

Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Monday, October 28, 2013

Committee Members Present: **Adam Duinck, Chair** **Lona Schreiber, Vice Chair**
 Steve Elkins **Jon Commers**
 James Brimeyer **Jennifer Munt**
 Katie Rodriguez **Edward Reynoso**

Committee Members Absent: **(None)**

TAB Liaison: **Robert Lilligren – present**

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Duinck called the regular meeting of the Council's Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. October 28, 2013.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

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

It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Schreiber to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2013 special meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

TAB LIAISON REPORT

TAB Liaison Robert Lilligren reported that there were no updates to his last report to the Transportation Committee.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Metro Transit

Assistant Director of Rail Vehicle Maintenance Rick Carey introduced Electro-mechanical Technicians Neal Rambeck and Greg Slaby. Mr. Rambeck and Mr. Slaby are being recognized for their development of innovative tools and procedures to deal with corrosion issues that were discovered during the LRV overhaul program, and they continue to provide new and efficient methods for performing repair work.

Deputy Director of Bus Maintenance Tom Humphrey introduced Radio Shop Supervisor Scott McDonald, who is being recognized for the positive attitude he brings to his job while always looking out for the best interests of the Electronic Repair Department's customers and employees. He has earned the respect of coworkers for his fairness and eagerness to solicit suggestions from employees on how to do things better.

Chair Duinck and GM Lamb offered their thanks and congratulations and presented each employee with a certificate of achievement.

Metropolitan Transportation Services

Assistant Director of Contracted Transit Services Gerri Sutton introduced John Harper, Manager of Contracted Services. Mr. Harper is being recognized for his success in managing the MTS invoicing application, which was recently launched after being in development for approximately two years. While IS performed the actual programming of the application, Mr. Harper was instrumental in ensuring that all of the business needs were met. His hard work and persistence are appreciated and have paid off in increased efficiency and accuracy.

Chair Duinck and Director McCarthy offered their thanks and congratulations. Mr. Harper was presented with a certificate of achievement at an earlier staff meeting.

GENERAL MANAGER AND DIRECTOR REPORTS

Metro Transit General Manager Brian Lamb reported the following:

1. Metro transit and the Minnesota Timberwolves are working together to promote taking transit to Target Center for home games. As part of an agreement with the Timberwolves, Metro Transit receives marketing and advertising opportunities during the season. As usual, customers can ride buses and METRO lines free by showing their game-day ticket to their bus operator or Transit Police officer. Free rides are available two hours before the game starts until two hours after the last buzzer sounds. The first home game of the regular season is Wednesday, October 30, against the Orlando Magic.

Metropolitan Transportation Services Director Arlene McCarthy reported the following:

1. A number of representatives and staff from the Council and Metro Transit attended the 2013 Rail~Volution conference, which was held in Seattle, WA, October 20-23. Rail~Volution 2014 will be hosted by Minneapolis-St. Paul September 21-24. At the conclusion of the Seattle conference a four-minute promotional video (also shown at today's meeting) for the 2014 conference was shown, highlighting some of the many features of the Twin Cities area. A kickoff event for the region is scheduled to be held on November 14, 2013, at the Union Depot in St. Paul. More information will be shared over the coming months.

BUSINESS

Consent Items

A motion was made by Elkins, seconded by Munt to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

2013-279: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (Green Line): Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 10 to the Master Funding Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for Staffing

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 10 to the Master Funding Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) in the total amount not to exceed \$750,562 for calendar year 2014.

2013-294: Authorization to Execute Grant Agreement with SouthWest Transit (SWT)

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute the following grant agreements with SWT to purchase eight (8) coach style buses and four (4) 30' heavy duty transit buses in an amount not to exceed \$5,988,000.

2013-296: 2014-2017 TIP Amendment for CSAH 60 (185th St.) and CSAH 50 (Kenwood Trail) in the City of Lakeville

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to modify the scope of this project by adding expansion to a 4-lane divided highway CSAH 50 north from CSAH 60 to Jurel Way and CSAH 60 west from CSAH 50 to Orchard Trail. The change would also increase the budget to a total of \$6,870,000 with \$1,632,000 in federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds and an increased local amount of \$5,238,000.

2013-298: Authorization to Execute Grant Agreement with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA)

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute the following grant agreements with MVTA in the following amounts:

1. 2014 – MVTA – Bus – Replacement (Project #35932): for up to \$2,850,000 for the purchase of (6) six 40' replacement buses in 2014;
2. Rosemount Expansion (CMAQ) – Buses (Project #35935): for up to \$1,900,000 for the purchase of (4) four 40' expansion buses in 2014;
3. 2015 – MVTA – Bus – Replacement (Project #35940): for up to \$5,988,000 for the purchase of (12) twelve 40' replacement buses in 2015.

Non-Consent Items

2013-293: Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension): Cancel Independent Peer Review Consultant Contract Procurement 12P224

Metro Transit Deputy General Manager Mark Fuhrmann and Southwest LRT Deputy Project Director Craig Lamothe presented the item and responded to questions from committee members about RFP process. It was moved by Reynoso, seconded by Rodriguez that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to cancel the procurement for Contract 12P224 for an Independent Peer Review Consultant for Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT).

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-289: Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension): Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 3 to the Master Funding Agreement with Minnesota Department of Transportation for Staffing

Metro Transit Deputy General Manager Mark Fuhrmann presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Munt that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 3 to the Master Funding Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) in the total not to exceed amount of \$1,905,886 for calendar year 2014.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-291: Authorize Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) Master Operations Funding Agreement for Transitway Service

Metro Transit Director of Finance Ed Petrie presented the item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Schreiber that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Master Operations Funding Agreement with the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) for Transitway Service. This agreement will be for the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2017.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-295: Adoption of the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Policy

Manager of TOD Allison Bell presented the item. CM Elkins requested that key strategy #3 Effective Communication be amended to add the following language: "Provide clear policy guidance to local partners concerning the types of plans and local controls that will be needed to effectively implement these policies."

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Munt that the Metropolitan Council adopts the attached Transit Oriented Development Policy (TOD Policy) to guide activities across the organization that advance TOD.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Schreiber stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2013-297: Concur with TAB Action to Evaluate Regional Solicitation Projects Using Modal Evaluation Categories and Defining Eligibility

Mark Filipi, MTS Manager Technical Planning and Support, presented the item. CM Elkins noted, and TAB representative Lilligren concurred, that this change in the evaluation process would simplify the application process.

It was moved by Reynoso, seconded by Schreiber that the Metropolitan Council concur with the TAB action to evaluate Regional Solicitation projects using modal evaluation categories and defining project eligibility by mode as shown on the tables attached to the original business item.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Duininck stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

INFORMATION

1. Transitways Impact Research Program (TIRP)
Mark Filipi, MTS Manager of Technical Planning Support, and Dawn Spanhake, Assistant Director of Program and Financial Management for the University of Minnesota's Center for Transportation Studies, presented the item.
2. Sustainability Plan Update
The item was presented by Pat Jones, Assistant Director, Metro Transit Engineering and Construction, and Hannah Schutt, former intern with Engineering and Facilities posted through the Americorps program.
3. Metro Transit Service Improvement (SIP) Update
Cyndi Harper, Manager of Route Planning, presented the item.
4. Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (Green Line): Project Status and Road to Revenue Operations
The item was presented by Deputy General Manager Mark Fuhrmann, Chief Operating Officer Vince Pellegrin and Robin Caufman, Assistant Director of Administration, Public Involvement and Communication for the Central Corridor project.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.