

3. An FTA audit of Metro Mobility ADA practices will take place in the late-September/early-October time frame. Staff is currently providing FTA with information in preparation for the audit.

Metro Transit General Manager Brian Lamb reported the following:

1. The 2012 Metro Transit Fact Book has been distributed to all Metro Transit employees at all work locations. The booklet summarizes essential information about the agency's performance and service from the previous year and is targeted to employees, interested stakeholders in the communities that Metro Transit serves, industry peers and others. The 2012 version is the first Metro Transit publication of its type and will be in circulation the next seven months or so. In future years, the annual fact book will be produced and distributed in the first quarter of the year. It's also available online at www.metrotransit.org/facts.
2. Metro Transit has been taking advantage of a favorable market and fueling buses with a 20 percent blend of soy-based biodiesel since July. This is the first time a 20% blend has been used on a fleet-wide basis. Since 2009 the 5 percent blend required under the law has typically been used because of higher pricing for higher-ratio blends. As the state's largest diesel consumer, Metro Transit uses nearly 7 million gallons of fuel a year. Adding it up, compared to 5 percent blends the lower-priced biodiesel has saved more than \$100,000 since July 1. At one point in last month, one gallon of 20-percent blended biodiesel cost roughly 32 cents less than the 5-percent blend. Also, higher blends of biodiesel reduce harmful emissions such as CO₂ and carbon monoxide, and the fuel is sourced largely from soy crops grown in Minnesota. Finally, using higher blends provides a better understanding of how components respond to the fuel and allows findings to be shared with the broader transportation community, enabling more technical improvements.
3. The Metro Transit Police Department has added 19 new full-time officers to its ranks. Officers were sworn in by Chief John Harrington at a ceremony last week. The 19 officers come from various law enforcement backgrounds and also represent many different cultural backgrounds, which is reflective of the many communities that make up the Twin Cities. Several are bilingual, speaking Arabic, Somali or Spanish. The new officers join 64 licensed and sworn full-time and 60 existing part-time Metro Transit Police officers. This addition will result in a net increase of 15 more full-time Metro Transit Police officer positions, for a total of 83. The growing department also added 22 additional part-time officers in April of this year and plans to hire an additional 26 part-time officers this fall.
4. As of August 1, those who commit assaults against bus and train operators will now face gross misdemeanor charges. Those found guilty face up to a \$3,000 fine and one year in prison, elevated from a misdemeanor charge with a fine of up to \$1,000 and a possible 90 days in prison. The penalty was revised in a state law that provides protections for bus and rail operators similar to those accorded other public safety professionals including peace officers, firefighters and emergency personnel. This is a hard-won victory whose effort has been a priority for several years for Metro Transit Police and Operations and ATU Local 1005. This year legislators agreed with the argument that even a fifth-degree (previously misdemeanor-level) assault against a bus or train operator constitutes a dangerous distraction with significant risk to the operator as well as to customers and other nearby motorists, property and pedestrians.
5. The Metro Transit Police Department reported that officers and command staff attended about 50 National Night Out neighborhood block parties in Minneapolis and St. Paul on Tuesday evening, focusing on areas with high levels of transit service. Officers introduced themselves, met neighbors and talked about their role in the community. In addition, a Metro Transit hybrid bus and several staff were on hand at a large event at Sumner Park, hosted by the Heritage Park neighborhood. The area is fairly close to the Heywood campus, and staff provided "goody bags" with Metro Transit items for young people. Other staff also hosted a resource table at an event in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis and also hosted activities at Lakeside Park in Big Lake, MN.

BUSINESS

Consent Items

A motion was made by Elkins, seconded by Commers to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

2013-224: Procurement of Metro Mobility Two-Way Radios – 800MHz

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a purchase agreement with Motorola Solutions (State of Minnesota Contract 40071) for replacement of up to 255 two-way radios utilized in Metro Mobility demand service in an amount not to exceed \$497,633.

2013-226: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (Green Line): Authorization to Purchase Two Bucket Trucks

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a Purchase Order for two bucket trucks each consisting of a F-750 chassis with a 34-foot boom and a single bucket in a total amount for the two vehicles not to exceed \$421,682.

2013-230: Authorization to Amend a Grant Agreement with the City of Maple Grove

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to amend the Parkway Station – Phase 2 agreement (SG-2012-093) with the City of Maple Grove in the amount of \$332,000 for a revised total of \$2,632,000. This amendment is contingent upon the approval of the 3rd Quarter Unified Capital Budget amendment (Business Item: 2013-220).

Non-Consent Items

2013-219: Authorization to Amend the 2013 Unified Operating Budget

MTS Financial Analyst Sean Pfeiffer presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Elkins, seconded by Rodriguez, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the amendment of the 2013 Unified Operating Budget as indicated and in accordance with 2013 Annual Budget – Summary of Revisions. Motion passed.

2013-220: Approval of the 3rd Quarter Capital Budget Amendment to the 2013 Unified Capital Budget

Metro Transit Finance Director Ed Petrie and MTS Financial Analyst Sean Pfeiffer presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Elkins, seconded by Commers, that the Metropolitan Council amend the 2013 Capital Budget (annual appropriation) and Authorized Capital Program (multi-year authorization) as indicated and in accordance with the table attached to the original business item.

Motion passed.

2013-222: Controlled Access Approval to reconstruct TH 100 from Cedar Lake Rd through the rail bridges just south of TH 7 in St Louis Park (SP 2734-33)

Connie Kozlak, MTS Manager of Systems Planning, presented the item. She noted that an error in the text of the business item should be corrected to show 36th Street not 26th Street. Staff responded to a question from CM Elkins regarding the alignment of the railroad bridges.

Motion by Elkins, seconded by Munt, That the Metropolitan Council approve MnDOT's request to reconstruct 1.6 miles of TH 100 from Cedar Lake Rd to 36th Street in St. Louis Park, including two interchanges with bridges at TH 7/CSAH 25 and at Minnetonka Blvd and replacement of 2 other deficient bridges, the CP rail bridge and SW LRT/ trail bridge, conditional upon any significant changes in the design of the proposed project being subject to further review and approval by the Metropolitan Council prior to construction.

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Chair Duinck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-225: Approve 2014 Capital and Operating Grant Applications to Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB)

MTS Deputy Director Amy Vennewitz presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Reynoso, seconded by Elkins, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to apply for Calendar year 2014 grants from the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) for the following projects:

Capital

1. Orange Line (I-35W South BRT): Est. \$4,000,000
2. Green Line extension (Southwest LRT): Est. \$17,000,000

Operating

3. Northstar Commuter Rail: Est. \$6,558,000
4. Blue Line (Hiawatha LRT): Est. \$9,211,000
5. Green Line (Central LRT): Est. \$6,189,000
6. I-35W South Lakeville BRT Express: Est. \$133,000
7. Cedar Avenue BRT Express: Est. \$695,000
8. Red Line (Cedar Avenue BRT): Est. \$2,869,000

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-218: Authorization to Execute Contract No. 12P264, Procurement of Fuel Management System
Ross Callahan, Project Coordinator for Metro Transit Bus Maintenance, presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Đoàn, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute Contract No. 12P264 with Fleetwatch/S&A Systems Inc. for the purchase of a new fuel and fluid management system in the amount of \$1,029,226.50.

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-223: Authorization to Proceed with the Property Acquisition for I-94 & Manning Avenue Park-and-Ride, Woodbury

Maurice Roers, Metro Transit Manager of Facilities Planning, presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Elkins, seconded by Rodriguez, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to proceed with the acquisition of a 9.18 acre property from a private owner for a park-and-ride facility located at 11736 Hudson Road, Woodbury, contingent on the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) concurrence, in an amount of \$1,700,000.

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-228: Joint Powers Agreement with the City of St. Paul Police Department (SPPD) and the Metro Transit Police Department (MTPD)

Metro Transit Police Chief John Harrington presented the item and responded to questions from committee members.

Motion by Commers, seconded by Elkins, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of St. Paul to clarify the roles and responsibilities for police service between the Metro Transit Police Department (MTPD) and the St. Paul Police Department (SPPD).

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-229: Interchange Agreements

Marilyn Porter, Metro Transit Director of Engineering and Facilities, presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Reynoso, seconded by Đoàn, that the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the following Agreements:

- “Agreement of Redevelopment” of Parcel ‘A’ at the Interchange Site. This agreement is between the following parties: Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County’s Developer of Choice, Hennepin County, and Hennepin County HRA.
- Amendment to the Operations and Maintenance Agreement (O & M Agreement) dated as of September 9, 2009. To include the “Interchange Site” and the various parties involved.

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, Chair Duinick stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

INFORMATION

1. Nicollet-Central Transit Alternatives Study Update

MTS Senior Planner Cole Hiniker introduced Charleen Zimmer, acting Project Manager for the City of Minneapolis Nicollet-Central Transit Alternatives Study. Ms. Zimmer presented an overview of the project, outlining its purpose and considerations in determining the locally preferred locations and transit modes to be used for the corridor.

2. Regional Ridership Report – MTS

MTS Manager of Contracted Services John Harper reported on bus ridership levels in the region for second quarter 2013, breaking information down by provider, service type and month and comparing against the same period of 2012.

3. 2013-2014 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) Update

MTS Deputy Director Amy Vennewitz presented the proposed updates to the TPP and their draft objectives. She requested written feedback from Council members and will schedule any meetings with staff that are requested.

4. State Fair Promotions

Lisa Johnson, Manager of Street Operations, and Kelci Stones, Market Development Specialist, presented an overview of operations and marketing plans for Metro Transit’s 2013 Minnesota State Fair service and reviewed 2012 results.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.