

**ATP 6 – Minutes
November 18, 2016
MnDOT District 6 Headquarters, Rochester, MN**

Members Present:

X	Greg Paulson	MnDOT	X	Fausto Cabral	MnDOT
X	Kyle Lake	MnDOT		Tom Faella	MPO (LAPC)
	Dan DeRudder	Tribal (PIIC)	X	Ron Gregg	County (Filmore)
X	Steve Jahnke	City (Albert Lea)	X	Mitzi Baker	MPO (ROCOG)
X	Tony Knauer	Modal (Rochester)	X	Melinda Estey	Modal (SMART)
X	David Kramer	County (Winona)	X	Bill Angerman	City (Byron)

Alternates Present: Dave Pesch (ROCOG)

Staff Present: Laurie Nagle, Andrew Andrusko, Mark Schoenfelder, Craig Lenz

Guests Present: Richard Freese, Jay Owens (City of Red Wing), Dennis Luebbe (Rice County), Daren Sikkink (City of St. Charles)

A. Call to Order

Greg Paulson called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

B. Review and Approve Minutes from the April 8th, 2016 Meeting

Minutes from the April 18th, 2016 meeting were reviewed.

Mitzi Baker motioned to approve the minutes. Fausto Cabral seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion was approved.

C. Letters/Requests

Greg Paulson explained to the group that the City of Wabasha is unable to move forward with a sidewalk improvement project requiring federal fund redistribution. The amount of funds available is \$221,887. Greg explained that the redistributed funds can be put to another TAP project such as Safe Routes To School or the Scenic Byway program in 2017. An additional option would be 2018 projects, however, the preference would be to use this on a 2017 project due to the timing. Agencies with eligible projects were contacted regarding the additional funds in an effort to determine needs and interest in the funds.

The first eligible project discussed was for the City of Red Wing. Jay Owens introduced the city's Offset-T project at Twin Bluff Middle School as a project that the city would be interested in receiving additional funds for. The project has experienced an increase in estimated cost and is now projected at \$1.2 million. Currently, the STIP shows an estimate of \$831,445.

Greg Paulson explained the next project was the Wabasha County CSAH 30 Shoulder Improvement project. Greg has spoken with the county and they have expressed a need for additional funding due to increased cost estimate. Fausto Cabral received an email from Dietrich Flesch requesting an additional \$60,000 in funds.

Fausto mentioned that the City of Owatonna has not experienced cost increases for their Straight River Trail project. Any additional funding added to this project would most likely be used to add additional features to their current project.

Bill Angerman discussed the Wagon Wheel Trail – Phase 2 project in LaCrescent. This project has experienced some inflationary cost increases as well and could use an additional \$50,000 - \$70,000 in funds. He also noted that cost increases were not a result of scope change.

Another project under consideration was the St. Charles Pedestrian Corridor project in Winona County. David Kramer explained that this project could use an additional \$40,000 in funds, however, he pointed out that when the SRTS solicitation was put out, there was a cap of \$300,000 for federal funds. He posed the question of whether or not that would still apply. After discussion among the group, the general feeling within the ATP is that this project could accept the additional funds.

The next project discussed was the Mill Town State Trail project for FY 2018. Greg Paulson discussed this with Joel Wagar of the DNR and this project has experienced increased costs with a new estimate of \$1.48 million. The DNR thinks they may be able to move their project schedule up.

Richard Freese introduced his Chester Woods Trail project. The city has begun acquiring ROW for the project and feel they could make an October letting. They could use the entire available amount if given the funds. This project is currently in FY 2018.

After hearing the details of each eligible project, the group discussed approaches to distributing the funds. The group mentioned that, in the past, the practice would be to get projects not currently funded at 80% up to that level before assigning funds to projects that aren't at 80% due to cost increases. Further, projects scheduled for 2017 should be considered over projects in 2018 as they should be further along in their development and pose less risk.

Richard Freese suggested bringing the Red Wing Project up to 80% federal funding based on their original estimate. The remaining funds could be distributed to the Wabasha County, St. Charles, and Winona County projects that experienced increased inflationary costs.

Tony Knauer motioned to approve that the funds be distributed as discussed. The motion included bringing Red Wing up to 80% federal funds and dividing the remaining funds equally among the remaining projects that expressed a need due to inflationary cost increase. The distribution of funds would be as follows:

Red Wing – SRTS Twin Bluff Middle School	156-951-003	\$169,177
Wabasha County –CSAH 30 Shoulder Improvement Project	079-630-017	\$17,570
La Crescent – Wagon Wheel Trail Phase 2	236-090-002	\$17,570
Winona County – St. Charles Pedestrian Corridor	085-591-005	\$17,570

David Kramer seconded the motion. Bill Angerman asked what happens to the funds if a project should happen to come in under budget. Fausto Cabral explained that the district will lose the funding when a project comes in under budget and he works with the state aid office to redistribute the funds. Motion was approved.

D. District 6 Bridge Project Selection Presentation

Craig Lenz, District 6 Structures Engineer, attended the meeting to explain to the group MnDOT's approach to bridge project selection. Craig discussed the statewide approach for bridge selection and how it can impact the districts program based on statewide needs. He explained that one of the primary tools used for selection is the BRIM (Bridge Replacement and Improvement Management) Program. This program produces a large spreadsheet that factors many different aspects of the bridge and provides a list of how the bridges should be prioritized. This includes bridge rehabilitation in addition to bridge replacement.

Additionally, Craig explained that, within the district, lists of structurally deficient and functionally obsolete bridges are produced and reviewed alongside the BRIM spreadsheet. Finally, the district has bridge inspectors that perform inspections. These inspections provide additional information in the selection of bridges. The structures office will take all of this information into account to develop a list of bridges that should be rehabbed or replaced. Other considerations mentioned by Craig included funding availability and other construction projects in the area.

E. TAP Letters of Intent

Andrew Andrusko, District 6 Planning, relayed to the group that the district has received nine Letters Of Intent for the FY2021 TAP Solicitation. Of those submissions, one submission was disqualified due to the content. MnDOT recommended that six of the remaining eight applications move forward for consideration. The others that were not recommended fell under the \$250,000 minimum requirement that was set by the group. The available funding for these projects is \$1.2 million and the six projects recommended for consideration total approximately \$4.3 million.

The six projects to be considered are:

- Rice County – Dundas
- La Crescent - Wagon Wheel Phase 3
- MnDNR – Blazing Star State Trail (Lake Bridge in Albert Lea)
- Red Wing River Front Trail
- Rochester – Broadway and Hwy 14
- Rushford – Safe Routes To School

The three projects not recommended for consideration include:

- Lake City – Safe Routes To School (Does not meet the \$250,000 minimum)
- Lonsdale – Safe Routes To School (Does not meet the \$250,000 minimum)
- Owatonna – Marketing and Wayfinding (Marketing is not an eligible expense)

Greg mentioned that there was a committee formed to look into the selection criteria used to choose projects. The question brought to the group was whether or not there is time this year to look into this and address issues. Richard Freese indicated that he is looking for more transparency in the scoring. Greg suggested Richard and David Kramer attempt to meet before the next meeting and bring any items to the group for discussion and possible decision.

Richard Freese requested that Andrew solicit the other areas for their selection criteria. Andrew Andrusko stated that he would look into scoring criteria statewide and provide any information to Richard and David for their consideration.

Andrew will follow up on some of the issues regarding TAP solicitation and selection and report back to the group at the next meeting.

F. Future Presentations

Mitzi Baker suggested that a presentation on the TIFIA (Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act) could be valuable. This is a loan program and it was thought that somebody from the FHWA could present on this. Additionally, the TRLF (Transportation Revolving Loan Fund) was mentioned as another possible presentation topic.

Greg Paulson mentioned a possibility of having our MnDOT Pavement Engineer present on the pavement selection process MnDOT currently uses.

Richard Freese offered to put together a presentation on the latest developments with DMC and the progress of the transportation studies being done. He offered a timeframe of February for this.

Tony Knauer suggested having Jean Meyer, MnDOT Office of Transit, do a presentation on the region's transit plan.

Mitzi Baker offered to do a presentation summarizing the draft City of Rochester Comprehensive Plan which includes integrated land use, transportation and transit strategy. She proposed a spring meeting for this presentation

G. Round Robin

Richard Freese spoke briefly about an issue regarding bicycles/car crashes at the intersection of 19th St NW and Valley High Road. There have been a couple of incidents this past summer with the suspected issue being the flashing yellow arrow for left turns.

H. Next Meeting and Agenda

The next meeting will take place on December 9th, 2016. Laurie Nagle also stated that future meetings are scheduled for January 13, 2017, February 10, 2017, March 10, 2017, and April 7, 2017.

I. Adjourn

Mitzi Baker motioned to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded by Fausto Cabral. Motion approved. Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.