

# Minutes

Committee of the Whole



**Meeting Date:** August 2, 2023

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Location:** 390 Robert Steet

## Members Present:

- Chair, Charlie Zelle
- Judy Johnson, District 1
- Reva Chamblis, District 2
- Tyronne Carter, District 3
- Deb Barber, District 4
- John Pacheco Jr., District 5

- Robert Lilligren, District 6
- Yassin Osman, District 7
- Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- Diego Morales, District 9
- Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- Gail Cederberg, District 11

- Susan Vento, District 12
- Chai Lee, District 13
- Toni Carter, District 14
- Tenzin Dolkar, District 15
- Wendy Wulff, District 16
- = present

## Call to Order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:04 p.m.

## Agenda Approved

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

## Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Lilligren to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2023, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried.**

## Information

### 1. 2024 Annual Public Housing Agency Plan

Terri Smith, Director, Metro HRA, and Stephanie Paulson, Assistant Director, Metro HRA, shared the 2024 Annual Public Housing Agency Plan. Metropolitan Council Housing and Redevelopment Authority (Metro HRA) serves over 7,200 households in 96 communities. The HRA service area is any area that does not have its own Section 8 program. The Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for any agency administering the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program and is submitted to HUD each October. The purpose of the plan is to provide HUD long range goals for meeting the needs of low-income persons in the region. The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Administrative Plan is required by HUD as a supporting document to the PHA Plan and is Metro HRA's primary policy document. The HCV plan contains mandatory and discretionary policies and is available for public review. Metro HRA also issues Project Based Vouchers (PBV). A PBV attaches a voucher to a specific unit rather than using it for tenant-based assistance. Smith shared an overview of administrative changes to the PHA Plan including language added to provide clarity on the considerations of offering and awarding project based vouchers. Smith also shared information about vouchers and project base options. Paulson then shared workplan components of the workplan related to criminal history admission language, Informal Review process, and Special Purpose Voucher – Chapter 19. Paulson also shared information about the PHA Plan goal progress including

maintaining 99% utilization rate of all vouchers.

Council Members had questions and comments regarding utilization of vouchers, project based vouchers eligibility, voucher portability and streamlining, homeownership and wealth building, and data about the increase or decrease in the amount landlords.

## 2. Q2 Metro Transit Safety & Security Action Plan Update

Metro Transit Police Department Chief of Police Ernest Morales III began with the Q2 highlights including patrol operations, calls for service, Group A crimes, and code of conduct violations. Chief Morales also shared information about fare inspections, cases assigned to investigators, and case charging outcomes. Chief Morales then shared information about MTPD staffing, recruitment, work culture, and Great Workplace Project. Chief Morales gave information about collaborative policing, including community partnerships, garage liaisons, Joint Powers Agreements, and developing long-term approaches to outreach services. Morales also shared information about supplemental security, serving Lake Street/Midtown, Franklin Avenue stations. Lesley Kandaras, General Manager, Metro Transit, shared background and context for the Safety and Security Plan as well as information about implementation. The Safety & Security Action Plan emerged from the Metropolitan Council's Metro Transit Police Review and builds on past work and investments. The plan is currently comprised of 42 action items organized into three areas of work: 1. improving conditions on the system, 2. training and supporting employees, and 3. engaging customers and partners. Metro Transit staff then gave an overview of 2023 legislation relating to public safety on transit. Celina Martina, Senior Manager, Equity and Inclusion, Metro Transit, shared information about the Transit Service Intervention Project which launched July 1, 2023. Sophia Ginis, Director of Community Affairs, Metro Transit, gave an overview of Transit Rider Activity and Code of Conduct, which codifies/elevates existing work, including code of conduct, paid fare zones, facilities monitoring. Leah Palmer, Manager, TSA Operations, shared information about the Transit Rider Investment Program (TRIP). TRIP includes creation of TRIP personnel and administrative citations. Marilyn Porter, Director of Engineering and Facilities, Metro Transit, gave an overview of Cleaning and Repair Standards and Reporting which requires Metro Transit to establish cleaning and repair standards for facilities and vehicles. Kandaras then shared information about the Transit Safety and Rider Experience Legislative Report. The first report will be due on February 15, 2024. Drew Kerr, Senior Communications Manager, Metro Transit, gave an overview of how this information will be shared with the public.

Council Members had questions and comments regarding the potential positive outcomes of the case charging process, the human connection between law enforcement and the communities they are serving, officer retention, recruitment outside of the region or state, and diversity of the police force and support for officers. Council members also discussed administrative citations, payment machines and signage, reduced fare cards for individuals on public assistance, and customer experience and feedback.

### Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

### Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole meeting of August 2, 2023.

Approved this 16th day of August 2023.

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### Council Contact:

Bridget Toskey, Recording Secretary  
[Bridget.Toskey@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:Bridget.Toskey@metc.state.mn.us)

