

# Minutes

## Transportation Committee



**Meeting date:** August 11, 2025

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Location:** Heywood Chambers

### Members present:

- |                                                                   |                                                                  |                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair, Deb Barber, D4         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tyronne Carter, District 3   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anjuli Cameron, District 8   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair, Reva Chamblis, D2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Pacheco Jr., District 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toni Carter, District 14     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Johnson, District 1      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yassin Osman, District 7     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victor Obisakin, District 15 |
|                                                                   |                                                                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = present                    |

### Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

### Call to order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Barber called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee 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 Carter, Toni, seconded by Obisakin to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2025, regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. **Motion carried.**

### Public Comment

Andrew Boardman (ATU Local 1005), David Butts (ATU Local 1005), Michelle Trevisan (rider), Ranae Cipala (rider), Vanessa Lesperance (Metro Transit employee/rider) addressed the committee regarding the suspension of Northstar.

### Reports

1. Metropolitan Transportation Services Executive Director  
No report.
2. Metro Transit General Manager  
No report.

3. Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC)

No report.

## Consent business

1. There were no consent items.

## Non-consent business

1. **2025-178:** Northstar Commuter Rail Suspension and Replacement Service Plan  
It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Carter, Tyronne, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the suspension of Northstar Commuter Rail service pursuant to all applicable contracts, agreements, easements, and licenses, and approves enhanced bus service serving the Northstar Corridor within the seven-county Metropolitan area to be incorporated in Network Now.

Metro Transit Service Development Director Adam Harrington presented this item. Chamblis asked about the plan for Big Lake and Elk River replacement bus service. Harrington stated that MNDOT has the authority to provide bus service in Sherburne County and Metro Transit staff are working with MnDOT on what kind of service replacement options there might be for those two areas; Sherburne County is also interested. Chamblis asked about the Northstar Link. Harrington stated it is a bus service that was introduced after 2010 and connects from the Big Lake station to St. Cloud carrying approximately 25 riders each direction. Harrington continued that this service is ran by St. Cloud Metro Bus and it's not believed that they will pursue continuing that service. Obisakin asked how much insurance would cost. Harrington stated it would be about \$400,000 a year or more starting in 2026. Obisakin asked for approximate operating cost for bus service compared to the \$18.6 million per year for Northstar Commuter Rail service. Harrington stated that the enhanced bus would cost approximately \$3.5 million per year. Johnson stated that the pre pandemic ridership numbers weren't even close to the original projections. Several Council members noted that it was a difficult but correct decision to move this item forward.

**Motion carried.**

2. **2025-168:** Metro Transit Supplemental Security and TRIP Agent Services, Contract 24P301 It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Obisakin, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 24P301 with Inter-Con Security for supplemental security officer and Transit Rider Investment Program (TRIP) Agent services in an amount not to exceed \$57,400,000.

Metro Transit Bus Administration Assistant Director Matt Broughton presented this item. Council Members asked questions regarding the transition period between the current and new vendor and information on the new vendor. OEEO determined that the firm being recommended for award has met the MCUB requirements for this project.

**Motion carried.**

3. **2025-180:** 2025 Transit Information Modernization, Contract 24P213  
It was moved by Carter, Toni, seconded by Pacheco, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts 24P213A-D for transit information software in an amount not to exceed \$25,608,547 as follows:

| Organization | Contract Number | Contract Amount |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|



|                     |         |              |
|---------------------|---------|--------------|
| Korbato LLC         | 24P213A | \$3,000,000  |
| Arcadis             | 24P213B | \$10,608,547 |
| Swiftly, Inc.       | 24P213C | \$10,000,000 |
| Reflexions Data LLC | 24P213D | \$2,000,000  |

Metro Transit Senior Project Administrator Bre Grand presented this item. Carter, Tyronne asked if the bus arrival information will be available through the real time sign at the bus stop. Grand stated the goal of this procurement is to improve data for riders and that this would allow for Metro Transit to provide more accurate departure predictions on those signs. Carter, Toni asked if there are metrics to determine how well the vendors are performing and if the vendors aren't meeting expectations, is there a way to exit a contract. Grand stated there will be reporting and analysis of metrics for the different contracts. Metropolitan Council Chief Procurement Officer Jody Jacoby added that the Council has a software template that has even more enhanced opportunities to look at performance metrics and the outcomes for a contract if vendors aren't meeting expectations. Jacoby continued that this process was structured differently by piloting evaluation methods using numeric scoring and analysis in areas that are important to Metro Transit. Cameron asked what the integration with Metro Micro is. Grand stated that right now when a customer plans a trip in trip planner, Metro Micro is not an option in a trip plan itinerary, but that with the new software it will be.

**Motion carried.**

4. **2025-192:** Flying Cloud Airport 2040 Long Term Comprehensive Plan (LTCP) Review

It was moved by Cameron, seconded by Obisakin, that the Metropolitan Council find that the Final Draft Flying Cloud Airport (FCM) 2040 Long-Term Comprehensive Plan (LTCP) has a multi-city impact as well as conforms to the Met Council systems and is consistent with Met Council policies.

Metropolitan Transportation Services Senior Transportation Planner Joe Widing presented this item. Council members discussed the size of aircrafts using the airport, the runway safety features and noise impacts.

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

5. **2025-208:** Authorize Grant Agreement with the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for Washington Ave. Bridge Suicide Prevention Barriers

It was moved by Osman, seconded by Obisakin, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$2 million with the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the design and construction of pedestrian and suicide deterrent barriers on the Washington Avenue bridge.

Metropolitan Transportation Services Grants Manager Nicole Clapp presented this item. Cameron and Obisakin stated how important this is for families and communities who have lost loved ones. Metropolitan Transportation Services Executive Director Charles Carlson stated that since this was directed by the Legislature and that TAB members weren't able to select it as a project, that TAB asked that it not be brought through the TAB process.

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

## Information

1. Workforce Update

Item was deferred to the next meeting.



## 2. 2026 Operating Budget Overview

Metropolitan Transportation Services Finance Director Heather Giesel and Metro Transit Finance Director Kristin Prescott presented this item.

### Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

### Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Transportation Committee meeting of August 11, 2025.

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#### Council contact:

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