

Council Chair Charles Zelle

Council Members

Abdirahman Muse

Deb Barber

Kris Fredson

Molly Cummings

Phillip Sterner

Reva Chamblis

Susan Vento

Chai Lee

Francisco J. Gonzalez

Lynnea Atlas-Ingebretson

Peter Lindstrom

Raymond Zeran

Robert Lilligren

Wendy Wulff

Christopher Ferguson

Judy Johnson

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 23, 2021 4:00 p.m. Council Chambers

### IN ATTENDANCE

Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Gonzalez, Fredson, Ferguson, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

### Committee Members Absent:

Atlas-Ingebretson, Lindstrom

### CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Zelle called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 14 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Lindstrom

Not Recorded: 1 Ferguson

### AGENDA APPROVED

Chair Zelle noted that a roll call vote is not needed for approval of the agenda. Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were moved by Sterner, seconded by Cummings. **Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Lindstrom

### CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda (Items 1-16)

Consent Agenda Adopted

- 2021-99:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (Gold Line) Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) Number Two with the Office of MN.IT Services (MNIT) in an amount not to exceed \$2,497,770.35.
- 2021-118:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 20P055 with TKDA, for Heywood Office Upgrades project for necessary upgrades to the 1984 Heywood Office in a not to exceed the amount of \$800,000.
- 2021-121:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize, award and execute sole source contract 21P148 with Ubisense America LLC, in the amount not to exceed \$1,259,428 for Garage Hardware Replacement.
- 2021-126:** That the Metropolitan Council:
1. Approve a grant from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund of up to \$459,375 to Three Rivers Park District to acquire the vacant rural residential 27.87-acre Olson property adjacent to Gale Woods Farm, just west of Woodedge Road in Minnetrista, for Gale Woods Farm Special Recreation Feature.
  2. Authorize the Community Development Director to execute the grant agreement and restrictive covenant on behalf of the Council
- 2021-127:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt Revision 2 of the Metro Transit Agency Safety Plans for Bus and LRT (including the safety target goals) as required by 49 CFR Part 673.
- 2021-128:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a sole-source Contract 21P173 with Cubic Transportation Systems to provide new ticket vending machine bill note acceptor upgrade kits in an amount not to exceed \$1,360,000.
- 2021-130:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:
1. Authorize Dakota County to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
  2. Find that the amendment does not change the County's forecasts.
  3. Advise the County to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Wastewater and Forecasts.
- 2021-131:** That the Metropolitan Council:
1. Approve the Amended Edina Affordable Housing Partnership as described in this Business Item.
  2. Authorize the Community Development Executive Division Director to negotiate and execute:
    - a. A 25-year forgivable loan agreement with the City of Edina or the Edina Housing and Redevelopment Authority; and (b) other documents necessary to implement this affordable housing partnership initiative.
  3. Authorize the Community Development Executive Division Director to execute purchase agreements and related agreements/documents necessary for the purchase of the homes.
- 2021-133:** 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 2022 to provide funding for public commuter rail service in Sherburne County, Minnesota, for an amount up to \$1.9 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 2022.

- 2021-134:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to:
1. Execute a one-year extension of the Upass agreement with the University of Minnesota for student participants for the period of August 31st, 2021 to August 31st, 2022, and,
  2. Execute a one-year extension of the Metropass agreement with the University of Minnesota for staff and faculty participants for the period of October 1st, 2021 to September 31st, 2022, and,
  3. Execute a one-year extension of the Campus Zone Pass agreement with the University of Minnesota for staff and faculty participants for the period of August 31st, 2021 through August 31st, 2022.
- 2021-135:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract to SKB Environmental, Inc. (SKB) for contingency transport and disposal of dewatered sludge for a total award not to exceed \$3,400,000.
- 2021-136:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute a contract amendment with UHL Co. Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for additional HVAC, piping, mechanical, and sheet metal services for all MCES locations, Contract 15P114.
- 2021-137:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute a contract amendment with Corval Constructors Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$1,400,000 for additional mechanical pipefitting services for all MCES locations, Contract 15P113.
- 2021-139:** That the Metropolitan Council establish a date to conduct a public hearing to discuss and receive comment on the 2022 Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan. The hearing will take place on August 16, 2021, at 4:00 PM via electronic means.
- 2021-144:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes an amendment to the design contract with HNTB Corporation in the amount of \$319,138 for additional design and construction support services of the Orange Line.
- 2021-148:** That the Metropolitan Council approve resolution 2021-16 authorizing the Regional Administrator to apply for Section 5311 Formula Grants for Rural Areas funding for 2022 from the Minnesota Department of Transportation to support Transit Link service.

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Sterner.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligen, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Lindstrom

**BUSINESS**  
**Community Development**

**2021-141:** That the Metropolitan Council: 1. Award three Livable Communities Demonstration Account Pre-Development grants totaling \$275,000 as shown in the table below. 2. Authorize its Community Development Division Director to execute the grant agreements on behalf of the Council.

Applicant	Recommended Project	Award Amount
City of Saint Paul	The Rondo Restorative Development Overlay District	\$150,000
Brooklyn Park EDA	Innovation Hub	\$50,000
City of Minneapolis	Chicago-Lake Rebuild	\$75,000

Council Member Wulff shared that she had concerns about the St. Paul project being held to a different standard than other projects and thus would be voting no. Council Member Fredson urged Council members to support the Rondo land bridge project as a step to help reunite the community and reconnect the neighborhood.

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Fredson.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 14 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 1 Wulff

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Lindstrom

**2021-142:** That the Metropolitan Council:  
1. Award two Livable Communities Demonstration Account Transit-Oriented Development Pre-Development grants for \$202,500 as shown in the table below.  
2. Authorize its Community Development Division Director to execute the grant agreements on behalf of the Council.

Applicant	Recommended Project	Award Amount
City of Minneapolis	3030 Nicollet	\$150,000
City of Saint Paul	990 Payne	\$52,500

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Johnson.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Lindstrom

## **Environment – Reports on consent agenda**

### **Management – No reports**

### **Transportation**

**2021-117:** That the Metropolitan Council approve the service changes in the METRO Orange Line Connecting Bus Study Recommended Plan for implementation with the opening of the Orange Line BRT projects, and related Title VI analysis.

Cyndi Harper, Senior Manager, Route Planning, gave an overview of service changes recommended by METRO Orange Line Connecting Bus Study the in conjunction with the opening of the METRO Orange Line late this year. The goal of the METRO Orange Line is to link residents, jobs and services; retain existing riders and grow ridership; prioritize service for those who rely on transit; and simplify route network and enhance mobility. Outreach strategies for the public input process included: website, survey, and video presentation; social, ethnic, and local media; virtual community meetings and public hearings; and a postcard mailer. The team received nearly 600 comments and overall support for the Orange Line BRT. Stakeholders were pleased that Concept Plan includes coverage on all local branches of Route 535, which will be replaced by the Orange Line BRT. They also supported restoring service on two routes currently suspended due to the pandemic, simplifying four routes so that all trips follow the same routing, and improving frequency on seven routes. Areas of concern included the proposal to eliminate two parts of Route 515, as well as eliminating service on 90<sup>th</sup> Street in west Bloomington.

Council Member Cummings commended Harper and the rest of the team on their excellent outreach within the district. Council Member Barber also thanked Harper and the team for their work and for taking in consideration the long-term impacts of this project.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Cummings.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Lindstrom

**2021-132:** That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator through the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Council 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 \$8,972,046.95 for up to three years of storage for manufactured light rail system components.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Cummings.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Lindstrom

**2020-295:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute operating grant agreements for the calendar year 2021 with the Funding Transitway Counties of Anoka, Hennepin, and Ramsey to receive funds in 2021.

- METRO Blue Line LRT \$13,896,218
  - Hennepin County - \$13,896,218
- METRO Green Line LRT \$14,393,393
  - Hennepin County – \$8,636,036
  - Ramsey County – \$5,757,357
- Northstar Commuter Rail \$3,760,810
  - Anoka County – \$3,061,531
  - Hennepin County – \$699,279

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Wulff.

**Motion carried** on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 15 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Chair Zelle

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Lindstrom

**INFORMATION**

1. Information Item: Southwest LRT Project Update

Jim Alexander, SWLRT Project Director, Metro Transit, gave a quarterly Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) project update. Current civil construction challenges include the Corridor Protection Wall as required per BNSF agreement; and the Secant Wall, an alternative construction method necessary due to unforeseen soil conditions. These issues impact other SWLRT contracts and the overall project schedule. The next steps are to begin construction on the Corridor Protection Wall, complete change order processes in the Kenilworth Tunnel, and update the project schedule. The project schedule will determine impacts to Civil, Systems, and SCADA contracts. Alexander then shared photos of current SWLRT construction progress. Council Member Cummings suggested that Council members who do not live near the SWLRT construction area take a tour of the ongoing construction. Tours are offered by the Southwest Project Office.

Jon Tao, EO Consultant III in the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) gave a SWLRT DBE and Workforce Update. SWLRT contracts continue to exceed DBE goals. The overall DBE achievement is 20% as of April 30, 2021. Civil DBE participation is at 20.5%, and Systems DBE participation is at 16.1%. Franklin DBE participation is at 19.8%, which is on target; this is anticipated to remain the same for the remainder of the contract which expires at the end of the year. The DBE/Workforce Advisory

Committee held a Subcontractor Workforce Participation Discussion; participants included Standard Contracting, RailWorks/DELTA Joint Venture, Minger Construction, Pete's Water and Sewer, E&J Rebar, and Egan. Sam O'Connell, Senior Manager, Community Affairs, gave a Communications and Outreach update. Weekly construction update emails are sent to more than 17,000 subscribers with a 46% open rate. The Twitter account has more than 1400 followers. Information is also shared in Construction Information Workgroups, property owner meetings, and corridor tours. SWLRT updates are available on Twitter, Flickr, Facebook, and Instagram.

Council Members did not have any questions or comments.

## **REPORTS**

Council Members:

Council Member Chamblis, along with staff, will be hosting a listing session on the Blue Line Extension at 6:00pm on June 29.

Council Member Cummings shared that she attended the celebration for new Metro Transit Police officers being sworn in, those being promoted, and five new canine officers. She congratulated the staff as well as the new graduates. Council Members Wulff and Ferguson were also in attendance.

Chair: Chair Zell participated in a series called "Time of Reckoning," representing the Metropolitan Council in a discussion of community leaders helping to address inequities in our community.

Regional Administrator: No report.

General Counsel: No report.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

## **Certification**

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council Meeting of June 23, 2021.

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Bridget Toskey  
Recording Secretary