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The 35W Solutions Alliance Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2020

Richfield City Hall, Bartholomew Room, 6700 Portland Ave S

Minutes

Members and Guests Present

A quorum was present. Members present were: Karl Keel, Dan Kealey, Ryan Peterson, Chair Liz Workman, Mary Liz Holberg, Josh Berg, Debbie Goettel, Angela Conley, Zach Johnson, Charles Carlson, Andrew Lutaya, Amber Blanchard, Mark Lindeberg, Joe Powers, Matt Johnson, Lisa Freese, Tom Wolf

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 a.m. by Chair Liz Workman

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes of the July 9, 2020 meeting were approved.

Acceptance of Treasurer's Report

Upon motion made and seconded, the treasurer's report was approved subject to audit.

Orange Line Construction Update

Charles Carlson of Metro Transit briefed the group on the updates to the Orange Line station and the 35W/Lake Street station.

Budget Committee

Last meeting, Ryan Peterson provided the budget committee's recommended changes to the 2021 budget. Dues to remain the same except for one member crossing into a different dues level due to population level changes. Additional budget policy language was added to the previous dues policy. Following a motion and second, the board approved the 2021 budget and the new dues policy.

Bylaws/Joint Powers Agreement Review

Last meeting, A Bylaws Review Committee recommended changes to the JPA/Bylaws, which were approved by the board. A motion was made and seconded to authorize digital signatures for member ratification.

Audit Committee Members

A motion was made and seconded to approve Zach Johnson of Lakeville, Karl Keel of Bloomington and Seng Thongvanh of Savage as an audit committee for the group.

Legislative Update

In August Minnesota Management and Budget projected revenues to be short in the next biennium almost \$5 billion. Given the increased social spending during economic downturns, the state's projected budget deficit could be much higher, but we'll need to wait for the November Economic Forecast for those numbers.

There was a bonding bill that failed to get the 3/5s super majority to pass the House floor in July's special session. In August, there was no attempt to do a bonding bill due to a required "quiet period" while the bonding houses assess the state's bonding rating. This quiet period appears to go until the 19th or 20th of this month, so tomorrow's special session will not see any bonding action and the legislature may return on the 20th or 21st if agreement is reached. The chances are slim for a bonding agreement with the elections nearing.

Website Updates

No website updates

Project Updates

- I-35W/I-494 Interchange – Technical Advisory Committee meets every 2 weeks regarding equity and inclusion. Production has been slowed in order to work inclusion and equity plan.
- I-35W Bridge over River – Closure that was scheduled for this weekend for south bound 35W is postponed. The closure for north bound 35W scheduled for September 18 is still on track.
- Highway 77 – Scaling study back to 2-phases due to constraints from COVID-19 effects.
- Green Line Extension (SW) – Construction is continuing and has gone through the 30-day review for grant.
- Federal Transportation Updates – build grant applications will be determined on September 15th. FAST act expires on September 30th. HR-2 has been proposed by the House, the senate has until the 30th to make their own proposal.
- Highway 13 – the Highway 101 – Nicollet study continues.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 8th, 2020.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m.