



# 2023 Legislative Session

Overview



June 21, 2023 – Judd Schetnan, Government Affairs Director



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# Budget bills



# Transportation Finance



## Funding allocations

- **Metro Mobility** \$55.976 million in FY24 and \$55.976 million in FY25
- **Transit Systems Operations** \$85.654 million in FY24
  - \$50 million for a Hennepin County grant for the Blue Line Extension (\$40 million available after FFGA is signed if before June 30, 2027)
  - \$3 million for highway BRT development in the Highway 169 and Highway 55 corridors
- **Transit Systems Operations** \$32.654 million in FY25
- **Transit Service Intervention Project grants** \$2 million in FY23
- **Change to the Motor Vehicle Sales Tax (MVST) allocation / formula**
  - Tax rate increased by .375% to 6.875%
  - Met Council share of MVST reduced slightly from 36% to 34.3%
  - Estimated Impact: ~\$1 million in new annual revenue
- **Regional Transit Capital bonds** finance fleet replacement and small capital projects. Authorization to the Council to issue bonds up to \$51.5 million in 2023 and \$53.045 million in 2024

# Transportation Finance



## New, sustainable revenue for regional transportation

- **¾ cent sales tax for metropolitan transportation**, starting October 1, 2023
  - 17% to counties
  - 83% to Metropolitan Council
    - 5% to active transportation (to be determined by TAB)
    - 95% to transit operations, maintenance, capital projects
- Expected revenue of \$300.333 million in FY24, \$465.462 million in FY25, \$479.886 million in FY26, and \$493.730 million in FY27
- The Council is prohibited from using sales tax revenue to pay for the Southwest Light Rail project until Metro Governance Task Force concludes in 2024
- Changes Guideways and Busways construction and operation funding agreements with counties

# Metropolitan Governance Task Force



## Study of governance of the Metropolitan Council

- **Metropolitan Governance Task Force** included in the transportation bill to study and make recommendations to the legislature on reform and governance of the Metropolitan Council.
  - The enacting legislation defines the task force membership and requires them to study the costs and benefits of several types of governance options for the Council.
  - The task force is required to submit findings and recommendations to the legislature by February 1, 2024.

# Capital Investment



## Investments in regional infrastructure

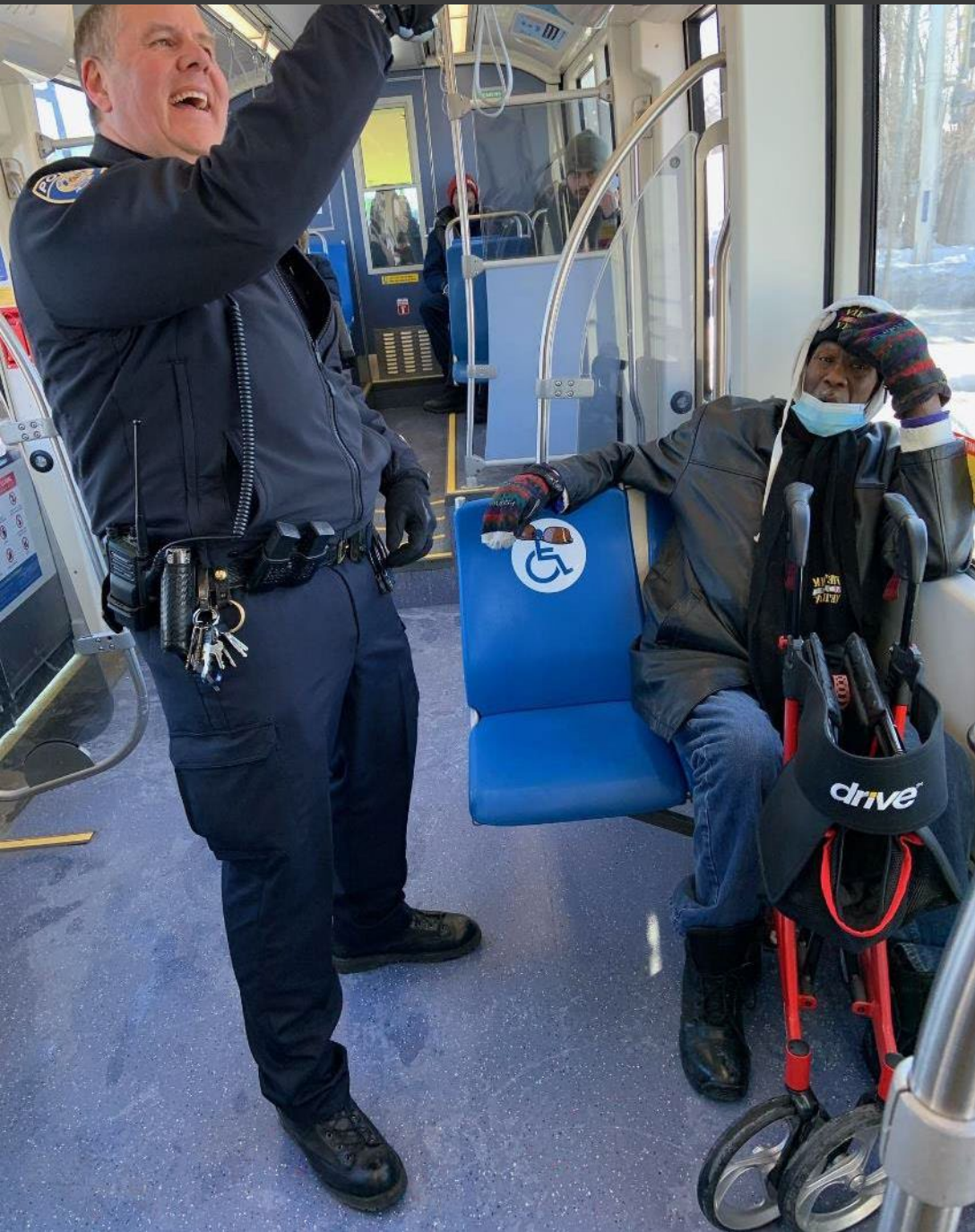
- **\$72 million** for arterial bus rapid transit.
  - Advances three projects: the METRO F Line – Central Avenue Corridor; G Line – Rice/Robert corridor; and H Line – Como/Maryland corridor,
- **\$7 million** for the Apple Valley 147th Street Transit Station
  - Construct a skyway bridge over Cedar Avenue. Existing METRO Red Line station was constructed to be compatible with a future skyway bridge

# Policy highlights





# Transportation policy changes



- Transit safety initiatives
  - Administrative Citations (agency initiative)
  - Transit Rider Investment Program (TRIP)
  - Transit Service Intervention Project
  - Code of Conduct
- Climate Mitigation and Adaptation
  - Transportation
  - Regional Development Guide and Comprehensive Plans
- MNDOT assistance for light rail construction
- Metro Transit Cleaning and Repair Standards
- Reporting for SWLRT expenditures
- Commuter Rail Extension Assessment
- SWLRT Expenditure Limitations (CRRSAA)

# Transportation policy changes



- Blue Line Extension Engagement Meetings and Route Alignment consultation
- Transit Signal Priority System Planning
- Midtown Greenway Extension Planning
- Metro Mobility Enhancement Pilot Program
- Transit Fare Elimination and Reduction Pilot Program
- Transit programs and passes modernization (agency initiative)
- Dan Patch and Rochester rail line repealers
- Transit data privacy clarification (agency initiative)





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