

Minutes

Transportation Committee



Meeting date: November 27, 2023

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: Heywood Chambers

Members present:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair, Deb Barber, D4 | <input type="checkbox"/> John Pacheco Jr., District 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Susan Vento, District 12 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair, Reva Chamblis, D2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Anjuli Cameron, District 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> Toni Carter, District 14 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tyronne Carter, District 3 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diego Morales, District 9 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tenzin Dolkar, District 15 |
| | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = present |

Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Barber called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda approved

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

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Carter, Tyronne to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2023, regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. **Motion carried.** (Dolkar absent for the vote.)

Employee recognition – Metro Transit

1. Metro Transit General Manager

Metro Transit General Manager Lesley Kandaras introduced Interim Deputy Director – Garage Operations Dan Stoffer who presented awards to the following Instructors: Dorothy Maki, Jean Hammonds, Stephen Nichols, Keith Severson, Jeffrey Thompson, CJ Camp, Jonathan Thomas, Glen Wiemelt, Richard Miller and Acting Instruction Manager Jovita Oghumah. Not present were Instructors Soultar Allera-Beaumont and Lahcen Oujani.

Reports

1. Metropolitan Transportation Services Executive Director

Construction Season

MnDOT is wrapping its construction season which saw improvements around the state with around 227 projects. This included the 3rd Ave bridge in Minneapolis and dozens of other projects around the region.

Bielenberg Bridge

On Monday, November 27th a ribbon cutting marked the opening of the brand new Bielenberg Bridge connecting Oakdale and Woodbury across I-94. This crossing is a new multimodal bridge, that will open to vehicles, pedestrians, and bicycles this week. The bridge includes \$4.4 million of regional solicitation roadway funds. The bridge is part of the METRO Gold Line

project that will open in 2025 in BRT lanes on the bridge. Metropolitan Council, local, state, and federal officials were on hand to celebrate the new east metro bridge, including Council Member Sue Vento.

2. Metro Transit General Manager

Quarterly Service Changes

Metro Transit's quarterly service changes will go into effect on Saturday, December 2nd.

3. Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)

Dugan reported on the November 15th TAB meeting.

Consent business

Consent business adopted

1. **2023-243:** METRO Green Line Extension Amendment No. 1 to the Dispatch Services Agreement 19P192 with Red River Valley and Western Railroad

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 19P192 with Red River Valley and Western Railroad for freight rail dispatch services for the METRO Green Line Extension Project to increase the agreement amount by \$214,740 to a not-to-exceed amount of \$571,140.

2. **2023-244:** METRO Green Line Extension Amendment No. 4 to Quality Management Services Contract 18P018 with Braun Intertec Corporation

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to contract 18P018 with Braun Intertec Corporation for quality management services for the METRO Green Line Extension Project to increase the contract amount by \$6,469,756.12, to a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$60,320,968.12.

3. **2023-245:** METRO Green Line Extension Amendment No. 15 to Advanced Design Services Contract 14P125 with AECOM Technical Services, Inc.

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 15 to contract 14P125 with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. for advanced design services for the METRO Green Line Extension Project to increase the contract amount by \$9.1 million to a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$169,738,482.

4. **2023-246:** METRO Green Line Extension Amendment No. 5 to Construction Management Support Services Contract 17P060 with Kimley-Horn and Associates Inc.

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 5 to contract 17P060 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for construction management support services for the Green Line Extension Project to increase the contract amount by \$2,371,478.72 to a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$20,241,478.72.

5. **2023-272:** 2024-2027 TIP Amendment Request – Four Project Adjustments

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to amend four projects:

- Expand length and add mill & overlay to Woodbury's Lake Road 4-to-3-lane conversion;
- Remove an intersection from and decrease the cost of Minneapolis's traffic signal replacement project;
- Increase cost of and add mill & overlay to Dakota County's CSAH 63 multiuse trail; and
- Add an additional bridge to MnDOT's MN 65 bridge replacement project

6. **2023-273:** 2024-2027 TIP Amendment: St. Michael Multiuse Trail

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add construction of a multiuse trail to Wright County CSAH 35 in St. Michael.

7. **2023-274:** 2024-2027 TIP Amendment: SouthWest Transit Mobility Hub

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add Southwest Transit's Transit Mobility Hub project at SouthWest Station.

8. **2023-276:** 2024-2027 TIP Amendment Request – Four Project Adjustments

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to amend four projects:

- Add signal replacement and local funding to Dakota County's CSAH 32 (Cliff Rd) resurfacing project in Eagan;
- Add local funding to Three Rivers Park District's Rush Creek Trail underpass project at West River Road in Brooklyn Park (SP# 091-090-089);
- Add a trail and an overhead rapid rectangle flashing beacon (RRFB) and increase the federal and state funding for MnDOT's MN 101 (W 192nd Ave) mill and overlay project in Chanhassen and Eden Prairie; and
- Remove Hennepin County's CSAH 158 (Vernon Ave) bridge replacement as a standalone project and combine its project elements with Edina's CSAH 158 (Vernon Avenue) reconstruction project to be managed by Edina.

9. **2023-283:** Transit Link-Scott/Carver County Intergovernmental Agreement

Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to amend its intergovernmental agreement 19I059 with Scott County to provide Transit Link service and related facility expenses in Scott and Carver counties through July 31, 2025, in an amount of \$3,200,000 for a new total contract value of \$11,645,442.

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Chamblis.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business

1. **2023-223:** METRO Green Line Extension Amendment No. 3 to Cooperative Construction Agreement 20I052 with St. Louis Park Economic Development Authority

It was moved by Carter, Tyrone, seconded by Vento, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Cooperative Construction Agreement 20I052 with the City of St. Louis Park's Economic Development Authority (EDA) for the construction of a parking structure (Ramp) at the METRO Green Line Extension Beltline Station to increase the amount of the Agreement by \$984,167 to a total amount of \$3,484,167 to account for escalation, contingent upon the award of the Ramp construction contract.

Metro Transit Green Line Extension Project Director Jim Alexander presented this item.

Dolkar asked if the Council has an electric charging policy in place for when we build parking lots/structures. Alexander stated that he would research for this particular structure and report back. Chamblis asked if there was an ability to do a cost sharing with the St. Louis Park EDA versus having the Council absorb the increase in conversion from a surface lot to a parking structure. Alexander responded that there currently is cost sharing for the overall structure and that the Council would pay \$3.5M for the 268 stalls, while the St. Louis Park EDA and the City's developer would be responsible for the remaining cost, which Alexander estimated to

be over \$15M.

Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Barber stated this item could proceed as Consent to Council.

2. **2023-281:** METRO Green Line Extension Aldridge Parsons Joint Venture Part One Claims Resolution Change Order, Cumulative Change Order Authority Increase, Project 61001, Contract 17P000

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Carter, Tyronne, that the Metropolitan Council:

- Authorize the Regional Administrator, as part of the Systems schedule cost claims resolution process, to negotiate and execute a Part 1 change order for Contract 17P000 with Aldridge – Parsons, a Joint Venture (APJV) in an amount not to exceed \$5,232,043; and
- Authorize an additional 2.69% (\$5,232,043.00) to the current 27.97% (\$54,372,326.70) cumulative change authority for Contract 17P000 with APJV, resulting in 30.66% (\$59,604,369.70) total cumulative change order authority.

Metro Transit Green Line Extension Project Director Jim Alexander presented this item. Chamblis asked if we can forecast the increases and how much flexibility we have for authorization percentages so we can avoid arbitration. Alexander stated we've been able to resolve issues at the business table so far and we remain below the contractor's cap. This item is a pretty big piece of the overall claim with the cost of the larger subcontractors remaining to be negotiated. Carter, Tyronne expressed appreciation for the contractor exceeding the DBE goal.

Motion carried.

3. **2023-226:** Blue Line Lake St/Midtown Station Renovation Design, Contract 23P050

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Carter, Tyronne, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 23P050 with 4RM+ULA for the METRO Blue Line Lake St/Midtown Station Renovation design and construction support services, in an amount not to exceed \$3,471,311.

Metro Transit Principal Project Coordinator Christina Morrison presented this item. Chamblis asked how much easier the maintenance will be with the more durable materials. Morrison responded that we are looking at redoing some of the stations design that will help improve the experience such as: expanded canopy up top to provide better coverage but then removing some of the glass structures (which are prone to getting broke and needing replaced), better access to water for power washing and more backup house facilities. Chamblis asked how we are going to improve safety in terms of personnel. Morrison stated that we spend quite a bit of resources there today (police, facilities, supplemental security) but we also want to provide better spaces for our staff so they can spend more time at the facility without having to go back to an office or get cleaning supplies, etc. Chair Barber stated that it's great to see this DBE firm – which worked as a subcontractor on different projects for us but now is the lead on a very big project.

Motion carried.

4. **2023-259:** LRV Coupler Overhaul for Type 2 Light Rail Vehicles, Contract 23P150

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Morales, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Sole Source contract 23P150 with Dellner Inc. for overhaul services of the couplers on the Type 2 Light Rail Vehicles (LRV), in an amount not to exceed \$2,800,000.

Metro Transit Light Rail Vehicle Maintenance Director Ryan McTeague presented this item. There were no questions or comments from Council members.

Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Barber stated this item could proceed as



Consent to Council.

5. **2023-282:** Metro Transit Bus Fuel Supply Contract, Contract 23P158

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Chamblis, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 23P158 with Mansfield Energy to provide diesel fuel supply and delivery to all Bus Maintenance Garages in an amount not to exceed \$92,567,450.50.

Metro Transit Bus Maintenance Administration Assistant Director Anthony Zessman presented this item. There were no questions or comments from Council members

Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Barber stated this item could proceed as Consent to Council.

6. **2023-284:** Metro Transit Code of Conduct

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Morales, that That the Metropolitan Council adopt a Code of Conduct for public transit use to comply with the 2023 Legislature’s mandate in the Transit Rider Activity Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct allows authorized transit representatives to order a person to depart transit property for violations if the person continues to violate the Code of Conduct after being warned once to stop.

The proposed Code of Conduct:

Required:

- Pay your fare
- Wear tops, bottoms, shoes
- One fare = one seat
- Animals must be in a carrier (exception: service animals)
- Drinks must be covered

Not Allowed:

- Sexual or discriminatory harassment
- Phone calls or music played on speaker
- Vulgar language
- Eating
- Soliciting/gambling/panhandling/loitering
- Prohibited Items: flammable, explosive, radioactive, and hazardous items. This includes anything gas-powered, car or motorcycle batteries, and gasoline/fuel containers
- Large items that block the aisle
- Riding bikes, skating, or skateboarding

Riders will be informed that violations of the Code of Conduct can lead to removal from transit property. For ease of use to transit riders, the written materials may be written in plain language or translated into other languages.

Metro Transit Customer Relations and Experience Manager Pam Steffan presented this item. Dolkar asked if we collected income data when asked questions and if racial equity and age were collected also. Steffan responded that income was a question and that information on racial equity and age can be provided. Vento suggested that when we get to the signage, website, and other communication tools to put language encouraging riders to report code of conduct violations. Dolkar asked if some of the signage will be in brail. Steffan stated that hasn’t been talked about but is a great suggestion that will be included in discussions. Chair Barber asked what the policy is as it relates to e-bikes. Steffan stated that we just recently updated that policy to allow e-bikes on the front of our buses, but they do need to be under 55 lbs. Metro Transit Deputy General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Brian Funk added that we are currently testing a new style of bike rack on buses that will allow fat bikes.



Motion carried.

7. **2023-263:** Metro Move, Contract 23P011

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Carter, Tyronne, that the Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 23P011 with First Transit, Inc., a subsidiary of TransDev, to provide Metro Move service in an amount not to exceed \$131,532,600.

Metropolitan Transportation Services Contracted Services Program Manager Shelia Holbrook-White presented this item. There were no questions from Council members.

Motion carried.

8. **2023-257:** 2040 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) Public Comment Report and Final Amendment 2 Adoption

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Morales, that the Metropolitan Council:

Accept the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan Amendment 2 Public Comment Report (Attachment 1); and

Adopt Amendment 2 to the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan adding five regionally significant highway projects (Attachment 2).

Metropolitan Transportation Services Planning Analyst Dave Burns presented this item. There were no questions from Council members.

Motion carried.

9. **2023-275:** Regionally Significant 2024-2027 TIP Amendment Request – Two Regionally Significant Projects

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Carter, Tyronne, that the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add two regionally significant projects:

- Lane additions on I-94 from Albertville to Monticello in Wright County and
- New interchange at US 169 and CSAH 59 in Scott County

Transportation Services Planning Analyst Joe Barbeau presented this item. Vento stated that this might be frustrating for some as the roadway expansion conflicts with the money spent on mass transit. Chair Barber stated that we must take a wholistic view and even though it is expansion, it could really be addressing safety concerns. Dolkar asked how the state's new greenhouse emissions policy plays a role in TIP Projects. Metropolitan Transportation Services Executive Director Charles Carlson stated that a piece of the transportation bill includes policy provisions around greenhouse gas emissions thresholds that starts in February 2025. Carlson continued that the projects on tonight's agenda are not included but in February 2025, any TIP projects would be subject to an evaluation process to view emissions. Carlson stated staff are currently developing the process with MnDOT and other stakeholders, on what it means to conform, how we will measure etc.; this information is due to the Legislature in 2024.

Motion carried.

Information

1. There were no information items on the agenda.

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 Transportation Committee meeting of November 27, 2023.

Approved this 11 day of December 2023.

Council contact:

Becky Gorell, Recording Secretary

Rebecca.Gorell@metrotransit.org

