

**527th Meeting of the  
FM Metro COG Transportation Technical Committee  
Thursday, March 10, 2022 – 10:00 am  
Metro COG Conference Room**

**Members Present:**

Jonathan	Atkins	City of Moorhead Traffic Engineering
Jason	Benson	Cass County Highway Engineering
Julie	Bommelman	City of Fargo, MATBUS
Nicole	Crutchfield	City of Fargo Planning
Jeremy	Gorden	City of Fargo Transportation Engineering
Cindy	Gray	Metro COG
Robin	Huston	City of Moorhead Planning
Matthew	Jacobson	Clay County Planning
Peyton	Mastera	City of Dilworth Admin (alternate for Don Lorsung)
Aaron	Nelson	West Fargo City Planning
Seth	Pfeifer	Clay County Engineering (alternate for Justin Sorum)
Grace	Puppe	Cass County Planning
Mary	Safgren	MnDOT – District 4
Russ	Sahr	City of Horace Planning
Mark	Wolter	Freight Representative, Midnite Express
Andrew	Wrucke	City of West Fargo Engineering
Wayne	Zacher	NDDOT – Local Government Division

**Members Absent:**

Don	Lorsung	City of Dilworth (alternate present)
Joe	Raso	GFMEDC
Justin	Sorum	Clay County Engineering (alternate present)
Brit	Stevens	NDSU – Transportation Manager
Lori	Van Beek	City of Moorhead, MATBUS

**Others Present:**

Adam	Altenburg	Metro COG
Dan	Bergerson	HDR
Angie	Bolstad	Stantec
Jaron	Capps	Metro COG
Luke	Champa	Metro COG
Jim	Dahlman	City of Horace/Interstate Engineering
Ari	Del Rosario	Metro COG
Sean	Dickinson	PPG
Dan	Farnsworth	Metro COG
Sharijad	Hasan	ATAC/UGPTI
Matthew	Huettl	HDR
Will	Kerns	Ulteig
Savanna	Leach	Metro COG
Michael	Maddox	Metro COG
Scott	Middaugh	KLJ
Emily	Peterson	SRF
Anna	Pierce	MnDOT
Tom	Soucy	Cass County Highway Engineering
Kristen	Sperry	FHWA
Steve	Strack	Houston Engineering
Ranae	Tunison	FTA

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am, on March 10, 2022 by Chair Gray. A quorum was present.

**2. Approve the 527 TTC Meeting Agenda**

Chair Gray asked if there were any questions or changes to the 527 TTC Meeting Agenda.

**Motion: Approve the 527 TTC Meeting Agenda.  
Mr. Sahr moved, seconded by Mr. Atkins  
MOTION, PASSED.  
Motion carried unanimously.**

**3. APPROVE February 10, 2022 TTC MEETING MINUTES**

Chair Gray asked if there were any questions or changes to the February 10, 2022 TTC Meeting Minutes.

**Motion: Approve the February 10, 2022 TTC Minutes.  
Mr. Atkins moved, seconded by Ms. Safgren  
MOTION, PASSED  
Motion carried unanimously.**

**4. Public Comment Opportunity**

No public comments were made or received.

**5. Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Report**

Mr. Farnsworth presented the 2022 Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Report. Mr. Atkins asked how an automated counter could be added. Mr. Farnsworth said that another would need to be purchased and then it depends on if a loop is warranted for the location as well. Pricing could range anywhere from \$5,000 to \$15,000 depending on counter model and installation. Mr. Atkins said that a potential location to consider for the future would be Fargo/Moorhead NP/Center Ave bridge for cross-river bicycle and pedestrian counts.

**6. 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #2**

Mr. Champa presented amendment #2 to the 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The proposed amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP is as follows:

1. Addition of Project 3222001: City of West Fargo rehabilitation project on 9th St E from 13th Ave E to Main Ave (2022). The total project cost is \$584,000 of which \$386,710 (66%) is Federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) funds and \$197,290 (34%) is local funds.
2. Addition of Project 9222002: NDDOT Transportation Management Center (TMC) and Smart Corridor (ITS) planning project on I-29 from the SD Border to the Canadian Border (2022). The total project cost is \$1,100,000 of which \$550,000 (50%) is Federal Rebuilding American

Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant funds and \$550,000 is state funds.

A public notice was published in the Forum of Fargo-Moorhead on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, advertising the public hearing, how to request more information, and detailed public comment information such as where to access the information on Metro COG's website and where to send written comments regarding the proposed amendment. The public notice advertised that public comments will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Thursday, March 17, 2022. No written comments have been received.

**Motion: Recommend approval of Amendment #2 to the 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program to the Policy Board.**

**Mr. Sahr moved, seconded by Ms. Crutchfield**

**MOTION, PASSED**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **7. Veterans Boulevard Corridor Extension Study and Network Implementation Analysis Amendment**

Mr. Farnsworth presented Mr. Middaugh as the project engineer from the consulting team at KLJ. Mr. Middaugh presented the finalized amendment to the Veterans Boulevard Corridor Extension Study. An amendment to the project was added in August of 2021 to analyze phasing implementation of a Veterans Boulevard extension as well as analysis and phasing other corridor improvements in the vicinity of Veterans Boulevard. The final report, including the work included in the amended scope of work, documents the study of a corridor vision, suggested improvements to the existing corridor, extension alignment and corridor alternatives, connection to Deer Creek from Veterans Boulevard and 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue S, integration of active transportation, as well as public input and key stakeholder engagement.

The Fargo City Commission, Horace City Council, and Cass County Commission all approved the study at their respective meetings.

**Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of the Veterans Boulevard Corridor Extension Study and Network Implementation Analysis Amendment**

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

**MOTION, PASSED**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **8. Future Planning Study Areas**

Ms. Gray asked the participating jurisdictions for projects to be programmed into the 2023 budget and the 2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), as the draft budget is in progress and usually finalized in May/June. The projects will need to address and incorporate the IJJA Planning Emphasis Areas. The planning emphasis areas of the IJJA include:

- Tackling the Climate Crisis – Transition to a Clean Energy, Resilient Future
- Equity and Justice<sup>40</sup> in Transportation Planning
- Complete Streets

- Public Involvement
- Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET)/U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) Coordination
- Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA) Coordination
- Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) (\*MnDOT ONLY)
- Data in Transportation Planning

In addition to the 2050 MTP Update, which is a required project, needs identified so far include the Clay County Heartland Trail Alignment Analysis, TDM Review Study, Regional Traffic Signal System Master Plan, Electric Vehicle Readiness Study, Traffic Calming Alternatives Study, East Dilworth/Moorhead North/South Arterial Corridor, and Vehicular Bridge Crossing Feasibility Study. Other projects also brought forward a one-way pair corridor study for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, as well as 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> streets in south Moorhead. As well as a Traffic Calming study for 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue South in Moorhead. An East Dilworth/Moorhead North/South Arterial Corridor Study, Rails to Trails Study – Moorhead to Kragnes, 15<sup>th</sup> Street/I-94/Sheyenne Diversion Overpass Study, Regional Pavement Management Study, Access to Downtown from Interstate Highways, CSAH 52 – Bike/Ped path over I-94, and the 20<sup>th</sup> Street S/I-94 Interchange.

Mr. Gorden asked if 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North Fargo has been studied as a Red River crossing in the past, and the feasibility of a river crossing into Moorhead there, versus the rebuild on North Broadway. Ms. Gray responded that she did not believe so, and Mr. Atkins said that idea could be looked into.

Mr. Atkins and Ms. Huston asked that the one-way pair studies be discussed internally at Moorhead before moving forward. They requested that the traffic calming study for 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue South be removed, as well as the Kragnes Rails to Trails Study, which had been added in the past, but now the rail road tracks are being used again.

Several other questions and comments were raised, and Ms. Gray stated she would not bring this list forward to the Policy Board this month, and would instead visit with individual jurisdictions who have raised the most question and concerns about future project needs and suggestions, and bring this back to the TTC in April.

With reference to the IJJA Planning Emphasis Areas, Mr. Zacher noted that NDDOT does not currently have a Planning and Environment Linkages (PEL) process in place, but MnDOT does.

## 9. **Agency Updates**

Fargo- 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Construction update – bids were high and the project will be rebid.

Fargo/NDDOC (commerce) – Upcoming HUD meeting

Ms. Gray noted that Mr. Wolter was unable to be here today and that he recently retired. As such, has indicated he will likely resign from the TTC as the freight representative, and Metro COG will initiate a process to seek out another freight representative.

**10. Additional Business**

Ms. Safgren asked the committee to take the MnDOT District 4 Freight Plan survey, and to share the survey with other interested parties.

**11. Adjourn**

The 527 Regular Meeting of the TTC was adjourned on March 10, 2022 at 12:10 p.m.

**THE NEXT FM METRO COG TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD April 14, 2022, 10:00 A.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Savanna Leach  
Executive Assistant