

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting Date: January 25, 2023

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair, Charlie Zelle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Pacheco, District 6 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Francisco Gonzalez, District 12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Judy Johnson, District 1 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Lilligren, District 7 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chai Lee, District 13 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reva Chamblis, District 2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abdirahman Muse, District 8 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kris Fredson, District 14 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Barber, District 4 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Raymond Zeran, District 9 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phillip Sterner, District 15 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Molly Cummings, District 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Lindstrom, District 10 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendy Wulff, District 16 |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Susan Vento, District 11 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = present |

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council to order at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda Approved

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

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Sterner, seconded by Vento to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2023 regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public Invitation

There was no public comment.

Information

1. Metropolitan Airports Commission Update

Brian Ryks, CEO, Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) shared an update on MAC. MAC was established in 1943 by the State of Minnesota and operates seven airports in the Twin Cities, one of the largest airport systems in the world. MAC is governed by a 15-member policy board, led by Chair Rick King. Ryks shared information about the Reliever Airport System operations; the reliever system is used to help reduce congestion at Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP) and to support flight activity and aviation business across the Twin Cities. Unlike MSP, the relievers as a system have seen growth each year throughout the pandemic. Ryks shared that MAC operating revenue was \$320 million less since 2019 due to the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. MAC deferred approximately \$300 million in capital improvement projects scheduled for 2020 and 2021 to later years to adapt to the economic impacts from the severe decline in passenger and aviation activity. Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding for 2022 was budgeted for \$267.3 million, an increase from \$185 million in 2021. MSP average daily departures are 358, down from pre-pandemic average of 469 daily departures. However, airlines are increasingly using larger aircraft on routes, meaning total seats for 2023 will be approximately 9% more than the same time period in

2022. Current ongoing projects include the Terminal 1 Operational Improvements program, G Concourse Expansion and Delta Sky Club, and the construction of the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Station.

Council Members had questions and comments regarding the checkpoint between the airport to the hotel which is currently closed due to staffing, compliments to airport employees and cultural accommodations for staff and guests, and public safety.

Consent Business

Consent Business Adopted (Items 1-10)

1. **2023-8:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Contract 22P185A with American Engineering Testing, Inc. and Contract 22P185B with Braun Intertec Corporation for material testing/testing and inspection services to support Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities in the amounts of \$750,000 each, for a total not to exceed a value of \$1,500,000.
2. **2023-9:** That the Metropolitan Council:
 1. Approve the Southwest Regional Trail Long-Range Plan Amendment.
 2. Approve the Minnesota River Bluffs Long-Range Plan Amendment.
 3. Require Carver County, prior to initiating any construction of new or updating of existing paths, trails, bridges, or any other construction project, to send preliminary plans to the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Interceptor Engineering Assistant Manager.
3. **2023-10:** That the Metropolitan Council:
 1. Approve a grant of up to \$649,594 to reimburse Washington County for the acquisition of the 1.22-acre Reibel property located at 14621 Margo Avenue in Scandia for Big Marine Park Reserve.
 2. Authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreement and restrictive covenant on behalf of the Council.
4. **2023-13:** The Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute amendments to the existing Net Ground Lease for 400 Snelling Avenue North and existing easements and to negotiate and execute two newly created net ground leases with the City of Saint Paul from a portion of the original Net Ground Lease area along Snelling Avenue.
5. **2023-20 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2023-2026 TIP to add the purchase of four 45-foot battery-electric buses and six cutaway-type battery-electric vehicles along with charging infrastructure.
6. **2023-21 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add three projects recently approved for funding through the 2022 Regional Solicitation.
7. **2023-22 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to increase the total cost of the City of Minneapolis's Broadway Street NE (CSAH 66) intersection improvement project and that the City of Minneapolis Public Works Department work with Metro Transit to manage the design of intersection curb extensions to provide for smooth bus operations.
8. **2023-23 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add preliminary engineering for (2023), and construction of (2024), Washington County's Central Greenway Regional Trail trailhead.
9. **2023-27:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

1. Authorize the Township to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
 2. Revise the Township's employment forecasts as detailed in Table 1 of the Review Record.
 3. Advise the Township to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Transportation, Land Use, and Natural Resources.
10. **2023-28:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:
1. Authorize the City of Lake Elmo to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
 2. Revise the City's forecasts and sewer-serviced forecasts upward in 2020, 2030, and 2040 as shown in Tables 1 and 2 in the Review Record.
 3. Revise the Thrive MSP 2040 community designation for the amendment site from Rural Residential to Emerging Suburban Edge as shown in Figure 3 in the Review Record.
 4. Revise the City's affordable housing need allocation for 2021-2030 to 989 units.
 5. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Transportation.

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Chamblis.

Motion carried.

Non-Consent Business – Reports of Standing Committees

Community Development

1. **2023-29:** That the Metropolitan Council:
 1. Award nine homeownership Local Housing Incentives Account (LHIA) grants as shown in Table 1, totaling \$2 million.

Table 1. Recommended Homeownership Pilot Proposals

	Project	City/Applicant	Number of Homes	LHIA Funding Recommendation
1	Bloomington Affordable Homeownership	Bloomington HRA	4	\$300,000
2	Eden Prairie & Homes Within Reach CLT Program	City of Eden Prairie	2	\$160,000
3	Ernst House CLT Project	City of Chaska	2	\$189,000
4	Home Ownership Program for Equity	City of Golden Valley	2	\$224,000
5	Margaret Street Affordable Homeownership	Ramsey County CED	1	\$50,000
6	Perpetually Affordable Homeownership in Minneapolis	City of Minneapolis	4	\$300,000
7	Roseville Community Land Trust	Roseville EDA	4	\$300,000
8	Scattered Site Acquisition/Rehab 2022	Washington County CDA	3	\$285,000
9	Woodlawn Terrace	City of Richfield	3	\$192,000
	TOTAL		25	\$2,000,000

2. Authorize its Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreements on behalf of the Council.

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Muse.

Motion carried.

Environment



1. **2023-16:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to issue a stipend in the amount of \$260,000 to each responsive and responsible short-listed proposer that is not awarded the design-build contract for the Metro Plant Fourth Incinerator project (Contract #21P055) up to a total of \$780,000.

It was moved by Lindstrom, seconded by Vento.

Council Member Chamblis asked how much the cost of putting together a quality proposal would be and if this was considered in the decision. Jody Jacoby shared that the percentage is calculated based on the same methodology used by MnDOT.

Motion carried.

Management

1. No reports

Transportation

1. **2023-6:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 14 to Contract 14P125 with AECOM for advanced design consultant services to add \$9.8 million for a total contract amount not to exceed \$160.6 million.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Cummings.

Motion carried.

2. **2023-7:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to Contract 17P060 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (Kimley-Horn), for Construction Management Support Services (CMSS) to add \$3,870,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$17,870,000.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Cummings.

Motion carried.

3. **2023-11:** That the Metropolitan Council accept five proportional repayments of Right-of-Way Acquisition Loan Numbers (RALF Loans) L0801, L0705, L0404, L0503 and L0602 in the City of Ramsey and release related Council claim on the portions of the property that the payments are intended to cover.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Zeran.

Motion carried.

4. **2023-12:** That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Find the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) had an adequate public participation process for the development and review of its 2023-2029 Capital Improvement Program including preparation of an assessment of environmental effects (AOEE) for 2023 projects with potential environmental effects.
2. Find that the 2023 CIP projects are in conformance with the region's Aviation System Plan in the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan and consistent with Council policy.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Sterner.

Motion carried.

Information

1. Legislative Update

Judd Schetnan, Director of Government Affairs, shared an update on the 2023 Legislative Session. The 2023 legislative session convened on January 3, 2023. This session, the legislature and administration will be considering the historic state surplus and setting a two-



year budget for the state. The November 2022 budget forecast shows a budget surplus for the state, with a projected general fund balance in FY 2024-25 now at \$17.6 billion, of which approximately \$12 billion left over from the previous biennium. Revenues are expected to exceed spending through FY27. This forecast will be updated in February 2023 and used as the basis of the budget. Schetnan then gave an overview of proposed budget items for the regional parks and trails system, Environmental Services, and Transportation, the transit safety and administrative citations policy proposal, as well as other legislative initiatives. The Governor's bonding recommendations will be released on January 26; other initiatives will also include Council Member appointments and redistricting for Council districts.

Council Member Fredson had a question regarding votes required for bonding bills.

2. COVID Lessons Learned

Kathy Matter, Business Continuity Manager, gave an overview of the Council COVID response and business continuity at the Council. Business Continuity is an enterprise-focused program that involves all divisions. The Pandemic Plan is an enterprise-focused plan that utilizes the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command Structure (ICS). The use of NIMS is mandated for all state agencies. Matter gave an overview of the timeline of the pandemic response; the first confirmed case of COVID-19 was on March 9 and the Council issued a formal pandemic emergency declaration on March 12. The Council Incident Command team commenced briefings immediately and conducted them through the duration of the Council emergency declaration. In March 2022, the Council's COVID emergency declaration and Pandemic Plan activation formally ended. Matter then shared Council accomplishments and highlights, as well as lessons learned. The Council was also involved in the State of Minnesota's COVID response, including Council staff and others that won the 2022 Governor's Geospatial Commendation Award for MN COVID-19 Testing and Vaccine Finder mobile app.

Council Members did not have questions or comments.

Reports

Chair Zelle acknowledged that this was Council Member Gonzalez' last meeting and thanked him for his service. The Council Members, Regional Administrator, and General Counsel did not have any other reports.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of January 25, 2023.

Approved this 8th day of February 2023.

Council Contact:

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