

Metro Mobility Task Force

Charter Adopted on August 23, 2017

Purpose

The purpose of the Metro Mobility Task Force is to develop and submit a report to the legislature by February 15, 2018.

According to the legislative language, the report must:

- Describe the current Metro Mobility program
- Summarize the work of the task force and its findings
- Identify options for reducing program costs and improving efficiency
- Identify at least three potential service level approaches that involve partnering with and incorporating transportation network companies, taxi service providers, or both
- Provide any recommendations for program and legislative changes

The Metro Mobility Task Force will make policy and service recommendations that meet or exceed community standards. Metropolitan Council staff are responsible for drafting a summary report that the Task Force will vote on and submit to the Legislature by February 15, 2018.

Background and Scope

Metro Mobility, a service of the Metropolitan Council, is public transportation in the Twin Cities metro area for certified riders who are unable to use regular fixed-route bus service due to a disability or health condition. Certification is based on criteria established by the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In 2016, the program provided a total of 2.23 million rides to more than 20,000 active users certified for Metro Mobility service.

The Metro Mobility Task Force was established during the 2017 special legislative session in HF 3, Article 3, Section 140. The purpose of the Task Force to examine the Metro Mobility program and to identify options and methods to increase the program effectiveness and efficiency, minimize program costs, and improve service including through a potential partnership with taxi service providers and transportation network companies.

At minimum, the task force must analyze and report on:

- Customer service
- Program costs and expenditures
- Service coverage area and hours
- Reservation and scheduling
- Buses and equipment

Members and Meetings

Membership

The legislative language sets membership:

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1. One representative from Metro Mobility appointed by the Metropolitan Council (nonvoting)
2. One elected official from each county whose district/unit of government is within the Metro Mobility service area, appointed by the county
3. At least one and no more than three individuals representing transportation network companies, an interested TNC may appoint no more than one person as a task force member. Appointments are made on a first-come, first-appointed basis. (nonvoting)
4. At least one and no more than three individuals representing taxi service providers. A taxi service provider may appoint no more than one person as a task force member. Appointments are made on a first-come, first-appointed basis. (nonvoting)
5. One representative appointed by TAAC
6. One representative appointed by the Council on Disability
7. One representative pointed by the commissioner of human services
8. One representative appointed by the commissioner of MMB
9. One individual appointed by the Association of Residential Resources of Minnesota
10. One individual appointed by the Center for Transportation Studies at the University of Minnesota

Additional membership information

- The Chair or Co-Chairs will be selected by the voting members at the first meeting.
- The Chair must be a voting member. If the Task Force chooses Co-Chairs, at least one of the Co-Chairs must be a voting member.
- Members of the Task Force will not have alternates. Since every Task Force meeting is open to the public, organizations are encouraged to send non-Members to observe the proceedings and report back to their organization when their Member is unable to attend.
- Non-voting members will be distinguished from voting members through specific name placards.

Meetings

Meeting schedule

The Task Force will meet once a month until February 15, 2018. Co-chairs can call special meetings at their discretion.

Voting threshold: Business items, including the Task Force's report to the Legislature, will be approved by a simple majority. Task Force members in the minority can produce a report on their dissent should they choose.

Additional meeting information

- All meeting materials and meeting proceedings will be provided in an accessible format.
- Meeting materials will be distributed one week in advance of each scheduled meeting.
- The Metropolitan Council will convene the meetings in accordance with Open Meeting Law principles.

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- The Chair or Co-Chairs will run meetings in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order to ensure all voices are heard and business proceeds in an orderly manner.
- The Chair or Co-Chairs will set the agenda for meetings with support from Metropolitan Council staff.
- Non-voting Members may call in to meetings to listen and participate in discussion.