



**Transportation Policy Committee  
Holiday Inn, St. Cloud  
Thursday, July 31 – Friday, August 1, 2008**

**\*\*MEETING MINUTES\*\***

**Members present: see attached sheet**

Chair M. Peterson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 31. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A **motion** was made to approve the meeting minutes of April 9, 2007. The motion was seconded and **passed** unanimously via voice vote.

Outgoing chair M. Peterson led the election process and solicited nominations. A **motion** was made by M. Tinklenberg to nominate Alan Johnston as the next Chair position and Jane Remiger as the next Vice Chair. B. Kubicek seconded. The motion **passed** unanimously via voice vote.

A. Johnston replaced M. Peterson as Committee Chair. J. Remiger replaced A. Johnston as Vice Chair.

Patti Loken (MnDOT) updated the Committee on the Local Bridge Program and future funding shortages. She explained that MnDOT is attempting to develop an organizational vision that accounts for these potential shortfalls. Ms. Loken also discussed the Local Road Improvement Program, roads of regional significance, the Rural Road Safety Account, and the Trunk Highway Corridor Account.

Rick Kjonaas (MnDOT) covered follow-up topics related to Ms. Loken's presentation. He discussed turnbacks, pavement testing, and the MNDOT Housekeeping Bill and state requirements to comply with the retroreflectivity federal mandates that take effect in 2012.

Greg Hayes (MN Statewide Truck Education Program) presented information on truck weights and what the state is doing to accommodate an expected increase of 40% in truck trafficking by 2017. Ryan O'Connor (AMC) informed the Committee that he would contact Mr. Hayes on Monday, August 04 and then send out a mass email so that all Committee members would have a copy of Mr. Hayes' presentation.

Ben Worel (MnROAD) told the committee about the MnROAD program in general and then focused specifically on testing implements of husbandry.

After lunch and a presentation to all AMC policy committees regarding the MN Redesign Project, the Committee reconvened with a presentation from Margaret Donahoe (MN Transportation Alliance). She discussed concerns regarding federal transportation funding and the lack of time that exists to reauthorize funding before all states are affected. Ms. Donahoe implored all members to voice their concerns regarding federal funding to their respective representatives.

Abby McKenzie (MnDOT) discussed the future of transportation investment throughout the state. She explained that MnDOT will finish updating its 20 year transportation plan in 2009, but that commissioners should expect less system expansion in the future unless additional funding becomes available.

D. Grindall represented Koochiching County and explained a concern related to the dispute resolution process and municipal consent. Discussion ensued among committee members and it was ultimately determined that the dispute resolution process would be improved if the length of time given to municipalities to provide consent was reduced from one year. M. Peterson presented a **motion** for AMC staff to meet with the League of Minnesota Cities and Association of Metropolitan Municipalities to review the current dispute resolution process. D. Berg seconded. The motion **passed** unanimously via voice vote.

A. Johnston adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m. and reminded all members that the Committee would reconvene on Friday, August 1 at 8:30 a.m.

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Chair A. Johnston called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, August 1.

Julie Skallman (MnDOT) and John Welle (Atkin County) reviewed the County State Aid Screening Board and the impact that the new transportation funding would have on determining needs. A significant portion of the discussion centered on the fact that the rural/metro split in ideology has not occurred on the Screening Board as was feared when the entity was first created.

Gordon Hoff (MN Business Aviation Association) discussed the impact that funding cuts have had on small airports around the state. He explained that while \$15mil. seems like a small amount to an outsider, that funding is integral to cover the various expenses incurred by small airports.

Peter McLaughlin (County Transit Improvement Board) updated members on the status of transit in the metropolitan area and future plans to significantly expand the rail and LRT aspects of the transit system.

Mike Schaudauer (MnDOT) discussed transit in greater MN and the 2010-2012 expansion that will enhance services to residents.

Scott Bradley (MnDOT) presented information on the Complete Streets program and how they benefit Minnesota communities. He explained that the Commissioner of Transportation was charged with commissioning a study and cost-benefit analysis in 2009 that examines implementing a statewide Complete Streets policy. Finally, Mr. Bradley encouraged committee members to peruse the national Complete Streets website ([www.completethestreets.com](http://www.completethestreets.com)) if they would like to find additional information.

David Christianson (MnDOT) discussed ongoing freight studies in 3 areas of MN and the completed study of southwestern MN. He explained that growth in the freight industry is expected to be huge and that the lack of local freight policies will prove troublesome in the future.

Chair A. Johnston told members to expect an email from AMC staff that would solicit platform ideas before the September policy committee meetings. He also asked AMC to contact the transportation leaders in both the House and Senate to ask if they would be willing to speak to the Committee in September.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ryan O'Connor – AMC Policy Analyst