

Northeast Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership Meeting

November 3, 2011

**Hermantown Public Safety Building
5111 Maple Grove Road
Hermantown, MN**

Members Present

John Welle
Ron Johnson
Bob Manzoline
Doug Grindall
Wade Pavleck
Ron Chicka
Wayne Olson
Jason Holliday
Cindy Voigt
Bryan Anderson
Jack Larson
Jim Foldesi
David Salo
Walter Leu
Steve Kniefel
Kevin Adee
Earl Elde
Catherine McLynn
Al Goodman
Dave Christy
David Betts
Bruce Martinson
Diane Parker
Mike Moilanen

Others Present

Jon Mason
Robert Herling
Don Mohawk
John Minor
Rex Bordson
Nancy Sannes
Scott Johnson
Katie Caskey
Philip Schaffner

Representing

Aitkin County
Duluth Seaway Port Authority
Regional Rail Authority
Koochiching County
Koochiching County
MIC
Carlton County
Fond du Lac Reservation
City of Duluth
MnDOT
Rural Transit
St. Louis County
Cities > 5,000
MnDOT
St. Louis County
Koochiching County
MIC
Itasca County
Lake County
Itasca County
Cook County
Cook County
Cook County/Townships
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

Representing

ARDC
MIC
MnDOT
MnDOT
MnDOT
MnDOT
MnDOT
MnDOT
MnDOT

Welcome/Introductions

Chairman John Welle called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM. Welcome and introductions were made.

April 7, 2011 Meeting Summary

ACTION ITEM:

Motion by Doug Grindall, seconded by Wayne Olson to approve the April 7th meeting summary. Motion passed.

2012 Program Status

Local program:

Walter Leu reviewed the FY 2011 local program (handout) and discussed each project's status. Highlights of the local program include:

- The funding for the HelmetHero program for 2011 was lost because St. Paul didn't receive the STIP amendment. Funding will hopefully be found to continue the program through either cost saving on other projects or possibly deferral of another Enhancement project.
- The DNR has \$500,000 in 2012 enhancement funds that cannot meet an April 2012 deadline. This is the Beaver River Bridge project and Lake County has a 2015 resurfacing project on Scenic 61 with \$600,000 in federal funds. This project can meet April 2012. In addition, Lake County has already planned reconditioning of CSAH 14, in 2012, with \$1,200,000 in federal funds. Combining these two projects could bring favorable bids. The STIP would need to be amended to move SP 092-090-038 from 2012 to 2015, and convert the \$600,000 of STP funds to Enhancement funds for this project to move forward.
- Grand Portage has \$300,000 in Enhancement funding for 2012. Grand Portage has been working with the BIA to develop trail plans for the funding. An agreement is being set up with the BIA to transfer the construction funds to the BIA to administer as well.
- Some of the HPP funds given to developing better access to the Air National Guard will be used on improving Haines Road which leads to the facility.
- A STIP amendment is being processed to amend SRTS funds (\$54,200) into the 2011-2014 STIP to be used to engineer a trail in Esko.
- The City of Duluth received \$800,000 in Scenic Byway funding to restore the Stewart Creek Bridge this project will be amended into the 2011-2014 STIP.

Leu congratulated the local agencies on a job well done for delivering a successful 2011 program. \$27 million in work was completed.

State Program

Nancy Sannes then reviewed the FY 2011 MnDOT program (handout). A project highlight is the \$31 million dollar concrete overlay on I-35 from Boundary Ave to Scanlon in 2012 and 2013.

Nancy also reviewed the Better Roads projects with the Work Group. Those projects included overlays on TH 200 (Cass-Aitkin CO LN to S JCT TH 2), TH 169 (TH 200/Hill City to .1 MI S Aitkin-Itasca County LN), TH 1 (Northome to TH 6), TH 65 (JCT TH 27 to Pliney), TH 18 (S JCT TH 47 to TH 65).

Investment Guidelines

Sannes reviewed the investment guidelines with the Committee. Sannes mentioned that 2016 is only a projection based on expected funding. The rail, HSIP, and Enhancement targets, as well as, the transit investment capital plan were used in developing the guidelines.

Walter Leu/Jim Foldesi motioned to approve the investment guidelines for 2013-2016. – The motion carried.

Enhancements Process

Jon Mason provided an overview of the Enhancement process. The Enhancements pre-application is due on November 4th and final applications will be due on December 16th.

Schedule

Bryan Anderson reviewed the upcoming schedule (handout) for the year. Anderson mentioned that the Area Transportation Improvement Plan (ATIP) development process follows previous years schedules. The next Steering Committee meeting is on January 23th.

ATP Website

Anderson provided an overview of the ATP website. Anderson mentioned that ATP members can find all information related to ATP meetings and the Enhancements process at this site. The website address is www.nemnatp.org.

Funding Update

Anderson provided ATP members with an update on federal funding. Senate leaders announced that they will begin action on a two year bill on November 9th. The bill will be known as Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21). The bill will be considered at 2005 funding levels. The House has also begun work on a longer term bill with the possibility of up to a 34 percent cut to 2005 funding levels.

Statewide Plan Vision and Outreach

Phillip Schaffner with MnDOT provided a presentation on Minnesota GO. MnDOT launched the Minnesota GO visioning process to better align the transportation system with what Minnesotans expect for their quality of life, economy and natural environment. Minnesota Go vision will present a set of long-range objectives for transportation in the state that may take up to 50 years to be fully realized. The vision and guiding principles are intended to be used by all agencies responsible for transportation planning, construction and delivery in Minnesota to inform their investment and service decisions.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the ATP will be on April 5, 2012 at a location to be determined.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 11:48 a.m.