Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 13, 2016  4:00PM  Council Chambers

IN ATTENDANCE
Rodriguez, Schreiber, Munt, Barber, Elkins, Dorfman, Cunningham, Letofsky, McCarthy, Rummel, Melander, Kramer, Commers, Chávez, Wulff, Duininck

CALL TO ORDER
A quorum being present, Chair Duininck called the meeting to order at 4:05PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES
It was moved by Letofsky, seconded by Rummel.

It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Elkins.

CONSENT AGENDA
Approval of the Consent Agenda (Items 1-4)

Consent Agenda Adopted

1. 2016-48 Approve the Harriet Island – South St. Paul Regional Trail Master Plan; require that prior to initiating development of the regional trail, preliminary plans must be sent to Scott Dentz, Interceptor Engineering Manager at Metropolitan Council Environmental Services for review in order to assess the potential impacts to the regional interceptor system.

2. 2016-49 Approve an amendment to grant agreement SG2013-090 to change the project scope to add “work for the Wargo Nature Center entrance redevelopment at Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve.”

3. 2016-50 Approve an amendment to grant agreement SG2011-119 to change the project scope to add the following: “design, engineering, construction, and construction administration for the following improvements at Lebanon Hills Regional Park: Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant paved loop trail and site improvements around McDonough Lake, ADA compliant paved trail and site improvements from the Holland Trailhead facility to an existing ADA fishing pier on Holland Lake, parking and site improvements at the West Trailhead facility, associated natural resource improvements for the above projects.”

4. 2016-62 Adopt the attached Review Record and allow the City of Maplewood to place the Conifer Ridge Comprehensive Plan Amendment (amendment) into effect; advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Transportation.

BUSINESS
Community Development—Reports on Consent Agenda

Environment—No Reports
Management

2016-57 Authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into a labor agreement with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees District Council 5, Local Union No. 668 AFL-CIO (AFSCME), effective January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017.

It was moved by Chávez, seconded by Letofsky. Munt abstained.

Motion carried.

Transportation

2016-45 Authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute an engineering contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (KHA), for design and construction support services in the amount of $1,981,667 for the upgrades to the Park Avenue and Warehouse crossovers.

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Munt.

Motion carried.

2016-66 Authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Sheehy Construction Company, for the construction of the Red Line Cedar Grove Transit Station in Eagan, MN, at a cost of $13,141,300.25.

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Rodriguez.

Motion carried.

2016-67 Concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to approve the attached Regional Solicitation package for 2020-2021 funding (2018-2019 funding for TDM projects), including the scoring guidance and weighting, and to release the solicitation.

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Letofsky.

Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

INFORMATION

Diving Deeper: Understanding Racial Disparities in the Twin Cities Region

Matt Schroeder gave a presentation on disparities as a follow-up to the September 2016 MetroStats “Disparities Unmasked” release. Our metro area has some of the highest overall rates of employment and homeownership in the country, however, we also have some of the largest disparities by race and ethnicity in the country. These disparities are particularly striking for African Americans compared to Whites. The April 2016 MetroStats series includes a closer examination of employment, income, and homeownership disparities in our region. Many factors contribute to the disparities, and Schroeder explained that even after adjusting for a broad set of demographic differences, disparities still exist and are consistently largest for Black residents. The MetroStats reports are available at www.metrocouncil.org/data.

REPORTS

Council Members:
Letofsky—Participated in a transit agency board member training in Texas along with Minneapolis City Council member Kevin Reich. Attended a meeting of Alliance Housing, which is proposing a 40-unit affordable housing project in her community. Attended an electric bus policy event held by Fresh Energy along with CM Rummel. Attended the MTPD Awards Ceremony. Attended a Community Connections conference held by the City of Minneapolis. Participated in Transportation Forward Day at the Capitol. Attended an open house for the 35W/Lake Street transit access project. The Food Access Planning Guide Work Group will be reviewing the full draft next week. Participated in a transportation equity conversation focused on the east metro along with CM Munt. Participated in the NE Hotdish competition as a celebrity judge.

Elkins—Attended the monthly 494 Coalition Commission meeting.

Barber—Suburban Transit Assoc. decided to suspend their suburb-to-suburb transit route and are reevaluating their service.

Munt—Met with SouthWest Transit. Participated in the Transportation Forward Day at the Capitol. Attended the east metro transit equity conversation meeting along with CM Letofsky.

Rodriguez—Attended the Hwy 12 Safety Coalition meeting. Participated in an affordable housing tour in St. Michael along with former Council member Roxanne Smith.

Rummel—Rush Line schedule has been delayed. They are doing thoughtful, thorough engagement with the community.

McCarthy—Attended an Anoka County meeting.

Dorfman—Metro Transit and MTPD is working with partner agencies to find a solution for the homeless who have been riding the LRT throughout the night.

Chair: Participated in the MMB Workshop on the EQB Environment and Energy Report Card. Met with the HUD Regional Administrator who was in town from Chicago. Presented on transportation to the TwinWest Chamber and the Dakota County Regional Chamber along with Commissioner Zelle. Introduced the new Council member support staff: Andrew Virden and Zoe Mullendore.

Regional Administrator: Thrive has an impact on staff at the Council, and the Thrive Executive Implementation Team has been working on the Thrive lens and Thrive indicators.

General Counsel: No report.

The meeting adjourned at 5:27PM.

Certification
I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council Meeting of April 13, 2016.

Approved this 27th day of April, 2016.

Emily Getty
Recording Secretary