

**Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Monday, January 13, 2014

Committee Members Present: **Adam Duininck, Chair** **Lona Schreiber, Vice Chair**
 Katie Rodriguez **Steve Elkins**
 Jennifer Munt **James Brimeyer**
 McCarthy, Marie

Committee Members Absent: **Jon Commers** **Edward Reynoso**

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was present when Chair Duininck called the regular meeting of the Council's Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. January 13, 2014.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Schreiber to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Elkins to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2013 meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

TAB LIAISON REPORT

Chair Duininck reported that at this time there is no TAB Liaison to the Transportation Committee due to local elections, new appointments and term expirations. There will be a handful of new TAB members and some changes in the TAB Committee structure (change in TAB Exec. Cmte, etc.)

MTS DIRECTOR AND METRO TRANSIT GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

Metropolitan Transportation Services Director Arlene McCarthy reported the following:

1. Update of MVST
December MVST receipts totaled 106.77% of the November 2013 forecast. This marked the 4th consecutive month that the actual figures exceeded projections. The average for the first 6 months of the year was 99.18%.
2. Rail~Volution Conference – September 21-24, 2014
A kick-off for the Local Host Committee for the Rail~Volution 2014 conference (Sept. 21-24) was held this morning and was attended by Chair Haigh, CM Duininck and Reg. Admin. Born. This kick-off extended invitations to entities to volunteer to help MnDOT, CTIB and Metro Council with the conference. The volunteer host committee members will have a chance to provide input on “local day”, plenary sessions and mobile workshops. McCarthy will send a link to the Rail~Volution website to committee members so that they can see what the conference is all about.

Metro Transit General Manager Brian Lamb reported the following:

1. Southdale Transit Center Opening
The new Southdale Transit Center and park-and-ride lot opened for service this morning. The new facility combines a park-and-ride lot with the transit center that were previously in separate locations. It includes a 70-space lot and an overflow area for another 60 vehicles. Environmental features include solar panels, stormwater improvements and a rain garden fed by runoff from roofs of three new heated shelters. The facility also has a breakroom for bus operators. Three electric vehicle charging stations and security cameras will be installed later this year. We'll be holding a customer appreciation event in the weeks ahead.

2. Service Improvement Plan Update

Over 1,100 responses to our online survey were received as part of the Service Improvement Plan project. Customers are telling us their specific travel needs and where they think we should focus our efforts in improving local and express service over the next 10-15 years. The survey and more detail on the project will be available online at metrotransit.org/SIP until the end of February when planners will start to create a plan for eventual Council and public review this summer.

3. Miller Free Rides

Metro Transit's New Year's Eve partnership with Miller Coors brewing company went very well this year. Customers took more than 41,000 safe rides beginning at 6 PM and into the new year on our buses and trains for the Miller Free Rides promotion – this is several thousand more rides than last year. This was the third year of the partnership on New Year's Eve, and we've provided more than 1 million safe rides in the 16 years of partnership with Miller Coors including New Year's Eve and St. Patrick's Day promotions. Miller Coors underwrites the cost of the rides and we both contribute to promote the service.

4. LRV/Pedestrian Accident

Investigations continue into the LRV/pedestrian fatality that occurred yesterday. Initial indications are that the operator was operating in a safe manner, the gate arms were lowered when the accident happened, the driver attempted to stop and the pedestrian was dressed in dark clothing. Metro Transit has skilled staff and good internal support to meet with operators and help work through issues they may have.

BUSINESS

Consent Items

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

2014-7: 2014-2017 TIP Amendment for CSAH 17 from Vierling Dr. to TH 169 in Shakopee

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to modify the project scope for CSAH 17 by adding mill and overlay and pavement rehab to the optional project scope and specifying some of the original elements not included in the original description (signal communication interconnect, red light running system, turn lanes).

2014-8: 2014-2017 TIP Amendment for 2014 Section 5310 Section 5310 Funding

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the attached list of 21 projects with \$1,582,000 total funding and \$1,265,600 in federal Section 5310 funding in 2014.

2014-9: 2014-2017 TIP Amendment for St. Croix Boom Site Recreation Area Planning and Construction

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add two St. Croix Boom Site Roadside Recreational Area projects (SP#082-595-001 for planning and preliminary engineering and SP#082-595-002 for rehabilitation and construction) in the year 2014 using \$500,000 in federal Public Lands Highway Discretionary funding.

Non-Consent Items

2014-11: Authorization to Execute Agreements with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority and SouthWest Transit for Supplemental Operating Funding

MTS Manager Administration Heather Aagesen-Huebner presented this item.

Committee members asked for clarification and reasoning for the amount of fund reserves, and differences between Suburban Transit Providers and Metro Council percentages in reserves. The committee agreed that this could be a topic for the 2014 Transportation Committee Work Plan.

Motion by Elkins, seconded by Munt that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute grant agreements in amounts not to exceed \$5,289,000 with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority

(MVTA) and \$2,768,000 with SouthWest Transit (SWT) to provide supplemental transit operating funding during CY2014.

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

MTS Manager Systems Planning Connie Kozlak gave a presentation regarding the following items 2014-5 and 2014-4.

2014-5: Adjusted 2010 Census Smoothed Urbanized Area Boundary

Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Elkins that the Metropolitan Council adopt the adjusted 2010 Census Smoothed Urbanized Area Boundary (SUAB) for transportation planning and data reporting.

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

2014-4: Approval of MOU for Federally Required Transportation Planning in Wright and Sherburne Counties

Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Elkins that the Metropolitan Council approve the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to conduct Federally-Required Metropolitan Transportation Planning Activities in Wright and Sherburne Counties.

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

2014-10: Review of Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) 2014-2020 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
MTS Senior Planner Russ Owen presented this item. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Elkins, seconded by Rodriguez that the Metropolitan Council find:

- 1) That the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) has an adequate public participation process for the development and review of its 2014-2020 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), including preparation of an assessment of environmental effects (AOEE) for 2014 projects with potential environmental effects.
- 2) That there are no projects that need to be approved in the CIP, since no projects meet both the funding level and "significant effects" criteria.
- 3) That the 2014 CIP projects are in conformance with the region's Aviation System Plan and consistent with Council policy.

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

2014-3: Authorization to award contract for 2014 MTS Small Bus Transit Service

Metropolitan Council Director Contracts and Procurement Micky Gutzmann presented this item. Munt stated that she has heard from the constituents in her district that it is important to let the contractor know that continuity of drivers is important.

Motion by Elkins, seconded by Rodriguez that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a five-year contract with First Transit, Inc. to provide regular route local transit service in the western and central portions of the metro area, from the June 2014 pick date (METRO Green line launch date) through May 31, 2019, in an amount not to exceed \$12,989,995.

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

2014-6: Adoption of the Draft 2030 Transportation Policy Plan Administrative Modification Addressing Modern Streetcar Project Updates and Policy Questions for Public Comment

MTS Senior Planner Cole Hiniker presented this item. Munt stated that the public welcomes policy discussion regarding streetcars, and Elkins added that the language in the business item does a good job of setting the table for these discussions. Duininck stated that there was discussion at the TAB whether this action could be taken as a recommendation for streetcars. Hiniker responded to Rodriguez's request to clarify that this action is a modification to the language in the TPP, will allow for discussion about streetcars, but does not recommend streetcars as an alternative in any given corridor.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Elkins that the Metropolitan Council adopt the Draft 2030 Transportation Policy Plan Administrative Modification addressing modern streetcar project updates and policy questions for the purpose of gathering public and stakeholder input.

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

2014-15: Approval of Public Comment Process and Proposed Fare for Metro Mobility Downtown Zone
Metro Mobility Senior Manager Andrew Krueger presented this item. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Elkins that the Metropolitan Council approve the attached public comment process and proposed Metro Mobility Downtown Zone fare adjustment for the purpose of public comment prior to Council adoption of a fare adjustment.

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

2014-1: Authorize a contract change order with Siemens for procuring Automatic Passenger Counter Equipment on an additional 30 Light Rail Vehicles

Metro Transit Assistant Director Rail Maintenance Rick Carey presented this item and answered a question about whether all LRVs ordered in the future will have APCs. Lamb added that this is primarily for the Green Line because it is so integrated with the bus connections and is also important for FTA reporting.

Motion by Elkins, seconded by Munt that the Metropolitan Council authorize a change order with Siemens in an amount of \$695,851 to the Low Floor Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) contract to provide for the procurement of automatic passenger counter equipment (APC) on an additional 30 LRV's.

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

2014-12: Sole Source Authorization to Procure Vehicle Area Network Routers for All Council Revenue and Transit Police Vehicles

IS Manager Pancho Henderson and Metro Transit Deputy Director Bus Maintenance Tom Humphrey presented this item.

Brimeyer expressed concern with a sole source purchase and the fact that Metro Transit has not used this vendor before, but was more assured once Henderson explained the life expectancy of the equipment and also other locations where it is used.

Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Elkins that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Sole Source procurement of InMotion Technologies vehicle mobile gateway routers to be installed in each transit revenue and transit police vehicle. The estimate for this project is \$4,800,000 to equip approximately 2,000 vehicles.

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

2014-14: Authorization to Execute Contract 13P216 for A-Line (Snelling) BRT and Arterial BRT Prototype Station Design Services

Metro Transit Senior Planner, BRT/Small Starts Katie Roth presented this item. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Elkins, seconded by Rodriguez that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator:

- To execute a professional services contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for design and engineering on the A Line (Snelling Avenue) bus rapid transit (BRT) line and arterial BRT prototype station in the amount of \$1,948,255.
- To issue a Notice-to-Proceed to Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$1,134,255 for design services related to Phase I of the project.

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

INFORMATION

1. 2014-16: Transportation Committee Work Plan 2013 Review and 2014 Input

MTS Director Arlene McCarthy and Metro Transit General Manager Brian Lamb presented this item. The item shows what the Transportation Committee accomplished in 2013. Elkins asked whether there will be time in 2014 to discuss fare structure and A. McCarthy replied that Chair Haigh suggested deferring this item in the light of the funding situation. Now is the time for TC members to provide input for items for the 2014 Transportation Committee Work Plan. Lamb noted that items such as the Green Line, Interchange, Regional

Solicitation, TPP, and high profile projects will be addressed. Items of interest for the 2014 work plan voiced by the TC committee at this meeting were:

- Discussion about the funding allocations and reserves – STP/Metro Council (as noted above in BI 2014-11)
- Discussion of how construction of transit infrastructure is a great job creator and equity tool.

McCarthy noted that CM Commers submitted an email suggesting joint meetings with CTIB be considered. McCarthy and Lamb invited members to email their ideas to either of them in the next week or so. The 2014 Transportation Committee Work Plan is scheduled to return to the Transportation Committee on 1/27/14 for action.

2. 2013 Annual Regional Park and Ride Survey

Metro Transit Manager Facility Planning Maurice Roers and Intern Emily Jorgensen presented this item. Brimeyer called attention to the users of park-and-ride facilities, who originate outside the Transit Taxing District. Duinck asked if Metro Transit has contemplated charging for park-and-ride use. Lamb replied that the park-and-ride lots mainly serve express service buses, which fares are more expensive than local routes and that there would be overhead costs (gates, etc.) that could affect the facility design, capacity and perhaps schedules.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.