

Minutes

Transportation Committee



Meeting date: October 28, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: Heywood Chambers

Members present:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair, Deb Barber, D4 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Pacheco Jr., District 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Susan Vento, District 12 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair, Reva Chamblis, D2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Anjuli Cameron, District 8 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toni Carter, District 14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tyronne Carter, District 3 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diego Morales, District 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tenzin Dolkar, District 15 |
- = present, E = excused

Call to order

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

Agenda approved

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

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Carter, Toni to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2024, regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. **Motion carried.**

Employee recognition – Metro Transit

1. Metro Transit General Manager

General Manager Kandaras introduced Director of Rail Technical Support Ed Meyer who presented awards to Rail Quality Assurance Manager Drew Choisser-Goodrich, Intern Henry Stephenson, and Senior Rail Vehicle QA Engineer Joseph Wrobel.

Public Comment

1. A member of the public spoke to the Transportation Committee about transit on Nicollet Mall.

Reports

1. Metropolitan Transportation Services Director

Carlson reported that last week the US Department of Transportation announced a grant of \$138 million to MnDOT for completion of a vision for EZ Pass lanes along I-494. Last week's announcement completes funding for the project amongst \$4.2 billion nationwide grants for this work, as part of the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America program, also known as INFRA.

MnDOT began work on Phase I of the project last year, this funds the full vision and all four projects for the \$377 million total program that is expected to be complete in the years ahead, from the airport to Hwy 169. The Metropolitan Council was pleased to be a joint applicant for the grant application.

In addition to the EZ Pass lanes, improves safety, replaces worn pavement and bridges,

improves the pedestrian network, and upgrades intersections and signals including for METRO BRT operations.

A step for this committee will be to amend the TIP to incorporate the project, which we anticipate in January.

2. Metro Transit General Manager

Kandaras reported on a marketing survey linked to the fare policy update.

3. Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)

Dugan reported on the October TAB meeting.

Consent business

Consent business adopted

1. **2024-250:** GLE MnDOT Staffing Services 2025 (Nick Thompson 612-349-7507)
2. **2024-251:** METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Subordinate Funding Agreement No.13 (#171024M) with MnDOT for 2025 Staffing Support (Nick Thompson 612-349-7507)
3. **2024-252:** METRO Purple Line Bus Rapid Transit Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 4 (#211147D) with MnDOT 2025 Staffing Support (Nick Thompson 612-349-7507)
4. **2024-297:** 2025-2028 Streamlined TIP Amendment: Three Region 7W Projects (Robbie King 651-602-1380)
5. **2024-298:** 2025-2028 Streamlined TIP Amendment: Seven Metro District Projects (Joe Barbeau 651-602-1380)
6. **2024-311:** Signature Authority for MnDOT IJA Discretionary Match Program Grant Agreement (Nicole Clapp 651-602-1723)

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Morales.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business

1. **2024-263:** Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnetonka Police Department and Metro Transit Police Department (Contract #24I043) (Captain Joseph Dotseth, 612-349-7200)

It was moved by Carter, Toni, seconded by Morales, that the Metropolitan Council (“Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a Joint Powers Agreement (“JPA”) # 24I043 with the City of Minnetonka.

Carter, Toni asked clarifying questions about agreements.

Motion carried. Hearing no objection Chair Barber stated the item may proceed Consent to Council.

2. **2024-279:** METRO G Line – Engineering and Construction Administration Services Contract 24P076 (Evan Owens-Ambrogio 612-349-7605)

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Morales, that the Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 24P076 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for design, engineering, and construction administration services for the METRO G Line project in the amount not to exceed \$11,031,025.

Motion carried.

3. **2024-259:** METRO H Line - Planning Support and Concept Design Services, Contract 24P110 (Katie Roth 612-349-7772)

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Chamblis, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the



Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 24P110 with SRF Consulting Group, Inc. for planning support and concept design services for the METRO H Line project in the amount not to exceed \$1,549,979

TAB members voiced appreciation for staff work on these projects and inquired about consultant relationships.

Motion carried. Hearing no objection Chair Barber stated the item may proceed Consent to Council.

4. **2024-304:** Fare Policy Changes (Jillian Linnell 612-349-7510, Dennis Dworshak 612-349-7364, Charles Carlson 651-602-1761)

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Morales, that the Metropolitan Council approve the following fare policy changes:

- Removal of local peak (rush hour) fares, reducing the fare from \$2.50 to \$2.00 and peak reduced fares from \$2.50 to \$1.00 for all regional transit providers participating in the regional fare structure and adjust the following fare products:
 - o All Day Pass from \$5.00 to \$4.00
 - o Reduced Fare All Day Pass from \$5.00 to \$2.00
 - o 10 Ride Pass Full Fare from \$20.50 to \$20.00
 - o Seven Day Pass from \$24 - \$20
 - o Eliminate \$90.00 (31 Day) local peak and the \$5.00 visitor pass
- Modify the Metro Mobility peak fare, from \$4.50 to \$4.00
- Expand Transit Assistance Program (TAP) eligibility from one to two years, to be implemented in 2025, once the fare technology is available.
- Approve a 6-month deeply discounted fare pilot for Metro Mobility customers to ride on regional fixed routes for \$.01, effective 1/1/2025 – 6/30/2025.
- Provide a new fare of \$1.00 for Transit Link Circulator Service.
- Unless otherwise noted, the fare change will be implemented in January 2025.

Council Members asked about planned communication with the community.

Motion carried.

5. **2024-305:** Fare Policy Changes Title VI Analysis (Dennis Dworshak 612-349-7364, Andrea Kiepe 612-349-7747)

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Pacheco, that the Metropolitan Council approve the results of the Title VI Service Equity Analysis for the removal of local peak fares (which subsequently impacts the peak fare offered by Metro Mobility), reduced peak fares and the end of the pilot on routes 32 & 62.

Motion carried.

Information

1. Shared Mobility Program Update (Meredith Klekotka 612-349-7168)
Council Members asked questions about definitions and regulations for e-bikes.
2. Quarterly Service Changes and Workforce Update (Adam Harrington 612-349-7797, Shanta Hejmadi 612-349-7107)
Council Members asked about communication with local cities.
3. Regional TDM Program Update (Cole Hiniker 651-602-1748, Wendy Duren 651-602-1701,



Theresa Cain 612-349-7538)

Council Members voiced appreciation for staff efforts and asked questions about the highway development process.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Transportation Committee meeting of October 28, 2024.

Council contact:

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