

# **Area Transportation Partnership 7 (ATP 7)**

Draft Minutes of September 14, 2018 Meeting – MnDOT, Mankato

**Members Present:** Ronda Allis, Lisa Bigham, Terry Genelin, Seth Greenwood, Peter Harff, Steve Koehler, Patrick LaCourse, Greg Ous, Craig Rempp, Tim Stahl, Ryan Thilges, Don Wachal

**Members Absent:** Jeff Johnson, Jack Kolars, Mike Kuhle, Matt Widboom

**Others Present:** Angelica Altamirano, Charles Androsky, Jack Considine, Annette Fiedler, Nick Frentz, Clark Johnson, Sam Parker, Angie Piltaver, Debra Yates, Troy Nemmers

## **Welcome and Introductions**

- Steve Koehler welcomed everyone. Introductions were made.
- Membership on the ATP was reaffirmed.
- The minutes from June 29, 2018 were approved.
- Draft meeting schedule was provided.
- Operating procedures handout was provided. Ronda Allis indicated the operating procedures will be reviewed. They were previously reviewed and revised in 2017. Since then a statewide Project Selection Policy has been under development. The policy seeks to provide a documented way in which projects are selected, which might prompt revisions to the Operating Procedures. Ronda asked that members review the operating procedures and submit proposed changes prior to the November 2018 meeting.

## **Transportation Alternatives Subcommittee Report-out**

The subcommittee reviewed a request by the City of Fairmont to amend a trail project that was awarded 2020 TA funds – the Fairmont Trail connection (SP 123-090-002). The revised plan removes the northern portion of the trail that would have used an existing bridge crossing north of Margaret Street, and proposes a new pedestrian bridge, which adds \$480,000 to the project. The revised plan also identifies a South Segment that will seek funds under a future solicitation. The original award for the project was \$406,906. Approximately \$25,000 in leftover TA funds for FY 2020 are available to the project. The subcommittee recommended approving the amended scope of work and applying the additional TA funds to the Fairmont Trail amendment, bringing the total award to \$432,640. The amendments and additional funds were approved by the ATP members.

## **2018 – 2021 STIP Amendments**

Lisa Bigham indicated that the STIP amendments for the 2018 – 2021 STIP have been approved by FHWA, and that the 2019 – 2022 STIP is underway.

Debra Yates provided a handout with a summary of the project that was amended since the previous meeting. An additional \$22,952 has been added to the City of Mankato's FY18 project, SP-137-138-001 as AC payback in FY 19.

### **2019 – 2022 ATIP status**

Debra Yates provided a handout and reviewed the changes in our draft ATIP from our last meeting. Deb will adjust the FY 20 funds for the Fairmont trail connection project.

### **2023 Solicitation Process**

Ronda Allis reviewed the FY 2023 solicitation process. The TA solicitation opens Oct. 1, 2018 and runs for 30 days. The first step is to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI). The RDCs will meet with applicants and get additional details from November 1 – 16. The full application is open from November 19, 2018 to January 4, 2019.

Lisa Bigham reviewed the Highway Safety Improvement Projects (HSIP) process. There is a fund for the local system and one for the state system, with \$1 million available on each. These funds are managed by the Office of Traffic Safety. There are also Locally Led Partnership (LLP) projects. These are meant to be nimble projects that can be completed quickly, such as turn lane improvements or lighting projects similar to the solar powered lighting project being piloted in Nobles County.

### **Statewide Safe Routes to School (SRTS) solicitation update**

Ronda Allis discussed the joint solicitation that is available for TA (2023) and SRTS projects (need to be delivered in 2019, 2020, or 2021). She shared that we will be working with the Office of Transit and Active Transportation (OTAT) on SRTS, which has \$2 million available for SRTS. Communities can apply with just one application, which will be reviewed first for state funding, then considered for federal funding. Extra information is needed on the application to process the application jointly, but the advantages include timing and clarity on whether state funds are available for projects. Communities can also apply for the statewide SRTS funds to supply the 20% match needed for current SRTS projects in the STIP.

Ronda Allis indicated that selections to receive state funds will be first (Feb. 15), then those not awarded state funds will be considered for federal funds.

### **District Bicycle Plan update**

Lisa Bigham gave an update on the District 7 Bicycle Plan. The plan identifies state highways, county highways and roads, and DNR Legislatively Authorized routes. We will not require communities to provide routes on local roads; the map identifies possibilities and seeks to optimize funds. The TAC meets on September 26 to review the draft plan and the prioritization of routes provided by OTAT.

There was discussion among members and elected officials about prioritization through measures, such as bike/pedestrian counts, as well as through factors such as disadvantaged communities and equity.

### **Regional Transportation Updates**

Charles Androsky spoke on behalf of MAPO. The TIP and the UPWP have been adopted. He also shared 2019 projects including the update of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), the

Warren Street Study, Highway 169 Corridor Study (with MnDOT and the ATP), the ADA Transition Plan, the Highway 22 Corridor Study and the ICE at Hoffman & S Victory Drive.

Sam Parker shared for Region 9 indicated that the Waseca and St. Clair SRTS plans held kickoff meetings and plan development is underway.

Annette Fiedler with SRDC shared that the Luverne SRTS planning is underway. She also shared that they recently submitted a transit system brochure for a Best Practices award with FHWA, and they were notified that the brochure is in the top 30 list for consideration.

**Next meeting**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 9, 2018.