

# Transportation Committee

CONSENT

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 13, 2013

## ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: February 4, 2013

Subject: Authorize Public Hearings on the West Suburban Service Changes

### **Proposed Action:**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize public hearings on the West Suburban Service Changes Concept Plan.

### **Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:**

Steve Mahowald, Metro Transit Senior Transit Planner, presented this item.

Councilmember Munt commended staff on their work on this project.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Smith, that the Metropolitan Council authorize public hearings on the West Suburban Service Changes Concept Plan. Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

**Transportation Committee**

**Meeting date: January 28, 2013**

**For the Council Meeting of February 13, 2013**

**ADVISORY INFORMATION**

<b>Date:</b>	January 20, 2013
<b>Subject:</b>	Authorize Public Hearings on the West Suburban Service Changes
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	District 3-Jennifer Munt, District 6-James Brimeyer
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Public Accountability Policy 2-1; Public Hearings Procedure 2-1b; Transportation Service Changes and Restructuring 1-3a; Public Involvement in the Transportation Planning Process 1-3b
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510 John Levin, Director Service Development, 612-349-7789 Adam Harrington, Assistant Director, Route & System Planning, 612-349-7797 Cyndi Harper, Manager, Route Planning, 612-349-7723 Steve Mahowald, Senior Transit Planner, 612-349-7775
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Metro Transit

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize public hearings on the West Suburban Service Changes Concept Plan.

**Background**

Based on recommendations contained in the 2012 Minnetonka Transit Study and a review of service performance in the west suburban area, Metro Transit is recommending local service improvements and express route restructuring in the communities of Minnetonka, Hopkins, St. Louis Park, Deephaven, Greenwood, Excelsior, Shorewood and Tonka Bay.

**Rationale**

The recommended service changes meet the definition of a major service change under Council policy 1-3a and require public hearings to allow review and comment. Council policy requires authorization for public hearings 45 days before the hearings begin. State law requires public notice of the public hearings 30 days before the hearings begin.

Staff recommends that two hearings be held in the communities, Minnetonka and Hopkins, most impacted by the proposed changes.

Monday, April 1, 2013  
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM  
Hennepin County Hopkins Library  
Hopkins Meeting Room  
22 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Hopkins, MN 55343  
612-543-6400

Wednesday, April 3, 2013  
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
Hennepin County Ridgedale Library  
Meeting Room 172  
12601 Ridgedale Drive  
Minnetonka, MN 55305  
612-543-8800

In addition to providing comments at the hearings, the public will be invited to submit comments via telephone, fax, mail, e-mail and the Council website. The comment period will extend 10 days after the last public hearing.

Staff will bring forward a separate business item to approve the details of the West Suburban Concept Plan. Once approved, this Concept Plan will be published no less than 10 days before the first public hearing.

After the comment period closes, staff will consider changes to the Concept Plan to address the comments submitted by the public. A recommendation for final action will then be brought to the Council.

### **Funding**

The outreach and public meetings will be funded through existing operating budgets. The service changes resulting from the Concept Plan will be operated within existing Metro Transit and Metropolitan Council transit service resources.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition to scheduling public hearings for this concept plan.