

Council Chair Susan Haigh

Council Members

Katie Rodriguez	Jennifer Munt	Gary Cunningham	Edward Reynoso	Sandy Rummel	Richard Kramer	Steven Chávez
Lona Schreiber	Steve Elkins	Adam Duininck	Marie McCarthy	Harry Melander	Jon Commers	Wendy Wulff
Gary Van Eyll	James Brimeyer					

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 4:00 p.m. Council Chambers

### IN ATTENDANCE

Rodriguez, Van Eyll, Elkins, Brimeyer, Cunningham, Reynoso, McCarthy, Rummel, Melander, Kramer, Commers, Chávez, Wulff, Haigh

### CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Haigh called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Kramer, seconded by Chávez.

It was moved by Rummel, seconded by Van Eyll.

### CONSENT AGENDA

#### Approval of the Consent Agenda (Items 1-11)

#### Consent Agenda Adopted

1. 2014-135 Authorize the Regional Administrator 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.
2. 2014-154 Authorize the Regional Administrator 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.
3. 2014-155 Authorize the Regional Administrator 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.
4. 2014-187 Authorize the Regional Administrator 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.
5. 2014-205 Authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and award a contract with HealthPartners for medical claims administration in the amount of \$9,930,500 for a period of three years (1/1/2015 – 12/31/2017).
6. 2014-206 Authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and award a contract with HealthPartners for dental claims administration in the amount of \$600,000 for a period of three years (1/1/2015 – 12/31/2017).

7. 2014-207 Authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise existing contract options on Contract No. 13P280 with Gillig Corporation for the purchase of up to six thirty-foot buses in an amount not to exceed \$2,660,000, contingent on satisfactory results for the Pre-Award Buy America Audit.
8. 2014-208 Authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise existing contract options on Contract No. 12P227 with Gillig Corporation to purchase one forty-foot bus in an amount not to exceed \$485,000, contingent on satisfactory results for the Pre-Award Buy America Audit.
9. 2014-209 Authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise existing contract options on Contract No. 13P183 with New Flyer Industries to purchase four articulated buses in an amount not to exceed \$2,940,000, contingent on satisfactory results for the Pre-Award Buy America Audit.
10. 2014-211 Authorize the Regional Administrator 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 HCRRA funding commitments.
11. 2014-212 Authorize the Regional Administrator 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 HCRRA funding commitments.

## **BUSINESS**

### **Community Development—No Reports**

### **Environment—No Reports**

### **Management—Reports on Consent Agenda**

#### **Transportation**

2014-202 Authorize the Regional Administrator 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.

It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Rummel.

#### **Motion carried.**

2014-214 SW Accepted the public comment report; adopt the amendment to the 2030 Transportation Policy Plan that adds funding received through the Corridors of Commerce program for improvements to Interstate 694 between Lexington Avenue and Rice Street; adds increased funding derived from cost savings in the Chapter 152 Bridge Preservation program for improvements to Interstate 494 between I-394 and I-94/694; affirm that the amendment maintains the fiscal constraint and air quality conformity of the plan.

It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Wulff.

Commers and Elkins voted no.

**Motion carried.**

2014-215 SW Concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), pending approval of related Transportation Policy Plan amendment, to add a project (SP# 2785-330) in 2014 for a general purpose lane between Hwy 55 and I-94/694, an auxiliary lane between Hwy 55 and Co. Rd. 6, an auxiliary lane from I-394 to Carlson Pkwy, bridge replacements, pavement resurfacing and reconstruction, lighting and signal revisions.

It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Wulff.

Commers and Elkins voted no.

**Motion carried.**

**INFORMATION**

Housing Policy Plan Discussion

Libby Starling led the discussion, which was a continuation from previous Committee of the Whole meetings. The members discussed the allocation of affordable housing need, goals for affordable and lifecycle housing, and housing performance scores. Libby explained that the allocation informs how much land can be used for housing; all communities have a need, which is used to inform local comprehensive plans. The housing performance scores were updated in 2000, but will be updated again to be more transparent about how scoring is calculated. Council members discussed adding a recognition program for communities that go above and beyond to fill affordable housing needs and goals. They also discussed the need for expanding technical assistance and strengthening relationships between communities and developers. The discussion will continue at the Council's regular meeting on September 24.

**REPORTS**

Chair: Participated in the SWLRT CMC meeting. Participated in the PRO meeting. Attended the Q3 Senior Leadership meeting.

Council Members: Rummel—Reported on the work of the EQB and shared the EQB report that cites the Council's work in transportation and wastewater. Rummel represents the Council on the EQB.

Regional Administrator: No report.

General Counsel: A federal lawsuit has been filed against the Metropolitan Council and Chair Haigh arising out of the SWLRT project. The lawsuit alleges violations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), and the state's municipal approval legislation. The law firm of Lockridge Grindal Nauen has been retained to work with the Office of General Counsel and to represent the Council and Chair Haigh.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33p.m.

**Certification**

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council Meeting of September 10, 2014.

Approved this 24 day of September, 2014.

Emily Getty  
Recording Secretary