

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting date: May 22, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

- Chair, Charlie Zelle
- Judy Johnson, District 1
- Reva Chamblis, District 2
- Tyronne Carter, District 3
- Deb Barber, District 4
- John Pacheco Jr., District 5

- Robert Lilligren, District 6
- Yassin Osman, District 7
- Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- Diego Morales, District 9
- Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- Gail Cederberg, District 11

- Susan Vento, District 12
- Chai Lee, District 13
- Toni Carter, District 14
- Tenzin Dolkar, District 15
- Wendy Wulff, District 16
- = present, E = excused

Call to order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council to order at 4:02 p.m.

Agenda approved

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

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Morales to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2024, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

The following six individuals provided public comment on the AFSCME Local 668 bargaining efforts. Their comments included items to address in the bargaining of a fair union contract for AFSCME 668: better wages tied to inflation, employment benefits, working conditions, performance step system, fair paid leave policy, expanded bereavement leave, compensation for interns, stipends for those working at home.

- Sarah Gong, Researcher in the Community Development Division. Gong read a letter on behalf of State Representative Brion Curran, District 36B.
- R. Nayar. Nayar read a letter on behalf of State Representative House Speaker Maria Perez-Vega, District 65B
- Isabel Rolfes, spoke on behalf of members of AFSCME 668.
- Katie Jones, Engineer and climate advocate who is running for MN House District 61A
- Robin Wonsley, Minneapolis City Council member
- Hwa Jeong Kim, St. Paul City Council Vice President

Consent business

Consent business adopted (Items 1-12)

1. **2024-103:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute Amendment No. 4 to Contract 18P402 with Rail-Term for freight rail dispatch services to add \$98,732 for a total contract value not-to-exceed \$568,722.32.
2. **2024-108:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole source contract # 23P243 with GIRO Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$1,704,529 to upgrade Metro Transit’s bus and rail scheduling and operations software system from HASTUS version 2014 to HASTUS version 2024.
3. **2024-109:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract #24P126 with Steril-Koni USA, Inc. for the purchase of two parallel platform and one three-piston lifts for the East Metro Transit Facility to support the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit project in an amount not to exceed \$665,243.67.
4. **2024-113:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a sole source contract # 23P362 with GIRO Inc., to provide HASTUS software license and maintenance agreement in an amount not to exceed \$ 2,500,000.
5. **2024-114:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a sole source contract 24P084 with Flowbird to provide ticket vending machines for offboard fare payments on the METRO E Line in an amount not to exceed \$2,800,000.
6. **2024-115:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a sole source contract 24P111 with Cubic Transportation Systems to provide smart card validators for offboard fare payments on the METRO E Line in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.
7. **2024-117:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:
 1. Authorize the City of Corcoran to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
 2. Find that the amendment does not change the City’s forecasts.
 3. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Transportation, Forecasts, Land Use, and Water Supply.
8. **2024-119:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an amendment to contract 18P132A with Rising Medical Solutions to provide electronic medical bill review and processing for workers compensation and liability claims, pharmacy benefits program and managed care services for a total contract value of \$674,000.
9. **2024-120:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 23P163 with Vinco Inc., to provide as needed emergency underground excavation services for all Metropolitan Council Environmental facilities in an amount not to exceed \$950,180.
10. **2024-121:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to award and execute the Water Efficiency Grant Program grants in the total amount of \$1,097,880.
11. **2024-123:** That the Metropolitan Council approve resolution 2024-6 authorizing the Regional Administrator to apply for Section 5311 Formula Grants for Rural Areas funding for the 2024 funding cycle from the Minnesota Department of Transportation to support Transit Link dial-a-ride services for the 2025 calendar year.
12. **2024-124:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an amendment for contract 19P383A with Procellis Technology for an additional \$3,200,000 with a cumulative not-to exceed contract amount of \$9,244,000.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Johnson.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business – Reports of standing committees

Community Development

No Reports

Environment

No Reports

Management

1. **2024-125 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the renewal of its railroad liability insurance, effective 6/1/24-6/1/25, for the Northstar Commuter Rail Operations in an amount not to exceed \$2,550,000.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Osman.

Motion carried.

Transportation

1. **2024-87:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its regional administrator to execute a five-year master funding agreement with the City of Minneapolis to facilitate cost sharing between agencies on transit advantage projects.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Toni Carter

Motion carried.

2. **2024-105:** That the Metropolitan Council:

- Authorize the Regional Administrator, as part of the Systems schedule cost claims resolution process, to negotiate and execute a Part 2 change order for Contract 17P000 with Aldridge – Parsons, a Joint Venture (APJV) in an amount not to exceed \$43,315,177 for claims resolution costs associated with an extension of time to the contract; and •
- Authorize an additional 14.6% (\$28.5 million) to the current 28% (\$54.4 million) cumulative change authority for Contract 17P000 with APJV, resulting in a cumulative change order authority of 42.6% (\$82.8 million) and a balance of total cumulative change order authority after the execution of the Part 2 change order of 10% (\$19.4 million).

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Osman.

Motion carried.

Joint reports

No Reports

Other business

No Reports

Information

1. **Legislative Update** (Judd Schetnan, Director of Governmental Affairs). Schetnan thanked all the staff and division areas that helped with this latest session. This was a favorable session for the Met Council. Schetnan then provided a legislative wrap up.

Transportation Policy and Finance

Items updated included: zero emissions buses; arterial bus rapid transit project scoping; Metro Mobility forecasting; additional MnDOT assistance for future LRT projects; Met Council light rail

capital construction funding restricted to federal funds and direct appropriations; establish BLRT anti-displacement prosperity program; MnDOT led study on Metro Mobility enhancements; modifications to reporting for Metro Transit cleaning and repair standards; financial review and legislative reporting requirements of funding; establishment of MN Advisory Council on Infrastructure; transportation greenhouse gas emissions impact assessment; and participation in the State Agricultural transportation planning for the 2024 State Fair.

Parks Funding

Additional money was approved for the Metropolitan Regional Parks System in general and also for the following areas of the Parks system: metro regional parks land acquisitions, tree planting in the regional parks and trails system, and fishing piers in the metropolitan parks.

Schetnan reported that in this latest session, there were no bonding bills passed for Met Council, although there was a lot of funding approved for these programs mentioned above.

Council members thanked Schetnan for this update and asked questions on the funding items and for more descriptions on the greenhouse gas emissions, infrastructure advisory committee, and transportation agricultural planning, which Schetnan answered.

Schetnan will provide a more detailed report of this Legislative Session to Council Members in the near future.

Reports

Chair – No report

Council Members – No reports

Regional Administrator. Ryan O'Connor reported that the Ramsey County Parks, along with Met Council Parks, are the recipient of the 2024 National Recreation and Park Association Innovation and Equity award on the work that was done on signage across the communities. This is a national award that shows the great regional leadership and the local partnership we have. O'Connor congratulated the Council on this award.

General Counsel. Ann Bloodhart recognized the work of Deputy General Counsel Dave Theisen. Dave has performed work on the legislative language for over three decades, including drafting, reviewing, analyzing and adding suggestions on the language.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned 4:55 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 22, 2024.

Approved this 12th day of June, 2024.

Council contact:

Dawn Hoffner, Recording Secretary
dawn.hoffner@metc.state.mn.us
612-373-3944