

**BISMARCK-MANDAN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 20, 2025**

The Bismarck-Mandan Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met October 20, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Ed “Bosh” Froehlich Meeting Room, City Hall, 205 2nd Ave NW, Mandan, ND. Kim Riepl presided.

Members present or participating via Zoom were Daniel Nairn, Deidre Hughes, Gabe Schell, Matt Schaible attended for Loretta Marshik, Jarek Wigness, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Will Hutchings and Kim Riepl. Members absent were Dan Schriock, John Saiki, Natalie Pierce, and Mandan City Planner. The Freight Industry Representative membership is vacant.

Others present or participating via Zoom were Stephen Larson, Tracy Walters and Paulette Jacobsen, Bismarck-Mandan MPO; Paul Benning, WSB Engineering; John Forman, Ulteig Engineering and Luke Champa, SRF.

ADDENDUM I

Chair Riepl called for an amendment to the October 20, 2025, agenda of the Bismarck-Mandan Metropolitan Planning Organization (BMMPO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for Addendum I to the Master Agreement with ATAC to be added as Item 5b.

MOTION: Ms. Hughes made a motion to amend the agenda as presented. Mr. Schell seconded the motion with Daniel Nairn, Deidre Hughes, Gabe Schell, Matt Schaible, Jarek Wigness, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Will Hutchings and Chair Riepl voting in favor, the amended agenda was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Riepl called for public comment on items on the current agenda or the prior Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting agenda, excluding public hearing items. Seeing and hearing none, she closed the public comment period.

MINUTES

Chair Riepl called for consideration of the minutes from September 15, 2025.

MOTION: Mr. Nairn made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Hughes seconded the motion and with Daniel Nairn, Deidre Hughes, Gabe Schell, Jarek Wigness, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Will Hutchings and Chair Riepl voting in favor. Matt Schaible abstained his vote and the minutes were approved.

2026-2029 FINAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

Mr. Larson stated last month the TAC and Policy Board have approved the draft 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP has since been updated to reflect changes and comments by TAC, North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the document is in its final form. Mr. Larson noted that all the changes to the document were minor and are now reflected in the appendix of the document and any future changes and additions to the document will be addressed by the TIP revisions process.

MOTION: Mr. Schell made a motion to recommend approval of the final 2026-2029 TIP as presented. Ms. Hughes seconded the motion and with Daniel Nairn, Deidre Hughes, Gabe Schell, Matt Schaible, Jarek Wigness, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Will Hutchings and Chair Riepl voting in favor, the final 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was recommended for approval.

2026 PM1 HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HSIP) TARGETS

Ms. Walters stated the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) recently adopted their annual Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) performance targets for 2026. The federal government requires every state's DOT to monitor the rate of injuries and fatalities on the state road system and to use this monitoring to assist in setting safety targets in the effort to increase roadway safety. She stated MPOs are allowed to either set their own Performance Measures targets, or to support their state's targets. The Bismarck-Mandan MPO has historically supported NDDOT's safety targets. The MPO staff recommends the adoption of NDDOT's 2026 HSIP Performance Targets by Resolution of Adoption.

MOTION: Ms. Hughes made a motion to recommend adoption of the NDDOT 2026 PM1 Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Targets. Mr. Schaible seconded the motion and with Daniel Nairn, Deidre Hughes, Gabe Schell, Matt Schaible, Jarek Wigness, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Will Hutchings and Chair Riepl voting in favor, the NDDOT 2026 PM1 Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Targets were recommended for approval.

2026 TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN (TDP) RFP

Ms. Jacobsen presented the request for proposals (RFP) for the Transit Development Plan (TDP). The study's purpose is to provide the BMMPO and Bis-Man Transit with a quality and usable guide to improve operations in a financially constrained manner. The TDP's goal is to enhance public transportation and maximize Bis-Man Transit's efficiency, accessibility and longevity. This document is typically updated every three to five years. This TDP will focus on Bis-Man Transit's types of service and identify opportunities for improvement. She stated the public involvement plan will include two public meetings to be held in Bismarck and Mandan. The plan has a budget of \$180,000, of which approximately \$99,000 is in 2026 UPWP with the remainder of the \$81,000 expended in 2027. The proposed deadline for proposals is November 17, 2025. Work will begin on this plan in January 2026 and this project is scheduled to conclude in May 2027. Ms. Jacobsen stated the MPO has received comments from NDDOT and has addressed the comments and changes to the TDP RFP.

Ms. Jacobsen provided an overview of the changes to the TDP RFP.

Mr. Nairn questioned Section 3b's statement recommend alternative types of transit services. He asked if alternative types of services are to be recommended or just studied for potential recommendation in the future. Mr. Hutchings stated he had the same question to be addressed for clarification. Ms. Riepl replied that changing the word recommend, to evaluate may be a simple solution.

Mr. Nairn stated that he appreciated the inclusion of passenger rail as our region may soon be hosting the return of passenger rail service and making sure we have adequate connectivity for travelers is important.

Mr. Schell stated the new sales tax and revenue sources will go to the City of Bismarck and the City of Mandan. He questioned the terms of allocating the funds and how much of those go towards Bis-Man Transit. He said we need to justify what their needs are and reiterated that they are

not MPO's dollars or Transit's dollars either. He noted the funds belong to the City of Mandan and the City of Bismarck and the funds should be allocated to support Bis-Man Transit in the most appropriate way.

MOTION: Ms. Hughes made a motion to recommend approval of the 2026 Transit Development Plan RFP, with TAC's comments incorporated. Mr. Nairn seconded the motion and with Daniel Nairn, Deidre Hughes, Gabe Schell, Matt Schaible, Jarek Wigness, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Will Hutchings and Chair Riepl voting in favor, the 2026 Transit Development Plan RFP was recommended for approval.

ATAC MASTER AGREEMENT ADDENDUM

Ms. Riepl stated the Bismarck-Mandan MPO, in conjunction with the other state MPOs and NDDOT, maintains a master agreement with the Advanced Traffic Analysis Center (ATAC) of NDSU. We are currently amid a three-year master agreement and any work that is provided to us regarding our travel demand model maintenance or any other model runs through ATAC is handled through addendums to the Master Agreement.

Ms. Riepl stated this addendum was sent out to TAC and Policy Board members on Friday. This would be for routine traffic data collection as part of the collection efforts to update our Travel Demand Model (TDM) which will precede our next Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update. The addendum addresses fifteen intersections in the Bismarck area and will use cameras to be set up by October 21st. If this addendum is approved, we will have current data available to coincide with the traffic collection data coordinated by NDDOT statewide and specifically in the Bismarck-Mandan area. Both projects combined efforts would allow the use of a 2025 base year for our next TDM update. The cost of \$34,881 is as an estimate by ATAC and they have assured the total cost would not exceed \$35,000.

Mr. Hutchings asked if this project would affect the 2026-2027 UPWP.

Ms. Riepl stated this would not affect the 2026-2027 UPWP. We are spending down money that has already been allocated and budgeted through the UPWP for 2025.

MOTION: Mr. Schell made a motion to recommend approval of the ATAC Master Agreement Addendum. Ms. Hughes seconded the motion and with Daniel Nairn, Deidre Hughes, Gabe Schell, Matt Schaible, Jarek Wigness, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Will Hutchings and Chair Riepl voting in favor, the ATAC Master Agreement Addendum was recommended for approval.

2025 SAFETY POLICY STUDY

Mr. Champa stated they are working towards the draft report for the Safety Policy Study. The Steering Committee members met on September 25th. They discussed the countermeasure tool kit and looked at the urban versus rural potential strategies to implement in the future. The countermeasure tool kit will be updated based on notes from the meeting. Regarding the cost estimates, the roundabout, which was currently listed as approximately \$400,000.00, will be in the range of a \$3 million project. These costs will be updated to be accurate. The update on the high injury network will include a breakdown of the corridors that comprise the high injury network, the summary of the crash counts and severity of the crashes. He also said they are compiling information to start with the top two tiers of each high injury network to form a narrative. The draft report will be ready for the Steering Committee and the MPO's review by the first week of November and will be brought before TAC and Policy Board in December.

2025 ITS RA

Ms. Riepl stated this project is 70% complete. They have had extensive interviews with stakeholders and are looking at the existing regional architecture for the region's Intelligent Transportation Services (ITS). The service packages and their functional requirements have been reviewed and the Regional Architecture (RA) updates will start soon. The stakeholder feedback is being compiled to identify any gaps in the information and this will assist in drafting the report. The draft report will be ready for review in November.

FARMP (FRINGE AREA ROAD MASTER PLAN)

Mr. Larson stated contract negotiations with Bolton and Menk, the selected consultant, have concluded. The contract has completed the review process through the MPO and its oversight agencies. NDDOT will finalize their review of the QBS and upon approval, the MPO will immediately start the project.

2025 MONITORING REPORT UPDATE

Mr. Larson stated HDR has provided a second draft of the monitoring report. The final document is now going through internal review. Once the internal review is completed and necessary changes have been addressed, the final report will be brought to TAC and Policy Board in November for presentation and possible approval. HDR will be holding a training course for MPO staff to enable future updates of the Monitoring Report in-house. This project is on schedule for conclusion before the end of the year.

Mr. Hutchings stated as part of this effort, there was a desire to look at what things and items are going to be covered in the Monitoring Report and asked Mr. Larson to give a brief overview of the report.

Mr. Larson replied the content is going to have similarities with the previous report in the sense that it will cover the same broad topics regarding population, housing, employment, and travel patterns in the region. The information received from the jurisdictional workshop held included everything that the jurisdictions specifically requested or asked for. They went through and sorted previous data to try to eliminate information that was not relevant or excessive. The conclusion of the document talks about emerging trends in transportation, including a section on passenger rail authority and the return of service to the MPO area.

Mr. Hutchings also asked about changing the format from a printed document to an online version or a series of posts that you put out through social media.

Mr. Larson stated the Monitoring Report will be in a document form. The formatting of the document will be user friendly. The training received from HDR will help staff navigate the tables of the document.

Mr. Nairn asked if the data is presented in a context that can allow us to draw meaning from the numbers such as comparison to the past.

Mr. Larson replied it's not just going to be tables or numbers, as the document is mixed with tables, textual, and graphics. It is being presented as a past, present and future oriented document.

2025-2028 TIP ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS

Mr. Larson stated this month the MPO processed three administrative modifications to the current 2025-2028 TIP. NDDOT moved three projects from 2025 back to fiscal year 2026. These three projects are for microsurfacing and pavement markings in Bismarck. The MPO keeps track of these types of modifications as they do happen quite frequently. The TIP provides for administrative movement for these modifications because they do happen often and they are usually minor changes.

Mr. Schell asked if the MPO could adopt the NDDOT's STIP as our TIP. He commented on the time it takes staff to shuffle electronic items around and asked Mr. Hutchings if this could be a solution.

Mr. Hutchings replied that the CFR is written for the TIP to match the STIP. He noted that the State is moving to an E-STIP and this will provide more communication opportunities for the MPO's and stop the paper pushing processes.

Mr. Larson stated that we are federally mandated to make the paper changes to the TIP. He stated that the MPO would be open to hearing from the TAC & Policy Board if they wished to not be informed at the meetings of the administrative modifications.

Ms. Riepl stated that if the TAC & Policy Board wished not to be informed of the TIP administrative modifications, the MPO would amend the Public Participation Plan (PPP). The current PPP states that staff can make these administrative modifications internally and the Board must be informed of the changes.

2026-2027 UPWP ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS

Ms. Riepl stated the 2026- 2027 UPWP funding source tables had administrative modifications requested by NDDOT to combine the funding sources of NDPL funds and NDFTA funds into one funding source. NDDOT has since directed that federal oversight prefers that those funding sources be split out and designated as they were first approved. The UPWP administrative modification has been made to revert to the initial table that Policy Board previously approved.

ROADWAY PROJECTS

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| NDDOT: | Mr. Beise stated they will be pouring concrete on 40 th Street later this week. They plan to flip traffic onto the new concrete midweek. He noted there will be restricted access on the southbound lane of 46 th Street later this week and on Exit 161, they are currently paving the northeast ramp. They will also be asphalt shoulder paving on the interstate this week. |
| City of Bismarck: | Mr. Schell said the East Century Avenue extension and reconstruction has all the main line pours done and they are finishing up the side street intersection, sidewalks, boulevards and tree planting. |
| City of Mandan: | Mr. Wigness said in Mandan the local and federal jobs have wrapped up for the year. The construction project on Memorial Highway is still active. Mr. Beise added they will be pouring concrete later this week on Memorial Highway. |
| Burleigh County: | Mr. Schriock stated there is no update for Burleigh County. |
| City of Lincoln: | Mr. Schaible said there are no ongoing projects for Lincoln. |
| Morton County: | There was no update from Morton County. |

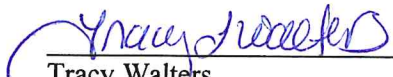
OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Riepl stated that NDDOT solicited for the regional and urban roads projects. The MPO needs to see applications no later than November 28, 2025. These projects will be presented to TAC and Policy Board in December for consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m., with the next scheduled meeting to take place on November 17, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Ed "Bosh" Froelich Meeting Room of Mandan City Hall, 205 2nd Ave NW, Mandan.

Respectfully submitted,


Tracy Walters
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

MPO TAC Chair