

2019 Legislative Session Review

June 19, 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 the day before constitutional adjournment date on overall budget targets
- Working groups tasked with negotiating details; leadership engaged to settle outstanding issues
- Legislators worked overnight May 24-25 to pass budget bills in a 21-hour special session.

Transportation Finance

The transportation bill separates the Council's General Fund appropriation to create line item for Metro Mobility

- Metro Mobility
 - Base established: \$57.166M per year in FY2020-21
 - Additional \$23.17 million in FY20 and \$13 million in FY21 (contingent on meeting budget forecast)
- Transit System Operations
 - Base established: \$32.654 million each year
 - \$200,000 of this in FY20 is for the Route 495 project

Transportation Finance

- Regional Transit Capital (RTC) Bonds authorized
 - \$45.4 million in 2019; \$46.9 million in 2020
 - Bond proceeds used for fleet replacement and small capital projects

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 include Lakeville
- Correction made to 2017 RTC authorization that inadvertently prohibited use of financial tools like GANs for LRT

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
- Repealed Office of the Legislative Auditor quarterly "transit financial activity" reports

What didn't happen

- **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
- **No bonding bill was passed in the 2019 session**



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