

# Area Transportation Partnership 7 (ATP 7)

Minutes of November 4, 2016 Meeting – MnDOT, Mankato

## **Members Present:**

Lisa Bigham, Chad Fowlds, Terry Genelin, David Henkels, Jeff Johnson, Steve Koehler, Jack Kolars, JinYeene Neumann, Greg Ous, Darrell Pettis, and Gordy Regenscheid

**Members Absent:** Mark Anderson, Bob Apitz, Chris Frederick, Fred Salsbury, and Matt Widbom

**Others Present:** Ronda Allis, Angelica Altamirano, Rebecca Arndt, Seth Greenwood, Candy Harding (MnDOT CO – State Aid), Jake Huebsch, Sam Parker, Paul Vogel, and Debra Yates

Steve Koehler welcomed everyone.

Dave Henkels, Jackson County Commissioner, is not running for re-election and his term on ATP-7 will end in January 2017. Greg Ous presented Dave Henkels with a “Certificate of Appreciation” for his service on ATP-7.

The minutes of September 9, 2016 were reviewed and approved as presented.

Ronda Allis distributed an updated “ATP meeting schedule and timeline for ATIP development”. Ronda noted that the October ATP meeting has been moved to November. STIP funding guidance has not been available for the October meeting the past few years; a later meeting date will hopefully better coincide with the receipt of the funding guidance.

Ronda Allis also distributed the updated Operating Procedures as well as a list of acronyms with definitions.

## **2017-2020 STIP status**

The 2017-2020 STIP was approved by FHWA/FTA on October 20, 2016 (a copy was provided to ATP members). Lisa Bigham noted that the I90 shelf project was funded through the new freight program in the federal FAST Act and is in the new STIP in 2018 (sequence #1053).

**STIP Amendments** - Deb Yates reviewed a STIP amendment/Administrative Modification handout.

## **2018-2021 STIP funding guidance and process**

Lisa Bigham reviewed two handouts with ATP members. The first handout was a flowchart that laid out the FY 21 solicitation process. The second handout was a summary of the federal funding amounts for District 7 for FY 20. Lisa noted that we are still waiting for our FY 21 funding guidance, but the ATP can anticipate receiving similar amounts to FY 20.

## **MAPO TIP process**

Paul Vogel, MAPO Executive Director, explained how the development of the MAPO TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) aligns with the ATP process for developing the ATIP. The flowchart that Lisa shared, outlining the solicitation process, includes steps that are specific to the MAPO TIP development process (these

are outlined in yellow on the flowchart handout).

### **2021 solicitation**

Ronda Allis reviewed the FY 21 solicitation flowchart again, highlighting where the ATP is at in the upcoming solicitation process. Applications for FY 21 funding will open on November 14, 2016 and close on January 13, 2017. We will work with the assumption that our federal funding amounts will be similar to the FY 20 amounts. Subcommittees have been busy over the past few months updating the forms for the upcoming solicitation. The TA (Transportation Alternatives) subcommittee presented the recommended changes to the ATP at the September 9, 2016 meeting.

#### **STP-Small Urban**

Steve Koehler noted that the STP-Small Urban subcommittee met on August 19<sup>th</sup> to review the forms. A follow up telephone conversation was required to complete the review. Examples of changes include:

- Changed pavement condition rating from RQI (Ride Quality Index) to PCI (Pavement Condition Index) to more accurately reflect the pavement rating system used by cities.
- Added a new category to capture the RDO/MAPO regional significance rating. Applicants can receive up to five points in this category (subtracted 5 points from the RQI/PCI category)
- Clarified how to determine ADT for non-existing roadways

#### **STP-Rural**

Gordy Regenscheid noted that he met with the County Engineer subcommittee to review the FY 21 forms. Minor changes were made.

#### **HSIP**

HSIP applications were due November 10, 2016. Projects are selected by Central Office and then provided to the ATP for inclusion in the ATP.

#### **TA LOI**

The deadline for TA LOIs for the 2021 solicitation was October 31, 2016. ATP-7 received 13 applications totaling more than \$4.8M in requests. The RDOs and MAPO will meet with each LOI applicant in their respective planning areas to review the LOI and determine if the project should move forward to full application. The reviews need to be completed by November 18, 2016. Full applications open on November 21, 2016.

An ATP-7 member asked how railroad crossing projects were selected and how this information is distributed to ATP-7. Deb Yates will follow up on this and provide additional information at the January ATP meeting. ATP-7 members would like to see the railroad crossing selection process better coordinated with the current ATP solicitation process.

### **Regional transportation updates**

- MAPO – Paul Vogel noted that MAPO will be conducting more ICE studies in 2017. They are also looking at developing an ADA transition plan. MAPO has also had preliminary conversations about the 169/14 –

Lind/Webster interchange area.

- RDC –Sam Parker, Region Nine Development Commission, said they have 3 SRTS planning projects in their region. They will also be assisting the Office of Transit by updating the Local Human Services Transit Coordination Plan.

Annette Fiedler, SRDC, was unable to attend the meeting.

#### **Other business**

- Dave Henkel announced that his replacement will be Jackson County Commissioner Don Wachal.
- Ronda Allis provided an update on the Henderson Flood Feasibility study. RFP's will be reviewed on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, and, if all goes well, a consultant should be under contract by December 2016.
- Jack Kolars shared information on the status of the state's \$2B surplus. The latest information provided by the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) had the surplus down to approximately \$275M. Jack wanted to know what impact this might have on the future of transportation funding in Minnesota.
- Terry Genelin asked about the \$105M budget authority situation. Greg Ous explained that MnDOT needs legislative authority to spend federal funds. Because additional funds were received under the new FAST-Act, our budget spending authority was short \$105M. A request was submitted to the legislature for budget authority, but it was not approved. MnDOT has pulled out \$105M worth of projects pending budget authority. The legislature has been asked to reconsider the request.
- When the FY 21 funding guidance is available, District 7 Planning staff will send it out to ATP-7 members.

#### **Next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 13, 2017 (annual legislative forum)