

**Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
February 7, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Saint Cloud Area Planning Organization's (APO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 7, 2019 at Stearns County Public Works. Senior Planner, Joseph Mueller, presided with the following members present:

Bill Schluenz	Waite Park
Jon Halter	Sartell
Jeff Miller	Stearns County
Steve Foss	St. Cloud
Matt Glaesman	St. Cloud
Kelvin Howieson	MnDOT Dist #3
Nate Keller (Guest)	City Planner, Sartell
Joseph Mueller	Saint Cloud APO
Brian Gibson	Saint Cloud APO
Alison Henning	Saint Cloud APO
Dorothy Sweet	Saint Cloud APO

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF JAN. 3, 2019:

Mr. Jeff Miller motioned to approve the January TAC meeting minutes, and Mr. Jon Halter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: No comments made.

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (ITS) RESOLUTION UPDATE:

Mr. Brian Gibson reported that MnDOT has just completed an update to their ITS Architecture, which is a set of advanced application to help improve traffic flow such as traffic monitoring cameras, signal priority systems, in-road sensors, and dynamic message signs. MPOs are required to adopt a resolution recognizing that the State's ITS Architecture shall govern any proposed ITS improvement at the local level. The draft Resolution was included in the agenda packet. ***Mr. Matt Glaesman motioned to approve Resolution #2019-05 Recognizing the Minnesota Dept of Transportation's Statewide Regional ITS Architecture, and Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried. The TAC's recommendation for approval of the Resolution will be sent to the APO Policy Board for final approval and adoption.***

REGIONAL PRIORITIES BRIEFING BOOKLET:

Mr. Gibson explained that the Executive Director and APO Board Chair travel to Washington DC yearly to meet with various Congressional members to discuss our transportation needs. A transportation booklet describing the most urgent transportation needs, as well as some Regional priorities were included in the booklet. Mr. Gibson briefly reviewed the various priorities and asked for comments and concerns. Mr. Halter, Sartell, suggested leaving the Roberts Rd extension in, but said it could possibly be changing by February 10. Mr. Glaesman suggested combining two projects into one: Connect Heatherwood Road to Franklin Rd and Extend Beaver Island Trail. He also mentioned that we have a unique opportunity to purchase 20 acres to protect our interest. The 20 acres just recently came on the market due to two lumberyards consolidating into one. The land is abutting the train station in East Saint Cloud.

FY 2023 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES (TA) SOLICITATIONS:

Mr. Mueller reported that Central MN Transportation Partnership (ATP-3) has received eight projects for consideration totaling approximately \$2.8 million for 2023 TA funding, but only \$1.6 million is available. Two of the eight projects come from the St. Cloud APO area. The TAC is tasked with prioritizing our two projects and determining which project will receive an additional ten bonus points and which will receive an additional five points.

Sartell Project: Nate Keller, City Planner from Sartell, presented a Heritage Drive Connection project, which is a Phase 1 of eventual 2 phase project. This project was submitted last year, but it has now been revised to add 750 feet. The total project cost is \$628,404.90. \$367,297 is being requested (80% federal match), and the local match of 20% will come from the City street funds and allocated regional ½ cent sales tax. The project includes adding close to 3000 feet of additional trail and two marked crosswalks with advanced warning signs. The trail and crosswalks have been identified in number plans, going back to 2003. Mr. Halter added that they receive several requests every summer about the safety of this area. Phase 2 of this trail extension, which is not included in this grant request, will connect the trail to Co Rd 1 and provide direct access across Highway 15 to a large commercial area and the City of St. Cloud.

Saint Cloud Project: Steve Foss, Saint Cloud City Engineer, reviewed the project which involves reconstruction of County Road 136 (1.6 miles of multi modal roadway, including six ft. wide sidewalk and six ft. bike lanes) from 22nd Street South to Oak Hill Elementary, and ten foot widened shoulders from Oak Hill Elementary to 33rd Street South. This project will provide pedestrian and bicycle linkages to the Oak Hill Elem School, as well as bicycle linkage from 22nd St South to 33rd St South. The total projected budget is \$1,860,000, but the City will be requesting \$460,000 in Transportation Alternative Pgm Funding for the construction of sidewalk and bicycle facilities on the roadway. The 20% local match of \$92,000 and the remaining portion of the project cost will come from a combination of Federal Funding, voter approved sales tax collection, general bond and MSA funding.

Mr. Mueller reminded the members that in the past the APO had done well in receiving funding for their projects, so there is no guarantee of being funded for either of these projects.

Mr. Miller motioned to assign 10 points to the Sartell project and 5 points to the Saint Cloud project, and Mr. Schluenz seconded the motion. Mr. Foss asked if we could assign 7.5 points to each project since they are so similar in technicality and funding. Mr. Howieson said that was not possible. A vote was taken and the results were 3 in favor of Sartell's project receiving 10 points and 2 opposed. It was acknowledged that both projects are technically the same, deemed equal merit, and nearly the same in funding request.

OTHER BUSINESS/OPEN FLOOR:

Mr. Howieson said that because Stearns County CSAH 75 was underfunded, a formal STIP amendment would be required. He said that Mrs. Johnson was aware of this and is working on the amendment. He also reported that MnDOT is busy working on I-94.

ADJOURNMENT:

The TAC meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.