

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting date: October 8, 2025

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

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| ☒ Chair, Deb Barber | ☐ Robert Lilligren, District 6 | ☒ Mark Jenkins, District 12 |
| ☐ Judy Johnson, District 1 | ☒ Yassin Osman, District 7 | ☐ Chai Lee, District 13 |
| ☒ Reva Chamblis, District 2 | ☒ Anjuli Cameron, District 8 | ☒ Toni Carter, District 14 |
| ☒ Tyronne Carter, District 3 | ☐ Diego Morales, District 9 | ☐ Victor Obisakin, District 15 |
| ☐ Vacant, District 4 | ☒ Peter Lindstrom, District 10 | ☒ Wendy Wulff, District 16 |
| ☒ John Pacheco Jr., District 5 | ☒ Gail Cederberg, District 11 | ☒ = 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 Barber called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council to order at 4:02 p.m.

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Council Member Pacheco.

Agenda approved

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

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Osman, seconded by Pacheco to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2025, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

No public comments were made.

Consent business

Consent business adopted (Items 1-6)

1. **2025-212:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt resolution 2025-22 authorizing the acquisition and condemnation of real estate property for the New Lift Station L32A, ES Project No. 809400.
2. **2025-213:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize a public hearing to be held in December 2025 to gather input on the draft Facility Plan for the Interceptor 8253-327 Forcemain Improvements, Phase 2, ES Project No. 802806.
3. **2025-214:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute the contract amendment for the contract with the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) at the University of Minnesota. This amendment will increase the contract value from \$1,062,500, by \$225,000, for a new total contract not-to-exceed value of \$1,287,500. Amendment 06 also extends the Interagency Agreement by two years, changing the end date from 12/31/2025 to 12/31/2027. The University of Minnesota's proposed funding request is attached to this memorandum.
4. **2025-224:** That the Metropolitan Council ("Council") authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") # 251094 with the City of Edina.
5. **2025-226:** That the Metropolitan Council ("Council") authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") # 251089 with Ramsey County.
6. **2025-237:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 25P187 with Motorola Solutions to provide radio console upgrades for the Transit Control Center (TCC) expansion project in an amount not to exceed \$3,200,000.

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Toni Carter.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business – Reports of standing committees

Community Development

1. No reports.

Environment

1. No reports.

Management

1. No reports.

Transportation

1. **2025-229:** That the Metropolitan Council accept the 2050 TPP Amendment 1 public comment report and adopt Amendment #1 (attached), changing the Blue Line Extension transitway alignment and funding and adding the Gold Line Extension transitway to the fiscally constrained plan.

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Osman.

Motion carried.

Joint Reports

1. No reports.

Other business

1. No reports.

Information

1. Imagine 2050 Outcomes Measurement Program Update – Regional Policies

Sarah Nelson, Outcomes Measurement Researcher, presented on the Amendment Program narrative and the Metropolitan Council's commitments to its partners, using these three guiding principles: iterative, adaptable, and meaningful. Krysten Ryba-Tures, Research Manager, presented on three policy measures, what previous frameworks were and how Imagine 2050 expands the framework. Presenter shared that the data from Equitable and Inclusive measures is tracked throughout the program. Imagine 2050 Healthy and Safe measures were expanded to include environmental impacts on individual and social health. In the previous guide, Imagine 2040, Dynamic and Resilient measures focused on economic competitiveness and transit expansion. The Imagine 2050 Outcomes Measurement Program focuses on economic mobility, wealth creation, climate resiliency, and energy independence.

Presenter shared the Imagine 2050 Outcomes Measurement Program webpage that has an interactive tool with updated program measures. Council members asked how townships of diverse populations can be accommodated by these measures and how the Metropolitan Council engages with smaller communities. Presenter responded with an example of using the ratio of open space to population to see if a measure is being met, however, data development for the newer measures has not started yet. Council Members asked about the outcomes of these measures versus the output. Presenter shared that the measures focus more on how the output impacts what the outcomes are.

2. Public Comment Budget Update and 2026-2031 Capital Program

Ned Smith, Chief Financial Officer, presented an overview and timeline of the Council's operating budget and 2026-2031 Capital Program Budget. Ned noted the changes to the 2026 Public Comment Operating Budget from the preliminary budget. Matt Gsellmeier, Budget Manager, provided an overview of Environmental Services' capital program budget, including capital program financing options, 2026 Water Resource Recovery Facility Capital programs, and the 2026 Design/Construction projects. Kristin Prescott, interim Finance Director, presented Metro Transit's capital program budget and priorities, revenue assumptions and future transit spending. Ned Smith concluded the presentation with Community Development's capital program budget, including regional parks capital funding and Council-own housing capital program. The Council will adopt the final unified budget and levies at its December 3, 2025 meeting.

3. Committee of the Whole Discussion

Sam O'Connell, Community Relations Director, opened the presentation on the topic of Committee of the Whole, a key process that supports council member decision making. Michael Sund, Community Relations Consultant, proposed ways to improve the policy process, including early engagement, strategic alignment, governance and clarity, and efficient deliberation. Elias Montesa, Community Relations Specialist, addressed the council to give an overview of the tools that support the work and discussed roles and responsibilities of the members of the Metropolitan Council. Michael Sund further discussed components of the initiative, including presentation standards and timelines for implementation. Council Members and staff discussed the framework that precedes this initiative and historical context of the Committee of the Whole.

Reports

Chair Barber shared U.S. DOT announcement of significant changes to the DBE program.

Regional Administrator noted that the Council continues to monitor the federal shutdown. Housing Redevelopment Authority is an area where staff are paying close attention to. Other sources of funds continue to flow.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 8, 2025.

Council contact:

Mee Cheng, Recording Secretary

Mee.Cheng@metc.state.mn.us

651-602-1222

