

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting Date: June 14, 2023

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair, Charlie Zelle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Pacheco Jr., District 6 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gail Cederberg, District 12 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Johnson, District 1 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Lilligren, District 7 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chai Lee, District 13 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reva Chamblis, District 2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yassin Osman, District 8 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toni Carter, District 14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tyronne Carter, District 3 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diego Morales, District 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tenzin Dolkar, District 15 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Barber, District 4 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Lindstrom, District 10 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendy Wulff, District 16 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anjuli Cameron, District 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Susan Vento, District 11 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = present |

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council to order at 4:01 p.m.

Agenda Approved

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

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Johnson to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2023, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public Invitation

Pastor Elijah McDavid of Beacon Interfaith Housing addressed the Council regarding project-based vouchers.

Consent Business

Consent Business Adopted (Items 1-3)

1. **2023-109:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Contract 22P393 with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., for construction support services to support Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.
2. **2023-111:** That the Council approve the attached administrative modification to the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) to establish a transitway advancement policy for transitway projects requesting a change to the TPP.
3. **2023-119:** That the Metropolitan Council establish a date to conduct a public hearing to discuss and receive comment on the 2024 Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan. The hearing will take place on August 21, 2023, at 4:00 pm in the Council Chambers.

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Barber.

Motion carried.

Non-Consent Business – Reports of Standing Committees

Community Development

Reports on consent agenda.

Environment

No reports.

Management

No reports.

Transportation

1. **2023-121 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council (“the 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.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Lee.

Motion carried.

Information

1. Transit Fare Elimination Pilot Program

Dennis Dworshak, Senior Manager of Revenue Operations, Metro Transit, and Gerri Sutton, Director of Contracted Services, gave an overview of the Transit Fare Elimination Pilot Program. The Transit Fare Elimination Pilot Program was established during the 2023 legislative session and requires the Metropolitan Council to establish a pilot program to provide transit service for a free or reduced fare for two regular route bus lines from July 1, 2023, to December 31, 2024. During the pilot program the Council must also provide regular route transit free of charge to individuals who are eligible for Metro Mobility. Proposed routes for the pilot are about 62 and route 32. Dworshak also shared information about Title VI requirements and the Council fare policy.

Council members had questions and comments regarding the Title VI analysis, fare revenue, fare as conduct enforcement, the potential for expansion of the program, free vs. reduced fare, and electronic data collection.

2. Keeping Our Cool: A 2023 Update to Extreme Heat Tools

Eric Wojchik, Planning and Climate Policy Analyst, shared an overview of the Council’s work regarding extreme heat in the region. Wojchik began with an overview of previous Council efforts to understand how extreme heat impacts the region. Thrive MSP 2040 informed the initial work on extreme heat, with the outcomes of sustainability and livability forming the foundation of past work on heat. A Regional Climate Vulnerability Assessment was completed in 2017. This report focused on both extreme heat as well as localized flooding risk. A 2023 update builds on past work, including voices from the region, and mitigation and adaptation strategies. The 2023 update also improves the map of land surface temperature. Wojchik also shared stories from outreach and engagement efforts that were structured around the four vision statements that are a part of the Council’s forthcoming 2050 Regional Development Guide.

Council members had questions and comments regarding the combined heat and fire risk, the distinction between drought and extreme heat, technical assistance to local governments, and the intersection of the Growing Shade tool and the Extreme Heat tool.



Reports

Chair Zelle shared information about upcoming work group opportunities. General Counsel Ann Bloodhart thanked Deputy General Counsel Dave Theisen for his work during the legislative session. Bloodhart also shared that she attended the state Tribal Relations Training on May 24. The Regional Administrator did not have any reports.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 14, 2023.

Approved this 28th day of June 2023.

Council Contact:

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