

# Minutes

## Transportation Committee



**Meeting date:** July 28, 2025

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Location:** Heywood Chambers

### Members present:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair, Deb Barber, D4         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tyronne Carter, District 3   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anjuli Cameron, District 8   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair, Reva Chamblis, D2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Pacheco Jr., District 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Toni Carter, District 14                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Johnson, District 1      | <input type="checkbox"/> Yassin Osman, District 7                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victor Obisakin, District 15 |
|   |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = present                    |

### Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

### Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Barber called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:02 p.m.

### Agenda approved

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

### Approval of minutes

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Carter, Tyronne to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2025, regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. **Motion carried.**

### Employee recognition – Metro Transit

#### 1. Metro Transit General Manager

Metro Transit General Manager Lesley Kandaras introduced Engineering and Construction Assistant Director Jim Harwood who presented awards to Principal Engineer Wyatt Jackson, Construction Services Manager Jesse Hejlstone (not present) and Principal Contract Administrator; Rail Systems Maintenance Director Carlos Canchola who presented awards to Signals Manager Perry Gunderson, Senior Signals Engineer Phil Wellman, and Signals Supervisor Ryan Yenish (not present); Light Rail Operations Acting Director Jake Rooney who presented awards to Rail Operations Manager Dominick Pellegrin, Rail Operations Assistant Manager Jonathan Hendrickson, Senior Rail Transit Supervisor Jason Mooney, Senior Rail Transit Supervisor Andrew Watterson; Manager Market Development Maria Cone who presented awards to Market Development Specialist Alice Johnson, Market Development Specialist Tonya Norine and Market Development Supervisor Kelci Stones.

## Reports

1. Metropolitan Transportation Services Executive Director

Metropolitan Transportation Services Planning and Finance Director Amy Vennewitz reported on the Regional Solicitation progress and what Council members can expect to see in the coming months.

2. Metro Transit General Manager

No report.

3. Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)

No report.

## Consent business

1. **2025-188:** Streamlined 2025-2028 TIP Amendment Request – I-494 Sign Replacement Project

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a new project for sign replacement on I-494 from Argenta Trail in Eagan to MN Highway 77 in Bloomington.

2. **2025-189:** Streamlined 2025-2028 TIP Amendment Request – Two Signal Replacement Projects Cost Increases

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to increase the cost of two signal replacement projects.

It was moved by Obisakin, seconded by Chamblis.

**Motion carried.**

## Non-consent business

1. **2025-177:** On-Call Track Maintenance, Contract 25P060

It was moved by Obisakin, seconded by Carter, Tyronne, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 25P060 with Railworks Track Systems, Inc., to provide on-call and preventative track maintenance to the Blue and Green Lines in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.

Metro Transit Track Manager Tony Klinger presented this item. Johnson asked if we reach out to firms who didn't submit bids to understand why they didn't. Metropolitan Council Contracts and Procurement Assistant Director Rob Carey explained the procurement process that happens when there is only a single bid/proposal received and that with this procurement the evaluation panel did not determine there was anything restrictive, meaning that if a new solicitation was sent out it wouldn't yield a different response.

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

2. **2025-184:** Student Pass Amendment between Metropolitan Council and Saint Paul Public Schools, Contract No. 23R009-11

It was moved by Obisakin, seconded by Johnson, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to:

Enter into and execute the amended Student Pass Contract No 23R009-11 with Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) to provide Student Passes to eligible students.

Metro Transit Sales Operations Specialist Blia Xiong presented this item. Carter, Tyronne

asked about the income requirements, if any and Johnson asked if there were income requirements on the agreements with the five schools that Metro Transit replaces yellow bus service. Xiong did not have this information on hand but would follow up with Council members.

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

3. **2025-186:** AIMRail SCADA System Updates, Contract 23M005G

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Carter, Tyronne, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a sole source contract 23M005G – Work Order #7, with Wabtec Transportation Systems, LLC (Wabtec) to provide software upgrades and updates in an amount not to exceed \$2,366,265.

Metro Transit Principal Project Coordinator Tyler Susienka presented this item. Obisakin asked how often the AIMTRail SCADA system needs updated. Susienka stated that the system is frequently updated, but that the updates can range from small to large.

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

## Information

1. Transit Asset Management Update

Metro Transit Asset Management Director Kristin Thompson presented this item.

## Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

## Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Transportation Committee meeting of July 28, 2025.

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### Council contact:

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