

# Minutes

Transportation Committee



**Meeting Date:** August 8, 2022

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Location:** Heywood Chambers

## Members Present:

Chair, Deb Barber, D4

Vice Chair, Reva Chamblis, D2

Molly Cummings, District 5

John Pacheco, District 6

Raymond Zeran, District 9

Francisco Gonzalez, District 12

Kris Fredson, District 14

Phillip Sterner, District 15

= present

## Call to Order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Barber called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:00p.m.

## Agenda Approved

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Sterner to approve the agenda. Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

## Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Sterner, seconded by Cummings to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2022 regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. **Motion carried.**

## Reports

### 1. Metropolitan Transportation Services Director

Metropolitan Transportation Services Deputy Director Amy Vennewitz presented the report.

#### Travel Demand Management (TDM) Workshops

Council members should have received an invitation to participate in the workshops. The first is tomorrow from 3:00 – 6:00pm and the second is on Wednesday from 9:00am – 12:00pm.

#### Transit Onboard Survey

Last spring we did a pilot testing of the survey, interviewing about 4,000 riders on the busiest transit routes. This week (through late fall) the full survey is kicking off where we will interview approximately 16,000 riders across Metro Transit, MTS and Suburban transit providers routes. Survey results will be shared in early 2023.

### 2. Metro Transit General Manager

#### Nicollet Mall Platform Shooting

We acknowledge the senseless tragedy in last Tuesday's fatal shooting of a 15 year old on the Nicollet Mall light rail platform. A 17 year old has been charged in the homicide. We do want to recognize the responding police officers who provided aid and helped located the suspect less than a half hour from the time of this incident; also, the instrumental role played by staff in our Real Time Information Center, who quickly distributed images of the suspect, and the alert bus operator who notified police of their whereabouts.

#### New Deputy Chief Operating Officers

Deputy General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Brian Funk introduced Michael Pal, who started August 1<sup>st</sup> as Deputy Chief Operating Officer – Transportation.

3. Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC)

No report.

## Consent Business

### Consent Business Adopted

1. **2022-207:** That the Metropolitan Council (“Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment #1 to Subordinate Funding Agreement #19I056F with the City of St. Paul (“the City”) for construction of non-project activities concurrent with the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Project (“the Gold Line”) in an amount not to exceed \$1,644,548.89.
2. **2022-208:** That the Metropolitan Council (“Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment #1 to Subordinate Funding Agreement #19I034F with the City of Woodbury (“the City”) for construction of non-project activities concurrent with the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Project (“the Gold Line”) in an amount not to exceed \$995,133.76.
3. **2022-209:** That the Metropolitan Council (“Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment #1 to Subordinate Funding Agreement #19I069B with St. Paul Regional Water Services (“SPRWS”) for construction of non-project activities concurrent with the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Project (“the Gold Line”) in an amount not to exceed \$1,286,572.95.
4. **2022-211:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Joint Powers Agreement #22I021 with the State of Minnesota through its Commissioner of Transportation to allow the Council to transport Transit Link customers to destinations in Minnesota outside the metropolitan area as defined by Minn. Stat. § 473.121.

It was moved by Gonzalez, seconded by Chamblis.

Motion carried.

## Non-Consent Business

1. **2022-214:** METRO B Line – Real Estate Acquisition and Condemnation, Resolution 2022-21

It was moved by Cummings, seconded by Pacheco, that the Metropolitan Council pass Resolution 2022-21 declaring the METRO B Line Project as a public purpose, authorizing acquisition of all real estate interests necessary for the Project, and authorizing staff to initiate condemnation proceedings on behalf of the Council for parcels that cannot be acquired by negotiation.

Metro Transit Principal Engineer Luke Sandstrom presented this item. Sterner asked what the maximum number of parcel could be; Sandstrom stated 14. Chamblis asked for an example of the temporary easements. Sandstrom responded that typically for ABRT projects, the station platforms are constructed within the existing right away so the temporary easements are usually just for grading purposes to tie in or replacing existing sidewalks in the right of way.

**Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Barber stated this item could proceed as consent to Council.**

## Information

1. 2022 State Fair and Q3 Service Changes & Operator Hiring Update

Metro Transit Deputy General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Brian Funk and Service Development Director Adam Harrington presented this item. Cummings asked if the money saved from the unpaid wages is available to be used for incentive or bonuses to attract new



operators. Funk and Metro Transit General Manager Wes Kooistra responded that yes, that money drops to the bottom line to use at the discretion of the Council. Chair Barber asked if the relationship with Saint Paul Public Schools (SPSS) will continue this year. Harrington stated that yes it will continue; we are challenged with some routes having enough capacity. Cummings asked what impact the Universal Pass with UofM will have on the system. Harrington responded that the Green Line will be the primary mode for students – which has plenty of capacity during those peak times; there is good capacity of bus routes 3/2 also but staff will continue to monitor.

### **Adjournment**

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

### **Certification**

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Transportation Committee meeting of August 8, 2022.

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### **Council Contact:**

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