

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting date: August 14, 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 4:03 p.m.

Agenda approved

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

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Dr. Carter, seconded by Morales to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2024, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

None.

Non-consent business – Joint Reports

1. **2024-192 JT:** Proposed Action: That the Metropolitan Council: 1. Release Imagine 2050, including land use policy, the 2050 Housing Policy Plan, the 2050 Regional Parks Policy Plan, the 2050 Transportation Policy Plan, and the 2050 Water Policy Plan for public comment.
2. Authorize a public comment period from August 15, 2024, to October 7, 2024.
3. Conduct a public hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at the regularly scheduled Metropolitan Council meeting.

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Morales.

Johnson recognized the work done and noted that this is a work in progress.

Wulff stated she voted against this at the Community Development Committee and shared her continued concerns with issues that reflect our region that have not been fully vetted by this Council.

Carter acknowledged the critical conversations that we've had and stated further

conversations need to be had and she looks forward to hearing from communities. She is very grateful to all who have participated in this process.

One dissenting vote.

Motion carried.

Consent business

Consent business adopted (Items 1-17x)

1. **2024-132:** Regionally Significant 2024-2027 TIP Amendment Request – US 10 Expansion Project (Robbie King 651-602-1380) That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a regionally significant project expanding US 10 from two lanes to three lanes in Coon Rapids.
2. **2024-167:** Pocket Schedule Printing, Warehousing & Distribution, Contract 24P009 (Jacob Brown 612-349-7348) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute contract 24P009 with SeaChange Printing & Marketing Services, LLC for pocket schedule printing, warehousing and distribution services in an amount not to exceed \$975,940.
3. **2024-168:** Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Long-Range Plan, Dakota County (Tracey Kinney 651-602-1029) That the Metropolitan Council:
 1. Approve the Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Long-Range Plan.
 2. Approve the boundary adjustment removing 22-acres of private inholdings and adding 77-acres of Dakota County-owned parkland within the Miesville Ravine Park Reserve boundary.
 3. Advise the County to consider implementing the recommendations for solar resources and the Minnesota DNR in the Advisory Comments section of the business item.
4. **2024-169:** Metro Plant Steam Turbine Generator Sole Source (Stephen Norton 651-602-1551, John Tierney 651-602-8307, Rene Heflin 651-602-1077) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a sole source contract 24P199 with Siemens-Energy to provide goods and services for the Metropolitan WRRF steam turbine generator in an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000.
5. **2024-171:** Project 819025- Trunk Highway 13 CO Authority Increase (Tim Wedin, 651-602-4571) That the Metropolitan Council authorize an increase in the construction contract change order amount for the Master Utility Agreement 21I069 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for Interceptor 8560, MCES Project No. 819025, by \$450,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$4,103,870.95.
6. **2024-173:** Consultant to Implement PeopleSoft Software Modules, Contract 23P023 (Sue Hauge, 651-602-1136) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 23P023 with Iceberg Technology Group, to provide consulting services for the implementation of PeopleSoft software modules in an amount not to exceed \$1,998,080.
7. **2024-174:** Janitorial Services at the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant, Contract 24P091 (John Young, 651-602-8281) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 24P091 with FBG Service Corporation (FBG) to provide janitorial services for the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed \$1,422,500.
8. **2024-175:** Amendment to 2024 Authorized Financial Institutions List (Mark Thompson, Director, Treasury, 651-602-1629) The Metropolitan Council approve amending the 2024 Authorized Financial Institutions list to add First Independence Bank as an approved institution for the Certificate of Deposit program.
9. **2024-178:** METRO Green Line Extension BNSF Construction Agreement, Contract 17M155

– Purchase Order Increase (Jim Alexander 612-373-3880) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to increase the Purchase Order value associated with contract 17M155 with BNSF Railway for the Freight Rail Coordination Agreement – Construction Phase to add \$2,360,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$8,797,000.

10. **2024-179:** METRO Green Line Extension Master Utility Agreement with CenterPoint Energy – Amendment 4 (Jim Alexander 612-373-3880) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to contract 16M143 with CenterPoint Energy to add \$200,000 for a total contract value not to exceed \$1,415,000.
11. **2024-190:** METRO Green Line Extension Cubic Transportation Systems Fare Collection Contract (Jim Alexander 612-373-3880) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute sole source contract 24P214 with Cubic Transportation Systems, Inc., for the purchase of 46 ticket vending machines, 75 rail smart card validators, and handheld inspection devices and spare parts in an amount not to exceed \$6,622,370.56.
12. **2024-191:** Master Contracts for Project Communications to Support ES Capital Program Contract 23P156 (Deb McKinley, 651-602-1035) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts 23P156 A-F for project communications and public involvement to support Met Council Environmental Services capital programs in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 as outlined in the business item.
13. **2024-199:** City of Columbia Heights Medtronic Site and TOD text amendment Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Review Number 21956-2 (Eric Wojchik 651-602-1330) That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Review Record and take the following actions:
 1. Authorize the City of Columbia Heights to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
 2. Revise the City’s forecasts for population and households as shown in Table 1 of the Review Record.
 3. Revise the City’s Affordable Housing Need calculation to: 87 units at 30% AMI, no units at 31-50% AMI, and 99 units at 51-80% AMI.
 4. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Wastewater, Transportation, Transit, Forecasts, and Housing.
14. **2024-200:** City of Vadnais Heights 3400 Arcade Street and HDR Text Amendment, Review Number: 22173-5 (Eric Wojchik 651-602-1330) That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Review Record and take the following actions:
 1. Authorize the City of Vadnais Heights to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
 2. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Transportation and Water Supply.
15. **2024-202:** Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) Bylaws Amendments (Ashanti Payne, 612-349-7660) That the Metropolitan Council approve the amendments to the bylaws of the Equity Advisory Committee as reflected in the draft attached with this Business Item.
16. **2024-208:** City of Ramsey: Haviland Fields and Text Amendment Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review Number: 21819-6 (Eric Wojchik 651-602-1330) That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Review Record and take the following actions:
 1. Authorize the City of Ramsey to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
 2. Find that the amendment does not change the City’s forecasts.
 3. Find that the City remains inconsistent with the Housing Policy Plan and maintains its status of “not in good standing” for LCA Programs until the 2040 Plan comes into consistency with regional housing policy. The City needs to reguide additional acres



expected to develop in the 2021-2030 decade to a land use with a minimum density of 12 units per acre to accommodate a minimum of 233 additional units.

4. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Transportation, Forecasts, and Water Supply
17. **2024-210:** Clarify policy for Metropolitan Livable Communities Fund grants deployed as loans (Sarah Berke 651-602-1198) That the Council authorize Livable Communities Act (LCA) grantees with closed grants that were deployed as loans to use any future loan repayments to continue to support the original project, or to support other projects that will help the grantee (or the participating municipality within which the project is located) meet its affordable and life-cycle housing goals.

Further, the Council directs staff to bring back the topic of structuring awards as grants or loans as a topic for further exploration by the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Carter, seconded by Osman.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business – Reports of standing committees

Community Development

1. No reports.

Environment

1. No reports.

Management

1. **2024-205 SW:** Labor Agreement with the Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS), Inc., Local 192, Part Time Police Officers (Marcy Cordes, 651-602-1582) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into an agreement with the Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS) Local #192 (Part-Time Police) effective for the period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Lilligren.

Motion carried.

2. **2024-206 SW:** Labor Agreement with the Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS), Inc., Local 203, Supervisors – Sergeants/Lieutenants (Marcy Cordes, 651-602-1582) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into a labor agreement with the Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS) Local #203 (Supervisors – Sergeants/Lieutenants), effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026.

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

Motion carried.

3. **2024-207 SW:** The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), District Council 5, Local Union No. 668 Labor Agreement (Marcy Cordes, 651-602-1582) That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to enter in an agreement with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), District Council 5, Local Union No. 668 effective for the period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Cederberg.

Motion carried.

Transportation

1. **2024-153:** METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit - Vehicle Use and Guideway Maintenance Agreements with Washington County (Alicia Vap, 612-349-7079; Mike Ulmer 651-602-1957). That the Metropolitan Council (“Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Vehicle Use and Guideway Maintenance Agreements (“VUMAs”) #24I000 and #24I031 with Washington County (“County”) for snow removal and maintenance of the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Project (“Gold Line Project”) guideway for a total not to exceed amount of \$6,000,000.

A brief update was given by Alicia Vap, Project Director on the Gold Line, as outlined in the presentation provided.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Cederberg.

Motion carried.

Other business

1. No other business.

Information

1. Council Presentation - Divisional Level Operating Budget (Ned Smith, 651-602-1162)

Ned Smith, CFO gave a presentation on the preliminary overall operating budget and levies for 2025 as outlined in the presentation provided.

Leisa Thompson and Matt Gsellmeier, Environmental Services gave a presentation on their plans for clean water for future generations and reviewed the operating budget highlights.

Lisa Barajas and Heather Geisel, Community Development gave a presentation on the CD division accomplishments as outlined in the materials provided. Geisel gave a presentation on CD’s overall budget.

Ed Petrie, Transportation presented the basis for the budget development and council policies and actions as outlined in the presentation. He also reviewed forecasts and legislation.

Geisel presented on the actual Transportation budget.

Clarifying questions were made by Johnson.

Cameron asked about fuel hedging and if there’s been a cost analysis done. Petrie stated we don’t do it to make money but for budgeting purposes. He noted some years we win, some we lose, but overall, we are pretty even. Discussed MTS and why they do not participate. It was explained that MTS uses Governmental funds and different from the Enterprise Funds that are used at Metro Transit.

O’Connor commented that the Regional Administrator is ultimately responsible for recommending the budget to the Council. He noted that he’s had an opportunity to meet with staff to discuss strategy, alignment, capacity building and the need to be able to grow to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. He felt it’s important to see the strategy alignment with fiancé and operations and thanked the presenters today for their work.

Reports

1. Chair – Zelle noted that there will not be a Committee of the Whole meeting on August 21, 2024 but instead he encouraged council members to check out the State Fair and the Eco Building and some of our staff displaying their work.
2. Council Members – none.
3. Regional Administrator – none.
4. General Counsel – Bloodhart introduced Jems Guirguis, our Twin Cities Diversity in Practice

1st year law student clerk for the summer.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 14, 2024.

Approved this 28 day of August 2024.

Council contact:

Sandi Dingle, Recording Secretary
Sandi.dingle@metc.state.mn.us
651-602-1312

