

Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Monday, June 10, 2013

Committee Members Present: Jennifer Munt Steve Elkins James Brimeyer
Lona Schreiber, Vice Chair Edward Reynoso
Roxanne Smith Jon Commers John Đoàn

Committee Members Absent: Adam Duininck, Chair

TAB Liaison: Robert Lilligren –present

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Vice Chair Schreiber called the regular meeting of the Council's Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. June 10, 2013.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Elkins seconded by Đoàn to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Đoàn to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2013 regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

TAB LIAISON REPORT – Robert Lilligren

TAB Liaison Robert Lilligren reported that the TAB approved the Draft 2014-2017 TIP that appears on the Transportation Committee agenda today. The TAB is also working on formally changing their meeting format to one large group meeting instead of the sub-committees. This will require a change in the bylaws, and the TAB may seek input from the Council during this process.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Metropolitan Transportation Services

MTS Deputy Director Finance & Planning Amy Vennewitz presented the recognition award to Planning Analyst Mary Karlsson for her work on the Bottineau Alternatives Analysis and LPA.

DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

Metropolitan Transportation Services Director Arlene McCarthy reported the following:

National Freight Advisory Committee

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood has announced members to serve on the National Freight Advisory Committee. This is a diverse group of professionals that will provide advice and recommendations aimed at improving the national freight transportation system. A strong freight transportation system is critical to the nation's economy and essential for helping meet President Obama's goal of doubling U.S. exports by 2015. The Advisory Committee is comprised of 47 voting members from outside the Department of Transportation. Members come with various perspectives on freight transportation and represent various modes of transportation, geographic regions, and policy areas. MAP-21 established a national freight policy and called for the creation of a National Freight Strategic Plan. By engaging stakeholders representing diverse interests, the Advisory Committee will provide recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation on how DOT can improve its freight transportation policies and programs. Brad Hildebrand of Cargill, Inc. has been appointed to the Freight Advisory Committee from this region. "Freight" will include air, port, truck and rail.

MVST Receipts

MVST receipts for the month of May equaled 108.24% of the forecast, YTD is just under 98%.

Metro Mobility Technology Implementation

On June 3, Metro Mobility kicked off their pilot project on the AVL and Modal Data Terminals on the first 20 vehicles, operated by Transit Team. Representatives were here from Trapeze to assist in the training which

focused on the dispatchers and drivers. Once the pilot system is running successfully, Metro Mobility will move ahead with implementation on the remaining Metro Mobility vehicles.

Aviation and the TPP

Arlene reported that it is difficult to gauge technology as it pertains to the long range Transportation Policy Plan. For example, a commercial jet engine manufacturer has developed a new quieter jet engine, and some airlines have ordered these engines for new aircraft. This could have positive impacts on airport noise and development around airports.

Metro Transit General Manager Brian Lamb reported the following:

Awards for Metro Transit – Customer Service & Marketing and Bus & Rail Safety

As announced at the May 13th Transportation Committee meeting, Metro Transit was named the 2012 Gold Award winner in bus safety among large transit systems by the American Public Transportation Association. Director of Safety Mike Conlon presented the plaque received from APTA.

For the second year in a row, Metro Transit has won the “Best of Show” award from the Minnesota Association of Government Communicators (MAGC). Director of Customer Services and Marketing Bruce Howard presented the award received from MAGC and introduced the following staff who helped make the award possible: Kelci Stones - Market Development Specialist, Leah Janz - Graphic Designer, Pete Raeker - Copywriter, Sharon Feiner Supervisor Creative Services.

Honoring Transit's Top Bus and Train Operators

Last Thursday, Metro Transit presented 60 awards honoring the best Twin Cities bus and train operators at a ceremony in Minneapolis. Thanks to Chair Duinck, Pat Born and Chief Harrington for helping us congratulate our award-winning operators.

Transit makes many relationships with many different riders

Metro Transit has many promotions and we receive marketing and advertising opportunities through all these partnerships.

85 Paynesville Elementary school students with parents and school staff were assisted by our Metro Transit staff as they took Northstar to a Twins game in May. Metro Transit had Customer Advocates and Revenue and Fare Collection Supervisors on hand to ensure that the group had a positive experience.

Target Corporation's nearly 300 interns learned about bus and rail riding from Metro Transit and Commuter Connection as they began working and traveling between Target's downtown Minneapolis headquarters and housing in Stadium Village on the University of Minnesota campus. Metro Transit provided them with free one-ride coupons and information on how to ride transit and use the website. Transit supervisors monitor ridership closely on particular routes to ensure that service is adequate through August 17th when the internships conclude.

The Minnesota Lynx basketball team is another partnership promotion that has started again this season at Target Center. Customers show their ticket for a free ride before and after the game.

The Northern Spark arts festival this past weekend was another promotion for people to take transit to the event in St. Paul's Lowertown neighborhood.

Walker Art Center and the Current 89.3 radio station are also requesting Metro Transit to partner with their Rock the Garden outdoor concert to promote taking transit this Saturday, June 15th.

Bike-Walk Week Events this week through June 15th

This week Twin Cities residents are being encouraged to leave their cars at home and bike or walk to school or work during Twin Cities Bike-Walk Week. The campaign features events across the metro area to highlight the advantages of getting around without the use of a car and combining biking and walking trips with transit.

Metro Transit staff will be on hand for events at Government Center, Rice Park, and REI to demonstrate loading a bike on a bus rack and to distribute biking information.

Transit Police to Host Awards Event

Metro Transit Police will recognize top performance in public safety by its officers and citizens at an awards ceremony at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, June 21. At the event, the department will announce its Officer of the Year and the winner of the Tim Bowe Award, along with awards of merit and commendations. The ceremony will be

held at our Transit Police Headquarters, 2425 Minnehaha Avenue S., Minneapolis. Please attend if you can, so I hope to see you there.

BUSINESS

Consent Items

There were no consent items at this meeting.

Non-Consent Items

2013-168: Controlled Access Approval to construct MnPASS lanes on I-35E between I-94 and Little Canada Road

Metropolitan Transportation Services Senior Planner Ann Braden presented this item. There were no questions or comments from committee members.

It was moved by Munt, seconded by Doan that the Metropolitan Council approve MnDOT's request to construct a new I-35E MnPASS lane from I-94 to Little Canada Road conditional upon any significant changes in the design of the proposed project being subject to further review and approval by the Metropolitan Council prior to construction.

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Vice Chair Schreiber stated that this item will proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2013-169: Approval of Pilot Program for Temporary Expansion of Premium Same Day Taxi Service

Metro Mobility Senior Manager Paul Colton presented this item and answered a question from Smith about as to whether there is a reduced fare for low income riders. Colton replied that the cost is the same to all riders.

It was moved by Commers, seconded by Doan that the Metropolitan Council:

That the Metropolitan Council approve changes to Metro Mobility Premium Same Day Taxi (PSD) service on a demonstration basis to:

1. expand the scope of PSD to include all requests for trips between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. that are received on the day of service, and;
2. reduce the customer's share of the initial cost of PSD service from \$7.00 to \$5.00. The Council's maximum payment per trip would increase from \$13.00 to \$15.00. (Customers continue to pay the cost of the trip that's over \$20.)

These changes would be effective July 15, 2013 through January 15, 2014 as a 6-month pilot demonstration.

Motion passed.

2013-171: Authorization to Amend Contract 11P032A for Premium Same Day and Peak Demand Overflow Service

Metro Mobility Senior Manager Paul Colton presented this item and speculated the reasons for increase in Metro Mobility ridership in answer to Brimeyer.

It was moved by Smith, seconded by Commers that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to amend Contract 11P032A with Taxi Services Inc. for an additional \$550,000 for an amended total contract amount of \$2,096,000; and extend the term of the agreement from July 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013.

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Vice Chair Schreiber stated that this item will proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2013-129: Adopt Title VI Definitions for Major Service Changes and Disparate Impact

Metro Transit Manager Route Planning Cyndi Harper presented this item. Munt asked whether these policies had been in place when CCLRT station locations were being chosen, and whether additional station locations would have been approved. Metro Transit Director Service Development John Levin answered that there was a Title VI analysis performed on the CCLRT corridor. Title VI pertains to the entire corridor, and not specific areas along the corridor.

It was moved by Munt, seconded by Commers, that the Metropolitan Council approve the proposed Title VI policies defining a Major Service Change and determining the threshold for Disparate Impact and Disproportionate Burden.
Motion passed.

2013-160: Adopt Title VI Service Equity Analysis for METRO Red Line Implementation
Metro Transit Manager Route Planning Cyndi Harper presented this item. Brimeyer asked whether the same analysis will be performed for SWLRT. Harper answered that yes, the Title VI analysis will be performed for SWLRT if it is determined to be a major service, and will be performed according to the policies adopted in item 2013-129 above.

It was moved by Munt, seconded by Smith, that the Metropolitan Council approve the Title VI Service Equity Analysis for the METRO Red Line service.
Motion passed.

2013-161: Transit Cooperation Agreement with City of Minnetonka
Metro Transit Director Service Development John Levin presented this item. Commers asked if Metro Transit addresses performance standards in detail. Levin replied that this is the only agreement of its type and that performance standards are referred in the Transportation Policy Plan.
It was moved by Munt, seconded by Commers, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a new Transit Cooperation Agreement with the City of Minnetonka.
Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Vice Chair Schreiber stated that this item will proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2013-137: Procurement of 184 40-foot Transit Buses
Metro Transit Director Bus Maintenance Rob Milleson introduced Assistant Director Bus Maintenance Chuck Wurzinger who presented this item and answered questions from committee members about whether there are other contracts where Metro Transit is doing business with New Flyer, and about the price difference per unit from the bidders for the various bus types. Wurzinger and Lamb also answered Doan about the disposition of old buses: they are auctioned and the proceeds go back to the capital budget under bus purchase. Reynoso commented that it is unfortunate that New Flyer did not get the bid, but New Flyer is hoping to expand with production of a "mini bus" that could perhaps be competitive in future bids for Metro Mobility vehicles.
It was moved by Doan seconded by Smith, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute Contract No. 12P227 with Gillig Corporation for the purchase of 184 replacement 40-ft transit buses for \$98,499,952. The award is contingent on satisfactory results from the Pre-Award Buy America Audit.
Motion passed.

2013-167: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (Green Line): Award of Professional Services Contract for University of Minnesota Vibration Monitoring and Testing Consultant Contract Award
Metro Transit Deputy General Manager Mark Fuhrmann presented this item. There were no questions from committee members. Reynoso commented that there are vibration-monitoring systems in other countries that monitor the entire rail line, and are able to determine when track maintenance is needed. Fuhrmann stated that part of LRT maintenance is to inspect rails for wear to limit vibration.
It was moved by Commers, seconded by Smith, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a professional services contract with Acentech to perform vibration testing and monitoring services measuring Light Rail Transit-generated vibration at the University of Minnesota, Hubbard Broadcasting, and Minnesota Public Radio (MPR) as part of pre-revenue service and during the first year of revenue service for the Central Corridor (Green Line) Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) Project in an amount not-to-exceed \$675,000.
Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Vice Chair Schreiber stated that this item will proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2013-162: Amendment #1 to Subordinate Funding Agreement #21 between Minnesota Department of Transportation and Metropolitan Council Related to the Blue Line (Hiawatha Extension)
Metro Transit Deputy Chief Operations Rail Ed Byers presented this item. There were no questions from committee members, although Schreiber asked for clarification whether MC is "accepting" the contingency

funds, from who, etc. Lamb suggested that staff present in the future: the contingency funds available and the FTA intent for all projects.

It was moved by Munt, seconded by Doan that the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment #1 to Subordinate Funding Agreement #21 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), in an amount not to exceed \$550,000, for reimbursement of costs incurred by the Council for Construction services related to the Blue Line (Hiawatha) Extension. Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Vice Chair Schreiber stated that this item will proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2013-157: Approval of the 2nd Quarter Capital Budget Amendment to the 2013 Unified Capital Budget
Metro Transit Director Finance Ed Petrie and Metropolitan Transportation Services Principal Financial Analyst Sean Pfeiffer presented the capital budget amendments for their respective divisions. There were no questions from committee members.

It was moved by Commers, seconded by Munt, that the Metropolitan Council amend the 2013 Capital Budget (annual appropriation) and Authorized Capital Program (multi-year authorization) as indicated and in accordance with the attached table.

Motion passed.

INFORMATION

1. Draft 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Purposes of Public Hearing
Metropolitan Transportation Services Senior Planner Heidi Schallberg presented this item including funding types, amounts, categories, project examples and TIP approval schedule.
2. Regional Ridership Report – Metropolitan Transportation Services
Metropolitan Transportation Services Manager Contracted Transit Services John Harper presented this item. Lamb will forward the Northstar 10% ridership increase statistics to Reynoso as requested.
3. 2013-175: SouthWest Transit Demonstration Fare for Chanhassen Circulator
Metropolitan Transportation Services Director Arlene McCarthy presented this item. Dave Jacobson, SWT COO, was present to answer questions. Brimeyer questioned what type of report was presented to the SWT Board as background prior to their approval. McCarthy will forward the SWT Board business item to the Transportation Committee.
4. Central Corridor (Green Line) Light Rail Transit: Update on the Central Corridor Loan Program and Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)
Metro Transit Deputy General Manager Mark Fuhrmann introduced Assistant Director Environmental Agreements – Kathryn O'Brien and Assistant Director Public Outreach/Communication – Robin Caufman, who presented this item. Reynoso suggested introducing phone apps to list stops and restaurants to encourage visitors as well as local citizens. Caufman will forward the suggestion to MOD, Inc.

ADJOURNMENT

Arlene McCarthy reminded committee members of the official launch of the METRO Red Line on 6/22.

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.