

Summary Report

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: January 21, 2026

Reports

1. **Chair's Report** – Hovland reported that TAB will have action on the frequency of reading the Dakota Acknowledgement at February TAB. Hovland will be attending the US Conference of Mayors next week and will report back next month. Hovland welcomed new TAB member, Tim Marino, as TAB representative. Other appointments include Anoka County alternate John Heinrich, Scott County alternate Jody Brennan, Citizen B alternate Aaron Cameron, and Non-motorized alternate Jackson Hampton. Minneapolis representative and alternate are still in process of appointment. The Regional Solicitation Policymaker Work Group met prior to TAB.

2. **MnDOT Report** – Kauppi reported on the following information.

1. Safety updates for all traffic fatalities in Minnesota

At the end of December 2025, there have been 370 fatalities in traffic-related incidents **statewide** on all local and state roads, up from 319 at the end of November. In 2024, there were 477 traffic fatalities. Each month in 2025 there have been less traffic fatalities than the previous year, with 101 less traffic deaths in 2025 than 2024. For 2025, the metro area has a little less than 40% of all statewide traffic fatalities, but 70% of statewide pedestrian traffic fatalities. This table shows the number of metro area traffic fatalities by county and modes.

Some preliminary trends (noted by Metro Traffic Safety staff):

- In the metro area, there has been a downward trend of traffic fatalities since 2021 (COVID spike). The metro area is approaching a yearly number of traffic fatalities again similar to before 2021.
- In the crash data reported from Dept of Public Safety, there have been less unbelted crashes and speeds slightly down, but alcohol-related crashes are up.

Metro Preliminary YTD Total Fatalities – end of December 2025

	Total	Pedestrians	Bikes	Motorcycles
Anoka	17	1	1	4
Carver	4	1	0	0
Chisago	8	0	0	1
Dakota	23	4	0	4
Hennepin	36	10	1	6
Ramsey	23	10	1	2
Scott	17	3	0	5
Washington	11	0	1	0
Metro Total	139	29	3	22
% of state	38%	70%	23%	39%
State total	370	42	13	57

In addition, statewide there have been 13 fatalities on ATVs/UTVs and one (1) snowmobile related fatality in 2025.

*data source: Office of Traffic Safety, Minnesota Department of Public Safety

Why Safe Driving Matters in 2026

- **Real Lives, Not Just Numbers:** Every "fatality" is a neighbor, friend or family member. Last year, 105 more Minnesotans made it home safely than the year before.
 - **Winter Risks:** It's January, and Minnesota ice and snow are at their peak. Slow down for the current conditions.
 - **Protecting Everyone:** The road belongs to everyone. Staying alert helps protect those who are most vulnerable, like cyclists and pedestrians.
 - **Reducing the Burden:** Fewer crashes mean less strain on our first responders and lower costs (like insurance and medical bills) for everyone.
2. **Awards** for the Corridors of Commerce (COC), Transportation Economic Development (TED), and Minnesota Highway Freight Program (MHFP) were announced earlier this month. Congratulations to the projects receiving funding. If your project was not selected, encourage you to continue to work with MnDOT staff at Metro and Central Office on proposals.
 3. **Snow and Ice season**
 - [Be prepared for winter weather conditions](#) – vehicle and personal preparation as well as following rules of the road and slowing down or staying home when conditions are bad
 - 511mn.org check conditions before you travel and during weather events
 4. **Pothole Season**

MnDOT is working with industry to request early opening of asphalt plant to provide pothole repair material to get ahead of the Spring season. Freeze & thaw cycles make it difficult to keep us with the potholes that all agencies are experiencing. Safety updates for all traffic fatalities in Minnesota
 3. **MPCA** – Smith reported MPCA continues to interact with the federal level and some deregulatory efforts that they're going through, including related to transportation and impacts that impact emissions from transportation. They are accepting comments on rolling back cafe standards, which are the standards that regulate the vehicle efficiency. There are two grant opportunities open right now; the climate smart food systems grant, a \$5,000,000 grant opportunity for vehicle replacements for businesses as well as government entities those vehicles need to be somehow connected with the food system, and a smaller grant for \$135,000 in grants for electric bikes for commercial use.
 4. **MAC Report** – Rief reported that MAC has a new chairperson, James Lawrence. He has **Opt-In:** Find the "TSA PreCheck Touchless ID" option in your account settings or been a member of the Commission for a few years and he brings international business and board experience with them and has worked for companies like General Mills Northwest Airlines and Pepsi company. Sun Country Airlines has merged with Alliance. Starting February 1st TSA is going to require real ID or passport and if you don't have one, it's going to cost you time and money, \$45.00, every single time. Ninety percent of passengers have some sort of Real ID. TSA is implementing a touchless ID that passengers can opt-in. Currently it is for Pre-Check and includes facial recognition and you won't need a boarding pass or an ID to go through security checkpoints.

Step-by-Step Opt-In Process:

1. **Join TSA PreCheck:** If you're not already a member, enroll in *TSA PreCheck* first to get your Known Traveler Number (KTN).
2. **Update Airline Profile:** Log in to your profile with your airline (e.g., American, Delta, United, Southwest, Alaska).
3. **Add Details:** Enter your Known Traveler Number (KTN) and valid passport number and country into your airline account.
4. during check-in and select "Opt-In".

5. **Check Your Boarding Pass:** After opting in, look for the specific Touchless ID symbol (a head in a square) on your mobile boarding pass for eligible flights.

At the Airport:

- **Look for Lanes:** Find the dedicated "TSA PreCheck with Touchless ID" lane.
- **Use Your Face:** Follow prompts to use your face as your ID at the checkpoint.
- **Carry Physical ID:** Always bring your physical ID (like your passport or a REAL ID-compliant driver's license) as a backup, as TSA officers may request it.

Other Info:

- There is a REAL ID office at MSP for people to use for obtaining a REAL ID. You need to make an appointment.
- The REAL ID office is located pre-security at Terminal 1 on the mezzanine of the Green Parking Ramp. The office is easily accessed by parking in the Green or Gold ramps and taking the elevator to the Skyway Level (Floor 3) or by taking the skyway from the Ticketing area.
- More information about REAL ID and the documents needed can be found on the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's website.

On their Port Authority website, www.metroairports.org, there is page with FAQ for federal actions.

5. **Metropolitan Council** – Barber reported that Met Council will hear an update two topics. Metro Transit is completing its evaluation of candidate arterial BRT corridors and will recommend new lines. The West 7th Street corridor will be recommended for the metro J line in combination with roadway improvements in the corridor. This corridor would receive a minimum of \$30 million in the 2026 regional solicitation. The Nicolette Ave. corridor will be recommended for the Metro K Line. There will be a study of three additional lines that will inform a future recommendation for the Metro L Line, which are Randolph Ave., Franklin/Grand, and Johnson/Lyndale. Additionally, two study corridors may be evaluated as potential extensions of the operating Metro C Line. Metro Transit staff will bring a presentation to TAB at its February meeting. The Council will review today a fair policy update. Metro Transit is implementing a regional fair system upgrade and considering their policy changes. It will be released for public comment prior to implementation. A new transit service pilot is launching in February bringing app based on demand transit link service to parts of Forest Lake, Stillwater, Oak Park Heights, and Hastings.
6. **Suburban Transit Association** – Hansen sent in the following report: Maple Grove Transit ridership in 2025 increased 10% over 2024. Express ridership increased 9% and MyRide on-demand ridership was up 12%. SouthWest Transit reported a 24% overall increase in bus ridership in 2025. Autonomous vehicle ridership within the transit station zone increased 144%. Based on the success of Prime on-demand ridership serving more compact zones, SouthWest will consider modeling regular bus service in smaller zones to improve efficiency. Minnesota Valley Transit Authority's overall ridership was up 8% over 2024. Express service increased 12% to Minneapolis and 16% to St. Paul. Connect microtransit ridership was up 34%, while local route ridership was stable. In 2025, e-Jest micro busses saved MVTA more than \$24,000 in fuel costs and reduced CO2 emissions by 97 tons. MVTA's South Metro Transit Coalition effort is making progress, as 21 business members have been accepted. The coalition will have its first meeting in February to hear an overview of membership benefits and assistance that MVTA will provide with commute information for current and prospective employees.

Business

TAB approved the following items (forwarded to the Transportation Committee).

1. 2026-12: Streamlined 2026-2029 TIP Amendment Request: Three Project Adjustments (January 26, 2026, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended adoption of an amendment to the 2026-2029 TIP make the following project adjustments:

- Decrease the cost of MnDOT's Minnesota 77 (Cedar Avenue) unbounded concrete overlay project in Apple Valley.
- Reduce the length of MnDOT's I-94 landscaping project in Oakdale and Woodbury.
- Reduce the cost of Little Canada's CSAH 21 (Little Canada Rd) at Country Road C (Lake Shore Avenue) projects and associate them with MnDOT's I-35E at CSAH 21 signal project.

2. 2026-13: Streamlined 2026-2029 TIP Amendment Request: Minneapolis Safe Streets for All (January 26, 2026, Transportation Committee)

The Transportation Advisory Board recommended adoption of an amendment to the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program to add Minneapolis's Transportation Safety Countermeasures project (SP# 141-070-021):

3. 2026-01: Election of TAB Executive Committee

The Transportation Advisory Board the following TAB members to serve on the Executive Committee for 2026:

County Board members: Julie Jeppson, Anoka County and Mai Chong Xiong, Ramsey County
Board members from the cities of the first class: Saura Jost (Molly Coleman alternate), St. Paul

Board members from the remaining cities: Taylor Hubbard, Chaska, and Victor Lake, Prior Lake

Member representing the citizen Board members: Peter Dugan

Member representing the modal and remaining agency Board members: Brian Martinson, Non-motorized representative (Bike, Walk, and Roll representative)

They will serve along with members with TAB members with automatic seats:

Board Chair: Jim Hovland

MnDOT: Khani Sahebjam

Metropolitan Council: Deb Barber

4. 2026-02: 2026 Regional Solicitation Qualifying Requirements

The Transportation Advisory Board approved the qualifying requirements for the 2026 Regional Solicitation for the purpose of public comment.

5. 2026-03: 2026 Active Transportation Qualifying Requirements

The Transportation Advisory Board approved the qualifying requirements for the 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation for the purpose of public comment.

6. 2026-04: 2026 Active Transportation Match Requirement

The Transportation Advisory Board approved no local match requirement for the local bicycle facilities, local pedestrian facilities, and the planning categories in the 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation.

7. 2026-05: 2026 Regional Solicitation Criteria, Measures, and Scoring Guidance

The Transportation Advisory Board approved the criteria, measures, and scoring guidance for the 2026 Regional Solicitation for the purpose of release for public comment.

8. 2026-06: 2026 Active Transportation Criteria, Measures, and Scoring Guidance

The Transportation Advisory Board approved the criteria, measures, and scoring guidance for the 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation for the purpose of release for public comment.



9. 2026-07: 2026 Regional Solicitation Scoring Criteria and Measures Weighting

The Transportation Advisory Board approved the weighting of the criteria and scoring measures for the 2026 Regional Solicitation for the purpose of release for public comment.

10. 2026-08: 2026 Active Transportation Scoring Criteria and Measures Weighting

The Transportation Advisory Board approved the weighting of the criteria and scoring measures for the 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation for the purpose of release for public comment.

11. 2026-09: 2026 Regional Solicitation Application Package Release for Public Comment

The Transportation Advisory Board approved the draft 2026 Regional Solicitation application package for the purpose of release for public comment.

12. 2026-10: 2026 Active Transportation Application Package Release for Public Comment

The Transportation Advisory Board approved the draft 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation application package for the purpose of release for public comment.

13. 2026-11: 2026 Highway Safety Improvement Program Solicitation Release for Public Comment

The Transportation Advisory Board approved the draft 2026 Highway Safety Improvement Program applications for the purpose of release for public comment including up to \$6 million total in HSIP funding in construction seasons of 2030 and 2031 to reduce lane departure on locally owned roads.

Link to January 21, 2026, TAB agenda and materials, [012126 Agenda - Transportation Advisory Board](#).

