

Council Chair Charles Zelle

Council Members

Abdirahman Muse

Deb Barber

Kris Fredson

Molly Cummings

Phillip Sterner

Reva Chamblis

Susan Vento

Chai Lee

Francisco J. Gonzalez

Lynnea Atlas-Ingebretson

Peter Lindstrom

Raymond Zeran

Robert Lilligren

Wendy Wulff

Christopher Ferguson

Judy Johnson

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 14, 2021 4:00 p.m. Council Chambers

IN ATTENDANCE

Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

ABSENT

Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Zelle called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Zelle noted that a roll call vote is not needed for approval of the agenda. Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Sterner, seconded by Vento to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2021 Council meeting.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson

BUSINESS - Roll call

Joint Report of the Transportation, Management and Community Development Committees

2021-57 JT: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the 2021 Unified Budget as indicated and in accordance with the attached tables.

It was moved by Ferguson, seconded by Lee.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda (Items 1-6)

Consent Agenda Adopted

- 2021-65: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract with Railworks Track Systems, Inc., to provide on-call and preventative track maintenance to the Blue and Green Lines in an amount not to exceed \$1,375,000 for a period of five years, through December 31, 2025.
- 2021-73: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to enter the Council into grant agreements with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) for \$526,650 for payment of principal and interest for the Eagan Bus Garage expansion and \$640,000 for transportation facilities improvements
- 2021-74: That the Metropolitan Council Authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise bus purchase options utilizing the Commonwealth of Virginia's Contract E194-75548 MA2274 with Gillig LLC, to purchase up to twenty-six (26) replacement transit buses in an amount not to exceed \$12,820,000.
- 2021-77: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes award and execution of purchase orders for vactor services at MCES facilities with two (2) vendors to include Goliath Hydrovac, Inc. and Schlomka Vac-Truck Service, Inc. for a combined total award amount not to exceed \$966,850.
- 2021-78: That the Metropolitan Council adopt Resolution 2021-12 authorizing the acquisition of temporary easements for the Coon Rapids Interceptor Rehabilitation project and staff to initiate condemnation proceedings.
- 2021-79: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to enter into a Joint Use Agreement (Agreement) with the City of Minneapolis (City) to accommodate City construction of the proposed Central City Storm Tunnel (Project) in 2021-2022. There are no Metropolitan Council expenditures related to this agreement.

It was moved by Cummings, seconded by Ferguson.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson

BUSINESS

Community Development – No reports

Environment

2021-90 SW: That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract for Minneapolis East Interceptor (MEI) Control Gate Rehabilitation Project 807643, Contract 20P291, to PCiRoads, LLC for the rehabilitation of six underground flow control facilities in an amount not to exceed \$13,999,225

It was moved by Lindstrom, seconded by Fredson.

Council member Ferguson asked if other bidders met the 8% goal. Staff responded yes and stated the lowest bidder was not responsive because they did not meet the good faith effort to satisfy the commitment. Council member Chamblis wanted to know specifics of why the bidder wasn't responsiveness. Staff explained the bidding process. Council member Wulff stated we need to recognize vendors who make a good faith effort and meet the criteria to be fair to all bidders. Council member Chamblis requested we track the criteria and evaluate.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson

Management

2021-84 SW: That the Metropolitan Council approves the advancing equity in the region projects. 1) Advance equity in the region through contracting (\$600,000) 2) Local Housing Incentives Account Program (\$4,000,000) 3) Environmental Services Youth Job Skills Program (\$100,000) 4) Equity Evaluation of Regional Transportation Investment (\$250,000) 5) Maintenance Technical Training (\$200,000) 6) Expanding Multicultural Marketing Reach and Frequency (\$150,000) and 7) Temporary help to help execute these projects in Human Resources and Procurement. (\$300,000).

It was moved by Ferguson, seconded by Chamblis.

Staff gave a presentation on Advancing Equity in the Region programs including Advance Equity in the Region through Contracting, Local Housing Incentives Account Program, Environmental Services Youth STEM and Career Pathway Programs, Equity Evaluation & Strategies for Transportation Investment, Bus Technician Pathway Program, Expanding Multicultural Marketing Reach and Frequency and temporary help to execute the projects.

Council member Lee had a question regarding the female graduation goal for the Technical Program. Council member Vento asked if they have assessed challenges facing female candidates for the program and if there is anything we can do to help face challenges. Staff responded stating they are working on increasing the goal by training during the day, going to school at Metro Transit and blending both the internal and external candidates to strength the program. Council member Wulff voiced her concerns with transportation geographic equity and balance in funding. Staff responded stating the first step is developing a framework and will provide updates. Barber provided a follow up stating when they go through the regional solicitation process at TAB, the geographic balance is part of the discussion when allocating federal funds. Council member Chamblis expressed her excitement for the policy advisory program committee and STEM program. Council member Sterner asked if the training program will just focus on the diesel buses. Staff responded stating the program will start with basics and move forward. Council member Fredson thanked staff who worked on the program. Chair Zelle stated Council member Lee had to leave the meeting prior to the vote on this business item but said, Council member Lee indicated he would have voted affirmatively.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 14 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson; Lee

Transportation

2021-49: That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator through the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Council's Authorized Representative to negotiate and execute a change order for Contract 15P307A with Lunda McCrossan Joint Venture (LMJV) in an amount not to exceed \$82,604,905.17 for work related to the construction of a Corridor Protection Barrier (CPB); and that the Council authorize an additional 10.33% to the 10% cumulative cap of change order authority under Council Procedure 14-1a for Contract 15P307A with LMJV.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Cummings.

Jim Alexander gave a presentation on the Business item 2021-49 Southwest Light Rail Transit Civil Construction Change Order-Corridor Protection Barrier (CPB).

Council member Cumming commented on the project and stated this is a huge benefit to the state and under leadership of Jim Alexander and staff she has no reservation about the importance, the need and timing of this request. Council member Ferguson asked if this authorization is fully utilized how much contingency is left. Jim Alexander stated this will takes us down to 5% contingency.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 14 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson, Lee

2021-85 SW: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 19P385B with Duo-Gard Industries, Inc. for the fabrication and delivery of station shelters for bus rapid transit (BRT) and enhanced bus stops at a cost not to exceed \$2,225,987, with options for future purchases.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Cummings.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 14 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson, Lee

OTHER BUSINESS

1. 2021-46: That the Metropolitan Council approve Chair Zelle's recommendation to:

1. Continue an internal Housing Work Group through December 31, 2022.
2. Appoint the following members to serve on the work group: Reva Chamblis, Chair; Judy Johnson; Chai Lee; and Robert Lilligren.

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Cummings.

Council member Wulff appreciates the transparent process and stated she has questions she would like to bring to the group.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 14 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson, Lee

2. 2021-94: That the Metropolitan Council approve Chair Zelle's recommendation to:

1. Continue an internal Transit Policy Work Group through December 31, 2022.
2. Appoint the following members to serve on the work group: Deb Barber, Chair; Judy Johnson; Robert Lilligren; and Peter Lindstrom.

It was moved by Lindstrom, seconded by Cummings.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 14 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson, Lee

3. 2021-95: That the Metropolitan Council approve Chair Zelle's recommendation to create an internal advisory BIPOC Work Group and appoint the following members to serve on it: Chris Ferguson, Chair; Reva Chamblis, Lynnea Atlas-Ingebretson, Robert Lilligren, Abdirahman Muse, Chai Lee, and Francisco González. Chair Zelle noted that the charge for the Work Group will expire December 31, 2022 and pointed out that the expiration date was not included in the posted agenda business item but the expiration date is consistent with other Council work groups.

It was moved by Ferguson, seconded by Lilligren.

Council member Sterner asked what the process was for choosing council members to be on the work groups. Chair Zelle stated on these issues they found those with expertise on the issues and they will not exclude those who are not on a work group and invite those to join the meetings.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 14 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson, Lee

REPORTS

Chair: none

Council member Ferguson shared he joined the Anti-Racism and Economic Justice (AREJ) Trust meeting.

Acting Regional Administrator: none

General Counsel: none

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45p.m.

Chat messages:

From Aaron Koski to everyone: 4:47 PM, I really enjoy this line of work, thanks.

From Aaron Koski to everyone: 4:53 PM, Workforce Development Dept have seen a steady increase in females pursuing "non traditional" career opportunities

From: cleo to everyone: 4:59 PM, Liz i have to jump off to join Gold Line CBAC but I vote yes on this one. good night

From Aaron Koski to everyone: 5:01 PM, Know that the current Building Strong Communities program includes 14 females who are weeks away from starting a union construction career

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council Meeting of April 14, 2021.

Approved this 28 day of April 2021.

Liz Sund
Recording Secretary