

T Transportation Committee

Business Item
Item: 2012-15
Consent

Meeting date: February 27, 2012

For the Council Meeting of March 14, 2012

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: February 27, 2012
Subject: Proposed Changes to Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC) Bylaws
District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. § 473.386, Subd. 2(f)
Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS (651)602-1754
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Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS) - Metro Mobility

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the proposed changes to the Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC) bylaws as approved by the (TAAC) on February 1, 2012 and shown in Attachment 1 to this Business Item.

Background

Per Minn. Stat. § 473.386, the Council is required to establish the TAAC to advise the Council on management policies for the Council's special transportation service. TAAC-recommended changes to the bylaws must be approved by the Metropolitan Council.

Rationale

The TAAC bylaws were last updated in 2003. Several issues have arisen over the last nine years, in which TAAC seeks to make the following changes listed below:

Article III, Section 1a- Historically TAAC has struggled to find a representative from each precinct, leaving a number of long-term vacancies in several precincts. The proposed change gives priority to residents of a precinct but allows Council members the flexibility to appoint a representative that does not live within the precinct in order to fill TAAC vacancies.

Article III, Section 1d- The Minnesota Senior Federation was abolished in 2009. The Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging was named as their successor on the TAAC. A footnote is proposed which allows for the two individuals currently serving as representatives of the MN Senior Federation to seek reappointment should they so desire.

Article III, Section 1e- Minnesota AARP is a State Office, not a Chapter. Minnesota Chapters do not have the authority to appoint individuals to committees. The appointing authority is the State AARP Office.

Article III, Section 2- Updates term expirations and replaces the MN Senior Federation with the Minnesota Area Agency on Aging.

Article III, Section 3- Some TAAC members have a history of lengthy extenuating circumstances that have prevented advance-excusal of absences. The “shall” language regarding removal from the Committee due to unexcused absences was replaced by “may” language. This change also transfers the obligation of attendance monitoring and enforcement from the Metropolitan Council to the TAAC.

Article IV, Section 3- Allows members to be counted as present and have voting rights if they attend Committee meetings via teleconference or other electronic means.

Article IV, Section 3- States that the TAAC Chair will take an active role in developing agendas.

Attachment 1 to this document is the proposed bylaws as approved by TAAC on February 1, 2012. Attachment 2 highlights the proposed changes to the bylaws.

Funding

None.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.