

**500th Meeting of the  
FM Metro COG Transportation Technical Committee  
Thursday, September 12, 2019 – 10:00 am  
Metro COG Conference Room**

**Members Present:**

Jonathan	Atkins	City of Moorhead Traffic Engineering
Jason	Benson	Cass County Highway Engineering
James	Dahlman	Interstate Engineering/City of Dilworth (alternate for Russ Sahr)
Cindy	Gray	Metro COG
Robin	Huston	City of Moorhead Planning
Michael	Johnson	NDDOT – Local Government Division
Kim	Lipetsky	Fargo Cass Public Health
Jaclynn	Maahs	Concordia College
Peyton	Mastera	City of Dilworth (alternate for Stan Thurlow)
Aaron	Nelson	Fargo City Planning
Mary	Safgren	MnDOT – District 4
Russ	Sahr	City of Horace Planning
Jordan	Smith	MATBUS (alternate for Julie Bommelman)
Tim	Solberg	City of West Fargo Planning
Justin	Sorum	Clay County Engineering (alternate for David Overbo)
Tom	Soucy	Cass County (alternate for Barrett Voigt)
Lori	Van Beek	City of Moorhead, MATBUS
Mark	Wolter	Freight Representative, Midnite Express

**Members Absent:**

Julie	Bommelman	City of Fargo, MATBUS (alternate present)
Jeremy	Gorden	City of Fargo Transportation Engineering
David	Overbo	Clay County Engineering (alternate present)
Dustin	Scott	City of West Fargo Engineering
Brit	Stevens	NDSU – Transportation Manager
Stan	Thurlow	City of Dilworth Planning (alternate present)
Barrett	Voigt	Cass County Planning (alternate present)

**Others Present:**

Adam	Altenburg	Metro COG
Luke	Champa	Metro COG
Brenda	Derrig	City of Fargo
Dan	Farnsworth	Metro COG
Ryan	Frolek	Moore Engineering
Josh	Hinds	Houston Engineering
Matt	Kinsella	Apex Engineering Group
Andrew	Krog	Bolton & Menk
Savanna	Leach	Metro COG
Michael	Maddox	Metro COG
Brent	Muscha	Apex Engineering Group
Anna	Pierce	Metro COG

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am, on September 12, 2019 by Chair Gray. A quorum was present.

**2. Approve the 500<sup>th</sup> TTC Meeting Agenda**

Chair Gray asked if there were any questions or changes to the 500<sup>th</sup> TTC Meeting Agenda.

**Motion: Approve the 500<sup>th</sup> TTC Meeting Agenda.  
Mr. Sahr moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter  
MOTION, PASSED. 12-1  
Motion carried unanimously.**

**3. APPROVE July 11, 2019 TTC MEETING MINUTES**

Chair Gray asked if there were any questions or changes to the July 11, 2019 TTC Meeting Minutes.

**Motion: Approve the July 11, 2019 TTC Minutes.  
Ms. Lipetzky moved, seconded by Mr. Nelson  
MOTION, PASSED. 12-0  
Motion carried unanimously**

**4. Public Comment Opportunity**

No public comments were made or received.

**No MOTION**

**\*Ms. Van Beek joined the meeting at 10:09 a.m.**

**\*Mr. Atkins joined the meeting at 10:11 a.m.**

**\*Mr. Benson joined the meeting at 10:12 a.m.**

**\*Ms. Huston joined the meeting at 10:27 a.m.**

**5. Consolidated Planning Grant Funding Scenarios**

Ms. Gray presented CPG funding scenarios for the three North Dakota metropolitan planning organizations. A discussion between the MPOs and the local government liaison from NDDOT, Michael Johnson, took place earlier this month as the Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MPO has hit the end of the open grant for funding. Per Federal mandate, only three funding grants can be open at one time. Metro COG and BisMan have worked diligently to use funds from prior grant years so those grants can be closed up and use open grants for important transportation planning projects. Ms. Gray explained that the Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MPO, which has approximately 20 percent of ND's MPO population, feels that their CPG funding levels result in limited study budgets and limited consultant proposals. As a result, the GF/EGF MPO has asked for the formula to be revisited. Different scenarios were discussed, including changing the base distribution to each MPO. Ms. Gray directed the TTC to several scenarios attached to their memo. Based on funding usage and planning needs, Ms. Gray is recommending no change in the funding formula at this time. TTC members discussed the region's population growth and current percentage of population, which is over 51 percent, versus the percentage used in the current formula of just under 50 percent.

Mr. Nelson asked if relative costs of operation can be considered. Ms. Gray responded that it would be a very difficult comparison, because each MPO has different circumstances, with the BisMan MPO operating out of Bismarck City Hall, the GF/EGF

MPO operating out of both Grand Forks and East Grand Forks City Halls, and different, subjective approaches to the same types of studies, such as the MTP, TIP, etc.

Mr. Solberg brought up the Fargo-Moorhead area's larger population, and larger number of jurisdictions served, and the overall number of tax-payers benefitting from the formula to be used for consideration. Mr. Atkins asked that we bring forward a recommendation to the Policy Board based on technical facts, and leave politics to the Policy Board. Mr. Solberg stated his support for Scenario E, which bases the funding formula simply on population percentage, eliminating the base amount for each MPO. Mr. Johnson added that the NDDOT reserves the right to change the funding formula, regardless of the MPO decision.

**Motion: Recommend Scenario E for the CPG funding scenario, with the caveat to share any unused funds, should the need arise.**

**Mr. Solberg moved, seconded by Mr. Benson.**

**MOTION, PASSED. 15-1-1. (Mr. Nelson voted no, Mr. Johnson abstained)**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**6. Cass County Road 18 Extension Study**

Mr. Farnsworth and Mr. Hinds presented the final report for the Cass County Road 18 Extension Study.

**Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of the Cass County Road 18 Extension Study Final Report.**

**Mr. Benson moved, seconded by Mr. Solberg.**

**MOTION, PASSED. 17-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**7. 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue South Corridor Study**

Mr. Farnsworth presented the 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue South Corridor Study final report.

**Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of the 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue South Corridor Study final report.**

**Mr. Sahr moved, seconded by Mr. Mastera.**

**MOTION, PASSED. 17-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**8. US10/75 Corridor Study Contract Amendment**

Mr. Maddox presented Amendment #1 to the US10/75 Corridor Study contract. The amendment pushes the project schedule until December 31, 2019.

**Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of Amendment #1 to the US10/75 Corridor Study contract.**

**Ms. Huston moved, seconded by Mr. Soucy.**

**MOTION, PASSED. 17-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**9. Horace Comprehensive and Transportation Plan Contract Amendment**

Mr. Altenburg presented Amendment #1 to the Horace Comprehensive and Transportation Plan contract. The amendment extends the contract to the first quarter of 2020. He explained that the consultant needed to change the project manager due to Joel Paulson's new position with the Diversion Authority. Mr. Sahr stated that Horace is not happy, but feels they don't have a choice other than to extend the schedule.

**Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of Amendment #1 to the US10/75 Corridor Study contract.**

**Mr. Sahr moved, seconded by Mr. Mastera.**

**MOTION, PASSED. 17-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**10. 2019-2020 UPWP Amendment #4**

Ms. Gray presented Amendment #4 to the 2019-2020 UPWP. The amendment allows for the transfer of 2020 funds budgeted for the Remodeling and Furnishing project to 2019 for the fit-up of conference room AV systems. Local funds in an existing account will be used to cover the local match. Ms. Gray stated that she asked for input from the Executive Committee earlier this month, and they expressed strong interest in getting the project done rather than dragging it out.

**Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of Amendment #4 to the 2019-2020 UPWP.**

**Mr. Atkins moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter.**

**MOTION, PASSED. 17-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**11. 2019-2022 TIP Amendment #4**

Mr. Champa presented Amendment #4 to the 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program. The amendment was proposed by NDDOT for the addition of I-29 median crossovers at the Wild Rice River in preparation for possible structural and/or geotechnical repairs.

**Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of Amendment #4 to the 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).**

**Mr. Solberg moved, seconded by Mr. Sahr.**

**MOTION, PASSED. 17-0.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**12. 2020-2023 TIP Final Draft**

Mr. Champa presented the final draft of the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program.

Mr. Solberg asked in the future if there could be meetings with the jurisdictions to discuss individual CIPs and the TIPs.

A public hearing was opened. No comments were received. The Public Hearing was closed.

**Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of the final draft of the 2020-2023 TIP.**

**Mr. Atkins moved, seconded by Mr. Soucy.**

**MOTION, PASSED. 17-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**\*Mr. Mastera left the meeting at 11:45 a.m.**

**\*Mr. Sahr left the meeting at 11:46 a.m. – Mr. Dahlman stepped in as his alternate**

**13. ATAC Work Order – Intersection Traffic Data Collection**

Ms. Gray presented the Intersection Traffic Data Collection work order.

**Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of ATAC Work Order – Intersection Traffic Data Collection.**

**Mr. Solberg moved, seconded by Mr. Benson.**

**MOTION, PASSED. 16-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**\*Ms. Lipetzky left the meeting at 11:51 a.m.**

**14. ATAC Work Order – ATSPM Setup Fargo**

Ms. Gray presented the ATSPM Setup for the City of Fargo. Mr. Atkins asked if the City of Fargo and ATAC could share results and feedback with the TTC and the other jurisdictions, and potentially include others in the training. Ms. Gray responded that she feels that information and training should definitely be offered to others, and that the results should be presented to TTC.

**Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of ATAC Work Order – ATSPM Setup Fargo**

**Mr. Atkins moved, seconded by Mr. Wolter.**

**MOTION, PASSED. 15-0**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**\*Mr. Wolter left the meeting at 11:54 a.m.**

**15. ALL-Aboard MN**

Ms. Gray briefly summarized information provided to Metro COG by All-Aboard MN, which is a grassroots organization aimed at bringing a second passenger train, during day time hours, to Fargo. The organization is holding public input meetings at the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**16. Agency Updates**

Lori Van Beek stated that the MATBUS I-go-Eco Challenge kicks off September 16, 2019.

**17. Additional Business**

Ms. Pierce is working on the 2019 Metro Profile, and TTC members should look for her e-mail containing the draft document in the coming weeks.

**18. Adjourn**

The 500<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the TTC was adjourned on September 12, 2019 at 11:57 a.m.

**THE NEXT FM METRO COG TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD October 10, 2019, 10:00 A.M. AT THE METRO COG CONFERENCE ROOM (1 – 2<sup>ND</sup> ST N, CASE PLAZA 232, FARGO, ND).**

Respectfully Submitted,

Savanna Leach  
Executive Assistant