

# Minutes

Metropolitan Council



**Meeting date:** August 27, 2025

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Location:** 390 Robert Street

## Members present:

- ☒ Chair, Charlie Zelle
- ☒ Judy Johnson, District 1
- ☒ Reva Chamblis, District 2
- ☒ Tyronne Carter, District 3
- ☒ Deb Barber, District 4
- ☐ John Pacheco Jr., District 5

- ☒ Robert Lilligren, District 6
- ☒ Yassin Osman, District 7
- ☐ Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- ☐ Diego Morales, District 9
- ☒ Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- ☐ Gail Cederberg, District 11

- ☒ Mark Jenkins, District 12
- ☐ Chai Lee, District 13
- ☐ Toni Carter, District 14
- ☒ Victor Obisakin, District 15
- ☐ Wendy Wulff, District 16
- ☒ = present

## Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

## Call to order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council to order at 4:01 p.m.

## Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Chair Zelle.

## Agenda approved

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

## Approval of minutes

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Jenkins to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2025, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

## Public invitation

No public comments were made.

## Other business

1. **2025-169:** Adoption of the following Resolutions for the Metropolitan Council's Preliminary 2026 Unified Operating Budget and the Proposed 2025, Payable 2026, Tax Levies:

- 2025-14: Adopting the Metropolitan Council's Preliminary 2026 Unified Operating Budget
- 2025-15: Adopting the Metropolitan Council's Proposed 2025 Property Tax Levy for General Purposes for Certification to the Minnesota Commissioner of Revenue
- 2025-16: Adopting the Metropolitan Council's Proposed 2025 Property Tax Levy for General Purposes for Certification to the County Auditors
- 2025-17: Adopting a Proposed 2025 Property Tax Levy for the Livable Communities Demonstration Account in the Metropolitan Livable Communities Fund
- 2025-18: Adopting a Proposed 2025 Property Tax Levy for the Tax Base Revitalization Account of the Livable Communities Act
- 2025-19: Certifying a Property Tax Levy for 2025 for Debt Service on Issued and To Be Issued Transit Bonds
- 2025-20: Certifying a Property Tax Levy for 2025 for Debt Service on Issued and To Be Issued Park Bonds

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Chamblis.

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

Aye	10	Johnson, Chamblis, Dr. Carter, Barber, Lilligren, Osman, Lindstrom, Jenkins, <u>Obisakin</u> , Zelle
Nay	0	
Absent	7	Pacheco, Cameron, Morales, Cederberg, Lee, Toni Carter, Wulff

**Consent business**

Consent business adopted (Items 1-7)

1. **2025-190:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts 25P226A-B for labor arbitration advocacy and consulting services that will support all Council departments in an amount not to exceed \$700,000 as follows:

Organization	Contract Number	Contract Amount
Wiley Reber Law, PC	25P226A	\$400,000
Madden Galanter Hansen, LLP	25P226B	\$300,000

2. **2025-191:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a contract with Collier, a Vaske Computer Company, an Oracle Platinum partner, to provide Oracle maintenance and support services in an amount not to exceed \$1,800,000.
3. **2025-192:** That the Metropolitan Council find that the Final Draft Flying Cloud Airport 2040 Long-Term Comprehensive Plan (LTCP) has a multi-city impact as well as conforms to the Met Council systems and is consistent with Met Council policies.
4. **2025-198 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute an amendment for contract 24P056A-C that will add \$450,000 for water supply studies and technical analyses for the White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan as follows:

Contractor	Contract Number	Current Contract Amount	Contract Amendment Amount	Revised Contract Amount
Barr Engineering	24P056A	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$750,000
Kimley-Horn	24P056B	\$500,000	\$100,000	\$600,000
SEH	24P056C	\$500,000	\$100,000	\$600,000

5. **2025-199:** That the Metropolitan Council approve the revised Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Drug and Alcohol Policy.
6. **2025-200:** That the Metropolitan Council approve the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Drug and Alcohol Policy.
7. **2025-208:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$2 million with the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the design and construction of pedestrian and suicide deterrent barriers on the Washington Avenue bridge.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Lindstrom.

**Motion carried.**

## Non-consent business – Reports of standing committees

### *Community Development*

1. No reports.

### *Environment*

1. No reports.

### *Management*

1. No reports.

### *Transportation*

1. **2025-168:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 24P301 with Inter-Con Security for supplemental security officer and Transit Rider Investment Program (TRIP) Agent services in an amount not to exceed \$57,400,000.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Osman.

**Motion carried.**

2. **2025-178:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the suspension of Northstar Commuter Rail service pursuant to all applicable contracts, agreements, easements, and licenses, and approves enhanced bus service serving the Northstar Corridor within the seven-county Metropolitan area to be incorporated in Network Now.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Lilligren.

**Motion carried.**

3. **2025-180:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts 24P213A-D for transit information software in an amount not to exceed \$25,608,547 as follows:



Organization	Contract Number	Contract Amount
Korbato LLC	24P213A	\$3,000,000
Arcadis	24P213B	\$10,608,547
Swiftly, Inc.	24P213C	\$10,000,000
Reflexions Data LLC	24P213D	\$2,000,000

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Obisakin.

**Motion carried.**

### ***Joint reports***

1. No reports.

### **Information**

1. Update on the Regional Climate Action Plan

Peter Wilfahrt, Principal Researcher in Community Development, provided a general overview of the plan and introduced the presentation by providing a general overview of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) and included a timeline which highlighted required elements including Green House Gas (GHG) inventory, GHG emissions projections, GHG reduction targets; quantified GHG reduction measures, a benefits analysis, a review of Authority to Implement, intersections with other funding availability; and workforce planning analysis.

Gillian Greenberg, Senior Climate Planner in Community Development, provided an overview of engagement which included the CPRG Steering Committee, Community Climate Collaboration, and a workforce workgroup.

The presenters discussed GHG reduction measures taken by transportation, electricity, building energy, industrial processes, waste, agriculture and natural systems sectors and explained the content format for the measures.

The presenters provided a timeline noting that public comment period ends on October 27, 2025, and the final CCAP submittal approval will go to the Met Council on November 12, 2025.

Council members asked clarifying questions about federal data, workforce, and discussed the importance of implementation at local levels. Council members agreed that the process must have more than aspirational goals.

2. 2025 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Update

Merrit Clapp-Smith, Senior Planner in Community Development, introduced the presentation with an overview of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), and discussed the structure of CEDS including priorities, strategies and actions, and implementation and evaluation framework.

The presenter provided an overview of the 2020 Regional Economic Framework (REF) noting that it was developed collaboratively by Met Council, Greater MSP and the Center for Economic Inclusion, with partial support from the McKnight Foundation. The presenter explained that CEDS was adopted by the Council in August 2020 and serves as the region's current Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Presenter discussed connections with Imagine 2050 and broke down strategic priorities including workforce & skill, talent migration & retention, transportation & mobility, and affordability.



The presenter discussed the collaborative approach of the work which includes a CEDS Committee, expert interviews, and a public hearing and walked council members through the engagement process. Finally, the presenter shared a list of participating organizations and provided a timeline, noting that the adoption of CEDS would be in January 2026.

Council members thanked staff for providing clarity and asked questions about the quality of public engagement and discussed the importance of creating a plan that is supported by the federal government. Council members discussed the recently released update of regional indicators from Greater MSP and wondered if it would be possible for Greater MSP to present to the Committee of the Whole at an upcoming meeting.

### **Reports**

No reports.

### **Adjournment**

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

### **Certification**

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 27, 2025.

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#### **Council contact:**

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