

**Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Monday, March 24, 2014**

Committee Members Present: Adam Duininck, Lona Schreiber, James Brimeyer, Katie Rodriguez, Edward Reynoso, Jon Commers, Steve Elkins, Marie McCarthy, Jennifer Munt

Committee Members Absent: None

I. CALL TO ORDER. A quorum being present, Committee Chair Duininck called the regular meeting of the Council's Transportation Committee to order at 4:05 p.m. on Monday, March 24, 2014.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES.

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

It was moved by Councilmember Schreiber, seconded by Councilmember Elkins to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2014 regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC HEARING, 5:00 Time Certain

Chair Duininck announced that a public hearing would be held at 5:00 regarding the TPP Amendment, Corridors of Commerce, and that members of the public that wished to speak please add their names to the sign-up sheet on the table outside the Chambers.

IV. TAB LIAISON REPORT

With no TAB Liaison present, Chair Duininck remarked that there wasn't much to report on from the last meeting but that one of the business items on our agenda today, the Regional Solicitation Evaluation Recommendations, was discussed at length.

V. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION, Metro Transit

General Manager Brian Lamb introduced Charles Carlson, Senior Manager for Small Starts BRT, who in turn introduced Jill Hentges, Community Outreach Coordinator with Metro Transit Outreach, and Michael Mechtenberg, Senior Planner in Service Development, for their work on the Midtown Alternatives Analysis, which won significant approval from the community. Councilmember Elkins added that all the feedback he had received from his constituency was very positive.

VI. METRO TRANSIT GENERAL MANAGER AND METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORTS. Brian Lamb, Arlene McCarthy

MTS Director Arlene McCarthy stated that the Transportation System Performance Evaluation presented at the last meeting by Mark Filipi and Rachel Wiken is now available on the website; she also gave an update on MVEST revenues, stating that we are now at 99.5% of forecast.

Brian Lamb reported on Operation Celtic Blast, a multi-jurisdictional preparedness training exercise involving a bus/train collision that took place on

March 18th. Staff was very pleased with outcome, which raised coordination and public awareness.

In celebration of the Green Line opening, there will be a Green Line Open House on June 1st at the O & M facilities for employees and their families, as well as a Green Line commemorative poster competition open to the public; the grand prize winner will receive free bus and train rides for a year, plus \$500.

Light rail trains moved through Target Field Station for the first time earlier this month (week of March 10th). The out-of-service trains traveled to the end of the tail tracks north of Target Field to test signal and communications systems installed over the last several months. Trains will continue test runs on the track until Target Field Station's opening on May 17th. Also, the Council is no longer negotiating for joint development of Parcel A at Target Field Station. Additional requirements rendered the project unworkable; until a new property is decided upon for the new Police Station, use of the Transfer Road facility by the department will help relieve the overcrowding at their Minnehaha facility.

In the next few weeks the Council will be asked to consider recommendations for SWLRT. On Friday the final consultant report was released; for the most part what held in the draft report held true in the final, but project office staff and the consultant worked out a more "apples to apples" cost comparison between the options. On April 2, it is expected that the Management Committee at Southwest will make recommendation to Council; that same afternoon there will be a Committee of the Whole presentation, and on April 9th will be brought forward to the full council for a recommendation, which then kicks off the municipal consent process.

VII. BUSINESS

A. CONSENT ITEMS

1. 2014-72: 2014-2017 TIP Amendment to modify Crystal Lake Regional Trail Project. That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to modify the project scope and budget for SP# 091-090-075, the Crystal Lake Regional Trail in Robbinsdale. Motion by Councilmember Elkins, seconded by Councilmember Rodrigues. **Motion carried.**

B. NON-CONSENT ITEMS

2. 2014-73: Regional Solicitation Evaluation Recommendations (Heidi Schallberg 651-602-1721). **That** the Metropolitan Council concurs with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) actions to design the next regional solicitation based on modal subcategories and on the prioritizing criteria outlined in the attachments, with additional review of emissions as criteria for the Roadways category by the work group. It was moved by Councilmember Elkins, seconded by Councilmember Commers, that business item proceed to full Council as a consent item. **Motion carried.**

3. 2014-71: Authorization to Amend Metro Mobility Fuel Contract (Andrew Krueger 651-602-1689). That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to amend contract 12P042 with Mansfield Oil Inc. to increase the maximum compensation by \$4,604,873 for an amended amount not to exceed \$19,096,786. It was moved by Councilmember Schreiber, seconded by Councilmember Elkins, that business item proceed to full Council as a consent item. **Motion carried.**

III. PUBLIC HEARING, 5:00 Time Certain

Public comment on the draft Amendment of the 2030 Transportation Policy Plan. Speakers included:

Patti Gartlund, President of the Greater St. Cloud Development Corp and board member on Central MN Transportation Alliance, advocated the Council's approval of policy amendment specifically to include I-94 east bound auxiliary lane expansion project, MN Hwy. 241 to MN Hwy. 101.

Steve Bot, Chair of the I-94 Coalition, advocated the Council's approval of the expansion project to alleviate congestion on to I-94 for business, freight, safety and mobility concerns.

VIII. INFORMATION

1. Minnesota Twins Service and Marketing Campaign. Presented by Transit Market Development Supervisor Maria Cone and Acting Assistant Director of Transit Field Operations Lisa Johnson.
2. Small Starts Update Introduction. Presented by Charles Carlson, Senior Manager of Transit BRT Small Starts.
3. Midtown Corridor AA Recommendation and Next Steps. Presented by Transit Senior Planner Michael Mechtenberg.
4. Orange Line Project Plan Update, presented by Transit Senior Planner Christina Morrison.
5. Arterial BRT Update/Station Design, presented by Transit Senior Planner Katie Roth.
6. 2040 Transportation Policy Plan Update, presented by MTS Deputy Director, Planning and Financing, Amy Vennewitz.
7. Air Quality Conformity, presented by MTS Planning Analyst Jonathan Ehrlich.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Linda Thayer,
Recording Secretary