

641st Policy Board Meeting
Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments
Thursday, April 17, 2025 – 4:00 PM

Members Present:

Chuck	Hendrickson	Moorhead City Council
Denise	Kolpack	Fargo City Commission
Stephanie	Landstrom	Horace City Council
Nicole	Mattson	Moorhead City Council
Sebastian	McDougall	Moorhead City Council
Jenny	Mongeau	Clay County Commission
Brad	Olson	West Fargo City Commission
Dave	Piepkorn	Fargo City Commission
Mike	Reitz	MATBUS Representative
Dave	Steichen	Dilworth City Council
John	Strand	Fargo City Commission
Joel	Vettel	Cass County Commission

Members Absent:

Rory	Jorgensen	West Fargo City Commission
Aaron	Murra	NDDOT Fargo District Engineer (<i>ex-officio</i>)
Thomas	Schmidt	Fargo Planning Commission
Maranda	Tasa	Fargo Planning Commission
Michelle	Turnberg	Fargo City Commission
Shiloh	Wahl	MnDOT District 4 Engineer (<i>ex-officio</i>)

Others Present:

Adam	Altenburg	Metro COG
Karissa	Beierle Pavek	Metro COG
Paul	Bervik	Metro COG
Angela	Brumbaugh	Metro COG
Dan	Farnsworth	Metro COG
Ben	Griffith	Metro COG
Aiden	Jung	Metro COG
Michael	Maddox	Metro COG
Will	Hutchings	NDDOT - Local Government Division
Luke	Champa	SRF Engineering
Paul	Morris	SRF Engineering

- 1a. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER, WELCOME, AND INTRODUCTIONS, convened**
The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM, on Thursday, April 17, 2025 by Chair Mongeau, noting a quorum was present. Introductions were made.

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

Chair Mongeau asked for approval for the overall agenda.

MOTION: Approve the contents of the Overall Agenda of the April 17, 2025 Policy Board Meeting.

Mr. Olson moved, seconded by Ms. Kolpack

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

1c. Past Meeting Minutes, approved

Chair Mongeau asked for approval of the Minutes of the March 20, 2025 Meeting.

MOTION: Approve the March 20, 2025 Policy Board Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Kolpack moved, seconded by Mr. McDougall.

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

1d. Monthly Bills, approved

Chair Mongeau asked for approval of the April 2025 Bills as listed on Attachment 1d.

MOTION: Approve the April 2025 Bills List.

Mr. Piepkorn moved, seconded by Ms. Mattson.

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Mongeau asked for approval of Items a-b on the Consent Agenda.

a. March 2025 Month End Report

b. Metro COG 1st Quarter Report

MOTION: Approve Items a-b on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Peipkorn moved, seconded by Ms. Kolpack.

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

3. REGULAR AGENDA

3a. Public Comment Opportunity

No public comments were made or received.

3b. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Presentation

Mr. Maddox presented a brief overview and introduced Luke Champa and Paul Morris with SRF Engineering.

Mr. Morris discussed refinement to the MTP goals, the MTP is data driven elements of the plan, and talked about the Congestion Management Process (CMP), specifically how the linkage between CMP requirements and the MTP was reinforced.

Mr. Champa presented details on information that was added to the plan based upon federal, state, and local comments:

- Comment/response was updated to include those comments received and addressed pursuant to the new approval process
- The MTP was checked for ADA accessibility, and minor formatting was completed
- Chapters 1-5 have been updated in order to reinforce Metro COG's policy positions, to reinforce performance-based planning and programming methodology, and to indicate linkages to ITS and CMP elements.
- Chapter 2 shows existing conditions and performance. This chapter was updated to include baseline performance as well as to simplify graphics.
- Chapter 3 has objectives and goals to highlight policy objectives more clearly
- Performed high level analysis on programs, strategy, and policy
- Environmental Mitigation efforts were solidified and explained throughout the document.
- Appendix H outlines the regulations and agencies, including official letters to regulatory agencies
- Updates to the MTP, in regards to the CMP, include policy positions reflective of the low levels of congestion experienced in the FM Region.
- Comments received pursuant to the comment period were expressly stated to the Policy Board, and also included how those comments were addressed.

Questions and comments discussed

- Does the plan include railroad speed? This plan doesn't get into that level of detail.
- Is there any collaboration with ND Safety Council? Metro COG works with the Vision Zero Program in North Dakota and the Toward Zero Deaths Program in Minnesota.

- Does the congestion plan include air traffic?
- There is so much useful information, would like to see us step up the use of the document.
- Members of the Policy Board felt there were many opportunities given for public comments and were impressed with everyone having the opportunity to be included.

Metro COG staff answered questions and discussed elements that were of interest to members of the Policy Board. Metro COG also discussed the process that had led to the MTP updates and the review process that had been undertaken by its federal, state, and local partners. After discussion, the Policy Board stated that they were comfortable with the information in the plan and felt that staff had addressed all of the concerns that had been raised. Members of the Board also commented that this comfortability was aided by the comment/response table that had been provided to them.

3c. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Public Input Opportunity

Chair Mongeau asked if there were any members of the public who would like to comment?

Will Hutchings, from the NDDOT Local Government Division, stated that some oversight agencies have not seen all responses to their comments, especially FHWA-ND, related to enhanced environmental mitigation.

3d. Updated 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

MOTION: Approval of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, understanding that staff has addressed comments as stated in its presentation to the Policy Board, and any additional comments or corrections will be made and included addressing comments from the Federal Highway Administration regarding the environmental section.

Mr. Olson moved, seconded by Ms. Kolpack.

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

3e. 2025-20258 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 5

Mr. Bervik presented Amendment 4 regarding the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A public notice was published on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, which advertised the public meeting, detailed how to request additional information, and provided information

on how to provide public comments regarding the proposed amendment. The public notice advertised that public comments will be accepted until 12:00 noon on Thursday, April 10, 2025. As of the writing of this memo, no written comments have been received.

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

1. **Modification of Project 3240009:** West Fargo 2025 purchase of electric vehicles (N/A). Federal funding removed by Policy Board in February.
2. **Modification of Project 9240031:** NDDOT spall repair of I-29 north bound traffic(2025). NDDOT is removing the project.
3. **Modification of Project 9240033:** NDDOT spall repair of I-29 south bound traffic(2025). NDDOT is removing the project.
4. **Modification of Project 3254049:** West Fargo reconstruction of shared use path and pedestrian ramps of 8th Street West (2025). Additional 2025 TA funding (+ \$244,964.83).
5. **Modification of Project 9255050:** NDDOT installation of Weight in Motion (WIM) and Auto Traffic Recording (ATR) as well as preventative maintenance (2025).

MOTION: Approval of Amendment 5 to the Metro COG 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Mr. Piepkorn moved, seconded by Ms. Kolpack

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

3f. 2025 Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Report

Mr. Bervik presented information on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Report. It included the manual and automated counts and gives data regarding bicycle and pedestrian activity.

Information can be found on Metro COG's website.

Information only

4. Additional Business

- Mr. Griffith reported that he was working on a budget amendment to the 2025 UPWP that would be on the May 15 agenda.

- He also reported that he had received official notice that Metro COG would be receiving \$170,000 in unused 2024 CPG funds which would be included for use in the 2026-2027 UPWP.
- Mr. Griffith stated that he had started working on the 2026-2027 UPWP and was reaching out to local jurisdiction staff to discuss potential projects and other needs.
- Mr. Piepkorn and Ms. Kolpack referenced funding from the North Dakota state legislature for transit.
- Mr. Strand asked about the Metro COG recreation study for the Diversion.

5. Adjourn

The 641st Meeting of the FM Metro COG Policy Board held Thursday, April 17, 2025 was adjourned by Chair Mongeau at 5:16 PM.

THE NEXT FM METRO COG POLICY BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025 at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Brumbaugh
Office Manager