



Minutes of the regular meeting of the Rochester-Olmsted Council of Governments held at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, **August 26, 2026**, in Conference Room 171 located at PWSC, 1180 50th Street SE, Rochester, MN 55904.

Members Present:

- Mr. Brian Mueller, (Chair) County Commissioner
- Mr. Nick Miller, (Vice Chair), Rochester City Council
- Mr. Bob Hopkins, County Commissioner
- Mr. Bill Schimmel, Small Cities
- Mr. Patrick Keane, Rochester City Council
- Ms. Kim Norton, City of Rochester
- Mr. Randy Reimer, Community Representative
- Ms. Shelly Rohe, Community Representative
- Ms. Diana Connelly, Townships
- Mr. Gregg Wright, County Commissioner
- Mr. Steve Cook, Small Cities
- Mr. Randy Schubring, Rochester City Council

Members Absent:

- Mr. Shaun Palmer, Rochester City Council
- Mr. Dustin Morrow, School District #535
- Mr. Dave Iseminger, Small Cities
- Mr. Frank Merchant, Townships

ROCOG Staff Present via Conf. Room 109/110:

- Ms. Allison Sosa, ROCOG Executive Director
- Mr. Jarrett Hubbard, Principal Planner
- Ms. Karli McElroy, Principal Planner
- Mr. Matt Tse, Principal Planner
- Ms. Beth Davis, Executive Support Supervisor

Partner Staff Present via Conf. Room 109/110:

- Mr. Ben Johnson, County Public Works
- Mr. Matt Lynch, Rochester-Administration
- Ms. Rachel Fautsch, Rochester Parking and Transit
- Mr. Sam Budzuna, Rochester Traffic Engineer
- Mr. Nick Sanford, County Traffic Engineer
- Mr. Randy Petersen, Post-Bulletin

Others Present via Microsoft Teams:

- Mr. Greg Paulson, MnDOT District 6
- Mr. Randy Staver, Rochester Township
- Mr. Kurt Wayne, MnDOT
- Ms. Sandi Goslee, Principal Planner

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Mr. Mueller, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Mr. Miller moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Schimmel seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

Conduct Public Hearing for the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

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Mr. Tse presented the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) draft, detailing its purpose, funding sources, major projects, and the public hearing process, with input and questions from board members. The board discussed need and purpose of the 30-day open comment period and its integration into the final document.

Mr. Keane made a motion to open the public hearing. Second by Mr. Cook. Motion carried.

No one came forward with comments.

Mr. Cook made a motion to close the public hearing. Second, by Mr. Reimer. Motion carried.

Staff explained the distinction between the public hearing and the open comment period, the outreach methods used (including direct contact, media, and presentations), and the integration of public comments into the final TIP document, noting the typical low volume of written comments and the importance of connecting the public with lead agencies for project-specific questions.

Authorization of Resolution 2026-11 for a 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment No. 1

Ms. Sosa presented the request to amend the 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), outlining the redistribution of \$140,000 within the \$920,000 budget to cover additional personnel, federal/state support, and travel demand model work, with board discussion and approval of the amendment. Ms. Sosa explained the need for additional funds to complete phase one of the travel demand model, which expands coverage to the entire Olmsted County.

Discussion moved to the original 2026 contract for the development of a new travel demand model between MN DOT and a consulting firm. Under the contract, ROCOG was a third-party recipient without project management controls. The board discussed contract delays and the legislative deadline for completion of the original contract.

ROCOG policy board expressed their frustration with the state's failure to deliver a base year travel demand model by the June 30th deadline. Discussion ensued on the second phase of the work for the travel demand model and how the contract and data from the first phase will be implemented.

Motion was made by Mr. Cook to approve Resolution 2026-11. Second, by Ms. Rohe. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

2027 Unified Planning Work Program

Ms. Sosa described the timeline for review and adoption, with the draft document to be sent out next week, technical committee review in September, and policy board adoption scheduled for September 23rd, followed by submission to state and federal agencies for grant distribution.

Mr. Schubring requested an amendment to the minutes as he was not in attendance at the July meeting as noted. Amendment was accepted unanimously.

Next ROCOG Meeting – September 23, 2026 at PWSC, 1188 50th Street SE, Rochester, MN

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Cook moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Iseminger seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Brian Mueller, ROCOG Chair

Allison Sosa, ROCOG Executive Director

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