

Minutes

TAB Technical Advisory Committee



Meeting date: August 05, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Virtual

Members present:

- ☒ Anoka Co – Joe MacPherson (Chair)
- ☐ Carver Co – Lyndon Robjent
- ☒ Dakota Co – Erin Laberee
- ☒ Ramsey Co – Brian Isaacson (Alt)
- ☒ Hennepin Co – Karla Stueve (Alt)
- ☒ Scott Co – Adam Jessen
- ☒ Washington Co – Madeline Dahlheimer (Alt)
- ☐ Extended Urban Area – Chad Hausmann
- ☒ Council MTS – Steve Peterson
- ☒ Council CD – Patrick Boylan
- ☒ TAB – Elaine Koutsoukos

- ☒ Brooklyn Park – Marc Culver
- ☒ Chanhassen – Charlie Howley
- ☐ Eagan – Russ Matthys
- ☒ Eden Prairie – Robert Ellis
- ☒ Fridley – Jim Kosluchar
- ☒ Lakeville – Paul Oehme
- ☐ Plymouth – Michael Thompson
- ☒ Woodbury – Chris Hartzell
- ☒ Minneapolis Engineering – Adam Heyow
- ☒ Minneapolis Planning – Kathleen Mayell
- ☒ Saint Paul Engineering – Nick Peterson
- ☒ Saint Paul Planning – Reuben Collins

- ☒ MnDOT – Molly McCartney (Vice Chair)
- ☒ MPCA – Lauren Dickerson
- ☒ MAC – Bridget Rief
- ☒ STA – Matt Fyten
- ☒ Metro Transit – Jonathan Ahn
- ☒ Freight – Torey Hunkus
- ☒ DEED – Colleen Eddy
- ☐ MnDNR – Nancy Spooner Walsh
- ☒ Bicycle – Kyle Sobota
- ☐ Pedestrian – Mackenzie Turner Barger
- ☐ FHWA – Scott Mareck (ex-officio)
- ☒ = present, E = excused

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair MacPherson called the regular meeting of the TAB Technical Advisory Committee to order at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda approved

Committee members did not have any changes to the agenda, rendering it approved.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Molly McCartney, MnDOT, and seconded by Chris Hartzell, Woodbury, to approve the minutes of June 3, 2026, regular meeting of the TAB Technical Advisory Committee.

Motion carried.

Public comment on committee business

TAB report

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB Coordinator, stated TAB did not meet in July and reported on the June 17 regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board.

Business – Committee reports

Executive Committee (Joe MacPherson, Chair)

Chair MacPherson reported that the TAC Executive Committee met prior to the meeting. He said staff said that as part of the approved changes to the Regional Solicitation, quantitative scores may be appealed, but qualitative responses may not. MacPherson noted this change had already been approved through the normal process, but staff wanted to flag it and discuss contingencies given that the new Community Considerations scoring measure, which is not subject to appeal, carries significant weight. Bethany Brandt-Sargent, MTS Planning, explained the safeguards built into the Community Considerations scoring process, stating that scoring is handled separately from the rest of the scoring process because it requires intensive training. Each application receives two independent scores, one from an agency reviewer and one from a community-based organization reviewer. After all scores are submitted, staff review the scoring pairs' results for consistency with the rubric, and the full group then meets to review and confirm agreement on all scores. She noted this process is more in-depth than the committee's regular scoring process specifically to ensure consistency under the new Community Considerations approach.

Chair MacPherson stated that, given the significant decisions expected over the coming months, the TAC Funding & Programming Committee is going to hold an in-person meeting. The November meeting is currently planned to be held in person, as it will cover funding scenarios for the Regional Solicitation and the Active Transportation Solicitation. Chair MacPherson also noted that the September TAC meeting will either be virtual or, if there are no significant items, be cancelled. Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning, will notify members by email once this is determined. MacPherson added that one or two additional meetings will likely also be held in person given the volume of upcoming decisions.

TAC Transit Planning Technical Working Group (Bradley Bobbitt, MTS Planning)

No update.

Planning Committee (Gina Mitteco, Chair)

1. **2026-37:** Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) (Frank Alarcon, MTS Planning)

Frank Alarcon, MTS Planning, presented. Chair MacPherson noted that the TAC Planning Committee voted in June to release the draft UPWP for public comment. The UPWP outlines the region's planning activities for the coming year, particularly those funded with federal dollars. It was moved by McCartney and seconded by Jim Kosluchar, Fridley, that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of Attachment 1, the 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Motion carried.

Funding and Programming Committee (Jim Kosluchar, Chair)

Kosluchar reported that the TAC Funding and Programming Committee met on July 23, 2026. The committee completed qualifying review for the Active Transportation Solicitation and the Regional Solicitation.

Information

1. EV City Support Project (Tony Fischer, MTS Planning and Rebecca Heisel, Great Plains Institute)

Tony Fischer, MTS Planning and Rebecca Heisel, Great Plains Institute, presented.

2. 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Public Comments (Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning)

Barbeau presented. Chair MacPherson asked whether amendments made during the transition between last year's TIP and the proposed TIP are simply absorbed into the process without a separate comment period. Barbeau confirmed that updates made to the current 2026–2029 TIP over roughly the last six months were carried forward and reflected automatically in this process.

McCartney explained that MnDOT uses the TIP as part of its overall statewide program and that comments received through this process are valuable to MnDOT. Responding to comments noting that the greenhouse gas law was not prominently reflected, McCartney acknowledged this is an area MnDOT is actively working on and added that MnDOT will share the feedback with its Office of Sustainability and Public Health as it implements the law at the district level.

3. Regional Solicitation Update (Steve Peterson, and Joe Widing, MTS Planning)

Steve Peterson and Joe Widing, MTS Planning, presented.

Other business

Adjournment

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

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