

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting date: March 12, 2025

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
- Vacant, District 15
- Wendy Wulff, District 16
- = 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

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 February 26, 2025, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

Tom Magin gave his public comments against the removal of buses on Nicollet Mall and stated that buses had already been detoured from Nicollet Mall. Chair Zelle requested clarification of the situation. Regional Administrator O'Connor clarified that it was only a temporary detour for the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Consent business

Consent business adopted (Items 1-8)

1. **2025-55:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contracts 24P041A and 24P041B for bridge inspection services that will support Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities in an amount not to exceed \$2,900,000 as follows:

Organization	Contract Number	Contract Amount
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.	24P041A	\$1,350,000
Collins Engineers, Inc.	24P041B	\$1,550,000

2. **2025-56:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 24P095 with Hatch Associates Consultants, Inc. to provide zero emission bus transition plan (ZEBTP) advisory services that will support Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000.
3. **2025-57:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute Amendment 1 to Work Order #12 (22I003L) issued under 22I003, the Master Partnership Contract (“MPC”), with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (“MnDOT”) to receive approximately \$1,310,000 in additional funding.
4. **2025-62:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt the adjusted federal infrastructure performance measure targets in order to align with the revised MnDOT statewide targets.
5. **2025-63:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to execute a grant agreement with SouthWest Transit (SWT) for operation of a deviated fixed route service along the I-494 corridor between Eden Prairie and the Mall of America in the amount of \$4,323,505.
6. **2025-65:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the contract amendment 20P231 to extend the lease with 2550 Walnut LLC, for the 5-year lease agreement in the amount of \$1,350,001.
7. **2025-66:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an amendment for contract 20P040 with Waste Management Inc that will add \$132,500 for a total contract value not to exceed \$990,000.
8. **2025-70:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an amendment for Contract 19P244 with Employer’s Choice that will add \$450,000, for a total contract value not to exceed amount of \$950,000.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Dr. Carter.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business – Reports of standing committees

Community Development

1. No reports.

Environment

1. No reports.

Management

1. **2025-68:** The Metropolitan Council adopt Resolutions 2025-4, 2025-5 and 2025-6 which authorize the issuance, sale, and award of general obligation debt within established financial parameters, the incurrence of related issuance expenses, and the execution of the documents necessary to secure the financings.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Toni Carter.

Motion carried.

Transportation

1. **2025-19 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an amendment to contract 24P004 with Cubic Transportation Systems, Inc that will add \$14,000,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$47,321,008.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Johnson.



Motion carried.

2. **2025-33:** That the Council approve the METRO G Line Final Corridor Plan to establish the number and location of stations included in the project.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Dr. Carter.

Motion carried.

3. **2025-49:** That the Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Tentative Developer Agreement with the City of Saint Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority (Saint Paul HRA) and Flaherty & Collins outlining key milestones for redevelopment of the Central Station Block.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Morales.

Motion carried.

Council members acknowledged that this is a great step forward for the site and noted it was a high priority space for the community. Council members appreciated the vision as a helpful solution for the revitalization of downtown St. Paul.

Joint reports

1. No reports.

Other business

1. **2025-80:** That the Met Council adopt the attached Resolution 2025-7 establishing Metropolitan Council procedures regarding the Imagine 2050 Land, Water, and People Acknowledgement.

Allison Waukau, Tribal Liaison & Native Relations Coordinator, presented an overview of work done in 2024, and walked through procedures.

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Barber.

Motion carried.

Council members discussed the process from inception to action and noted that it was a deliberate and intentional process. Council members acknowledged that words are especially powerful when backed up by actions and commitments.

Information

1. Better Bus Stops (Berry Farrington 612-349-7378, Paul Lamb 612-349-7653)

Council members asked questions about the process and participated in robust discussion on the importance of collaboration with community members, municipalities, local law enforcement, and customers. Council Members also noted the community value in improved bus stops and acknowledged the work was prompted by a shift in ridership.

Reports

Council Member Pacheco reported that the Citizens League's Civic Celebration event will honor former Met Council Chair, Peter Bell on April 10, 2025.

Regional Administrator O'Connor reported that there will be free rides on Metro Transit on St. Patrick's Day.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.



Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 12, 2025.

Council contact:

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