Disposition of Property at 6020 117th Ave N in Champlin

District(s), Member(s): District 2, Council Member Reva Chamblis
Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute 473.129, subd. 7, Minnesota Statute 471.64, Metropolitan Council Real Estate Policy 9-1
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Division/Department: Metro Transit – Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Actions
That the Metropolitan Council declare the property surplus for disposition, authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate a fair market sale to City of Champlin, and to execute the termination of the Joint Powers Agreement for the Construction and Maintenance of a Park & Ride Lot at 6020 117th Ave N in Champlin.

Background
In June 2023, Metro Transit permanently closed the West River Rd & 117th Ave Park & Ride at 6020 117th Ave N in Champlin. The 151-space park & ride was closed due to declining use over the past decade and the availability of other park & rides in the market area.

Remaining park & rides in this market area include newer, large facilities at Highway 610 & Noble Parkway in Brooklyn Park and Maple Grove Transit Station in Maple Grove, as well as small facilities at Richardson Park in Champlin, Church of the Nazarene in Brooklyn Center, and Hwy 252 & 66th Ave in Brooklyn Center.

Consistent with the terms of the 1989 Joint Powers Agreement for the Construction and Maintenance of a Park and Ride Lot between the City of Champlin and the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC), the Metropolitan Council owns the property and is responsible for non-routine maintenance (such as pavement repair). The City is responsible for routine maintenance (such as snow removal and electricity). The property was originally acquired by the City, acquisition costs were paid by the MTC, and the property was conveyed from the City to the MTC.

The JPA requires both parties to agree to terminating the JPA and requires City approval for any use other than a parking facility. Metro Transit no longer has a transit use for the property.

The Council Real Estate Policy states that when real property is no longer needed, it may be considered surplus. Pursuant to applicable regulations and laws, the Council may sell surplus property to the highest bidder for the appraised market value unless Council’s priorities or
objectives would be better served by disposing of the property in some other manner authorized by law. Metro Transit is seeking Council approval to declare the property surplus and authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate sale to the City of Champlin reflective of market value. Council priorities are served through sale to this long-term joint powers partner, who has shared in the planning, acquisition and ongoing maintenance responsibilities for over 30 years.

Rationale
There is no further transit need for the property at 6020 117th Ave N in Champlin.

Thrive Lens Analysis
This action promotes stewardship by disposing of assets that will no longer be needed. No other near-term Council use, consistent with the JPA, of the property has been identified. This action promotes prosperity by disposing of the property and supporting future land use that is consistent with community goals in Council District 2.

Funding
Local funding was used in planning and construction of the Park & Ride Lot. The Council did not use any federal funds in the acquisition of this property. The improvements constructed on the property are fully depreciated.

Small Business Inclusion
There is no direct impact to small businesses with this action.