

**Minutes of the  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Monday, November 25, 2013

**Committee Members Present:**      **Adam Duinick, Chair**                      **Lona Schreiber, Vice Chair**  
   **Katie Rodriguez**    **Jon Commers**  
   **Jennifer Munt**

**Committee Members Absent:**      **James Brimeyer**    **Steve Elkins**  
   **Edward Reynoso**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum was not present when Committee Chair Duinick called the regular meeting of the Council's Transportation Committee to order at 3:30 p.m. November 25, 2013. The Chair requested that staff proceed with employee recognition. A quorum was present for all regular business of the Transportation Committee.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

It was moved by Munt, seconded by Schreiber to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Munt, seconded by Rodriguez to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2013 meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: Metro Transit**

Chief of Police John Harrington recognized Officer Andrew Schroeder for going above and beyond his duties in the September apprehension of a suspect in a shooting that took place on the North side of Minneapolis. Officer Schroeder was commended for his knowledge of gang members and his ability to work with other agencies to help identify and convict criminals.

Jeff Wostrel, Manager of Bus Transportation, FT Heywood Garage, introduced Operators Michael Stenberg and David Wagner. Mr. Stenberg and Mr. Wagner were recognized for their winning participation in Metro Transit's Bus Roadeo and for consistently receiving Safe Driving awards.

Chair Duinick and GM Lamb offered their thanks and congratulations to all three employees and presented a certificate of achievement to each of them for their service.

**GENERAL MANAGER AND DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Metro Transit General Manager Brian Lamb reported the following:

1.      **OUTREACH STARTING FOR UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ROUTES.** Metro Transit staff will be stationed at key locations on the University of Minnesota campus next week as part of outreach on campus before buses return to Washington Avenue on December 7. On December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, staff will board Metro Transit, Met Council and Maple Grove Transit routes, make an announcement about the reopening of Washington Avenue, pass out new schedules and materials to customers and answer questions. As you recall, buses have been detoured from Washington Avenue between Pleasant and Oak streets since May 2011 due to METRO Green Line construction.

2.      **BUS RAPID TRANSIT UPDATE.** An announcement was made last week that a potential extension of the A-Line farther north along Snelling Avenue will be evaluated. This is a result of a conversation over the past month or so with Ramsey County, the St. Paul Chamber, and city of Arden Hills. Rosedale Center is currently the northern limit of the A-Line; our future evaluation would look north of Rosedale to the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant (TCAAP) property adjacent to 35W. This line would connect two universities and a few major employers. The evaluation is also an opportunity to help ensure ongoing site planning of the 427-acre TCAAP redevelopment and is not just compatible with, but also fully supportive of future transit service

extensions. This will not change the A-Line project as we've defined it to open in 2015. Metro Transit's BRT Project Office will soon begin to define the scope of the evaluation.

3. MIDTOWN CORRIDOR OPEN HOUSES HELD. Metro Transit hosted two open houses last week about the Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis, a project to determine the benefits, costs and impacts of creating a transitway on the Midtown Greenway or Lake Street in Minneapolis between the METRO Blue Line on the east and the planned Green Line light-rail extension on the west. Turnout exceeded 150 between the two nights. Attendees were highly engaged and shared good feedback.

4. CUSTOMER ADVOCATES PROVIDE TRANSIT TOOLS. I encourage you to look at our blog, *Rider's Almanac*, this week to learn more about the work of our Customer Advocates. Through education and outreach, Brooke Schablin and Doug Cook explain in this online video how they break down barriers by providing seniors, students, new Americans and others the information they need to make transit a part of their daily lives.

5. Brian Lamb introduced Linda Thayer as the new Transit Recording Secretary for the Transportation Committee. Linda assumed this position with the promotion of Liz Maday as Executive Assistant to the General Manager.

Metropolitan Transportation Services Director Arlene McCarthy reported the following:

There was no Director's Report for this meeting.

## **BUSINESS**

### **Consent Items**

A motion was made by Schreiber, seconded by Rodriguez to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

2013-323: Authorization to Execute 2014 Agreements with Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB). Motion: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute agreements with the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) to receive funds in 2014 for the following projects:

#### Operating

- METRO Blue Line (Hiawatha LRT) - \$9,211,152
- Northstar Commuter Rail - \$6,557,567
- METRO Green Line (Central Corridor LRT) - \$7,530,671
- I-35W South BRT Express Service- \$132,275
- Cedar Ave. BRT Express Service - \$391,866
- METRO Red Line (Cedar Ave. BRT Station to Station Service) - \$1,450,376

#### Capital

- Southwest LRT (Green Line Extension) - \$17,557,338

### **Non-Consent Items**

2013-306: Execute a Purchase Order for Motorola Voice Communications Console Hardware and a Sole Source Contract for Installation.

Presented by Deputy Director of Bus Maintenance Operations Tom Humphrey. There were no questions from the Committee.

Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Munt that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a purchase order for twelve (12) Motorola MCC7500 voice communications consoles and supporting equipment and a Sole Source authorization contract for the labor to install this proprietary equipment in the amount of \$1,036,563.

Motion passed unanimously.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-322: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (Green Line). Additional Change Order Authority for Vertical Circulation Contract.

Presented by Senior CCLRT Project Manager Mary Sue Abel. Chair Duininck questioned whether the construction contract change order would delay the opening. Ms. Abel answered that it will be completed by May.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Rodriguez that the Metropolitan Council authorize an additional 5% (\$88,481) above the currently authorized construction contract change order authority of \$88,481 to a revised change order authority of \$176,962 for the Central Corridor (Green Line) Vertical Circulation Contract.

Motion passed unanimously.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-324: Rescind Business Item 2013-238 Action and Authorize Execution of Contract Options with Gillig Corp. on Behalf of the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA).

Presented by Paul Colton, Metropolitan Transportation Services Fleet Services Manager.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item. It was noted that the original Business Item that referenced in the title and action of Business Item 2013-324 before the Transportation Committee had a typing error. Reference to Business Item 2013-238 was in error, the Business Item should have been 2013-298; this has been corrected on this Committee Report and the attached Business Item.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Rodriguez that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Rescind Business Item 2013-298 action authorizing the Regional Administrator to execute vehicle grant agreements with MVTA; and
2. Authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise an existing contract option to purchase 22 forty-foot transit buses in an amount not to exceed \$10,010,000 on behalf of Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA).

Motion passed unanimously.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-325: Federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Solicitation for 2017 Funds.

Presented by Heidi Schallberg, Senior Planner, Metropolitan Transportation Services Technical Planning Support.

Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Munt that the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to approve the attached application and criteria for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) solicitation for 2017 funds and the release of the solicitation.

Motion passed unanimously.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-326: TAB Bylaws Revisions.

Presented by Deputy Director Amy Vennewitz, Metropolitan Transportation Services Finance and Planning.

Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Munt that the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the TAB Bylaws as shown on the attached document.

Motion passed unanimously.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

## **INFORMATION**

1. ADA Civil Rights Compliance Audit (Andrew Krueger 651-602-1689)
2. Regional Ridership Report – MTS (John Harper 651-602-1744)
3. Regional Transitway Corridors Status Update (Cole Hiniker 651-602-1748)

- Midtown Alternatives Analysis Quarterly Update: Concepts Advancing to Detailed Evaluation (Charles Carlson 612-349-7639, Michael Mechtenberg 612-349-7793)
- I-35W/METRO Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit Quarterly Update (Charles Carlson 612-349-7639, Christina Morrison 612-349-7690)
- Arterial Bus Rapid Transit Quarterly Update (Charles Carlson 612-349-7639, Katie Roth 612-349-7772)
- Bottineau Light Rail Transit (Christine Beckwith 651-602-1433)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

- SW Action taken by Committee and Council the same week.  
\* Additional materials included for items on published agenda  
\*\* Additional business item added following publication of agenda.  
\*\*\* Backup materials available at the meeting.