

**523rd Meeting of the
FM Metro COG Transportation Technical Committee
Wednesday, November 10, 2021 – 10:00 am
Metro COG Conference Room**

Members Present:

Jonathan	Atkins	City of Moorhead Traffic Engineering
Julie	Bommelman	City of Fargo, MATBUS
Maegin	Elshaug	City of Fargo Planning
Jeremy	Gorden	City of Fargo Transportation Engineering
Cindy	Gray	Metro COG
Matthew	Jacobson	Clay County Planning
Michael	Johnson	NDDOT (alternate for Wayne Zacher)
Peyton	Mastera	City of Dilworth Administration
Grace	Puppe	Cass County Planning
Mary	Safgren	MnDOT – District 4
Russ	Sahr	City of Horace Planning
Tim	Solberg	City of West Fargo Planning
Justin	Sorum	Clay County Engineering
Tom	Soucy	Cass County Highway (alternate for Jason Benson)
Brit	Stevens	NDSU – Transportation Manager
Lori	Van Beek	City of Moorhead, MATBUS
Mark	Wolter	Freight Representative, Midnite Express
Andrew	Wrucke	City of West Fargo Engineering

Members Absent:

Jason	Benson	Cass County Highway Engineering (alternate present)
Robin	Huston	City of Moorhead Planning
Kim	Lipetsky	Fargo Cass Public Health
Joe	Raso	GFMEDC
Wayne	Zacher	NDDOT – Local Government Division (alternate present)

Others Present:

Adam	Altenburg	Metro COG
Angela	Bolstad	Stantec
Tim	Burkhart	Alliant Engineering
Jaron	Capps	Metro COG
Luke	Champa	Metro COG
Ari	Del Rosario	Metro COG
Brenda	Derrig	City of Fargo Engineering
Dan	Farnsworth	Metro COG
Matthew	Huettl	HDR, Inc.
Matt	Kinsella	Apex Engineering
Savanna	Leach	Metro COG
Don	Lorsung	City of Dilworth
Michael	Maddox	Metro COG
Brent	Muscha	Apex Engineering
Kristen	Sperry	FHWA
Steve	Strack	Houston Engineering
David	Sweeney	SRF Consulting
Jen	Turnbow	NDDOT
Kyle	Weiler	HDR, Inc.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am, on November 10, 2021 by Chair Gray. A quorum was present.

2. Approve the 523rd TTC Meeting Agenda

Chair Gray asked if there were any questions or changes to the 523rd TTC Meeting Agenda.

Motion: Approve the 523rd TTC Meeting Agenda.

Mr. Gorden moved, seconded by Mr. Sahr

MOTION, PASSED.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. APPROVE October 14, 2021 TTC MEETING MINUTES

Chair Gray asked if there were any questions or changes to the October 14, 2021 TTC Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Approve the October 14, 2021 TTC Minutes.

Mr. Mastera moved, seconded by Ms. Bommelman

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comment Opportunity

No public comments were made or received.

5. Updates on Project Solicitations

Ms. Gray stated that Metro COG wanted to remind the committee of upcoming solicitations and due dates.

Mr. Farnsworth said that ND TA applications are due to Metro COG November 19 so they can be prioritized at TTC and Policy Board in December and submitted before the December 31st due date. MN TA letters of intent needed to be submitted, and applications are due January 14.

Mr. Champa said that ND HSIP applications are due to Metro COG by November 19. So far, the City of Fargo has applied for negative left turn offset removals, and a short widening project on SB 45th Street S approaching I-94. West Fargo has submitted for negative offset removal on Veterans Boulevard, and three other intersections.

Ms. Safgren said that there are no district HSIP projects, but there could potentially be some local projects. Mr. Jacobson said that he is unaware of any projects Clay County is planning to submit.

Mr. Champa said that the STGB applications are also due to Metro COG on November 19th. These are for the Urban Roads, Urban Regional Roads, and Urban Grant programs. The City of Fargo is submitting to Urban Roads for bridge repair in North Fargo, concrete pavement repair on 45th Street, a shared-use

path bridge at 40th Avenue S to connect to Bluestem in Moorhead, a shared-use path on Drain 27 south of 52nd Ave S, a shared-use along County Drain 53, and a shared use path along River Drive S from Harwood Drive S to 40th Ave S. Flex funding is being requested to use STBG funds for a fixed-route bus replacement. West Fargo is submitting to Urban Roads for an urbanization upgrade on Shyenne Street between 40th and 52nd Avenue S.

Mr. Gorden asked if there were any updates on the newest infrastructure bill. Mr. Johnson said there are resources available online, but it looks like most funding sources are seeing increases. There are not a lot of details available, but NDDOT will continue to communicate moving forward. Ms. Turnbow elaborated, saying that there would be more funding for counties and townships, and the more rural areas. NDDOT is looking at a significant funding proposal, including bridge infrastructure, and improving roads, airports, and drinking water/wastewater infrastructure.

6. 25th Street South Corridor Study Request for Proposals

Mr. Maddox presented the 25th Street South Corridor Study Request for Proposals (RFP). The study area is from 32nd Avenue S to 64th Avenue S. The purpose of this study is to analyze the needs of the corridor in advance of future roadway projects and replacement of failing concrete. Metro COG has budgeted \$125,000 to complete this study, \$100,000 CPG, \$25,000 local match provided by the City of Fargo. The RFP release date is slated for approximately November 24th.

Motion: Recommend approval of the RFP for the 25th Street Corridor Study to the Policy Board.

Mr. Gorden moved, seconded by Ms. Bommelman

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously.

7. 2021 Metro Profile

Mr. Del Rosario presented the draft 2021 Metropolitan Profile. The annual report is put together by Metro COG to provide a snapshot of the Fargo-Moorhead metro area based on data from the previous year. The report is split into five sections, consisting of a community profile, roadways, freight, bike & ped, and transit. Mr. Del Rosario highlighted insights from each of the sections.

Ms. Van Beek noted that the number of transit vehicles in Moorhead should be updated from 10 to 11. Mr. Del Rosario stated that this change would be made prior to Policy Board review.

Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of the Metropolitan Profile 2021.

Mr. Mastera moved, seconded by Ms. Van Beek

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee Citizen Representative

Mr. Farnsworth presented Kurt Kopperud as the next Metropolitan Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee Citizen Representative. The citizen seat has a two-year term. An application process was started in August 2021, with the deadline for September 30th, 2021. Three applications were received, and the selection committee found Mr. Kopperud as the top-ranked individual for the upcoming vacancy. This representative comes with a recommendation for approval from the Metropolitan Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee.

Motion: Recommend Policy Board approval of Kurt Kopperud as the next Metropolitan Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee citizen representative to serve a two year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023.

Mr. Atkins moved, seconded by Ms. Elshaug

MOTION, PASSED

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Minnesota HSIP Support and Prioritization

As discussed during Agenda Item 5, this item no longer needs to be discussed or acted upon because MnDOT does not anticipate having any HSIP applications within the MPA. [NOTE: Following the TTC meeting, MnDOT became aware that one of their proposed HSIP applications is located partially within the MPA. The proposed project includes interchange lighting along I-94 at four interchanges, two of which are at exits to Barnesville, requiring MPO approval. Metro COG solicited on-line votes of TTC members during the week of November 15, 2021 in a Doodle Poll prior to taking the item to the Policy Board at their meeting on November 18, 2021.]

10. Project Updates

Metro COG presented updates on current, on-going studies: the Interstate Operations Analysis and Plan for Future Improvements, Veterans Boulevard Corridor Extension Feasibility Study, and the Fargo Transportation Plan.

11. Agency Updates

Metro COG: Greater Northwest Rail Coalition presentation and update.
City of Fargo: 32nd Avenue project
City of Moorhead: Overpass project updates, Center Avenue project
MATBUS: Upgrading fareboxes and mobile ticketing, fare updates
City of West Fargo: Sheyenne Street complete
City of Horace: 300 building permits for houses, 20 new developments slated
Cass County: construction updates
Clay County: Comp Plan updates
NDDOT: Wayne Zacher recovery going well
FHWA: Ms. Sperry asked if Ranae Tunison from FTA could be added to TTC meeting invitations

12. Additional Business

No additional business.

13. Adjourn

The 523 Regular Meeting of the TTC was adjourned on November 10, 2021 at 11:52 a.m.

THE NEXT FM METRO COG TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD December 16, 2021, 10:00 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Savanna Leach
Executive Assistant