Minutes
Metropolitan Council

Meeting Date: July 26, 2023
Time: 4:00 PM
Location: 390 Robert Steet

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

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 Vento, seconded by Osman to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2023, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. Motion carried.

Public Invitation
No public comment.

Consent Business
Consent Business Adopted (Items 1-15)

1. 2023-122: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute agreement 23I036 with the City of Minneapolis for the City’s construction of METRO E Line BRT station platforms in conjunction with the City’s Hennepin Avenue South Project in the amount of $1,700,000.

2. 2023-123: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute agreement 23I031 with Hennepin County for the County’s construction of METRO E Line BRT station platforms in conjunction with the County’s Hennepin and 1st Roadway Improvement Project in the amount of $725,000.

3. 2023-124: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute agreement 23I029 with Hennepin County for the County’s construction of METRO E Line BRT station platforms in conjunction with the County’s University and 4th Roadway Improvement Project in the amount of $1,670,000.

4. 2023-126: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to execute an
amendment to Contract 21P304 with Hoglund Bus for a price increase of $4,544,532 for a cumulative not to exceed amount of $13,152,509.

5. **2023-141**: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute contract 23P161 with Motorola Solutions for the purchase of two-way vehicle radios in an amount not to exceed $571,000.

6. **2023-142**: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the 2023 Unified Budget as indicated and in accordance with the tables in the business item.

7. **2023-143**: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to:
   - Enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for Calendar Year 2024 to provide funding for public commuter rail service in Sherburne County, Minnesota, for an amount up to $1.7 million per year.
   - Execute the attached Resolution of the Governing Body (Metropolitan Council) to enter into an Agreement with the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation for Calendar Year 2024.

8. **2023-144**: That the Metropolitan Council:
   1. Approve a grant of up to $120,393 to Dakota County to acquire two parcels totaling 8.8 acres, and to acquire a 0.2-acre easement on the Peterson property, all located north of 220th Street West in Section 36 in Farmington, for the Lake Marion Greenway Regional Trail.
   2. Authorize the Community Development Director to execute the restrictive covenant on behalf of the Council.

9. **2023-147**: That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to award $14,518,800 of regional Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) funding for fiscal years 2025 through 2027 along with $2,481,200 in 2026 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funding to the Carver County Highway 5 Lake Minnewashta & Arboretum and Washington County CR 19A/100th Street projects from the 2022 Regional Solicitation cycle.

10. **2023-150**: That the Metropolitan Council approve Title VI Fare Equity Analysis for the Transit Fare Elimination Pilot Program.

11. **2023-151**: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract with North Central Bus for up to 6 accessible low floor buses in an amount not to exceed $1,500,000.

12. **2023-152**: Authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 22P147 with CherryRoad Technologies, Inc. for the support of Peoplesoft systems for a not-to-exceed contract value of $750,000.

13. **2023-155**: That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Review Record and take the following actions:
   1. Authorize the City of Rogers 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 wastewater, transportation, forecasts, and local surface water management.

14. **2023-156**: That the Metropolitan Council approve resolution 2023-9 authorizing the Regional Administrator to apply for Section 5311 Formula Grants for Rural Areas funding for the 2023 funding cycle from the Minnesota Department of Transportation to support Transit Link dial-a-ride services for the 2024 calendar year.

15. **2023-160**: That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:
1. Authorize the City 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 Regional Parks, Forecasts, and Land Use.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Lilligren.

**Motion carried.**

**Non-Consent Business – Reports of Standing Committees**

**Community Development**

Reports on consent agenda

**Environment**

1. **2023-153:** That the Metropolitan Council accepts the 2023 Private Property Inflow and Infiltration Task Force Report (Attachment A) and authorizes ES to implement the recommendations of the Report for the Private Property Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Grant Program.

   It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Osman.

   **Motion carried.**

   2. **2023-157:** That the Metropolitan Council adopts the following wastewater rates and charges to be effective January 1, 2024:

      - Regional Wastewater Charge (total of municipal wastewater charges) of $281,587,000;
      - Sewer Availability Charge (SAC): $2,485 ($3,185 for East Bethel and $4,685 for Elko/New Market);
      - Temporary SAC: $1.25 per thousand gallons;
      - Industrial Capacity Charge: $2.31 per 1,000 gallons ($2.96 for E. Bethel, $4.35 for Elko NM);
      - Industrial Strength Charge: $.310 per excess pound of TSS (total suspended solids);
      - Industrial Strength Charge: $.155 per excess pound of COD (chemical oxygen demand);
      - Brewery Strength Charge: $.972 per barrel;
      - Standard Load Charge: $61.60 per thousand gallons;
      - Holding Tank Load Charge: $12.74 per thousand gallons;
      - Portable Toilet Waste Load Charge: $78.45 per thousand gallons;
      - Collar County Load Charge: $76.60 per thousand gallons;
      - Strength component of Industrial Load Charge $.4130 per excess pound of TSS;
      - Strength component of Industrial Load Charge $.2065 per excess pound of COD;
      - Out-of-Region Load Charge Component for hauled waste: $15.00 per thousand gallons;
      - Industrial Permit Fees as shown on Attachment A; and
      - Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Surcharge Exceedance Rate: $519,000 per million gallons per day (rate of maximum measured flow within an hour over allowed flow rate).

   It was moved by Wulff, seconded by W.T. Carter.

   **Motion carried.**
Management

1. **2023-167 SW**: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes to bind coverage of its property insurance effective 8/1/23-8/1/24, in an amount not to exceed $4,300,000.

   It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Lilligren.

   **Motion carried.**

Transportation

1. **2023-105**: That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator through the Green Line Extension (GLE) Council’s Authorized Representative to negotiate and execute a change order for Contract 17P000 with Aldridge – Parsons, a Joint Venture (APJV) in an amount not to exceed $4,524,243.46 for work related to the Traction Power Substation (TPSS) Foundation Design Modification; and that the Council authorize an additional 7.48% ($14.5 million) to the current 10% ($19.4 million) cumulative change authority for Contract 17P000 with APJV, resulting in 17.48% ($34.0 million) cumulative change order authority.

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

   **Motion carried.**

2. **2023-137**: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) Contract #22P366 with Braun Intertec for consultant services for the METRO Blue Line Light Rail Transit Extension (BLRT) Project in an amount not to exceed $616,504.00.

   It was moved by Barber, seconded by Cederberg.

   **Motion carried.**

3. **2023-149**: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a two-year agreement with the University of Minnesota for the Universal Metropass for staff and faculty for the period of August 1st, 2023 to July 31st, 2025, with an option to extend up to one additional year from August 1, 2025 to July 31st, 2026.

   It was moved by Barber, seconded by Lee.

   Council members asked about pricing, ridership, and other schools that participate in the program.

   **Motion carried.**

4. **2023-161 SW**: That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to execute Amendment 1 to the Master Partnership Contract #22I003 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to allow the Council to receive up to $5 million from MnDOT for various professional and technical services performed for Metro Transit capital projects.

   It was moved by Barber, seconded by W.T. Carter.

   **Motion carried.**

5. **2023-171 SW**: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an amendment increasing the contract amount for contract 21P272 with Bolton and Menk Inc. by $308,500 to conduct the Equity Evaluation of Regional Transportation Investment, resulting in a total project amount not to exceed $718,500.

   It was moved by Barber, seconded by Chamblis.

   Council members had questions regarding scope and cost of engagement.

   **Motion carried.**
Information

1. Regional Parks Policy Plan Update for 2050 Regional Development Guide

Emmett Mullin, Senior Manager, Regional Planning, shared an update on the Regional Parks Policy Plan within the 2050 Regional Development Guide. Mullin shared information about how the RPPP fits within the 2050 Regional Development Guide values and vision. There are four major phases of the project, and it is currently transitioning from “Initiation” to “Planning.” Planning phase work will continue for the remainder of the calendar year and will then transition into the Execution Phase and focus on plan development and refinement. There are seven initial agency-Council policy plan work groups: 1. Community, Stakeholder and Public Engagement; 2. Regional Parks and Trails System Vision, Mission and Values; 3. Strategic, Sustainable Funding; 4. Recreation Activities and Facilities; 5. Park and Trail Plan Requirements, including Equity Analysis Requirement; 6. System Plan Considerations, including Recreation Opportunity Spectrum; and 7. Regional Trails and Regional Bicycle Transportation Network. Mullin shared the process and outcomes of the first two work groups.

Council members had questions and comments regarding collaboration with implementing agencies, internal silos, transportation trails versus recreational trails, and impacts of climate change. Council members also discussed engagement and consultation with Tribal nations, the open Tribal Relations Liaison position, and MPOSC vacancies.

Reports

No reports.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 26, 2023.

Approved this 9th day of August 2023.

Council Contact:

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