METRO Gold Line BRT

Transportation Committee, Business Item 2023-121 SW

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Gold Line Overview:

- Frequent, all-day service operating primarily in bus-only lanes
- Budget: $505.3 million
- 10-miles & 16 new stations
- 17 BRT-branded 60’ buses (12 diesel, 5 electric)
- BRT upgrades to existing East Metro Garage in St. Paul
- 3 surface park-and-rides and 1 parking structure
- 8 grade-separated BRT crossings
Fleet and Route Considerations

• **Price:**
  – Actual diesel bus price $998,363.18, estimated electric bus price $1.9M

• **Range (from full tank/charge):**
  – Average diesel bus range 385 miles, estimated electric bus usable range 91 miles

• **Route Considerations:**
  – Service will be provided by a combination of diesel and electric buses
  – Service plan includes 5 electric buses and 12 diesel buses
  – Based on range, Electric buses will be planned for 9 trips per day, diesel buses closer to 38
  – Goal is to continue to gain experience as described in our Zero Emission Bus Transition Plan
New Flyer 60-foot Electric Bus
Zero-Emission Bus (ZEB) Transition Plan Guiding Principles

**Technical Viability**
- Strive to achieve a level of service where ZEBs and diesel buses are referred to as just "buses" rather than by their propulsion type
- Partner with Xcel Energy to assess and upgrade electrical infrastructure for bus operations and maintenance facilities

**Equity & Environmental Justice**
- Implement and prioritize ZEB service reflecting transparent fact-driven community engagement and education
- Target ZEB investment in communities where air pollution, racial, and socioeconomic disparities are greatest while also balancing the challenges of new technology

**Fiscal Impact**
- Deploy ZEBs in a fiscally efficient manner in order to maximize use of vehicles and infrastructure
- Operate and invest within fiscal means by planning for and optimizing capital and operating expenditures while pursuing new funding streams
Transition Milestones & Vehicle Procurements

• **Vehicle procurement target:**
  – Gold Line: (5) 60-foot electric buses
  – Between 2022 and 2027, at least 20% of Metro Transit 40’ bus replacement purchases will be electric.

• **Performance Measure Reporting** – Update the Council on performance of the ZEB fleet and infrastructure at least once per year.

• **Community Engagement** – Host public engagement activities at least once per year on ZEBTP progress.

• **Budget Planning** – Update the capital and operating plans annually based on ZEB fleet and infrastructure performance.

• **Continuous Improvement** – Strive to not only meet but exceed all ZEBTP milestones and performance measures.
BEB Charging Infrastructure & Electric Bus

Work in collaboration with Xcel Energy

BI 2023-121 SW
Procurement Facts

• Utilized State of Washington Cooperative Purchasing Venture

• Benefits for utilization include:
  – Saves Time
  – Reduces costs
  – Connects with top suppliers
  – Delivers Value
  – FTA compliant

• Authorization
Action: BI 2023-121 SW: Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Electric Bus and Charger Purchase

• That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise bus purchase options utilizing the State of Washington’s Master Contract 06719-01 with New Flyer of America Inc. to purchase five sixty-foot electric buses and five electric bus chargers for the METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit project in an amount not to exceed $10,844,000.