

# Minutes

Metropolitan Council



**Meeting Date:** September 13, 2023

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Location:** 390 Robert Steet

## Members Present:

- Chair, Charlie Zelle
- Judy Johnson, District 1
- Reva Chamblis, District 2
- Tyronne Carter, District 3
- Deb Barber, District 4
- John Pacheco, District 5

- Robert Lilligren, District 6
- Yassin Osman, District 7
- Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- Diego Morales, District 9
- Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- Gail Cederberg, District 11

- Sue Vento, District 12
- Chai Lee, District 13
- Toni Carter, District 14
- Tenzin Dolkar, District 15
- Wendy Wulff, District 16
- = present

## Call to Order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council 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 Lindstrom to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2023, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

## Public Invitation

Tony Richardson and Eva Young spoke about Blue Line Extension route alignment. Anthony Taylor spoke about the Summit Avenue Regional Trail.

## Business

1. **2023-211:** Resolution Expressing the Metropolitan Council's Commitment to a Framework for Funding the Remaining Capital Requirements to Complete Construction and Commence Revenue Service of the METRO Green Line Extension Project (Resolution No. 2023-18)

It was moved by Zelle, seconded by Morales.

Council Member Vento shared comments about the project.

**Motion carried.**

## Consent Business

Consent Business Adopted (Items 1-3)

1. **2023-191:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 23P026 with SRF Consulting Group, Inc. for consulting services for the Regional Solicitation Evaluation in an amount not to exceed \$836,207.63.

2. **2023-192:** That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Adopt the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.
2. Certify that the Twin Cities Metropolitan Planning Process is addressing major issues facing the metropolitan planning area and is being carried on in conformance with all applicable federal requirements of:
3. Certify the TIP conforms to the provisions of 49 CFR part 20 regarding lobbying restrictions on influencing certain federal activities.
  - a. 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. 5303, and this subpart;
  - b. Sections 174 and 176 (c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act as amended (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506 (c) and (d)) and 40 CFR part 93;
  - c. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 USC 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21;
  - d. 49 USC 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
  - e. Section 1101(b) of Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (Pub L. 114-357) and 49 CFR Part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in US DOT funded projects;
  - f. 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
  - g. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and 49 CFR Parts 27, 37, and 38;
  - h. The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
  - i. Section 324 of title 23, U.S.C regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and;
  - j. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.
4. Find that the TIP is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan, which is in conformance with applicable federal transportation and air quality regulations.
5. Find that the TIP meets all applicable federal requirements.
6. Find that the TAB provided adequate opportunity for involvement from the public, agency and transit operators through its regular process and public comment period.
7. Transmit the 2024-2027 TIP along with these comments to the Minnesota and Wisconsin Departments of Transportation and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

3. **2023-193:** Proposed Action

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Morales.

Motion carried.

## Non-Consent Business – Reports of Standing Committees

### *Community Development*

1. **2023-188:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute Contract 22P160 with Kingwood Management to provide property management services for the Family Affordable Housing Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,098,328.00.

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Chamblis.

**Motion carried.**

2. **2023-206:** That the Metropolitan Council:
  1. Award six (6) Livable Communities Act Pre-Development Grants totaling \$898,600 as shown in Table 1 below.
  2. Authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreements on behalf of the Council.

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by W.T. Carter.

**Motion carried.**

3. **2023-207:** That the Metropolitan Council award three (3) Livable Communities Act Policy Development Grants totaling \$101,400 as shown in Table 1 of the business item.

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Vento.

**Motion carried.**

***Environment***

1. No reports

***Management***

1. Reports on business agenda.

***Transportation***

1. **2023-190:** That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to approve the attached Regional Solicitation package, including the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Solicitation for 2028-2029 funding (2026-2027 funding for Travel Demand Management and Unique Projects) and to release the solicitation.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Morales.

Council Member Chamblis asked for additional information regarding the specific changes to the application process.

**Motion carried.**

2. **2023-194:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the release of the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan Amendment #2 for public review and comment.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Vento.

Council Member Barber shared more information about the projects. Council Member Chamblis noted the Thrive Lens analysis on the business item.

**Motion carried.**

3. **2023-197:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contracts 23P116 A-E that will provide support to people who are turning to transit while experiencing homelessness, suffering from mental illness, or facing other challenges in an amount not to exceed \$766,844 as shown in the business item.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Johnson.

Council Member Lilligren noted that this is a momentous step forward in the approach to safety on transit. Council Members Johnson and Barber also shared their thanks to staff and stressed the importance of this project.



**Motion carried.**

- 4. **2023-202 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 23P039 with Railworks Track Systems, for replacement track, rail, upgrades, and replacement of signal components on the Metro Blue Line in an amount not to exceed \$18,640,000.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Lee.

**Motion carried.**

- 5. **2023-58:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the 2023-2024 Blue Line Extension Capital Grant Agreement (CGA) #221038 with Hennepin County and Hennepin Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) in the amount not to exceed \$75,305,000 and issue Limited Notice to Proceed (LNTP) #2 to the Engineering Services Contract #22P103A to advance design plans and complete the Municipal Consent process.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Morales.

Council Member Barber shared that though she has concerns, this step will provide answers to questions about the project and therefore she will be supporting this item. Council Member Johnson asked about municipal consent; Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, Capital Projects, shared more information about the use of municipal consent. Council Member Vento also shared her reasons for voting no and her concerns about local businesses. Council Member Wulff shared her reasons for voting no. Council Member Johnson requested a roll call vote.

**Motion carried on the following roll vote:**

Aye	12	Chamblis, Barber, Pacheco, Lilligren, Cameron, Morales, Lindstrom, Cederberg, Lee, W.T. Carter, Dolkar
Nay	3	Johnson, Vento, Wulff
Absent	2	T. Carter, Osman

**Business**

- 1. **2023-174 JT SW:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the 2023 Unified Budget as indicated and in accordance with the tables in the business item.

It was moved by Zelle, seconded by Barber.

**Motion carried on the following roll call vote:**

Aye	15	Johnson, Chamblis, Barber, Pacheco, Lilligren, Cameron, Morales, Lindstrom, Cederberg, Vento, Lee, W.T. Carter, Dolkar, Wulff
Nay	0	
Absent	2	T. Carter, Osman

- 1. **2023-179 JT SW:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the 2023 Unified Budget as amended as indicated and in accordance with the tables in the business item.

It was moved by Zelle, seconded by Vento.

Council Member Pacheco recognized the time and effort put into this item.

**Motion carried on the following roll call vote:**

Aye	12	Chamblis, Barber, Pacheco, Lilligren, Cameron, Morales, Lindstrom, Cederberg, Lee, W.T. Carter, Dolkar
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Nay	3	Johnson, Vento, Wulff
Absent	2	T. Carter, Osman

## Other Business

1. **2023-184:** That the Metropolitan Council approve the two-year appointments through July 2025 to the Livable Communities Advisory Committee as shown in the business item.

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Lindstrom.

**Motion carried.**

## Reports

Council Member Vento noted that the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission has open positions to fill and needs applicants. Chair Zelle, the Regional Administrator, and the General Counsel did not have any reports.

## Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

## Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 13, 2023.

Approved this 27th day of September 2023.

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### Council Contact:

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