

2019 Legislative Session Update

May 22, 2019



2019 Legislative Session

- New administration, new DFL leadership in House, Republican Senate
- Budget year – legislature and Governor required to enact budget for FY2020-21

2019 Legislative Session

- Agreement was reached Sunday evening on overall budget targets
- Special session required to pass bills
- Working groups tasked with negotiating details; leadership engaged to settle outstanding issues

Transportation Finance

The transportation bill agreement provides:

- **Metro Mobility: Separate General Fund Appropriation**
 - \$23.17 million above base in FY20 and \$13 million above base in FY21 (contingent on meeting budget forecast). These are one time appropriations and are not added to FY 22/23 base funding.
- \$200,000 one-time appropriation for the Route 495
- **Regional Transit Capital (RTC) Bonds authorized**
 - \$45.4 million in 2019; \$46.9 million in 2020

Transportation Policy

- Authorizes data sharing between the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Council for purposes of seeking federal reimbursement for eligible Metro Mobility services
- Metro Mobility service area expanded to Lakeville
- Correction made to 2017 RTC authorization that inadvertently prohibited use of financial tools like GANs

Transportation Policy

- Additional two year requirement that 0.35% of the Council's MVST share be allocated to opt-out providers in addition to other assistance
- Mediation with Calhoun Isles Condominium Association related to SWLRT construction
- Minneapolis required to host annual rail safety meetings during SWLRT construction
- End of Office of the Legislative Auditor quarterly "transit financial activity" reports

Transportation Policy

- **NOT INCLUDED in the final bill:**
- Elimination of the state's 50% share of operating costs for future light rail projects
- Another vibration study and payment related to the Calhoun Isles property and SWLRT project
- MnPASS revenue changes reducing transit allocation
- Expansion of the University of Minnesota's campus zone pass program
- Bus deployment determined by air quality analysis

Regional Park System

- **Omnibus Environment Bill**
 - **\$9.14 million** each year (**\$18.28 million** for the biennium) for parks operations and maintenance; distributed to the 10 implementing agencies
 - This is a \$600,000/year increase
- **Legacy Parks & Trails Fund**
 - Continues 40/40/20 split for Regional Parks, State Parks (DNR), and Greater Minnesota Parks & Trails
 - **\$19.819 million** in FY2020 and **\$20.777 million** in FY2021 for regional parks projects selected by the elected boards of the implementing agencies
 - A working group of the three entities that receive Parks & Trails funds will convene over the summer to review fund allocations

Environmental Services

Clean Water Fund

- **\$1 million** each year for projects to address emerging drinking water supply threats
- **\$375,000** each year for the water demand reduction grant program

Capital Investment

- Leadership agreement on a \$500M bonding bill
- \$440 for General Obligation bonds
- \$60M for Housing Infrastructure bonds
- Requires a super-majority to pass

Questions?



METROPOLITAN
C O U N C I L