

**Northeast Minnesota ATP
Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 14, 2010 – 10:00 AM
Lake Superior Conference Room
Mn/DOT Duluth District Office**

Members Present

Dave Christy
Tom Pagel
Paul Bergman
Dennis Jensen
Cindy Voigt
Pete Eakman
Walter Leu
Bob Manzoline
Jesse Story
David Betts
Wayne Olson
Jim Foldesi
Jim Rohweder
John Welle
Doug Grindall
Tom Peterson

Others Present

Bryan Anderson
James Gittemeier
John Minor
Rex Bordson
Denny Johnson
Lorraine Kramer
Gus Peterson

Representing

Itasca County
Cities > 5,000
Lake County
Transit
City of Duluth
Pine County
Mn/DOT
Regional Rail Authority
Cities > 5,000
Cook County
Carlton County
St. Louis County
MIC
Aitkin County
Koochiching County
DNR/Environmental

Representing

ARDC
MIC
Mn/DOT
Mn/DOT
Mn/DOT
Mn/DOT
Mn/DOT

Call to Order

John Welle, Acting Chair in the absence of Chair David Salo, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. Introductions were made.

Minutes of the March 22, 2010 Meeting

Action Item:

Motion by Walter Leu, seconded by Jim Foldesi to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

ATP Steering Committee Chairman

Action Item:

Wayne Olson nominated John Welle to serve as the new ATP/ATP Steering Committee Chair. The nomination was seconded by Walter Leu. Motion passed.

Welcome to John Welle as new chair of the ATP/ATP Steering Committee.

2010-2011 Program Status

Walter Leu reviewed the FY 2010 local program status (handout) and discussed each project's current status. He advised that most of the 2010 projects are either authorized, under construction or completed. Only a couple of the 2010 projects will have to move into the 2011 program.

Walt then reviewed the FY 2011 local program.

Action Item:

Motion by Walter Leu, seconded by Doug Grindall to transfer federal funding on two Itasca County projects. FY 2011 federal funding will be transferred from SP 031-614-012 to SP 031-607-027 (paving project on CSAH 7). Gus will process the necessary STIP Amendments.

Gus reviewed the Mn/DOT FY 2011 program (handout). Gus explained that FY 2011 is mostly focused on I-35 projects. The project highlighted in yellow was originally to be let in FY 2011. Now this project is moving to a spring letting in FY 2012. Of the projects highlighted in green (which are let projects), the first project is an AC payback for the I-35 Mega Project. Two additional AC paybacks for the I-35 Mega Project are in FY 2012 and FY 2015.

The I-35 Mega Project contractor did not make the 2010 open to traffic date and will not receive the \$950,000 early completion incentive set-aside.

2011-2014 STIP

Gus reviewed the FY 2011-2014 STIP (handout), which is expected to receive FHWA approval in December 2010. Gus mentioned that in the FY 2010-2013 STIP, there were projects that didn't appear in the printed copy of the STIP which resulted in the need for STIP amendments. Therefore, he would appreciate if everyone would review their projects in the new STIP, especially the FY 2011 projects, and advise Gus if there are any discrepancies or omissions.

John Welle had a question on how to avoid having to process STIP Amendments for minor project changes/descriptions. Gus explained that the description on the plan must be exactly the same as in the STIP. Walt suggested getting any changes and/or updates turned in as soon as possible in the fall so they will match correctly.

2012 – 2015 ATIP

Funding Targets/Investment Guidelines (handout)

Denny reviewed the handout and advised that the percentages are very close to the guidelines. The average target for our region is \$42 million/year of federal formula funds. Solicitation of FY 2015 projects will be initiated after the November 4th ATP meeting.

Action Item:

Motion by Wayne Olson and seconded by Jim Rohweder that the proposed FY 2011-2015 Funding Targets/Investment Guidelines be recommended for approval by the ATP at their November 4th meeting.

Enhancement Process

Bryan Anderson advised that the solicitation for FY 2015 Enhancement projects began in August 2010. Pre-applications are due for these projects on November 1st with final applications due on December 17th.

Three Enhancements Task Force member positions need replacement. Mike Forsman will need a term extension and Jeff Brown and Chuck Lepper will no longer be serving on the task force. Steering Committee members should get recommended names for replacing these two members to Bryan. Doug Grindall mentioned that he will see if a Koochiching County Board member is interested in replacing Chuck on the Task Force. The ATP will make the appointments to the Task Force at the ATP meeting on November 4th.

Process / Schedule

Denny reviewed the Tentative 2012-2015 STIP Process/Schedule attached to today's meeting invitation. The ATP meeting will be held on November 4th at 10:00 a.m. at the Hermantown Public Safety Building. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on January 24, 2011.

Other Business

Walt said that the 2010 local HSIP projects for district wide striping did not get authorized. He has requested that the Office of Traffic Safety move them into the 2011 program. Stay tuned.

Packets of information for the Transportation Revolving Loan Fund (TRLF) solicitation are being sent out today and are due back on January 10, 2011. Gus will send out letters describing what is available.

Denny advised that the Mn/DOT planning offices have been reorganized with a new Multimodal Planning Office. Statewide presentations on Mn/DOT's Vision for Minnesota's Transportation System are planned. There will be three presentations in northeast Minnesota. The first will be at the November 4th ATP meeting, another at the Duluth-Superior MIC Policy Board meeting on December 8th and another at the ARDC Board meeting on December 16th.

Denny advised that Mn/DOT's Office of Innovative Finance has scheduled a statewide Corridor Coalitions Forum in Brooklyn Center on December 2nd to discuss corridor improvement needs

and funding issues. Denny has sent in names of representatives of various corridor coalitions in northeast Minnesota to be invited to this meeting.

Mn/DOT district's will be participating in a 10 Year Plan (2011-2020) Review meeting on December 8th. The updated draft 10 Year Plans are to be submitted by the end of October (there will be very few changes in the updated northeast Minnesota 10 Year Plan which will continue to focus on preservation of the existing system).

Mn/DOT also has a new Programming Update Work Group that will be meeting over the winter months. Mike Tardy, District One ADE is a member of this committee. The Work Group will have an ATP Advisory Group (ATP Chairs and Vice Chairs) that will meet to provide input and advice to the Work Group. John Welle and Doug Grindall will represent the NE MN ATP.

Denny also is on the Interregional Corridor (IRC) Committee which is evaluating possible changes to the IRC system with recommendations due by summer 2011. The original IRC system was developed based on mobility and congestion issues.

Dennis Jensen gave an update on the proposed DTA Multimodal Transportation Terminal. The DTA applied for and received a \$16 million federal allocation that requires a 20 percent non-federal match. They can now move ahead on preliminary design of the facility but they will need an additional \$16 million of federal funds to complete financing for the construction of the terminal.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the ATP Steering Committee is scheduled for January 24, 2011.

Adjourn

Chair John Welle adjourned the meeting.