

**Northeast Minnesota ATP
Steering Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 2009
Lake Superior Conference Room
Mn/DOT Duluth District Office**

Members Present

John Welle
Mark LeBrun
Cindy Voigt
David Salo
Walter Leu
Paul Bergman
Jim Rohweder
Pete Eakman
Jesse Story
Bob Manzoline
Tom Peterson

Others Present

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

Representing

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

Representing

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

Call to Order

Chairman David Salo called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Introductions were made.

Minutes of the June 29, 2009 Meeting

Action Item:

Motion by Paul Bergman, seconded by John Welle, to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

2009-2010 Program Status

Walter Leu reviewed the 2009 local program summarized in the handout. The federal fiscal year has now ended with over \$35 million in local federal projects, including the ARRA projects. The only project that did not make a 2009 letting is the City of Duluth Safe Routes to School project.

Walt reviewed individual projects in the 2010 local program on the second handout. April 15, 2010 is the deadline for these projects. Let Walt know of any change in any local project's status. There should be about \$35-\$38 million worth of local construction in 2010.

Gus Peterson advised that close to \$34 million in ARRA projects were let in FY 2009 and 2010 in District 1(handout) which results in a huge improvement to our Mn/DOT road system.

Gus also reviewed the FY 2010 program status (handout). Mn/DOT has a very large program with over \$100 million worth of construction in 2010, mostly through special funding. Projects in green have already been let and constructed this past summer. Larger projects in 2010 include:

- TH 11 in District 2 – Chapter 152 bond funding
- I-35 near Moose Lake - \$25 million worth of pavement work mostly funded with bonds
- TH's 65 & 169 – pavement work funded by bond funds
- TH 61 – HPP funded reconstruction from Split Rock River to Chapin's Curve in Lake Co.
- ARRA funded TH 2 from St. Louis Co Rd 845 to Co Rd 875, pavement & drainage repairs
- I-35 Mega project from Boundary Ave to 26th Ave East in Duluth - a \$75-\$80 million project partially funded with bonds

2010 – 2013 STIP

Denny advised that the final copies of the 2010-2013 STIP are not available yet. The STIP has been submitted to the FHWA and we expect to have copies available for the ATP meeting scheduled for November 5th. All requested projects were funded.

2011 – 2014 ATIP

Funding Targets / Investment Guidelines (handout):

Federal Target of \$42 million/year in FY 2011 – 2014

FY 2014 program reduced to \$35 million due to Trinity Rd. payback of \$6.5 million

- Cities/counties reduced to \$6.5 million
- Mn/DOT reduced to \$20.6 million
- DTA bus replacements are 11% of the program, which is higher than normal due to increased bus replacement costs and the lower program level. The DTA has also applied for special federal earmarked funds.

Walt reviewed the local ARRA projects in ATP 1. Between Duluth and St. Louis County in the MIC area, \$9 million of stimulus dollars were spent. \$6.6 million of local stimulus dollars also went to areas outside of the MIC area. In 2014, it is only fair to look at funding equity and focus available funding at areas that did not receive stimulus money in 2009 (Carlton, Itasca, Lake, Pine and North St. Louis Counties).

Action Item:

Motion by John Welle, seconded by Walter Leu to approve the Investment Guidelines. Motion passed.

Enhancement Process:

Bryan Anderson of the ARDC advised that the guidelines are for \$1.5 million available per year. They are currently soliciting for 2014 enhancement projects and pre-applications are due on November 2, 2009 with final applications due December 18, 2009. They held a workshop in

September with 10-12 attendees and Bryan expects an increase in applications this year. All information is available on the ARDC website.

2011 – 2014 STIP Process/Schedule (attached to agenda):

The full ATP meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 5 at the Hermantown Public Safety Building.

The 2014 projects solicitation will be sent out shortly after that meeting.

Walt again discussed equity being a consideration in selecting 2014 local projects. The Local agencies can make their own decisions based on this discussion.

ATP Steering Committee Chair

Dave Salo said that he is willing to continue as Chairman of the ATP and ATP Steering Committee unless someone else would like to take the position.

Action Item:

Mark LeBrun made a motion, seconded by Jim Rohweder to approve Dave Salo's continued appointment as the Chair of the ATP and ATP Steering Committee. Motion passed.

Other Business

Gus discussed the Transportation Revolving Loan Fund and said that \$8 million is available this year. The program currently seems to focus more on the Metro area.

Gus has sent out a letter to all eligible agencies. The deadline for funding requests is October 30th and, as of this date, Gus has not had any responses to his letter.

Gus advised that Mn/DOT and the Port of Duluth have put in for a federally funded TIGER grant which is part of the Economic Stimulus program. Mn/DOT's portion would add pavement work for 10 additional miles of I-35 between Boundary Avenue and Scanlon. All applications for TIGER grants have been submitted nationally to Washington DC and the selected projects are expected to be announced by January 15, 2010. There are approximately 50 projects on the Minnesota TIGER grant list. The funds must be obligated in 2011. Denny also mentioned that Lake County has submitted a TH 61 reconstruction project between Two Harbors and Silvevr Cliff and the City of Duluth has submitted the proposed Downtown Duluth Multi-modal Facility.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the ATP Steering Committee is scheduled for Monday, January 25, 2010.

Adjourn

Chairman David Salo adjourned the meeting at 11:00 AM.