Damion Stern (NDOT)
Chris Rolling (Olsson)
Tim Adams (WSP)
Amanda Parker (City of Bellevue)*
John Krager (City of Bellevue)*
Jeff Riesselman (City of Omaha)*
Kaine McClelland (NDOT)*
Dakin Schultz (FHWA Iowa)*
Jeff Sobczyk (City of Omaha)*
Jeremy Williams (HDR)*
Adam Denney (FHU)*
Craig Wacker (FHWA Nebraska)*

MAPA Staff

Mike Helgerson
Carlos Morales*
Michael Blank
Rachel Goettsch
Laura Heilman
Mia Haschenburger*
Lindsey Button
Jim Boerner

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

Michael Blank called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

Quorum was met.

Action Items

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the March 22, 2024 and April 19, 2024 Meetings**
Mike Kleffner motioned to approve the March minutes. Motion was seconded by **Austin Rowser**. Motion passed unanimously.
Pat Dowse motioned to approve the April minutes. Motion was seconded by **Denny Wilson**. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendations to MAPA's Board of Directors

B. Approve New Project Awards for the FY2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Michael Blank presented recommendations for new project awards from ProSeCom, TAP-C, and the Heartland 2050 Mini-Grant Committee. This included a shift in the Sarpy 168th St STBG project from 2030 to 2031. There were no new TAP awards due to the high CRP balance which was utilized first. MAPA will likely open another call for projects in Fall 2024 as the TAP balances in 2030/2031 will be high for both Nebraska and Iowa.

Eric Williams explained the background behind the Bennington trails projects and its relevant funding.

Mike Kleffner made a motion to recommend the Committee to approve the new project award for the FY2025 TIP. Motion was seconded by Denny Wilson. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Open a Public Comment Period for the [Draft FY2025 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#)

Michael Blank presented the draft TIP program, which included several changes to the text, adding language regarding the CRP and consolidated project types. A recommendation to open a twenty-five day comment period was also requested.

Pat Dowse made a motion to recommend the Committee to open a public comment period for the Draft FY2025 TIP. Motion was seconded by Austin Roswer. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Approve Amendment 2 to the FY2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) ([link to come 5/15/25](#))

Carlos Morales presented the second amendment which will align MAPA's work at the end of this fiscal year with the next, which included contract changes.

Bryan Guy made a motion to recommend the Committee to approve Amendment 2 to the FY2024 UPWP. Motion was seconded by Denny Wilson. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Approve Final MAPA FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - [Link to come 5/15/25](#)

Carlos Morales presented the final Unified Planning Work Program for FY 2025, including some additional details that were adjusted since the last draft such as the 5310 sub-recipient awards.

Mike Kleffner asked if MAPA had a breakdown of the staff budget. Staff presented the most recent published Draft UPWP document's staff budget table.

Denny Wilson made a motion to recommend the Committee to approve the Final MAPA FY2025 UPWP. Motion was seconded by Austin Rowser. Motion passed unanimously.

F. [2020 Updated Urban Area Boundary](#)

Jim Boerner presented the approved 2020 Urban Area Boundary, updated based on additional input from USDOT.

Pat Dowse made a motion to recommend the Committee to approve the 2020 Updated Urban Area Boundary. Motion was seconded by Denny Wilson. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Items

G. [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\)](#)

Jim Boerner introduced Tim Adams, the Outreach and CSAP consultant team lead, who provided a brief update on the SS4A work completed to date. This included a summary of the Co-Creation event attended by community stakeholders that supported the development of the Community Engagement Plan (CEP). The Draft CEP is currently in review by those stakeholders.

The Safety Committee Meeting results were summarized, which also included the engagement of community stakeholders, established the roles and responsibilities of the Committee, and gathered feedback on the status of transportation safety in the region and how to improve it. Adams requested that all members of the Committee fill out the SS4A Visioning questions, for the purpose of obtaining leadership commitment from the group.

Boerner elaborated on this year's SS4A grant opportunities, noting that the turnaround on these grants is much more accelerated than in previous years and would require the Committee to be more responsively reactive.

H. Quarterly Funding Report

Michael Blank presented the status of funding in the FY2024 TIP, which included a surplus of NE STBG funds that can go to other projects, and TAP project updates.

I. Truck and Travel Time Performance Update

Jim Boerner provided an assessment of 2023 performance. There are three individual measures assessed: 1) Interstate Travel Time Reliability, 2) Non-Interstate Travel Time Reliability, and 3) Truck Travel Time Reliability (interstate only) that were summarized.

Eric Williams and Mike Kleffner expressed questions regarding the measures assessed, which MAPA staff responded to.

J. [Request for Information for Designating the National Multimodal Freight Network](#)

Michael Blank provided a brief overview of the Request for Information, and how to submit comments via a survey. All comments are due June 11, 2024. Jim Boerner elaborated on the need and value of collecting this feedback and which may lead to additional grant opportunities.

K. Prioritization Process Pilot Program (PPPP) Update

Rachel Goettsch provided a brief update on the PPPP grant application and MAPA's plan for working with TTAC on the proposed Transformative Regional Investment Prioritization System (TRIPS) project.

Mike Helgerson and Jarrod Walker added details on the opportunity and NDOT's involvement.

L. Member Agency Updates

- Damien Stern noted that Eastern Nebraska needs more money to be able to implement projects that are not obsolete by the time they are developed.
- Sherri Levers - No Metro Updates.
- Denny Wilson noted that Sarpy County has a large amount of sewers going in, and that this is likely to result in an increase in development and a subsequent need for roads that they are looking to put in.
- Mike Kleffner - 530 coming to program Schramm Road, Opticon project 55 signals)
- Austin Rowser - Baby Bob work underway
- Dan Owens (OAA) Canopy and utilities construction to go through 2025. Terminal work began in February, with terminal plant construction beginning this week.
- Eric Williams (PMRNRD) noted that Platte River Bridge Trail construction is underway with expected completion in July.
- Maurice Hinchey (NDOT) provided updates on several ongoing implementation projects
- Jarrod Walker noted an increase in letter of support and earmark requests and a lack of internal process for obtaining these. Going forward, there will be additional support for these requests and a formalized process.
- No other updates from remaining members.

M. Additional Business

- Carlos Morales (MAPA) mentioned the open Rail Survey and asked for member responses.
- Mike Helgerson (MAPA) asked if MAPA could assist in member tornado recovery efforts.

- Laura Heilman (MAPA) summarized the Charlotte Site Learning Trip, with additional positive comments from Austin Rowser and Eric Williams. Mike Helgerson added that Indianapolis MPO (the location of the previous trip) had reached out to discuss the possibility of a peer-exchange where they would visit Omaha and learn more about the process.

Future Meetings & Events

- MAPA Board of Directors: May 23, 2024
- RPAC: June 7, 2024
- TTAC: June 21, 2024

Austin Rowser moved to adjourn, Denny Wilson seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:22am.

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