

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: January 27, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: February 12, 2025

Business Item: 2025-34

Adopted Zero Emissions Bus Transition Plan Updates

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute 473.3927

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Division/Department: Metro Transit / Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve updates to the adopted Zero Emission Bus Transition Plan for submittal to the MN State Legislature by February 15, 2025, as required by Minnesota Statute 473.3927.

Background

The Zero Emission Bus Transition Plan (ZEBTP) is a living document that creates the framework for how Metro Transit will continue planning for a transition to a zero-emission bus (ZEB) fleet, including battery electric buses (BEBs). An information item discussing plan highlights and key considerations was presented to the Metropolitan Council on January 22, 2025.

The initial version of this plan was approved by the Council in early 2022 and submitted to the MN State Legislature prior to February 15, 2022 as was required by MN state statute. In that plan, three guiding principles and six supporting actions were established as the framework for the Transition Plan to shape the definition of a successful transition to ZEBs. The guiding principles are Technical Viability, Equity and Environmental Justice, and Fiscal Impact. At the time of the initial plan development and submittal, the next plan update submittal was required by February 15, 2027.

Under a new state statute established in 2024, the Council is responsible for developing an updated plan and revised the plan every three years. The 2024 adopted statute established new minimum requirements with the updated report due on February 15, 2025. Staff has updated the transition plan in response to these new requirements.

Rationale

Metro Transit is updating the adopted plan in accordance with Minnesota Statute 473.3927.

Thrive Lens Analysis

The Zero Emission Bus Transition Plan will advance all five Thrive 2040 Outcomes.

- Stewardship is addressed by the Guiding Principles of Technical Viability and Fiscal Impact to ensure that we are responsibly managing our region's finite resources and leveraging transit investments.
- Prosperity is addressed by the Guiding Principle of Equity and Environmental Justice to ensure we are fostering the conditions for shared economic vitality.
- Equity is addressed by the Guiding Principle of Equity and Environmental Justice by working to build a more equitable region, creating choices for all and engaging the community in decision-making.
- Livability is addressed by all aspects of the plan to promote healthy communities.
- Sustainability is addressed by all aspects of the plan to provide leadership in climate change mitigation.

Funding

There are no funding impacts associated with the updated transition plan.

Small Business Inclusion

There are no direct impacts to small businesses with this business item.

