560th Meeting of the

**Agenda Item 3 Attachment 1**

FM Metro COG Transportation Technical Committee

Thursday, November 14, 2024 – 10:00 AM

Metro COG Conference Room





# CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am, on November 14, 2024 by Chair Griffith. A quorum was present.

# Approve the 560th TTC Meeting Agenda

Chair Griffith asked if there were any questions or changes to the November 14, 2024 TTC Meeting Agenda.

Motion: Approve the November 14, 2024 TTC Meeting Agenda.

Ms. Bommelman moved, seconded by Mr. Trowbridge.

MOTION, PASSED.

Motion carried unanimously.

# APPROVE October 10, 2024 TTC MEETING MINUTES

Chair Griffith asked if there were any questions or changes regarding the October 10, 2024 TTC Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Approve the October 10, 2024 TTC Minutes.

Mr. Trowbridge moved, seconded by Mr. Lorsung.

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously.

# Public Comment Opportunity

No public comments were provided or received.

# 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 12

Mr. Bervik presented Amendment 12 regarding the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A public notice was published on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, and comments accepted until 12:00 noon on Thursday, November 14, 2024. As of the date of the memo, no comments were received.

The proposed Amendment to the 2024-2027 TIP is as follows:

1. **Modification of Project 9220039:** NDDOT installation of high-tension cable median guardrail (2026). Moving the project year from 2024 to 2026.
2. **Modification of Project 9210005:** NDDOT installation of high-tension cable median guardrail (2026). Moving the project year from 2025 to 2026.
3. **Modification of Project 9231004:** NDDOT revising signals within West Fargo (2025). Updating Project Cost.
4. **Modification of Project 9240052:** NDDOT removing negative left turn offsets at various locations (2025). Updating Project Cost.
5. **New Project 0247073:** Metro COG flexing STBG funding to Metro COG Planning (2025).
6. **New Project 9242074:** NDDOT pavement marking at various locations throughout the Fargo District (2025).

Motion: Recommend approval of Amendment 12 of the Metro COG 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to the Policy Board.

Mr. Trowbridge moved, seconded by Mr. Gorden.

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously.

# 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 1

Mr. Bervik presented Amendment 1 regarding the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A public notice was published on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, and comments accepted until 12:00 noon on Thursday, November 14, 2024. As of the date of the memo, no comments were received.

The proposed amendment to the 2025-2028 TIP is as follows:

1. **Modification of Project 9231004:** NDDOT revising signals within West Fargo (2025). Updating Project Cost.
2. **Modification of Project 9240052:** NDDOT removing negative left turn offsets at various locations (2025). Updating Project Cost.
3. **Modification of Project 9210005:** NDDOT installation of high-tension cable median guardrail (2026). Moving the project year from 2025 to 2026.
4. **Modification of Project 9220039:** NDDOT installation of high-tension cable median guardrail (2026). Moving the project year from 2024 to 2026.
5. **New Project 0247073:** Metro COG flexing STBG funding to Metro COG Planning (2025).
6. **New Project 9242074:** NDDOT pavement marking at various locations throughout the Fargo District (2025).

Motion: Recommend approval of Amendment 1 of the Metro COG 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to the Policy Board contingent upon approval of the 2025-2028 TIP.

Mr. Gorden moved, seconded by Mr. McCamy.

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously.

# 2024 Metro Profile

A recorded power point was presented showing the latest details for the Metropolitan profile for 2024. The report is divided into five sections:

* Community Profile –
  + The population has increased by 3,957 for a total of 262,620.
  + Horace has the fastest growing population
  + Unemployment rate as of 2022 is 1.81% which is less than the United States (3.63%)
  + 10.2% work from home compared to 13.8% of the U.S.
* Roadways
  + Vehicle miles have increased by 5%
  + There were 60 TIP projects in 2023 with a total cost of $86,065,822
* Freight
  + Amtrak station ridership for 2023 was 17,545 an increase of 19.17%
* Bike & Pedestrian
  + There is 253 miles of bikeway paths
  + University Drive has the largest hourly pedestrian counts
* Transit
  + There were 1,295,317 MATBUS passengers in 2023

Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of the 2024 Metropolitan Profile.

Mr. Trowbridge moved, seconded by Mr. Lorsung.

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously.

# Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (SS4A) Final Report

# Mr. Altenburg stated SS4A is the first safety action plan aimed at reducing and eliminating serious injuries and fatalities on the region’s transportation network.

# Mr. Champa of SRF presented the information for the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan explaining the plan is intended to provide Metro COG and local jurisdictions with strategies to address safety risks on the roadway network using analyses of historic crash information. The plan establishes a vision of 55 % reduction of fatalities on roadways by 2040 and will be measured annually beginning in 2025.

# In the spring of 2025 Metro COG will be able to apply for grants with the US DOT.

# Typically, smaller projects under $10 million are more successful than larger projects. A narrative about fatal and serious injuries would need to be included. Mr. Zacher stated NDDOT needs to approve it before it can go to the next step.

# Mr. Trowbridge stated the plan has a lot of implementations, but the plan does not call out any specific projects. Mr. Champa responded that at the regional level that is the outcome, and the jurisdictions can do their analysis.

# Mr. Atkins questioned, as Fargo and West Fargo start tackling some of the areas does the High Injury Network get adjusted for other areas to help get funding for them also. Mr. Champa stated the US DOT wants the update completed annually. It can be accomplished with the Metro Profile. Mr. Lorsung stated a statement could be added regarding it will be done annually. Mr. Altenburg stated it may be a good idea to enlist the GIS committee.

Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of the Regional Comprehensive Safety Action Plan with the inclusion of an updated map and SS4A eligible map.

Mr. Trowbridge moved, seconded by Ms. Elshaug

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously.

# EV Readiness Study Final Report

# Mr. Altenburg presented the Electric Vehicle Readiness Study. The study is aimed at providing clarity and direction for increased EV adoption in the region.

# The study was done with the assistance of HDR. A working group was developed and area utility companies were involved. By 2035, there will be between 11,000 and 18,000 electric vehicles and between 1600 and 1900 public chargers in our community. Strategy workshops focused more on community charging.

# DOTs are tracking EV Registrations and EVSE installations. Mr. Hutchings stated that per ND state statute charging areas are not for parking. Ms. Safgren stated there are funding grants, with the application period starting October 14th and closing January 3rd.

Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of the EV Readiness Study

Ms. Bommelman moved, seconded by Mr. Steinhoff.

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously.

# Fargo Transportation Plan (FTP)

# Mr. Maddox presented the Fargo Transportation Plan. He stated the first FTP study started in 2021. The Fargo City Commission received it last month and approved the adoption.

# The plan is comprised of four different areas and guides how the infrastructure is completed. The plan takes policy and information from other plans and combines it into one, including road infrastructure, land use, and bicycle needs.

Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of the Final Fargo Transportation Plan.

Mr. Gordon moved, seconded by Mr. Trowbridge.

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously

# Agency Updates

# NDDOT - Will Hutchings will be our new NDDOT representative

# MnDOT – 2025-2028 STIP plan is approved and open

# Dilworth Planning – Two open houses next week for the 8th Avenue and 15th Avenue Studies

# Additional Business

# Mr. Griffith welcomed new Concordia College representative Sarah Orr who was attending her first TTC meeting in person. He reminded everyone that TA applications are due tomorrow. He also noted that Chelsea Levorsen was leaving Metro COG to take a planning position with the City of Fargo.

# Adjourn

The 560th Regular Meeting of the TTC was adjourned on November 14, 2024 at 11:50 AM.

**Mr. Atkinson moved to Adjourn; Mr. Trowbridge seconded**

# THE NEXT FM METRO COG TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD DECEMBER 12, 2024, 10:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Brumbaugh

Office Manager