

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

Judy Johnson

Peter Lindstrom

Raymond Zeran

Robert Lilligren

Wendy Wulff

Christopher Ferguson

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 26, 2022, 4:00 p.m.

### IN ATTENDANCE

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

### MEMBERS ABSENT

### CALL TO ORDER

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

Aye:	13	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle
Nay:	0	
Absent:	1	Zeran
No response:	2	Lee, Sterner

### AGENDA APPROVED

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 Gonzalez to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2022, Council meeting.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye:	13	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento
Nay:	0	
Absent:	1	Zeran
Abstain:	2	Wulff, Chair Zelle

## INFORMATION ITEM

1. Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) Update (Brian Ryks, CEO of MAC)

Brian Ryks, CEO of Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) gave an update on the Metropolitan Airports Commission, COVID Financial Impacts, Passengers, Operations and Air Service, Health Safety Program, and 2022 Projects.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### Approval of the Consent Agenda (Items 1-7)

#### Consent Agenda Adopted

- 2022-2: That the Metropolitan Council approve a grant of up to \$217,125 to Dakota County to acquire the 1.17- acre Rockport property, Outlot B, located at Pilot Knob Road and 157th Street West in Apple Valley, for the North Creek Greenway Regional Trail.
- 2022-3: That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Review Record and take the following actions:
1. Authorize the City of Dellwood to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
  2. Revise the City's forecasts downward as shown in Table 1 of the attached Review Record.
- 2022-9: That the Metropolitan Council:
1. Find that the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) had an adequate public participation process for the development and review of its 2022-2028 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), including preparation of an assessment of environmental effects (AOEE) for 2022 projects with potential environmental effects.
  2. Find that the 2022 CIP projects are in conformance with the region's Aviation System Plan and consistent with Council policy.
- 2022-12: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 21P247 with Corval Constructors Inc. to provide Mechanical Pipefitting Services for Metropolitan Council Environmental Services facilities in an amount not to exceed \$8,000,000.
- 2022-13: That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:
1. Authorize the City of Eden Prairie to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
  2. Find that the amendment does not change the City's forecasts.
- 2022-23 SW: That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2022-2025 Transportation Improvements Program (TIP) to add a new MnDOT-sponsored project replacing the wearing course on US 61 Bridge # 19004 over Mississippi River in Hastings.
- 2022-24 SW: That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to reduce the cost, remove BRT station underground and flatwork, and remove one intersection for Hennepin County's CSAH 42 / CSAH 3 signal revisions and pedestrian improvements project.

It was moved by Lindstrom, seconded by Cummings.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 Zeran

## BUSINESS

### Community Development

2022-14: Proposed Action

1. That the Metropolitan Council award eight Livable Communities Demonstration Account grants as shown in Table 1, totaling \$9,304,250 and;
2. Authorize its Community Development Director to execute the grant agreements on behalf of the Council.

Table 1. Recommended Grant Projects and Funding Amounts

Applicant	Recommended Project	Award Amount
City of Minneapolis	Northrup King Residential	\$1,907,000
City of Minneapolis	Simpson Community Shelter and Apartments	\$1,500,000
City of Minneapolis	Plymouth Avenue Apartments	\$314,700
City of Richfield	Minnesota Independence College and Community	\$1,210,000
City of Oakdale	Cornerstone Village – Oakdale	\$565,000
City of Columbia Heights	City of Columbia Heights Affordable Housing and Community Food Site Project	\$1,232,000
City of Chaska	City Square West	\$1,914,000
City of Edina	Cornelia View	\$661,550

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Barber.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 Zeran

2022-16: That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Award four Livable Communities Demonstration Account Transit-Oriented Development grants totaling \$4,435,600, as shown in the table below.
2. Authorize its Community Development Division Director to execute the grant agreements on behalf of the Council.

Applicant	Recommended Project	Award Amount
City of Minneapolis	Seward Commons	\$1,500,000
City of Minneapolis	3030 Nicollet	\$500,000
City of Hopkins	325 Blake Road	\$1,250,000
City of Brooklyn Park	Tessman Ridge	\$1,185,600

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Lee.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle  
Nay: 0  
Absent: 1 Zeran

Environment – Reports on consent agenda

Management – No reports

Transportation

2021-329: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute METRO Gold line Bus Rapid Transit (Gold Line) Capital Grant Agreement #211042 with the Gold Line Joint Powers Board (JPB) in the total amount not to exceed \$148,840,529 for calendar years 2022 through 2026.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Lee.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle  
Nay: 0  
Absent: 1 Zeran

2022-22 SW: That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve Administrative Modification #1 to the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan to incorporate the Regional Bicycle Transportation Network (RBTN), Regional Bicycle Barriers, and Regional Truck Freight Corridors networks, as revised through the 2021 update process; and
2. Accept the associated Public Comment Report

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Chamblis.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye:	15	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle
Nay:	0	
Absent:	1	Zeran

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

2022-35: That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to:

1. Negotiate and execute a settlement agreement with the Lunda McCrossan Joint Venture (LMJV);
2. Make payments in an amount not to exceed \$40,000,000 within 60 days of execution;
3. Resolve disputed matters through negotiations or an evaluative mediation process in an amount not to exceed \$210,000,000 inclusive of the \$40,000,000 payments in item number 2; and
4. Make future payments as defined in the agreement.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Fredson.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye:	15	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle
Nay:	0	
Absent:	1	Zeran

Metro Transit SWLRT Project Director Jim Alexander provided background on the project. He talked about statewide economic benefits, stations underway, the civil construction challenges, and revised project schedule and cost. Metro Transit Deputy General Manager Nick Thompson presented the civil construction process and settlement agreement framework including, the process, overview, sequencing, schedule, cost, project budget. He also talked about how cost compared to our peer group of metropolitan areas and the next steps after Council action.

Council Member Barber asked if they could talk about the process and how the projects get to the Met Council. Nick Thompson responded projects start at the local level and gain local support and the Met council brings it to development and operations.

Council Member Gonzalez asked if the \$210M was built into the project cost and what happens to the funds that we don't use. Thompson responded the funding that is being requested in this action is utilizing the existing funding available in the existing project budget. Funds that are not used go back to the source.

Council Member Cummings asked if there have been conversations with elected officials, local partners, and stakeholders and if we are receiving support from them. She also asked what would happen if the project was stopped. Thompson responded there is a disappointment, but we are receiving support from cities. Thompson gave examples of what would happen if the project was shut down.

Council Member Johnson asked if this would impact other projects and commented to continue engagement with communities and people. Thompson stated this does not impact other projects, and we will continue to engage.

Council Member Chamblis asked about the impacts of the project and the level of investment. Thompson stated there is extensive development around the project of 2 billion of investment that has been built or permitted. Chamblis had a follow-up question about ridership post-pandemic. Thompson stated this is a long-term investment, and the line is serving jobs all along the line.

Chair Zelle said it is important to consider Met Council's key goals including, climate, equity access, housing affordability, and inner connection with transit systems.

## **REPORTS**

Chair Zelle reported on the budget action and proposal action today. The Governor's supplemental budget proposal announced a 200 million for the Blue Line. He also acknowledged Brooke Bordson for her work and stated this was council member Ferguson's last Council meeting. Zelle thanked council member Ferguson for his contributions and leadership.

Judd Schetnan provided a budget overview and recognized Brooke Bordson for her work and best wishes.

Council Members Ferguson expressed appreciation to the council members, staff, and constituents.

Regional Administrator Mary Bogie expressed appreciation for council Member Ferguson's work and leadership. Bogie expressed gratitude to Wes Kooistra, Brian Funk, and the team for managing work during the difficult time due to absentees with the Omicron variant.

General Counsel Ann Bloodhart echoes thoughts and thanks to council member Ferguson.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

## **Certification**

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council Meeting of January 26, 2021.

Approved this 9th day of February 2022.

Liz Sund  
Recording Secretary