Minutes

Transportation Advisory Board

Meeting date: August 19, 2026 **Time**: 12:30 PM **Location:** 390 Robert Street

Members present:

Chair, James Hovland
1st Vice Chair, Julie Jeppson
2nd Vice Chair, Taylor Hubbard
Doug Anderson
~~Myron Bailey~~
~~Husniyah Bradley~~
Carl Crimmins
Reva Chamblis
~~Molly Coleman~~
Peter Dugan
Don Do
Debbie Goettel
~~Torin Gustafson~~
Gary Hansen
Mary Liz Holberg
Abdi Isse
Glen Johnson
Stan Karwoski
Frank Kohlasch
~~Victor Lake~~
~~William Lindeke~~
Tim Marino
Brian Martinson
~~Aaron Cameron~~
~~Becky Petryk~~
Jess Robertson
Khani Sahebjam
George Schember
~~Mark Steffenson~~
~~Soren Stevenson~~ (Aisha Chughtai)
Jon Ulrich
Jeffrey Weisensel
Tom Workman
Mai Chong Xiong

Staff

Elaine Koutsoukos, TAB
Joe MacPherson, TAC
Amy Vennewitz, MTS Planning Director
Bridget Rief, MAC

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 Hovland called the regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board to order at 12:40 p.m.

Agenda approved

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Xiong to approve the agenda. Committee members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried**.

Public invitation

There were no members of the public who wished to speak to the TAB.

Reports

1. TAB Chair's Report – Jim Hovland

   Chair Hovland reported that Carl Crimmins is back for the MAC, and that there will be no September TAB meeting.

2. Agency Reports – MnDOT, MPCA, MAC, Metropolitan Council, Suburban Transit Association

   MnDOT

   Sahebjam reported on current construction projects as well as recent fatality numbers, shared maintenance updates, and geofencing progress with scooters.

   MPCA

   Kohlasch reported on EPA's Clean Air Waivers sent to Congress for a potential repeal, information about recent air quality alerts combined with extreme heat, as well as the Minnesota Clean Cars Rule being repealed to eliminate confusion about emission standards, and sustainable aviation fuel updates.

   MAC

   Crimmins reported that airport passengers are down 2.5% mostly due to fuel costs and less full international flights. Allegiant and Sun Country have merged and as a result of a pilot shortage Sun Country is reducing their flights by 35%, Aer Lingus is pulling out of MSP in October due to competition with Delta. August 6 the airport had a groundstop because FAA equipment failed and the backup power failed. MSP staff now have tactile braille maps in airport restrooms. Crimmins also shared activity from the reliever airports.

   Metropolitan Council

   Chamblis reported on Metro Transit gearing up for the State Fair starting next Thursday with 14 express bus locations, with the Suburban Providers providing additional locations. Renew the Blue construction wraps up.

   STA

   Hansen reported: Plymouth Metrolink reports increasing activity in its Station 73 Transit and Regional Improvement Program, a comprehensive initiative focused on transit, pedestrian, bicycle, roadway, and safety improvements around Highway 55 and County Road 73. This is an example of investments in Plymouth's transit-oriented infrastructure and mobility improvements. Expanded service in coordination with Maple Grove Transit effective July 1 has strengthened the transportation connection between the two communities and provides additional mobility options for residents and employees. SouthWest Transit Renaissance Festival service will be offered on weekends from August 22 through October 4, with additional service on Labor Day and Festival Friday, October 2. State Fair service from Eden Prairie, Chanhassen, Chaska, and Carver will be offered daily from 6:30 A.M. to 11:30 P.M. Minnesota Valley Transit Authority will offer similar Renaissance Festival and State Fair service. MVTA State Fair presale tickets are up over 10% compared to this time last year. Starting in September, MVTA will provide its Canterbury shuttle service for every Mystic Lake Amphitheater concert for the remainder of the year. The shuttle offers 10-15-minute free ride service throughout the area, connecting Canterbury Park, concert parking, restaurants/entertainment, and the amphitheater.

3. TAC Report – Joe MacPherson, TAC Chair

   MacPherson had no additional report outside of the TAB agenda.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Goettel to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2026, regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board. **Motion carried**.

Consent business

Consent business adopted

1. There were no consent items

Non-consent business

1. 2026-37: 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (Joe MacPherson, TAC Chair)

   It was moved by Xiong, seconded by Anderson, that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of the 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

   TAB members asked questions about resiliency practices, electric vehicle curbside information, and the cost of the report in total, and evaluation of current systems.

   Motion carried.

2. 2026-38: 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Public Comments and Approval (Joe Barbeau, MTS Planning)

   It was moved by Jeppson, seconded by Do, that the Transportation Advisory Board:

   1. Accept the attached 2027-2030 TIP Public Comment Report

   2. Recommend adoption of the draft 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

   TAB members voiced appreciation for staff work, asked about TAB representation.

   Motion carried.

Information

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

   TAB members asked about community engagement and compensation, peer learning cohorts, and curbside charging details.

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

   TAB members asked about funding sources, and timing, as well as process changes.

Items of TAB members

There were no items of TAB members.

Other business

There were no other business items.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Council contact:

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