

2025 Legislative update

TAB meeting



Met Council Government Affairs

2025 legislative session



Session overview

- 2025 was a “budget year” – legislature sets the budget for the upcoming state fiscal years (FY) 26-27 biennium.
 - State fiscal year is July 1-June 30.
 - Governor proposed a 2-year budget for the state based on budget forecasts in November 2024 and February 2025.
 - Focus is on larger omnibus finance bills that may also include policy.
- Legislature met from January 14 to May 19, and in a one-day special session on June 9, to wrap up the budget.

2025 special session outcomes - funding

Omnibus transportation bill (HF 14 – First special session)

- **\$3.502 million** in general funds for FY26-27 for transit operations (reduction of \$61.4 million).
 - **\$40.028 million** in general funds is expected for FY28-29 (reduction of \$24.88 million).
- Base general funding for Metro Mobility and Metro Move services - **\$112.507 million** in FY26 and **\$118.34 million** in FY27.
- Regional Transit Capital (RTC) Bond authorization.
 - Authority to issue up to **\$54.6 million** after July 1, 2025.
 - Authority to issue up to **\$56.2 million** after July 1, 2026.
 - Department of Revenue retains approx. **\$1.8 million** in FY27 and **\$3.9 million** in FY28-29 of the regional sales tax for transportation to account for general fund interaction of bond issuance.

2025 special session outcomes - funding

Omnibus transportation bill (HF 14 – First special session)

- **\$1.4 million** in FY26 from the regional sales tax to four transportation management organizations in the metro area.
- **\$8 million** for Washington Avenue bridge suicide prevention barriers.
 - \$2 million from the active transportation portion of the regional sales tax that goes to the Transportation Advisory Board.
 - \$6 million from the Hennepin County local option sales tax.

2025 special session outcomes - policy

Omnibus transportation bill (HF 14 – First special session)

- **Loan authorization from Met Council to MnDOT to advance METRO F Line and Riverview BRT projects** – up to **\$250 million** in funds from the regional transportation sales tax to coordinate major highway and transitway construction in key trunk highway and BRT corridors.
- **Make fares on regular route transit free for Metro Mobility riders** – makes permanent part of the pilot fare initiative from 2023 session.
- **Alignment of Met Council procurement rules with state procurement rules** - aligns Met Council procurement authority with laws for state agencies regarding procurement of goods and services from small and targeted businesses.
- **Change to legislative reporting requirements** around transportation finance and cleaning and repair standards.

2025 special session outcomes - policy

Omnibus transportation bill (HF 14 – First special session)

- **Bus rapid transit alternate mode analysis** – directs the Met Council to analyze alternate transit options in the METRO Blue Line Extension corridor.
- **High-subsidy transit service analysis** – directs the Met Council to analyze high-subsidy regular transit routes.
- **Special transportation service forecasting analysis** – requires MnDOT to analyze Met Council forecasting practices for Metro Mobility.
- **MnDOT study on wheelchair accessible vehicle supply and availability** – the study will examine the supply and demand of wheelchair accessible vehicles and wheelchair accessible transportation services.

