

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting Date: August 10, 2022

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

- Chair, Charlie Zelle
- Judy Johnson, District 1
- Reva Chamblis, District 2
- Deb Barber, District 4
- Molly Cummings, District 5

- John Pacheco, District 6
- Robert Lilligren, District 7
- Abdirahman Muse, District 8
- Raymond Zeran, District 9
- Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- Susan Vento, District 11

- Francisco Gonzalez, District 12
- Chai Lee, District 13
- Kris Fredson, District 14
- Phillip Sterner, District 15
- Wendy Wulff, District 16
- = present

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Council Vice Chair Cummings called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council 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 Pacheco, seconded by Lilligren to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2022 regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public Invitation

Add any notes of conversation here.

Business

1. **2022-146 JT:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the 2022 Unified Budget as indicated and in accordance with the tables.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Sterner.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Aye: 13 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Pacheco, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran.

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 Fredson, Muse, Zelle

Consent Business

Consent Business Adopted (Items 1-2)

1. **2022-202:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute grant agreements and amendments for the State Fiscal Year

(SFY) 2023 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Program (Legacy) up to the amounts indicated, and in accordance with the amounts indicated in Table 1.

2. **2022-205:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 22P075 with WSP USA, Inc., for design and construction support services related to Blue Line State of Good Repair Phase 3, in an amount not to exceed \$10,532,569.

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Barber.

Motion carried.

Non-Consent Business – Reports of Standing Committees

Community Development

1. Reports on consent agenda

Environment

1. **2022-212:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contracts 21P297A-F for full service and process mechanical plant engineering services with not-to-exceed amounts as follows:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
Brown and Caldwell	21P297A	\$18,000,000
HRGreen	21P297B	\$2,500,000
Jacobs Engineering Group Inc.	21P297C	\$9,000,000
MSA Professional Services, Inc.	21P297D	\$2,500,000
Short Elliot Hendrickson Inc.	21P297E	\$3,000,000
TKDA	21P297F	\$5,000,000

It was moved by Lindstrom, seconded by Vento.

Motion carried.

Management

1. No reports

Transportation

1. Reports on consent agenda

Information

1. Growth Disrupted: Lessons from 2021 Population Estimates

Matt Schroeder, Reacher Community Development, gave a presentation on the 2021 population estimates and the patterns, who's involved, 2010-2020 population growth in the region, more extreme population changes, how population estimates are calculated, and looking ahead at what next year's estimates look like.



Council Members Lee asked if we would adapt to the growth in the West metro. Schroeder stated as communities continue to grow, you will see an increase in housing and infrastructure. Council Member Gonzalez asked about the cause of growth in the West and East region and if there are estimates on the demographics. Schroeder stated two factors fewer births and more deaths and housing construction. Sterner asked if the unsheltered population is included in the estimates. Schroeder responded that we get some information from counties and surveys on shelters and data from the 2020 census.

2. 2023 Preliminary Operating Budget and Levies

Marie Henderson, Deputy CFO, and representatives from each division presented the preliminary 2023 operating budget and levies. The proposed 2023 property tax levies are \$92.3M, and the proposed operating budget is \$1.3B. The general fund operations is 109.2M. The proposed Regional Administration budget for 2023 is \$91.9M, Community Development operations budget is \$25.7M, Environmental Services operations budget is \$188.4M, and Transportation operations budget overall is \$717.7M. The Council will be asked to adopt the preliminary budget and levies on August 24, 2022, the public comment drafts on October 26, 2022, and the final budget and levies on December 14, 2022.

Council Members Gonzalez and Johnson had questions regarding housing trends and the increase in cost. Heather Aagesen-Huebner responded more information is coming later this year. Gonzalez had a question about the long-term wastewater inflation rate. Council Member Cummings congratulated staff on the Environmental Services awards and asked if they plan to expand the viral testing in the wastewater system. Leisa Thompson stated there have been conversations with partners and may go forward if needed. Council Member Barber asked about the original date for the fiscal cliff pre-federal funds and forecast. Council Member Johnson asked about the agreement with counties. Ed Petrie responded they have asked for a reopening with the counties to discuss the agreement. Johnson also requested detailed information about the police and public safety in the budget. Council Member Wulff stated our federal funds are committed to operations. Wulff also asked about the outlook on ridership and transit demand, and we should start planning and having conversations. Wes Kooistra stated it's time to start looking and planning for transit demand and services. Council Member Sterner asked about hybrid diesel bus purchases to avoid fuel costs and purchasing electric buses to lower operating costs. Petrie stated they have slowed down on bus purchases. They are currently working on the six-year CIP and will bring more details on electric buses to the Council this year. Sterner asked about fare compliance. Kooistra stated we need a fare compliance program in place.

Reports

Council Member Johnson reported she had a great tour of SWLRT with Council Member Vento.

Adjournment

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

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 10, 2022.

Approved this 24th of August 2022.

Council Contact:

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