



Membership MEETING

Friday, July 6, 2018

Chaska City Hall Council Chambers

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Meeting Notes

Randy Maluchnik, SWCTC President, called the meeting to order and asked for self introductions.

Lyndon Robjent, Carver County Engineers, discussed the county's application for a Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development or BUILD grant from the federal government. The previous application for a grant through the Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) program was not successful. The county is seeking an additional \$12 million in order have sufficient funds for construction of the 2-4 lane project on Highway 212 between Chaska and Cologne. Letters of support for the application are important and many SWCTC members have supplied letters which will be sent as part of the application.

The county is also seeking a \$25 million grant for the segment of Highway 212 between Cologne and Norwood Young America. MnDOT is planning a major rehabilitation project on Highway 212 in 2020 in this area and additional funding could allow for the project to be re-scoped to an expansion project. Preliminary design is moving ahead for this segment and is expected to be done by June of next year. Funding that was provided through the state freight program will sunset in 2022.

Some coalition members will participate in a de-briefing session with US DOT officials to learn more about their assessment of the previous INFRA application.

Margaret Donahoe, MN Transportation Alliance, provided an update on federal legislative action. Coalition members attended the Alliance Fly-In in May and had an opportunity to talk directly with Congressional members and staff about the importance of area transportation projects. Currently, Congress is working on the FFY2019 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. The expectation is that the legislation will be passed by the end of the current fiscal year (September 30th).

A summary of the 2018 Legislative Session was provided. The most important bill for transportation was the capital bonding bill which included \$540 million for transportation programs and projects. The bill included \$78.6 million for the Local Road Improvement Program and \$5 million for the Local

Bridge program. The bill also provided an additional \$400 million in trunk highway bond authority for the Corridors of Commerce Program.

The Metropolitan Council is in the process of updating the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) for the region. A hearing is scheduled for August 1st. Comments on the plan are due by August 13th.

Rep. Glenn Gruenhagen discussed the results of the 2018 Legislative Session and his concerns about government reform efforts. He noted that the upcoming election will be a very important one.

House candidate Greg Boe also spoke briefly about his interest and involvement in the coalition and his reasons for running for the Minnesota House of Representatives to replace Rep. Hoppe who is retiring from the legislature.