

# Area Transportation Partnership 7 (ATP 7)

Minutes of March 13, 2015 Meeting – MnDOT, Mankato

## Members Present:

Mark Anderson, Bob Apitz, Lisa Bigham, Chad Fowlds, Chris Frederick, Terry Genelin, David Henkels, Jeff Johnson, Steve Koehler, Jack Kolars, Greg Ous, Darrell Pettis, Gordy Regenscheid, Fred Salsbury, Steve Schnieder, and Matt Widboom

## Members Absent: None

**Others Present:** Chuck Ackman (Senator Klobuchar's Office), Ronda Allis, Kelly Christenson (MnDOT Office of Transit), Annette Fiedler, Dennis Frederickson, Tom Gottfried (MnDOT Office of Transit), Seth Greenwood, Jake Huebsch, Jan Klassen, Shaun Morrell, Josh Pearson, Bobbi Retzlaff, Dan Sarff, Paul Vogel, and Debra Yates

Steve Koehler welcomed everyone, including new ATP member Fred Salsbury, Waseca City Council; attendees introduced themselves.

The minutes of December 19, 2014 were reviewed and approved as presented.

## TAP subcommittee recommendation – Watonwan County project

The TAP subcommittee met prior to the ATP meeting to discuss a request from Watonwan County for a modification to their FY 15 TAP funding. Roger Risser, Watonwan County Engineer, has requested additional TAP funds in 2015 to help cover the increased cost of Phase I of the Watline Trail (impacts TH 4). The TAP subcommittee recommendation to the full ATP is as follows:

1. Allow the \$400,000 TAP cap to be lifted for the Watonwan County project in FY 15 (but set a new cap)
2. Watonwan County has two additional trail projects (segments of the Watline trail) funded in 2016 (both have the maximum \$400,000 in TAP funds). Allow the County to reduce the FY 16 TAP funds by the amount needed in FY 15 (approximately \$70,000)
3. Restore FY 16 funding if additional money becomes available; otherwise, County will need to cover the shortage in FY 16 (also, cap FY 16 project at lower amount)

The ATP approved this recommendation. MnDOT staff have been advised to work with Watonwan County to identify ways in which the funding can be modified to help cover the additional costs.

*Update: Additional federal funds available in FY 16 providing \$30,240 more for SP 083-090-004 and \$120,000 more for SP 083-657-008. STIP Amendment has been processed.*

## 2016 – 2019 STIP Target guidance – revised summary

Lisa Bigham reviewed the updated STIP funding guidance (1/27/2015) with ATP members. ATP-7 received additional ATP managed STP funds for FY 17, FY 18 and FY 19. For FY 19 the funds were split using the same percentage by which they were allocated (57% STP-Rural and 43% STP-Small Urban, with 17% of the STP-Small Urban allocated to Transit). The additional funds for FY 19 were included in the FY 19 project selection. The ATP

supported using the same 57/43 split to determine how the funds for FY 17 and FY 18 should be split. The additional funds should be applied to existing projects, if possible. Otherwise, MnDOT staff should determine how to allocate the additional funds.

### 2015 – 2018 STIP status/map

The 2015 – 2018 STIP map was reviewed. Chad Fowlds reviewed the 2015 projects. He highlighted the work along I90, the Hwy 14 turnback project in Waseca County, and the safety improvements on TH 22 and TH 99 in preparation for the closure of US 169 (between Mankato and St. Peter) in 2016.

Gordy Regenscheid covered the local projects. He recently learned that the Safe Routes To School project in Jackson County (Lakefield) may not be delivered in 2015. He will continue to discuss this with staff from Central Office.

Lisa reviewed the MnDOT projects in 2016, 2017, and 2018 (draft ATIP). Highlights included:

#### 2016

1. Added the safety improvements on US 14 in Eagle Lake
2. TED project in Jackson has been dropped
3. The US 169 flood mitigation project, between Mankato and St. Peter, is now using all state funds (no federal funds)
4. Lisa also noted that the urban reconstruction project in St. James is the last urban project that MnDOT has programmed, because of the high cost of these types of projects (even though there are needs)

#### 2017

1. Rail projects have been added including one on CSAH 5 (3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue) in Mankato

#### 2018

1. A project on TH 60 by St. James has been dropped and it has been combined with a larger project on TH 60 in FY 19

### 2019 ATIP development

**TAP** – Darrell Pettis spoke on behalf of the TAP subcommittee. The subcommittee met in St. James on February 9. They received eight applications totaling over \$4.2 M (\$600,000 subtarget). The top project, the Mankato Roosevelt Elementary School SRTS project, was selected for funding through the Statewide SRTS solicitation. The TAP subcommittee recommended funding the next three projects:

Jackson County	Dewey Street Connector Trail	\$81,484
City of Le Sueur	Pedestrian Sidewalk and Walk Ramp Improvements	\$383,090
City of Lake Crystal	Lake Crystal Safe Route Network	\$160,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$624,574</b>

**STP – Small Urban** – Steve Koehler presented the results of the STP-Small Urban subcommittee review and ranking. Four applications were received for FY 19 funding: Waseca, New Ulm, Mankato, and

Worthington. The subtarget for STP-Small Urban was \$1,723,590. The subcommittee recommended funding the Waseca project at an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000, and the balance (\$523,590) would be applied to the New Ulm project (any funds not expended on the Waseca project would also be made available to the City of New Ulm for their FY 19 project).

**STP – Rural** – Steve Schnieder noted that two counties applied for the STP-Rural funds. They had a subtarget of \$2,727,000. Le Sueur County and Watonwan County were both funded at a capped amount of \$1,363,500.

**Local Transit** – Unlike the previous subcommittees that were selecting projects for FY 19 funding, transit was selecting projects for FY 16 funding. Bob Aritz spoke on behalf of the Transit Subcommittee and noted that their recommendation was to fund buses for the following systems:

1. City of Mankato
2. Southwestern MN Opportunity Council (SMOC)
3. Martin County
4. Western Community Action
5. Rock County Heartland Express
6. Watonwan County dba TMT

The total requests exceeded the \$320,000 subtarget by \$94,000; however, ATP-7 has Federal funds available for FY 16 and felt they should be able to cover the overage.

An ATP member would like to see an option in the future for transit vehicles that operate on compressed natural gas (CNG).

**MnDOT Trunk Highways (FY 19 map)** – Lisa Bigham reviewed the FY 19 map with ATP members. The map depicted the projects that MnDOT is recommending for funding on the trunk highway system for FY 19.

**BROS** – Gordy Regenscheid presented a list of Off-System bridges in District 7 that were considered for funding in 2019. There were three candidate bridges: Waseca County, Jackson County, and Martin County. The bridge in Waseca County will be programmed for FY 19.

**HSIP** – Lisa Bigham noted that we still have setaside funds for HSIP projects (FY 16 has District HSIP funds and FY 17 and 18 have local and District funds). The District is working on identifying potential projects.

### **Next Steps**

Both Regional Development Commissions and the Mankato/North Mankato Area Planning Organization (MAPO) will host public meetings to review/comment on the draft ATIP. Southwest Regional Development Commission will hold their meeting on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Region Nine Development Commission and MAPO will be co-hosting an event on Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. The draft 2016-2019 ATIP is then due to Central Office by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Depending on when Central Office's review

comments are received, the ATP will meet again on June 5<sup>th</sup> to review revised ATIP and the final draft will be due back to Central Office by mid-July.

### **Transit presentation and discussion**

Jan Klassen and Tom Gottfried were on the agenda to discuss transit. Jan noted that she is currently working with the City of St. Peter, City of Le Sueur, and City of Mankato on developing a transit system that would serve the counties of Blue Earth, Le Sueur, Nicollet, and Waseca. This system may lead to the need for additional buses, which could impact the ATP's transit subtarget in the future.

Tom Gottfried provided an overview of existing transit funding, from a statewide perspective, and how those funds are distributed for Greater Minnesota transit. Tom mentioned that beginning in 2019, all 5307 buses (large and small) will be paid for centrally and will not need to be funded out of the ATP transit subtarget.

Tom also mentioned that starting in 2019 the transit bus purchases under the 5311 program will be shared between Central Office, the District, and the Local systems (potential 50%/30%/20% split). Tom noted that they should be able to cover the 30% share by Central Office using existing funding sources and they should not need to use STP funds. He also stated that the ATP's will still be responsible for selecting the buses that will be programmed and that the ATP can set criteria outside of Central Office's minimum standards.

### **Governor's proposal**

Greg Ous encouraged members to familiarize themselves with Governor Dayton's Transportation Plan. Members were provided with a handout that summarized how the funds would be split (State, County, City, Township, etc), and the types of improvements that could be made.

### **Next proposed meeting date**

Friday, June 5, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

Draft 10-year plan will be emailed to ATP members once it is available in mid-May