

Minutes

Committee of the Whole



Meeting Date: February 15, 2023

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

- Chair, Charlie Zelle
- Judy Johnson, District 1
- Reva Chamblis, District 2
- Deb Barber, District 4
- Molly Cummings, District 5

- John Pacheco, District 6
- Robert Lilligren, District 7
- Abdirahman Muse, District 8
- Raymond Zeran, District 9
- Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- Susan Vento, District 11

- Chai Lee, District 13
- Kris Fredson, District 14
- Phillip Sterner, 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's Committee of the Whole 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 Vento, seconded by Johnson to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2023 regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried.**

Council Member Sterner noted that he was present for the February 1 meeting of the Committee of the Whole and asked that the minutes be updated to show his attendance.

Business

1. **2023-15:** that the Metropolitan Council adopt Revision 4 of the Bus Transportation Agency Safety Plan and the Light Rail Transportation Agency Safety Plan for Metro Transit as required by 49 CFR Part 673.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Vento.

Lesley Kandas, Interim General Manager, Metro Transit, Andrew Brody, Director, Bus and Rail Safety, and Ron Kammuehler, Joint Labor and Management Steering Committee Co-Chair provided an update on the Agency Safety Plan and the steps that have been taken in the past week to advance this item. Brody began an overview of the approval process and Public Transit Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) requirements. The PTASP is a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) required regulatory document for Metro Transit's Safety Management System (SMS). As the board of directors, Metropolitan Council approval is one step towards certifying that Metro Transit has established a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan that meets the requirement of 49 CFR Part 673. Brody also shared an overview of the Joint Labor-Management Safety Committee (JLMSC) meeting on February 10, 2023. Recurring 90 minute meetings have been scheduled weekly through March 9, 2023. Kammuehler shared the highlights of the JLMSC meeting and the agreement, Addendum to Agency Safety Plans

Revision 4. The number one priority is to lessen the number of assaults on operators, including prompt and full investigations, adequate time off after an assault, psychological supports for employees who suffer assaults, and quicker response times to calls. The next steps are for the JLMSC to continue to meet at the agreed-upon interval, to produce by-laws, and begin work on Revision 5.

Council Member Chamblis asked for the number of people who attended the February 10 meeting; Brody responded that he would check the record with a response to be recorded with the meeting minutes. Brody confirmed the following day that 26 people were in attendance. Council members had questions and comments regarding infectious disease prevention in the addendum, mitigation strategies and requests and where mitigation strategies should be addressed in other agency safety plans, action coming out of the Agency Safety Plan and where it will be implemented, and the schedule of the JLMSC and reports. Council Members also had comments regarding the Safety Management System and the “top-down” structure, and labor management processes. Council Members thanked staff, the union and the JLMSC for their collaboration.

Motion carried.

Chair Zelle called for a brief recess to allow guests to clear the room and to transition to the next item.

Information

1. Transitway Advancement Policy Procedures

Charles Carlson, Director, Metropolitan Transportation Services, and Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, Capital Programs, Metro Transit, gave an update on the Transitway Advancement Policy and draft Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) modification. The Transitway Advancement Policy was adopted on November 30, 2022. As the region’s Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the Council requires and compares information on critical aspects of a proposed transitway with standards established by the *2040 Transportation Policy Plan*. At the point that Metro Transit is implementing the transitway, the policy would require the Council and local project sponsors to develop a risk register, establish roles and responsibilities that address project risks, and reflect these in agreements. Project setbacks and unresolved issues pose enterprise risks during and after project implementation. The 2040 TPP modification draft clarifies information required of project sponsors, including documentation of the transitway corridor selection process, resolutions of support from affected local governments and agencies, documentation of fiscal constraint-inducing lifecycle cost estimation, and documentation of public engagement and feedback. Carlson and Thompson shared information about risk management at the Council including how a risk is defined and the categories of risks; they also shared an example of a risk process project. Drafts of the TPP Modification and Procedure were presented to staff from cities and counties in January, with a request for comments by February 15. Comments have included a request that partners are informed of risk information before it is public, more detailed steps needed to require collaboration on risk development, comments seeking clarification on draft text, and enterprise risks should include risk to the region of not completing the project.

Council members had questions and comments regarding risk management and partnerships, allowing for flexibility in the process due to new information, the lifecycle of determinations, consistency of process documentation, and the cadence of risk updates to the Council. Council members also discussed risk management analysis and decision-making, as well as enterprise strategy and risk responses.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.



Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole meeting of February 15, 2023.

Approved this 1st day of March 2023.

Council Contact:

Bridget Toskey, Recording Secretary

Bridget.Toskey@metc.state.mn.us

