

# Area Transportation Partnership 7 (ATP 7)

Minutes of March 14, 2016 Meeting – MnDOT, Mankato

## Members Present:

Mark Anderson, Bob Apitz, Lisa Bigham, Annette Fiedler, Terry Genelin, David Henkels, Jeff Johnson, Steve Koehler, Jack Kolars, JinYeene Neumann, Greg Ous, Darrell Pettis, and Gordy Regenscheid

**Members Absent:** Chad Fowlds, Chris Frederick, Fred Salisbury, and Matt Widboom

**Others Present:** Ronda Allis, Al Forsberg, Seth Greenwood, Jake Huebsch, Sam Parker, Dan Sarff, Paul Vogel, and Debra Yates

Steve Koehler welcomed everyone.

The minutes of January 8, 2016 were reviewed and approved as presented.

Debra Yates reviewed an Administrative Modification that was submitted for SP 5380-133, making a technical correction to the bridge number in the project description.

## 2017 – 2020 STIP target guidance breakdown

Lisa Bigham provided an overview of the STP funding guidance for FY 20; specifically how the funds are divided between the STP-Rural and STP-Small Urban programs. Lisa also mentioned that state funds will be used to cover the purchase of buses beginning in FY 17 and forward. Therefore, the funds that have been sub-targeted for transit from the STP-Small Urban program will be coming back to ATP-7. Lisa explained that these funds will be used to maximize federal dollars on ATP-selected STP-Small Urban projects.

## 2020 ATIP development

- **TAP** – Darrell Pettis spoke on behalf of the TAP subcommittee. The subcommittee met in St. James on February 22. They received six applications totaling over \$2.2 M (\$700,000 subtarget). The top project, the Mankato Riverfront Drive/Sibley Street Intersection Improvement, also applied for funding through the statewide SRTS program. At this time, no decision has been made on the projects to be funded through the statewide SRTS solicitation. The TAP subcommittee recommended funding the top two projects:

City of Mankato	Riverfront Drive/Sibley Street Intersection	\$229,616
City of Fairmont	I90 to 10 <sup>th</sup> Street Trail Connection	\$406,960
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$636,576</b>

If the Mankato project is selected through the statewide SRTS selection process, the subcommittee suggests funding the following projects:

City of Fairmont	I90 to 10 <sup>th</sup> Street Trail Connection	\$406,960
City of North Mankato	Dakota Meadows SRTS project	\$267,360
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$674,320</b>

- **STP – Small Urban** – Steve Koehler presented the results of the STP-Small Urban subcommittee review and ranking. Five applications were received for FY 20 funding: Mankato, New Prague, North Mankato, St. Peter, and Worthington. The subtarget for STP-Small Urban was originally \$1,744,000; however, as Lisa Bigham mentioned earlier in the meeting, the STP-Small Urban funds no longer need to be sub-targeted for transit (bus purchases will be covered with state funds out of Central Office). This increased the STP-Small Urban funding to \$2,064,000. The subcommittee recommended funding the following projects:

<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>FY 17</b> (redistributed transit funds)	<b>FY 18</b> (redistributed transit funds)	<b>FY 19</b> (redistributed transit funds)	<b>FY 20</b> (STP-Small Urban subtarget)
City of Mankato	Adams Street Extension	\$225,600	\$254,400	\$384,000	\$636,000
City of New Prague	Reconstruction of TH 19 (Main Street)				\$1,500,000
City of St. Peter	Resurfacing and median construction on TH 99	\$200,000			
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$425,000</b>	<b>\$254,400</b>	<b>\$384,000</b>	<b>\$2,136,000</b>

- **STP – Rural** – JinYeene Newmann noted that three counties applied for the STP-Rural funds. They had a sub-target of \$2,736,000. The subcommittee recommended funding Blue Earth County and Martin County at an amount of \$1,368,000 each.
- **Local Transit** – Unlike the previous subcommittees that were selecting projects for FY 20 funding, transit was selecting projects for FY 17 funding. Bob Apitz spoke on behalf of the Transit Subcommittee and noted that their recommendation was to fund buses for the following systems if state funds from Central Office are used to make the purchases:

City of Mankato	Class 400 Low Floor bus	\$111,895
Brown County Heartland Express	Class 400	\$60,800
Trailblazer Transit	Class 400	\$60,800
Watonwan County dba TMT (Take Me There)	Class 400	\$60,800
Faribault-Martin County Transit Board	Class 400	\$60,800
Cedar Valley Services, Inc (Smart Transit)	Class 400	\$60,800
Le Sueur Heartland Express	Class 400	\$60,800
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$476,695</b>

All of the buses are in need of replacement, but funding was limited with ATP-7's transit sub-target. If, for some reason, ATP-7 has to fund the buses in FY 17, the Transit Subcommittee suggests funding the first five buses for a total of \$355,095 (which is slightly over the \$320,000 sub-target).

Lisa Bigham and Greg Ous talked about the role of ATP-7 and the Transit subcommittee under the new funding scenario (centrally funded). Greg and Lisa believe it is important to have the ATP involved in the bus selection process, and ATP members strongly agreed.

- **2017 – 2020 Draft ATIP map** – Lisa Bigham reviewed the draft 2017-2020 ATIP and corresponding map with ATP members. Lisa reviewed changes to projects in FY's 17, 18, and 19 and then focused on the projects in the new FY 20.

Questions/concerns raised during the presentation of the Draft ATIP:

1. The HSIP projects are proposed projects; still have not heard back on project selection.
2. Some of the locals are still unaware of rail projects that have been selected in their communities.
3. We need to make sure we have an efficient process for communicating ATIP changes to MAPO so that they can incorporate into their TIP in a timely manner with proper vetting.
4. Will we still be able to include bus purchases in the ATP-7 portion of the ATIP if they are funded centrally with state funds? (UPDATE: The transit projects will be listed in a different section of the STIP.)

A FY 16 construction map was also provided to ATP members. Greg Ous noted that the St. James urban reconstruction project was recently let, and the two bids were considerably higher than the estimate. The project will be re-let in May and will hopefully result in more competitive bidding. (UPDATE: The St. James project was let on May 20, 2016 for \$15.7M, and had been let on February 26, 2016 for \$18.9M.)

### **Next steps**

Ronda Allis provided an overview of the ATIP development process. The solicitation kicked off in October 2015 when the TAP Letters of Intent (LOI) opened. Applications for the various programs (TAP, Transit, STP-Small Urban, and STP-Rural) were due in January 2016. ATP subcommittees met in February to review/rank the applications. Subcommittee recommendations were presented to the ATP at the March 14, 2016 meeting. The ATP recommended moving forward with the draft ATIP.

On March 29, 2016 (3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.), the Southwest Regional Development Commission will be holding a public meeting where the 2017- 2020 Draft ATIP will be presented. Region 9 Development Commission and MAPO will hold a joint public meeting on Monday, April 4, 2016 (3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.). The draft ATIP is due to Central Office by April 15, 2016. If comments are received back from Central Office in time, the ATP will hold their next meeting on Friday, June 10, 2016.

### **Legislative update/FAST Act**

Greg Ous provided an overview of the new federal transportation bill, FAST Act.

Greg Ous also updated ATP members on the status of the legislative audit that was recently conducted on the MnDOT project selection process. Greg indicated that the report should be released to the public soon.

### **Regional transportation updates**

- MAPO – Paul Vogel, Executive Director, said they are in the process of developing their first TIP, which is due this month. He also noted that they are busy with a number of planning projects including two corridor studies, various ICE reports, and a complete streets plan with the City of North Mankato.
- RDC – Annette Fiedler, SWDC, is anticipating approximately 5 new SRTS planning projects in her region. They are also in the process of a contract with the Office of Transit to update the Human Services Transit Coordination Plan. Sam Parker, R9, is also busy with SRTS planning grants as well as active living efforts in partnership with the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP).

Gordy Regenscheid had a couple of items to share with ATP members:

- BROS (Bridge Off System) – the process for selecting BROS projects begins with a list of deficient bridges, which is developed by Central Office, and routed to the State Aid Engineers at each District. The State Aid Engineers talk with their respective County Engineers and determine which bridge(s) should be recommended for funding. Central Office has funded at least one bridge in each district. After each district gets their first bridge, remainder of funds are distributed by group consensus.
- The State Aid office is changing the process that they use for fund redistribution. The new process will hold 2016 funds until 2017, allowing ATP's a full year to decide how to invest the additional funding. This process will continue for future years.
- ATP-subcommittees should plan on meeting over the summer months to review their respective applications and make changes in preparation for the FY 21 solicitation. Meeting dates and announcements will be determined later.

#### **Next proposed meeting date**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, June 10, 2016; however, this is dependent upon Central Office's review/comment on the draft ATIP. The next meeting will be held at the newly opened Mankato Transit facility. (UPDATE: June ATP meeting was moved to June 24, 2016.)