

## **Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

August 25, 2014

Heywood Chambers

### **Committee Members Present:**

Chair Adam Duininck, Vice-Chair Lona Schreiber, James Brimeyer, Steve Elkins, Marie McCarthy, Jennifer Munt, Edward Reynoso

### **Committee Members Absent:**

Katie Rodriguez, Jon Commers

### **CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Duininck called the regular meeting of the Council's Transportation Committee to order at 4:03 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Munt to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Reynoso, seconded by Elkins to approve the Minutes of the August 11, 2014 Regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

### **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: Metro Transit**

Director of Bus Transportation Christy Bailly introduced Operator Tom Vang from the East Metro Garage, who is celebrating 25 years with Metro Transit as well as 25 years with no responsible accidents, or approximately 52,000 hours of safe operation. Brian Lamb next introduced Michael Guse, who introduced Catrina Boucher, a recently-promoted Assistant Manager who was instrumental in organizing service during the All-Star Games and other recent high-profile events.

Revenue Processing Manager Dennis Dworshak introduced his Installation Team, Supervisor Bob Peterson, Don Westring, Rick Anderson, Chris Sagerer and Bob Casseday from Revenue Operations who were responsible for getting the new Green Line Ticket Vending Machines in place and operational. They were able to learn how to operate the complex equipment and do the installations themselves, saving Metro Transit over \$100,000.

### **TAB LIAISON REPORT**

Commissioner Randy Maluchnik commented on the “frank and sincere” dialogue that took place at the last TAB meeting about the solicitation plan, particularly regarding affordable housing and equities. He said that plan discussion should wrap up at the next meeting in September, and thanked Council members involved for their input in the process.

## METRO TRANSIT GENERAL MANAGER AND METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORTS

**Transit General Manager Brian Lamb:** According to preliminary estimates, 144,000 express bus and regular route rides were provided to the fairground between opening day, Thursday, Aug. 21, and Sunday. Customers have enjoyed the new Transit Hub, which allows buses to avoid Como Avenue congestion by entering and exiting the fairgrounds using the University of Minnesota Transitway.

Minneapolis Public Schools opened today, beginning the popular Student Pass program's third year. Student Passes were provided to 7,000 MPS students at 10 schools. In addition to MPS, another 17 schools with an additional 2,400 Student Passes are participating this year. Student Passes can be used to travel to and from school and other activities between 5 a.m. and 10 p.m. seven days a week.

Metro Transit and the U of M are teaming up to offer free rides to the Gopher's first home football game on Thursday, Aug. 28. Free rides are available with a gameday ticket from 4 p.m. until two hours after the game. The next Vikings home game is Sunday, Sept. 14. Metro Transit learned quite a bit during the Vikings' two pre-season games that will be used to ensure smooth operations during the regular season. In addition, longtime partner Miller Brewing Co. has purchased 1,000 Go-To Cards to distribute to customers on gamedays. The Go-To Cards are good for unlimited rides beginning on the day a customer first tags through midnight of the same night.

Metro Transit's newest Park & Ride opened this morning in Brooklyn Park. The Highway 610 & Noble Parkway Park & Ride is the largest and most significant transit facility in Brooklyn Park history. The new Park & Ride provides twice as many parking spaces as the existing site, around 500 parking spaces, most of which are covered and protected from the elements. The adjacent surface parking area has room for another 500 vehicles, providing additional capacity that can be utilized in the years to come. The facility includes a 40-kilowatt solar array that will offset about 25% of energy use, a geothermal heating and cooling system, LED lighting and electric-vehicle charging stations. Both Brian Lamb and Councilmember Schreiber attended the opening, and commented on the attractive overall design of the park and ride.

**MTS Director Arlene McCarthy:** Ms. McCarthy reported about new installations and upgrades of TVMs (ticket vending machine) on the Red Line, and the September Rail~Volution conference regarding registration, workshop and reception information. She also gave a MVST update, expressing disappointment with the 2014 final closeout of 99.45%, but added that the first month of 2015 looks strong at 108.9% of forecast. Metro Transit and MVTA provided free rides to the grand opening of the new outlet mall in Eagan a few weeks ago, which doubled the ridership; hopefully this venue will help promote use of the Red Line.

## BUSINESS

### CONSENT ITEMS:

1. 2014-207: Authorize Execution of Contract Options with Gillig Corporation for 30-Foot Buses (Paul Colton 651-602-1668)

2. 2014-208: Authorize Execution of Contract Options with Gillig Corporation on Behalf of Plymouth Metro Link. (Paul Colton 651-602-1668)
3. 2014-209: Authorize Execution of Contract Options with New Flyer Industries. (Paul Colton 651-602-1668)

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Elkins, that the three consent items go consent to full Council.

#### **NON-CONSENT ITEMS:**

2014-135: Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension) – Authorize Negotiation and Execution of a Binding Cooperation Agreement with the City of Hopkins (Mark Fuhrmann 651-602-1942), non-consent. This business item asks that the Regional Administrator be authorized to negotiate and execute a Cooperation Agreement with the City of Hopkins, Minnesota (City) on matters pertaining to the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Operations and Maintenance Facility (OMF) and associated activities near the three anticipated Light Rail Transit (LRT) stations also located in the City. The Council also cancels prior Business Item No. 2014-91 as unnecessary.

2014-154: Southwest Light Rail (Green Line Extension) – Authorize Negotiation and Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Minnetonka (Mark Fuhrmann 651-602-1942), non-consent. This business item asks that the Regional Administrator be authorized to negotiate and execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota (City) on matters pertaining to the design and construction of the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Project as proposed within the City.

2014-155: Southwest Light Rail (Green Line Extension) – Authorize Negotiation and Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of St. Louis Park (Mark Fuhrmann 651-602-1942), non-consent. This business item asks that the Regional Administrator be authorized to negotiate and execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of St. Louis Park, Minnesota (City) on matters pertaining to the design and construction of the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Project as proposed within the City.

2014-187: Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension) – Authorize Execution of Peer Review Consultant Services Contract (Mark Fuhrmann 651-602-1942), non-consent. This business item asks that the Regional Administrator be authorized to execute a professional services contract with HNTB for Peer Review Consultant services for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Project in an amount not to exceed \$3,006,044.00.

2014-202: Cooperative Funding Agreement for Project Development with Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority, Cooperation Agreement, and Master Funding Agreement with Minnesota Department of Transportation for the Blue Line Extension Project (Mark Fuhrmann 651-602-1942), non-consent. This business item asks that the Regional Administrator be authorized to negotiate and execute the following agreements for the Blue Line Extension Project:

- 1) Cooperative Funding Agreement for Project Development with Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority; and

- 2) Cooperation Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation; and
- 3) Master Funding Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

2014-211: Authorization to Execute the Blue Line Extension LRT Project Office Lease Agreement between Metropolitan Council and Crystal Gallery Developers (Mark Fuhrmann 651-602-1942), non-consent. This business item asks that the Regional Administrator be authorized to negotiate and execute a Blue Line Extension (Bottineau) LRT (BLRT) Project Office lease agreement between the Metropolitan Council and Crystal Gallery Developers for leasing a 20,000 square foot area in Crystal Gallery Office Building in Crystal, Minnesota for the seven-year (84-month) period from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$2,550,000. This authorization is contingent upon Council approval of a future Capital Budget Amendment to authorize CTIB and HCRRRA funding commitments.

2014-212: Authorization to Purchase Furniture and Information Technology Equipment for the Blue Line Extension Project Office (Mark Fuhrmann 651-602-1942), non-consent. This business item asks that the Regional Administrator be authorized to purchase office furniture and information technology (IT) equipment for the Blue Line Extension (Bottineau) LRT Project Office (BPO) in a total amount not to exceed \$1,755,000 for office furniture and IT equipment for Phase One of the project office mobilization through Project Development in 2014, 2015 and 2016. This authorization is contingent upon Council approval of a future Capital Budget Amendment to authorize CTIB and HCRRRA funding commitments.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck recommended that all non-consent business items except 2014-202 proceed to Council as consent items.

## **INFORMATION**

1. Downtown East/Vikings Stadium Transit Planning (Jim Harwood 612-349-7339)
2. I-35W/I-494 Interchange Design Study (Mark Filipi 651-602-1725, Christina Morrison 612-349-7690 and MnDOT staff April Crockett)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Linda Thayer  
Recording Secretary