

# Agenda Item 1c, Attachment 1

**574th Policy Board Meeting  
Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments  
Thursday, February 20, 2020 – 4:00 pm  
Metro COG Conference Room**

**Members Present:**

Duane	Breitling	Cass County Commission
John	Gunkelman	Fargo Planning Commission
Steve	Jesme	Dilworth City Council
Johnathan	Judd	Moorhead City Council
Brad	Olson	West Fargo City Commission
Dave	Piepkorn	Fargo City Commission
Rocky	Schneider	Fargo Planning Commission
John	Strand	Fargo City Commission
Sara	Watson Curry	Moorhead City

**Members Absent:**

David	Fenelon	Horace City Council
Tony	Gehrig	Fargo City Commission
Eric	Gjerdevig	West Fargo City Commission
Tony	Grindberg	Fargo City Commission
Chuck	Hendrickson	Moorhead City Council
Jenny	Mongeau	Clay County Commission
Maranda	Tasa	Fargo Planning Commission

**Others Present:**

Adam	Altenburg	Metro COG
Luke	Champa	Metro COG
Dan	Farnsworth	Metro COG
Cindy	Gray	Metro COG
Savanna	Leach	Metro COG
Michael	Maddox	Metro COG
Anna	Pierce	Metro COG
Bob	Walton	NDDOT – Fargo District

**1a. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER, WELCOME, AND INTRODUCTIONS, convened**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm, on February 20, 2020 by Chair Olson, noting a quorum was present. Introductions were made.

**1b. Approve Order and Contents of Overall Agenda, approved**

Chair Olson asked for approval of the overall agenda.

**MOTION: Approve the contents of the Overall Agenda of the February 20, 2020 Policy Board Meeting.**

**Ms. Watson Curry moved, seconded by Mr. Jesme.**

**MOTION, passed. 9-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**1c. Past Meeting Minutes, approved**

Chair Olson asked for approval of the Minutes of the January 16, 2020 Meeting.

**MOTION: Approve the January 16, 2020 Policy Board Meeting Minutes.**

**Mr. Breittling moved, seconded by Mr. Gunkelman.**

**MOTION, passed. 9-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**1d. Monthly Bills, approved**

Chair Olson asked for approval of the February 2020 Bills as listed on Attachment 1d.

**MOTION: Approve the February 2020 Bills List.**

**Mr. Piepkorn moved, seconded by Mr. Judd.**

**MOTION, passed. 9-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Chair Olson asked for approval of Items a-g on the Consent Agenda.**

- a. January Month End Report
- b. Personnel Action – Grade Change
- c. Horace Comprehensive & Transportation Plan Contract Amendment
- d. Moorhead Traffic Counting Addendum with ATAC
- e. MATBUS Transit Development Plan Consultant Selection
- f. 17<sup>th</sup> Street North Corridor Study Consultant Selection
- g. Performance Measure (PM) 1 – 2020 Safety Target Adoption

**MOTION: Approve Items a-g on the Consent Agenda.**

**Mr. Strand moved, seconded by Mr. Jesme.**

**MOTION, passed. 9-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**3. REGULAR AGENDA**

**3a. Public Comment Opportunity**

No public comments were made or received.

**3b. Fargo-Moorhead Bikeways Gap Analysis Final Report**

Mr. Farnsworth and Mr. Champa presented the Final Report for the Fargo-Moorhead Bikeways Gap Analysis Study. The jurisdictions of West Fargo, Fargo, Moorhead, and Clay County contracted with Toole Design (prime consultant) and Bolton & Menk (subconsultant) to lead the study. This study looks at 16 key bikeway gaps in the Fargo-Moorhead Metro Area, most of which were originally identified during the development of the 2016 Fargo-Moorhead Metro Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan. These gaps included three in West Fargo, seven in Fargo, two in Moorhead, one Red River crossing, and three in Moorhead/Clay County. The purpose of this study is to analyze the 16 bikeway gaps by obtaining public input, reviewing the existing conditions and local needs, and develop alternatives,

planning level cost estimates, and implementation strategies for the gaps. The Plan was guided by a 14-member Study Review Committee and had extensive public involvement.

The final report was completed in December 2019, and Policy Board approval was recommended by both the Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee and the Transportation Technical Committee.

Mr. Strand asked if the study included information on micro-mobility (rented scooters/bikes). Mr. Farnsworth said the study did not include information on that, however, they would be treated similar to bicycle facilities. Ms. Gray stated that Metro COG staff have researched the pros and cons of micro-mobility and the issues surrounding the use of scooters and dockless shared bicycles and, through our work with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee, prepared a pamphlet that provides recommendations for regulations that cities should adopt to address issues that have arisen in other communities. Mr. Farnsworth noted that this information was provided to the local jurisdictions' administrators.

**MOTION: Adoption of the Fargo-Moorhead Bikeways Gap Analysis Final Report.**

**Mr. Gunkelman moved, seconded by Ms. Watson Curry.**

**MOTION, passed. 9-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

### **3c. City of Fargo Safe Routes to School Plan Final Report**

Mr. Farnsworth and Ms. Pierce presented the final report for the City of Fargo Safe Routes to School Plan. The City of Fargo, Fargo Public Schools, West Fargo Public Schools, and representatives from the private schools. Metro COG contracted with consulting firm Alta Planning + Design (with subconsultant KLJ) to carry out the study and complete the Plan. Included in this Plan are all elementary and middle schools located within the City of Fargo (plus Liberty Middle School in the City of West Fargo). In total, 31 K-8 schools are included – all twenty Fargo public schools, five West Fargo public schools, and six private schools. The purpose of the Plan is to provide information, resources, and recommendations to elected officials, city and school staff, and parents to make walking and bicycling safer and more inviting for students traveling to and from school. This Plan incorporates the "Six E's" of Safe Routes to School – Education, Encouragement, Engineering, Enforcement, Evaluation, and Equity.

Mr. Farnsworth and Ms. Pierce explained that the study also includes school siting recommendations aimed at reducing pedestrian/vehicle conflicts and providing improved safety for students to bike or walk to school. Ms. Pierce showed how different school locations, combined with different urban forms, result in higher rates of walking and biking to school. This analysis is included in the plan.

Mr. Strand stated that it would be very advantageous if the Fargo and West Fargo school districts had the same bussing policies and asked if West Fargo has had a safe routes to school study. Staff explained that such a study has not

been completed for West Fargo, and agreed that it would be beneficial to have studied schools both cities, but only the City of Fargo requested the study and budget limitations limited the study to Fargo. Following city limits is the typical approach to SRTS plans since city engineering departments are responsible for street improvements within their jurisdiction.

Ms. Pierce showed how Metro COG's website has been updated to show SRTS plans for each school included in the study.

Upon adoption by the City of Fargo and Metro COG Policy Board, the Plan will become publicly available for use by elected officials, city and school staff, and parents.

**MOTION: Adoption of the City of Fargo Safe Routes to School Plan, and sign the Resolution of Adoption for the City of Fargo Safe Routes to School Plan.**

**Mr. Schneider moved, seconded by Mr. Piepkorn.**

**MOTION, passed. 9-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

### **3d. Veterans Boulevard Corridor Extension Study RFP**

Mr. Farnsworth and Ms. Gray presented the Veterans Boulevard Corridor Extension Study request for proposals (RFP). This study will analyze alternatives and look at the feasibility of extending Veterans Blvd from 52nd Ave S to 100th Ave S. and will also look at future implications of such an extension to the existing roadway segment from 40th Ave S to 52nd Ave S. While this study will be studying Veterans Blvd from 40th Ave S to 100th Ave S, emphasis will be given on the section from 40th Ave S to 76th Ave S. In addition, the travel demand model will be utilized to assess the impacts of a Veterans Blvd extension (or non-extension) on Sheyenne St / CR 17, particularly from 40th Avenue S to 76th Avenue S.

With an overall budget of \$180,000, \$144,000 will be provided by Metro COG CPG funds and \$36,000 will be provided by local funds. The local funds will be provided by the Cities of Fargo and Horace with the exact breakdown currently being discussed.

It is important to note that due to the additional \$30,000 to be added to the study's budget, a UPWP amendment will need to be completed before entering into contract with a consultant. Subject to the addition of two additional planning documents as references for the plan, the TTC recommended Policy Board approval of the RFP at their February 13th meeting.

**MOTION: Approve the Veterans Boulevard Corridor Extension Study.**

**Mr. Gunkelman moved, seconded by Mr. Breittling**

**MOTION, passed. 9-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**4. Additional Business**

Ms. Gray noted that an expense was missed on the bills list, and wanted to clarify that the motion to approve the February bills list would include that expense.

**5. Adjourn**

**MOTION: Adjourn the 574th Meeting of the FM Metro COG Policy Board**

**Mr. Gunkelman moved, seconded by Mrs. Watson Curry.**

**MOTION, passed. 9-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

The 574th Meeting of the FM Metro COG Policy Board held Thursday, February 20, 2020 was adjourned at 5:23 pm.

**THE NEXT FM METRO COG POLICY BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD March 19, 2020, 4:00 P.M. AT THE FM METRO COG CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE NORTH 2ND STREET, CASE PLAZA SUITE 232, FARGO, ND.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Savanna Leach  
Executive Assistant