



Northeast Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership Meeting

October 13, 2021 @ 10:00 am*
Zoom Video/Audio Conference

AGENDA

*The Zoom conference line will be open at 9:45 am to give participants time to get settled prior to the meeting start. We encourage participants to log or call into the meeting by 9:55 am.

- 10:00 Call to Order
Attendance (Michelle Pierson)
- 10:05 **Approval of Meeting Summary** – April 14, 2021
- 10:10 Comments from Citizens Present
- 10:15 **Approval of Consent Agenda** (Note: One action can accept all items, and members may pull any individual item out of this consent agenda to discuss/act on item separately.)
- Appointment of Transportation Alternatives Task Force Members (Att. #1)
 - Appointment of CY 2022 Strategic Planning Committee (Att. #2)
 - Approval of CY 2022 Meeting Schedule (Att. #3)
- 10:20 Corridors of Commerce Program (Patrick Weidemann, MnDOT)
- 11:20 **Approval of FY 2026 Transportation Alternatives Application** (Russell Habermann, Att. #4)
- 11:25 **Election of CY 2022 Vice Chair**
- 11:30 Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan (Ashley Zidon, MnDOT)
- 11:55 Member Concerns/Future Agenda Topics
- 12:00 **Adjourn**

Bold print denotes need for action.

Attachment #1

Transportation Alternatives Task Force Members

The following individuals are recommended to serve as members on the Transportation Alternatives Task Force, starting in the FY 2026 solicitation year. Membership terms on the Task Force are three years, and members may be appointed to serve multiple terms.

- **Tony Carter (Pedestrians and Bicycles Representative)** – Tony is a life-long cyclist who lives in Itasca County. Before his retirement in 2014, he worked for 19 years with the Itasca County Transportation Department. This would be his first term on the TA Task Force.
- **Annie Harala (Active Living Representative)** – Annie is a Duluth resident. She has served Northeast Minnesota and the Duluth community in multiple capacities, including as a member of the Duluth School Board from 2014-2017. She originally became involved with the TA Task Force as regional coordinator of the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP). She now works with Northland Constructors and owns her own media production company. This would be her third term on the TA Task Force.
- **Mark Jeffers (Local Government Representative)** – Mark is the Economic Development Coordinator at Aitkin County and previously served as Executive Director of Economic Development for Aitkin County Growth. He also is involved with the Aitkin Chamber of Commerce and the City of Aitkin Planning Commission. This would be his first term on the TA Task Force.
- **Mary Somnis (Scenic Byways Representative)** – Mary is the co-chair of the North Shore Scenic Drive Council. She retired in 2021 after serving as Executive Director of the Cook County/Grand Marais EDA for five years. Prior to that, she served as the Tourism Marketing Coordinator at IRRR. She is also a member of the ARDC Board and Commission. This would be her first term on the TA Task Force.

Attachment #2

NEMNATP New Committee Proposal

Name: ATP Strategic Planning Committee

Purpose: To identify desired direction of ATP activities

Goals:

- Advise ATP staff on meeting contents during 2022
- Advise implementation of the NEMNATP 2021-2025 Strategic Plan

Membership:

- ATP Chair
- ATP Vice-Chair
- MnDOT D-1 Representative – Bryan Anderson
- DSMIC Representative – James Gittemeier
- Elected Official Representative – Gary Peterson (Carlton County)
- County Engineer Representative – Jim Foldesi (St. Louis County)
- At-large Representative – Jack Larson (Arrowhead Transit)
- ATP Staff (ARDC Planning) Representative – Russell Habermann

Requirements for Minutes: No meeting minutes will be produced because the main product of the group's work will be quarterly meeting agendas.

Term of the Committee: The Committee will be effective through December 31, 2022.

Attachment #3

NEMNATP CY 2022 Meeting Schedule

- Wednesday, February 9, 2022 @ 10am
- Wednesday, April 13, 2022 @ 10am
- Wednesday, July 13, 2022 @ 10am
- Wednesday, October 12, 2022 @ 10am

Attachment #4 - Highlighted items demonstrate changes from previous years

ATP Project Evaluation

Notes: These questions were developed by the Northeast Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership.

Project Description

1. Identify the Transportation Alternatives category/categories in which your project fits:
 - Active Transportation: Develops new facilities, enhances existing facilities, or removes barriers for people walking, bicycling, or using other non-motorized modes of transportation to access daily needs.
 - Wayside Rests: Constructs safety rest areas and scenic overlooks for motorists.
 - Community Improvement: Enhances community improvement by controlling outdoor advertising, preserving historic transportation facilities, managing vegetation in transportation rights-of-way, and/or conducting archeological activities related to impacts of a transportation project.
 - Environmental Mitigation: Mitigates environmental harm related to impacts of transportation systems.
 - Safe Routes to School: Furthers Safe Routes to School programs through infrastructure- and non-infrastructure-related improvements.
 - Boulevard Development: Develops boulevards and other roadways (largely in right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways) specifically for enhanced use by people walking, bicycling, or using transit. (See [Boulevards from Divided Highways](#) for examples.)
2. Is your project an initiative of a local Safe Routes to School program? (Note: An infrastructure project may benefit connections to a school without being an initiative of a Safe Routes to School program.)

Click here to enter "Yes" or "No".

- a. If YES, which school(s)?

Click here to enter text.

- b. If YES, describe this school's implementation of SRTS [Education strategies](#) in the past year.

Click here to enter text.

- c. If YES, describe this school's implementation of SRTS [Encouragement strategies](#) in the past year.

Click here to enter text.

- d. If YES, describe this school's implementation of SRTS [Enforcement strategies](#) in the past year.

Click here to enter text.

e. If YES, describe this school's implementation of SRTS [Engagement strategies](#) in the past year.

Click here to enter text.

f. If YES, describe this school's implementation of SRTS [Engineering strategies](#) in the past year.

Click here to enter text.

g. If YES, describe this school's implementation of SRTS [Equity strategies](#) in the past year.

Click here to enter text.

h. If YES, describe this school's implementation of SRTS [Evaluation strategies](#) in the past year.

Click here to enter text.

3. Is your project an initiative of a designated Scenic Byway organization? (Note: An infrastructure project may benefit a scenic byway without being an initiative of a Scenic Byway organization.)

Click here to enter "Yes" or "No".

a. If YES, which Scenic Byway?

Click here to enter text.

4. Describe your project and project location in detail. If you are applying for an infrastructure project, include an easy-to-read map and captioned photos of the project location.

Click here to enter text.

5. Describe demographic conditions for the area where your project is located.

Click here to enter text.

6. Estimate the average number of people expected to utilize your project on a daily basis.

Click here to enter text.

7. Describe and provide evidence about how your project will benefit the population and area it will serve.

Click here to enter text.

Project Support and Partnerships

8. List public planning documents (from local, regional, statewide, and/or national levels) that have identified the need for your project and/or documented the design of your project. In your list, include the year each planning document was published.

Click here to enter text.

- a. For each planning document listed above, describe the public input and engagement processes (e.g., surveys, public meetings) used to identify the need and/or guide the design of your project.

Click here to enter text.

9. If you are applying for an infrastructure project, describe the level of engineering completed for your project to date and how you engaged the public about any final design decisions. If your project is not “ready to build”, describe how you will engage with the public while making final design decisions to maintain public support. (Note: If you are applying for a non-infrastructure project, skip this question.)

Click here to enter text.

10. Below, list the organizations, community groups, and/or individuals from whom you received letters or resolutions of support for your project. In addition to listing the organizations below, attach letters and resolutions of support to this application.

Click here to enter text.

Project Deliverability and Sustainability

11. Does the lead jurisdiction or agency have an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) transition plan in place as required by Title II of ADA, 28 CFR. Part 35 Sec. 35.105 and Sec. 35.150? (Note: "Lead jurisdiction or agency" refers to the project sponsor.)

Click here to enter text.

12. Describe your organization's and/or the sponsoring agency's history with delivering federally-funded projects; if your agency has been awarded and turned back Transportation Alternatives funding in the past, identify the impacted project(s) and provide a summary explaining the circumstances.

Click here to enter text.

13. Identify the key steps and timeframe you will follow for guaranteed delivery of your project.

Click here to enter text.

14. Are you hoping to construct your project prior to the 2026 construction year?

Click here to enter "Yes" or "No".

- a. If YES, what year are you planning to construct your project?

Click here to enter text.

15. Identify the status of matching funds for your project or, if funds are not secured, plans to secure matching funds.

Click here to enter text.

16. If you are applying for an infrastructure project, identify the status of project rights-of-way/property easements or, if project property is not secured, plans to secure project rights-of-way/property easements. (Note: If you are applying for a non-infrastructure project, skip this question.)

Click here to enter text.

17. If you are applying for an infrastructure project, identify the environmental impacts you anticipate from your project and the required permits you anticipate the need to secure. (Note: If you are applying for a non-infrastructure project, skip this question.)

Click here to enter text.

18. Describe your plan to manage and maintain your project into the future. If you are applying for an infrastructure project, also identify how you intend for people to use your project during winter and what kind of maintenance will support this intended use.

Click here to enter text.

19. If you are recommended to receive Transportation Alternatives funding for your project, would you be willing to receive less than the amount you requested while still committing to deliver your project as

presented in this application?

Click here to enter "Yes" or "No".

- a. If YES, identify the minimum amount of federal funding from this program you are willing to accept for your project. (Note: If less funding than the amount you requested is awarded, you would still be expected to deliver the project in full, as presented in this application.)

Click here to enter text.

Appendix A: Scoring Criteria

Notes: Each application will be scored by the Northeast Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership's Transportation Alternatives Task Force on the following criteria, which were developed by the Northeast Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership.

Project meets TA program goals [15 points possible, 30%]

1. Project accomplishes the goals for its respective TA program category/categories. (Note: For a self-identified Safe Routes to School project, this category will consider implementation of a comprehensive 5-E program.) *See Questions 1, Questions 2-3 if applicable.* [5 points]
2. Project benefits the population and area it serves, as demonstrated by the applicant's consideration of community performance measures (i.e., community health, economic prosperity, environmental health, social justice, traffic safety) and use of sound sources to prove the proposed project will enhance these measures. *See Questions 4-7.* [10 points]

Project has public support [15 points possible, 30%]

3. Project demonstrates public support by being included in planning documents produced with appropriate levels of public input and engagement. *See Question 8.* [5 points]
4. Applicant has secured public support by having final project designs approved through public processes and/or has a sound plan in place to maintain public support while final project design decisions are made. (Note: If you are applying for a non-infrastructure project, you will receive full points for this category.) *See Question 9.* [5 points]
5. Project letters of support and resolutions demonstrate a high level of community and regional support. *See Question 10.* [5 points]

Project has high chance for deliverability [20 points possible, 40%]

6. Applicant demonstrates it can effectively deliver its project on time. *See Questions 12-14 and Question 17.* [5 points]
7. Applicant has secured matching funds or has a sound plan in place to secure matching funds. *See Question 15.* [5 points]
8. Applicant has secured project rights-of-way/property easements or has a sound plan in place to secure project rights-of-way/property easements. (Note: If you are applying for a non-infrastructure project, you will receive full points for this category.) *See Question 16.* [5 points]
9. Applicant has a sound plan in place to maintain its project. *See Question 18.* [5 points]