

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Committee Members Present:

Rodriguez, Barber, Schreiber, Elkins, Melander, Dorfman, McCarthy, Wulff, Kramer, Rummel, Letofsky, Reynoso, Duininck, Chávez, Cunningham, Munt

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Duininck called the regular meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:03 on Wednesday, February 1, 2017.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Rummel, seconded by Rodriguez to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Wulff to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2016 regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole. Motion carried.

INFORMATION

Equity Advisory Committee Update

Acoa Ellis and CM Edward Reynoso are the co-chairs of the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC). The EAC is comprised of 21 members, 4 of which are Council members (Reynoso, Munt, Chávez, Barber). There are 8 geographic district representatives serving 4-year terms, and 9 at-large members serving 2-year terms. There are 4 subgroups. Geographic district representatives Leslie Redmond and Tie Oei joined Ellis and Reynoso at the table to discuss the EAC. All EAC meetings are held at varying locations around the region. The group discussed the purpose and scope of the EAC and reiterated the fact that the EAC is starting from scratch. Council members asked what they can do to help the EAC move forward, and EAC representatives asked the Council members to be more involved with the EAC. Emilie Hitch, a consultant with Rabbit, has been hired to help facilitate the creation of the EAC's work plan.

Fare Policy Presentation

Brian Lamb gave a presentation titled Metropolitan Council Transportation Background Issues and Adjustments to Address Budget Shortfall, State Fiscal Years 2018-2019. Lamb stated that regional transit provides 324,000 rides daily, and there were more than 98 million rides in 2015. The bus system accounts for 76% of regional ridership. Of those 324,000 rides per day, over 197,000 are local bus, over 74,000 are light rail, about 39,000 are on express routes, about 9,700 are Metro Mobility or dial-a-ride, and just over 3,000 are on Northstar. 30% of customers report that they don't have enough service to meet their needs, 69% of customers have access to cars, but choose transit, and 73% of trips are to work or school. Metro Transit was voted the APTA 2016 Transit System of the Year, and 89% of customers are satisfied with their transit experience. The CY2017 Transportation Revenue Budget is \$617M. The MVST forecast has been revised downward again. The total projected transportation deficit for SFY2018-2019 is \$89M. The administrative reductions guiding principles and outcomes include minimizing ridership and revenue loss, retaining service, facilities, and fare programs for those most reliant on transit, maintaining integrity and structure of our service operations and assets, maintaining regulatory compliance, core

system and employee safety. Reductions reduce the ability to improve service quality and enhance safety. Lamb talked about the possibility of a fare increase and answered questions from Council members. The proposed base fare increase is \$0.25. Outreach and engagement with the public will be taking place.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:34PM.

Emily Getty
Recording Secretary