

**605th Policy Board Meeting
Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments
Thursday, August 18, 2022 – 4:00 pm
Zoom Web Conference**

Members Present:

Amanda	George	West Fargo City Commission
Matthew	Gilbertson	Moorhead City Council
John	Gunkelman	Fargo Planning Commission
Chuck	Hendrickson	Moorhead City Council
Denise	Kolpack	Fargo City Commission
Steve	Lindaas	Moorhead City Council
Jenny	Mongeau	Clay County Commission
Julie	Nash	Dilworth City Council
Brad	Olson	West Fargo City Commission
Dave	Piepkorn	Fargo City Commission
Arlette	Preston	Fargo City Commission
Mary	Scherling	Cass County Commission
Rocky	Schneider	Fargo Planning Commission
Scott	Stofferahn	Fargo Planning Commission
Maranda	Tasa	Fargo Planning Commission
Bob	Walton	NDDOT – Fargo District (ex-officio)

Members Absent:

John	Strand	Fargo City Commission
Jeff	Trudeau	Horace City Council
Shiloh	Wahl	MnDOT – District 4 (ex-officio)

Others Present:

Adam	Altenburg	Metro COG
Paul	Bervik	Metro COG
Jaron	Capps	Metro COG
Ari	Del Rosario	Metro COG
Dan	Farnsworth	Metro COG
Savanna	Leach	Metro COG
Michael	Maddox	Metro COG
Ayden	Schaffler	Metro COG

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm, on August 18, 2022 by Chair Piepkorn, noting a quorum was present. Introductions were made.

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

Chair Piepkorn asked for approval for the overall agenda.

MOTION: Approve the contents of the Overall Agenda of the August 18, 2022 Policy Board Meeting.

Mr. Lindaas moved, seconded by Mr. Gunkelman

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

1c. Past Meeting Minutes, approved

Chair Piepkorn asked for approval of the Minutes of the July 21, 2022 Meeting.

MOTION: Approve the July 21, 2022 Policy Board Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Olson moved, seconded by Ms. Mongeau

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

1d. Monthly Bills, approved

Chair Piepkorn asked for approval of the August 2022 Bills as listed on Attachment 1d.

MOTION: Approve the August 2022 Bills List.

Mr. Lindaas moved, seconded by Mr. Hendrickson

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Piepkorn asked for approval of Items a-d on the Consent Agenda.

- a. July Month End Report
- b. Freight Representative for TTC
- c. Mapleton Transportation Alternatives Grant Application

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

Ms. Preston moved, seconded by Mr. Gunkelman

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

3. REGULAR AGENDA

3a. Public Comment Opportunity

No public comments were made or received.

3b. 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #7

Mr. Del Rosario presented 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment #7. A public notice was published in The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead on Wednesday, August 10, 2022, which advertised the public meeting, detailed how to request more information, and provided information on how to make public comment regarding the proposed amendment. The public notice advertised that public comments will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Thursday, August 18, 2022. No comments were received.

The proposed amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP is as follows:

- 1. **Modification of Project 4200016:** City of Fargo reconstruction of 52nd Avenue S (2023). The total project cost increased by 100% from \$7,000,000 to \$13,777,091 of which Surface Transportation Block Grant Program - Urban (STBGP-U) funds of \$4,000,000 were added to the project for FY 2023. Local funding for the project increased from \$2,000,000 to \$4,777,091.

Mr. Gilbertson asked if these funds were being used in 2022 or 2023, Mr. Del Rosario said that they are allocated for 2022, but will be carried over into 2023.

Ms. Preston asked why there was such a large increase in project cost. Mr. Maddox explained that the project was programmed a few years ago, and the increased cost and inflation have affected supply pricing.

Chair Piepkorn asked for any public comments. No comments were received.

MOTION: Approve Amendment #7 to the 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Olson moved, seconded by Mr. Gunkelman.

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

3c. 2021-2022 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment #5

Mr. Maddox presented amendment #5 to the 2021-2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The purpose of this agenda item is to discuss a proposed amendment to the 2021-2022 UPWP. The amendment includes the following change:

- The reallocation of unused budget from five projects toward the purchase of three Eco-Counter Pyro Box counters, installation materials and custom paint to allow the boxes to be as unnoticeable as possible to the traveling public.

Three of Metro COG's recent project contracts with ATAC were originally estimated at higher amounts than the budgets that were ultimately included in the scope of work and contract. The 2021 amendment for the Veterans Boulevard Corridor Study also resulted in a small amount of unspent funds.

The purpose of reallocating the funds is to purchase three bicycle/pedestrian counting devices which is anticipated to cost approximately \$10,075.00 (including shipping and installation materials).

Mr. Lindaas asked what will happen with the old counters. Mr. Farnsworth said the old counters being replaced are not in working order.

MOTION: Approve Amendment #5 to the 2021-2022 UPWP, to use \$10,075 in unused funds from other projects to purchase three bicycle and pedestrian counters and associated installation materials.

Mr. Lindaas moved, seconded by Ms. Kolpack.

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

3d. 2050 Demographic Forecast Update

Mr. Altenburg presented an update to the 2050 Demographic Forecast Update. The project is almost wrapped up, with a final report submitted by the consulting firm. Metro COG staff found missing components and necessary figures, and is working to complete the final report for Policy Board approval. Staff hopes to get the final draft to the Policy Board before the September meeting.

Chair Piepkorn asked if the Demographic Forecast uses the updated census for their information. Mr. Altenburg said most of the information actually came from the US American Communities survey, as the 2020 Census has not yet been finalized.

3e. 2023-2026 DRAFT Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Del Rosario said that the Draft 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program is available for review, and is open for public comments until September 15, where it will be approved at the Policy Board meeting.

There will be a Public Open House held August 22, 2022 at the Downtown Fargo Public Library from 5-7pm.

The full TIP can be viewed and accept comments on the Metro COG website as well.

3f. SS4A Action Plan Grant Application Update

Mr. Altenburg presented an update to the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) action plan grant application. If awarded, the goal of this comprehensive safety action plan will be to develop a holistic, well-defined strategy document that will prevent roadway fatalities and serious injuries in the region through both policies and specific construction projects. Up to \$1 billion in SS4A grant funding will be available through the Department of Transportation in FY 2022.

The action plan grant application will be evaluated on the following three major criteria: safety impact, equity, and additional safety considerations. The application will include a brief budget summary that provides a high-level overview of estimated project costs, as organized by task. Metro COG anticipates that the total study amount will be \$250,000, with \$200,000 being sought through SS4A and the remainder coming from local jurisdictions and potentially other sources.

Metro COG is tentatively planning to reach out to jurisdictions the week of August 15 to review the draft application and to solicit feedback at that time. The deadline for grant submissions is Thursday, September 15 at 4:00 PM.

It is anticipated that grant recipients will be notified by the end of 2022 or early 2023 on whether they have been awarded a grant or not. However, there is no exact timeline for when FY 2022 SS4A funding would be obligated via signed grant agreements. The Department of Transportation states that it expects to obligate SS4A award funding within 12 months after awards have been announced. This timeline would affect whether Metro COG and/or regional jurisdictions would be able to apply for implementation grants for FY 2023, or would have to wait until FY 2024.

To highlight joint support for the action plan grant application, Metro COG is asking that one Policy Board member from each member jurisdiction, as well as

Metro COG's Executive Director, be a signatory to a letter of support. Metro COG will have this letter of support ready for review prior to the meeting.

MOTION: Approve a Letter of Support signed by member jurisdictions for a comprehensive safety action plan under the SS4A program.

Mr. Lindaas moved, seconded by Ms. Preston

MOTION, passed

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Additional Business

No additional business.

5. Adjourn

The 605th Meeting of the FM Metro COG Policy Board held Thursday, August 18, 2022 was adjourned at 4:57 pm.

THE NEXT FM METRO COG POLICY BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD September 15, 2022, 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Savanna Leach
Executive Assistant