

**BISMARCK-MANDAN METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AUGUST 18, 2025**

The Bismarck-Mandan Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met August 18, 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 Ben Ehreth, Dan Schriock, Deidre Hughes, Chris Holzer served as a substitute for Gabe Schell, Loretta Marshik, Riley McAdoo-Roesler served as a substitute for Jarek Wigness, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan. Natalie Pierce Will Hutchings and Kim Riepl. Members absent were John Saiki 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; Kristen Sperry, FHWA; Paul Benning, WSB Engineering; Rubaiet Islam, WSB Engineering; and Luke Champa, SRF.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Riepl called for public comment on items on the current agenda or the prior Technical Advisory Committee 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 July 14, 2025.

MOTION: Mr. Ehreth made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Marshik seconded the motion and with Ben Ehreth, Dan Schriock, Deidre Hughes, Chris Holzer, Loretta Marshik, Riley McAdoo-Roesler, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Natalie Pierce, Will Hutchings and Chair Riepl voting in favor, the minutes were approved.

2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS

Mr. Larson presented two Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) amendment exhibits. He explained the first TIP amendment will have an increased cost estimated that is associated with Phase III of the 2025 Mandan Memorial Highway reconstruction project. The second TIP amendment adds a new project to the TIP for the preliminary engineering of a potential project in 2029, which is a drainage improvement project to a railroad underpass located at Highway 1806 6th AVE NE in Mandan, ND. He stated both projects are being advertised for the 15-day public comment period and a public comment hearing has been scheduled for August 20, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. in the David Blackstead meeting room located at 221 N. 5th St, Bismarck, ND. Staff is requesting the amendments be conditionally approved based on no substantive comments being received during the public comment period.

MOTION: Mr. McAdoo-Roesler made a motion to recommend conditional approval of the 2025-2028 TIP Amendments as presented based on no substantive comments being received during the public comment period. Ms. Hughes seconded the motion and with Ben Ehreth, Dan Schriock, Deidre Hughes, Chris Holzer, Loretta Marshik, Riley

McAdoo-Roesler, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Natalie Pierce, Will Hutchings, and Chair Riepl voting in favor, the motion was approved.

2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENT

Mr. Larson presented an exhibit explaining an additional proposed amendment to the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). This amendment is adding a new project in 2025 for microsurfacing on County Road 139A in Morton County, from 175 ft west of Crown Butte Lake Trail, 6 miles east to 24th Avenue on the outskirts of Mandan. He stated there are two Federal funding sources for the project, one for the Urban and one for the Rural portion. He stated this project is being advertised for the 15-day public comment period and a public hearing has been scheduled for August 25, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. in the David Blackstead meeting room located at 221 N. 5th St, Bismarck, ND. Staff is requesting the amendment be conditionally approved based on no substantive comments being received during the public comment period.

MOTION: Ms. Pierce made a motion to conditionally approve the 2025-2028 TIP Amendment as presented based on no substantive comments being received during the public comment period. Ms. Marshik seconded the motion with Ben Ehreth, Dan Schriock, Deidre Hughes, Chris Holzer, Loretta Marshik, Riley McAdoo-Roesler, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Natalie Pierce, Will Hutchings, and Chair Riepl voting in favor, the motion was approved.

2026-2027 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Ms. Riepl stated this is the final draft version of the 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). She said the UPWP is the two-year work budget for the Bismarck-Mandan MPO. The draft UPWP was approved by the Policy Board at their July meeting and the MPO has submitted the document to North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), Federal Transit Association (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for their 30-day review and no further comments have been received. Staff is seeking a recommendation of approval by Resolution of Adoption of the final 2026-2027 UPWP. If the Policy Board approves, the Self Certification document in the UPWP will be replaced with a copy that was approved in May and is signed and approved by NDDOT, certifying compliance with the same 10 Federal requirements as those shown on the current document.

Mr. Hutchings requested that the funding sources for North Dakota PL and North Dakota FTA funds be combined as CPG funds in the final UPWP.

Ms. Riepl stated she would make the correction on the final UPWP as directed by NDDOT.

MOTION: Mr. Ehreth made a motion to recommend approval, by Resolution of Adoption, of the 2026-2027 UPWP with the correction that Mr. Hutchings has suggested. Ms. Pierce seconded the motion and with Ben Ehreth, Dan Schriock, Deidre Hughes, Chris Holzer, Loretta Marshik, Riley McAdoo-Roesler, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Natalie Pierce, Will Hutchings, and Chair Riepl voting in favor, the motion was approved.

BISMARCK-MANDAN MPO PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY

Ms. Riepl stated there has been a change in the North Dakota Century Code regarding the provision of a public comment opportunity at regular meetings. She shared an exhibit of the MPO's

Public Comment Policy and explained the reason for the policy, the policy statement, the scope of the policy and the procedures for enforcement. She stated the Public Comment Policy is a requirement of the MPO and she noted there is a link on the document to the ND Century Code as the source of requirement. The ND Century Code dictated that these changes were to be in effect by August 1, 2025, and so a public comment opportunity was provided at the opening of today's TAC meeting. Future TAC, Policy Board and Bike & Ped Subcommittee meetings will offer public comment opportunities at the beginning of their meetings.

Ms. Riepl stated that any persons wishing to provide comments must sign the public comment sign in sheet and will be allotted 5 minutes to speak on items pertaining to the current and last month's agenda items. The speaker will be notified that their 5-minute time limit is up; however, the Chair will have discretion to extend the 5-minute time limit as they see fit. No individual may yield their time to another individual. The total public comment opportunity will be limited to 30 minutes with the discretion of the Chair to extend the time as needed. The comments must pertain to the public entity holding the meeting and may not be defamatory, abusive, unlawful, include information that is exempt or confidential under the North Dakota Open Records law, and may not interfere with the orderly conduct of the meeting.

Mr. Ehreth asked if the Public Comment Policy would be made available to the public prior to them engaging in a public comment opportunity.

Ms. Riepl replied that we would supply copies of the Public Comment Policy next to the sign in sheet to inform the public.

MOTION: Mr. Ehreth made a motion to recommend approval of the Public Comment Policy as presented. Ms. Hughes seconded the motion with Ben Ehreth, Dan Schriock, Deidre Hughes, Chris Holzer, Loretta Marshik, Riley McAdoo-Roesler, Logan Beise, Mitch Flanagan, Natalie Pierce, Will Hutchings, and Chair Riepl voting in favor, the motion was approved.

2025 SAFETY POLICY STUDY

Mr. Champa presented an update for SRF. Mr. Champa stated they are finishing refinements to the memos and findings from the June Steering Committee which includes the Historical Crash Trend Summary memo. He said they are working on adding data for motorcycle crashes, off highway vehicles and demographics. They will be updating the Community Conversations Key Themes document and he has sent a technical memo to the Steering Committee regarding leadership commitment and goal setting for the Vision Zero goal for the Bismarck-Mandan region. Mr. Champa said two ways to set the Vision Zero goals are to set a specific target and target date to achieve zero crashes or to set a percentage reduction by a specific target date. He intends to have a recommendation to include in a formal action of adoption for the Safety Policy Study at the next Steering Committee meeting in September with final adoption of the Safety Policy Study by the end of the year. Mr. Champa also stated that they have met with the Off-Highway Vehicle State Coordinator, the North Dakota Motor Carriers Association, ABATE, and local freight carriers. He will provide updates at the September Steering Committee meeting. They are also working on the High Injury Network characteristics for intersection configuration, speed limits, traffic volume and adjacent land use. The results of this analysis will be included in the Historical Crash Trend Summary.

2025 ITS RA UPDATE

Ms. Riepl presented. Ms. Riepl stated that the Intelligent Transportation System Regional Architecture (ITS RA) update has been ongoing with the system inventory update. She presented a table that provides an overview of the system inventory list and she explained that the elements within the system and additional added projects are identified within the table. Ms. Riepl said that small stakeholders group meetings were held to begin the system inventory update and they will resume meetings of communication and IT stakeholders to finalize the system inventory. The service packages and functional requirements will all be reviewed and completed by October 2025. The service packages and functional requirements will be aligned with MPO planning goals and objectives as outlined in the Arrive 2050 MTP. This project is on budget and on schedule to be completed by December 2025.

2025 MONITORING REPORT UPDATE

Mr. Larson presented an update for HDR. He stated the MPO and HDR are continuing to work on the draft Monitoring Report document and remain on track to complete the project by the end of the year.

FARMP (FRINGE AREA ROAD MASTER PLAN) UPDATE

Mr. Larson stated the deadline for proposals on the Fringe Area Road Master Plan (FARMP) Update was August 8, and a total of 4 proposals was received. The proposals were from KLJ, Bolton and Menk, SRF, and HDR. The Selection Committee will be conducting interviews with the proposing consultants in early September, and the MPO expects to bring the top-ranked consultant to TAC and Policy Board for approval at the September meetings.

TIP ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS

Mr. Larson presented. He stated the MPO processed twelve administrative modifications to the 2025-2028 TIP. NDDOT contacted the MPO and requested 12 be moved; six from FY 2027 and six from FY 2026, into FY 2025, in case additional FY25 funding comes available to NDDOT because of the August redistribution at the end of the current federal fiscal year. Most of the projects being moved to FY 2025 will likely be moved back to FY2026 or FY2027. The projects include two Bismarck safety projects, a widening project on Washington Street, an Urban Grants project in downtown Bismarck, four microsurfacing projects in Bismarck, three concrete pavement repair projects in Bismarck, and one mill and overlay project in Mandan.

Mr. Holzer pointed out that a 2026 date would need to be updated to the year 2027, on the first sheet of the exhibit.

Mr. Larson agreed to make the change to the exhibit.

ROADWAY PROJECTS

City of Bismarck:

Mr. Holzer stated that East Century Avenue between Centennial Road and 52nd Street is progressing and the pavement is finished between Centennial and Roosevelt Drive. He said that east of Roosevelt Drive they are working on sewer pipes and grading the area. On 3rd Street between Main Avenue and Bismarck Expressway, the outside lanes are done and work has begun on the inside lanes. He also stated that the road on Skyline Boulevard was closed for a few weeks and that the project is two thirds finished.

Burleigh County: Mr. Schriock stated they wrapped up their Highway 10 chip seal and paving project.

City of Lincoln: Ms. Marshik said there are minimal road maintenance projects going on in Lincoln and there are no major projects at this time.

City of Mandan: Mr. McAdoo-Roesler noted that the Memorial Highway project has crews installing water mains, sanitary sewer and storm sewer along the South side of the road. He also said on 46th Street some grading gravel work began in July and are looking forward to concrete paving soon. They also have 2 significant, ongoing water main projects. He said there was a big push to finish up the road projects around the schools before school starts.

Morton County: Ms. Pierce stated they have a few ongoing projects in the rural areas of Morton County; however, she is not aware of any within the MPO's boundary.

NDDOT: Mr. Beise stated that Exit 161 is still ongoing and there will be traffic control changes in the future and cautioned to watch for signs while driving in the area.

OTHER BUSINESS

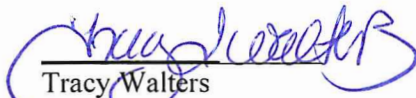
Mr. Larson noted the MPO solicited for the FY26 Recreational Trails Program (RTP) earlier this year and received two applications, one for a Cottonwoods Park Trail Rehab in Bismarck, and the other for a 66th Street SE Pathway extension in Lincoln. The North Dakota Parks and Recreation District has announced RTP projects they have selected for funding for FY26. Five out of twenty applications submitted statewide received FY26 funding, including the City of Lincoln's 66th Street project. It will be included in the MPO's draft 2026-2029 TIP.

Mr. Hutchings stated that the draft 2026-2029 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) has been released for a 30-day public comment period. He noted that he forwarded a news release with an incorrect date that will be updated to September 15, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m., with the next scheduled meeting to take place on September 15, 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