

Metropolitan Council

Metro Transit Heywood Chambers, 560 Sixth Avenue North, Minneapolis MN 55411

Meeting of the Transportation Committee

Monday, September 10, 2012

Members Present	Steve Elkins, Chair Lona Schreiber, Vice Chair	Adam Duinick Roxanne Smith	Jennifer Munt Jon Commers
Members Absent	Edward Reynoso	John Đoàn	James Brimeyer
Staff Presiding	Arlene McCarthy, Director Metropolitan Transportation Services	Brian Lamb, General Manager Metro Transit	
TAB Liaison	Robert Lilligren		

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was present when Committee Vice Chair Schreiber called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:02 p.m. on September 10, 2012 at Metro Transit Heywood Chambers, Minneapolis.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Munt, seconded by Commers to adopt the agenda for the September 10, 2012 Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Munt, seconded by Smith to approve the minutes from the August 27, 2012 Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT

There was no Director's report for this meeting.

METRO TRANSIT GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Brian Lamb, General Manager, Metro Transit, reported the following:

Ridership on Metro Transit State Fair bus service picked up steam over the second half of the fair. Preliminary numbers show a slight improvement in overall ridership during the 12 days of the fair compared with first-half results. At this point, ridership is at 461,639, similar to 2010 levels but down from 2011 by 82,474 rides, or approximately 15 percent. The final number could change as counts from regular-route buses on Labor Day are completed. Rides on those buses are down from last year as well. The decrease can largely be attributed to changes and capacity reduction in several express lot locations including Southdale, Dunwoody and Northtown. Meanwhile, the I-394/County Road 73 park-and-ride was the busiest with 75,267 boardings, followed by the Bloomington site near Mall of America at 74,223 and National Sports Center in Blaine at 66,898. In terms of percentage growth over 2011, the Bloomington location was the highest at nearly 22 percent, or 13,348 rides. Total attendance at the State Fair this year was 1,788,512, and market share – the percentage of State Fair participants who rode Metro Transit – stands at nearly 13 percent.

As part of the introduction of Metro Transit's new next-generation hybrid buses, free rides are being offered on bus 7291 from September 10 through September 16. The bus is assigned to Route 10 to take advantage of the hybrid technology while giving it high visibility on Nicollet Mall. As reported at the last meeting, two New Flyer Xcelsior hybrid buses made their debut at the State Fair on August 24. The bus is considered the next advancement in diesel hybrid technology. Most of its onboard systems use electricity instead of drawing power directly from the engine, improving fuel economy and cutting emissions. Bus 7291 is wrapped with the message "Cleanest Hybrid Bus in the

USA – Built Right Here in MN” and has a blue background as well as full interior advertising that showcases important features of the bus.

The winner of the 2012 Metro Transit Video Contest has been announced. A video by Andrew Beckman of Brooklyn Park received the most votes cast by the public. Mr. Beckman’s “Everywhere” video played on the theme of the contest, “I love Metro Transit because ...” with scenes from his typical experience on Metro Transit each workday. He used his iPhone to shoot the majority of the video footage going to and from work. He also recorded music he played from his guitar. The public had a chance to vote on the top five videos selected by a panel of judges. First runner up in the voting was “Go Metro!” followed by “My Secret Life.” Rounding out the top five in terms of overall votes were the videos “Window Odyssey” and “I Love Metro Transit.” For coming in first place, Beckman won a Go-To Card valid for one year of free bus and train rides.

BUSINESS

Consent Items

There were no consent items on the agenda.

Non-Consent Items

2012-263 SW: 2012 Unified Capital Program Amendments

MTS Financial Analyst Sean Pfeiffer presented the item. The business item included two proposed amendments:

\$1,496,149 in new authority for project 35834-Metro Mobility ACL/MDC/IVR

\$2,200,000 in new authority for the 147th Street Station (Phase II) on Cedar Avenue BRT

The authorization for the 147th Street station project was contingent on the City of Apple Valley approving implementation of Phase II of the project.

Motion by Commers, seconded by Schreiber:

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Amend the 2012 Authorized Capital Program (multi-year authorization) by adding spending authority as follows:

Metropolitan Transportation Services	\$ 3,696,149
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- Amend the 2012 Capital Budget (annual appropriation) by increasing appropriation as follows:

Metropolitan Transportation Services	\$ 3,696,149
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Motion passed, with Munt abstaining. The item will proceed to Management Committee.

2012-281: Authorization to Lease MCI Buses to St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission

MTS Assistant Director Gerri Sutton and Manager of Fleet Services Alex Curtiss presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Commers:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to lease three 2000 model year MCI coach buses to St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2012-282: Dial-A-Ride Fare Collection Contract with Cubic Transportation Systems

MTS Assistant Director Gerri Sutton presented the item. In response to a committee member question, staff outlined procedures for ensuring competitive pricing on sole-source procurements.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Smith:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a sole source contract with Cubic Transportation Systems (Cubic) for development, production and delivery of system enhancements and up to 530 contactless smart card readers for MTS dial-a-ride services in an amount not to exceed \$1,600,000.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2012-283: Purchase Software Licenses and Project Support from Trapeze Group

MTS Assistant Director Gerri Sutton presented the item. Staff responded to a question about software compatibility with current systems.

Motion by Commers, seconded by Duininck:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator, contingent upon approval of Business Item 2012-263 – Unified Capital Program Amendments, to award and execute a sole source contract with Trapeze Group for PASS-MDT, PASS-IVR and PASS-SMS/EMAIL software licensing and project support in an amount not to exceed \$2,200,000.

Motion passed, with Munt abstaining.

Hearing no objection, Chair Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2012-286: Designate Cedar Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (Red Line) and I-35W South Bus Rapid Transit (Orange Line) Service Providers

MTS Director Arlene McCarthy presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Munt:

That the Metropolitan Council designate:

- 1) the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) as the service provider for the Red Line (Cedar Avenue BRT station-to-station service) contingent upon an Operating & Maintenance agreement with the Council, and
- 2) Metro Transit as the service provider for the Orange Line (I-35W South BRT station-to-station service).

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2012-275: Sole Source Agreement with ACT Traffic Solutions, Inc.

Pat Jones, Assistant Director, Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities, introduced Principal Engineer Claudius Toussaint, who presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Commers, seconded by Smith:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole-source contract with ACT Traffic Solutions, Inc. for furnishing and installing Transit Signal Priority (TSP) components and software at an estimated cost of \$340,000.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2012-279 SW: Cedar Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (Red Line): Construction of 140th Street and 147th Street Stations Project 35793

Pat Jones, Assistant Director, Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities, presented the item. Jones noted that construction of the 147th Street station (Phase II) would be contingent on a pending vote by the City of Apple Valley. In response to a committee member question, staff provided information about the Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) program.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Smith:

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Meisinger Construction, for the construction of the Red Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) 140th and 147th Street Stations in Apple Valley, MN, at a cost of \$3,667,000 (Phase I) or \$5,835,000 (Phases I and II).

Motion passed.

INFORMATION

1. Corridors of Opportunity Quarterly Update

Community Development Planning Analyst Susan Hoyt introduced Yingling Fan, an assistant professor in the regional planning and policy area for the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs. Dr. Fan provided an update on the results of her research in the areas of transit-oriented development, jobs-housing balance and development of a regional transitway system.

2. Federal Transportation Authorization MAP-21 Briefing

MTS and Metro Transit staff provided a summary of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century bill signed in July, 2012, authorizing transportation funding for federal fiscal years 2013 and 2014. The summary outlined specific impacts to the Council in the areas of metropolitan planning, environmental streamlining and transit, highway and multimodal programs.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The Transportation Committee meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m. September 10, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Maday, Recording Secretary