

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting date: June 25, 2025

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

- ☒ Chair, Charlie Zelle
- ☒ Judy Johnson, District 1
- ☒ Reva Chamblis, District 2
- ☒ Tyronne Carter, District 3
- ☐ Deb Barber, District 4
- ☒ John Pacheco Jr., District 5

- ☒ Robert Lilligren, District 6
- ☒ Yassin Osman, District 7
- ☒ Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- ☒ Diego Morales, District 9
- ☐ Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- ☒ Gail Cederberg, District 11

- ☒ Susan Vento, District 12
- ☐ Chai Lee, District 13
- ☐ Toni Carter, District 14
- ☒ Vacant, District 15
- ☒ Wendy Wulff, District 16
- ☒ = present

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

Call to order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council to order at 4:04 p.m.

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Council Member Morales.

Agenda approved

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

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Morales to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2025, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

No public comment.

Joint Reports:

2025-107 JT: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the 2025 Unified Budget as indicated and in accordance with the tables.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Cederberg.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye	11	Johnson, Chamblis, Dr. Carter, Pacheco, Lilligren, Osman, Morales, Dr. Cederberg, Vento, Wulff, Zelle
Nay	0	
Absent	5	Barber, Cameron, Toni Carter, Lee, Lindstrom

General Counsel noted that the Proposed Actions in the Committee Report and Business Item didn't match. The correct proposed action is written in the business item as follows: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the 2025 Unified Budget as amended and in accordance with the attached tables.

Motion carried.

Consent business

Consent business adopted (Items 1-14)

1. **2025-106:** That the Metropolitan authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute renewal contract 25P096 with Axon Enterprise Inc that will continue to provide body worn cameras for officers in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.
2. **2025-125:** That the Metropolitan Council:
 1. Approve a grant of up to \$2,910,158 from the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to acquire the West Park and East Park parcels totaling 1.4 acres located at 525 Malcolm Avenue South in Minneapolis, MN, for the Grand Rounds Missing Link Regional Trail.
 2. Authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreement and restrictive covenant on behalf
3. **2025-131:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 24P292 with Hawkins, Inc. to provide bulk bleach at MCES Water Resource Recovery Facilities in an amount not to exceed \$7,588,012.
4. **2025-132:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 25P021 with SKB Environmental to provide sludge disposal at MCES Wastewater Treatment Plants in an amount not to exceed \$5,779,000.
5. **2025-133:** The Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 24P252 to T2 Utility Engineers, Inc for utility potholing services in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.
6. **2025-134:** The Metropolitan Council adopt Resolution 2025-13 authorizing the acquisition and condemnation of real estate property for the Brooklyn Park Interceptor 7015-C Rehabilitation, ES Project No. 808604.
7. **2025-136:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and contracts 24P277A – 24P277E for electronic technology based projects design services that will support Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 as follows:



Organization	Contract Number	Contract Amount
AECOM	24P277A	\$300,000
Alliant Engineering, Inc.	24P277B	\$300,000
Bolton & Menk, Inc.	24P277C	\$300,000
HDR Engineering, Inc.	24P277D	\$300,000
SRF Consulting Group, Inc.	24P277E	\$300,000

8. **2025-141:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 25P039 with Transdev North America for Transit Link service in Dakota and Washington counties in an amount not to exceed \$34,518,700.
9. **2025-142:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 25I002 with Scott County for Transit Link service in Scott and Carver counties in an amount not to exceed \$20,259,200.
10. **2025-144:** That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the insurance premium related the Council's Builders Risk Property Insurance Program, provided by Liberty Mutual, in an amount not to exceed \$782,000.
11. **2025-149:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Review Record and take the following action: Recommendations of the Community Development Committee
 1. Authorize Lake St. Croix Beach to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
 2. Advise the City to:
 - a. Revise the City's forecasts downward as shown in Table 1 and establish revised 2050 forecasts as described in the attached Review Record.
 - b. Implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Regional Parks and Trails.
12. **2025-150:** That the Metropolitan Council award 14 Community Tree Planting Grants totaling \$2,500,000 as shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Recommended Applications and Funding Amounts

Applicant	Project Name	Recommended Award Amount
City of Anoka	Sunny Acres Area Urban forest Restoration and Enhancement Project	\$83,100
City of Blaine	Remove and replace 39 ash trees in priority neighborhoods within the city	\$94,880
City of Brooklyn Center	Brooklyn Center Right-of-Way and Heritage Center Canopy Improvements	\$142,350
City of Coon Rapids	Grow Urban Coon Rapids	\$94,500
City of Maple Grove	Rice Lake Neighborhood Ash Tree Project	\$82,825
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board	Minneapolis target area ash tree removal completion and replanting project	\$454,407
City of Minnetonka	Minnetonka Tree Planting Program	\$277,215
City of Oakdale	Diseased ash tree removal and replacement tree planting in public spaces and rights of way	\$174,543
City of Ramsey	Majesty of the Commons – Ash Replacement and Community Collaboration	\$84,255
Ramsey County	Pierce Butler Route Tree Canopy Improvement Project	\$171,050
City of Roseville	City of Roseville EAB Mitigation	\$251,796
City of Saint Louis Park	Park Canopy Restoration Project	\$72,383
City of Vadnais Heights	Vadnais Heights Urban Canopy Program	\$220,196
City of West Saint Paul	West St. Paul Tree Canopy Improvement Project	\$296,500

13. **2025-151 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to reduce the project cost of two MnDOT safety projects and add two Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program-funded roundabout projects.

14. **2025-152 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt an amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to reduce the length of, add a bridge to, and increase the cost of MnDOT's Minnesota Highway 280 pavement and bridge rehabilitation project.

It was moved by Vento, seconded by Morales.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business – Reports of standing committees

Community Development

1. **2025-148:** That the Metropolitan Council:
 1. Award seven Livable Communities Tax Base Revitalization Account grants totaling \$2,432,200 as shown in Table 1 below.
 2. Authorize its Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreements on behalf of the Council.

Table 1. Tax Base Revitalization Account Grant Recommendations

Applicant	Seeding Equitable Environmental Development (SEED)	Recommended Amount
Richfield	American Legion	\$35,000
Applicant	Environmental Site Investigation Projects	Recommended Amount
Inver Grove Heights EDA	Dickman Trail Industrial Development	\$29,300
Applicant	Contamination Cleanup Projects	Recommended Amount
Saint Paul	The Beasley	\$150,000
Minneapolis	NE Green Campus Expansion	\$965,900
Richfield HRA	Penn Station	\$303,200
Minneapolis	The Curve Northeast	\$477,000
South Saint Paul EDA	Wakota Crossing	\$471,800
TOTAL		\$2,432,200

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Pacheco.

Motion carried.

Environment

1. No reports.

Management

1. No reports.

Transportation

1. **2025-146 SW:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an amendment to contract 22P123 with Allied Universal for a total not to exceed of \$13,030,132.

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Pacheco.

Motion carried.

Other business

1. **2025-156:** That the Metropolitan Council approve the following appointment to the Land Use Advisory Committee (LUAC):

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Wulff.

Motion carried.

Information

1. Legislative Updates (Judd Schetnan)

Judd Schetnan, Director of Government Affairs, began his presentation with appreciation for all staff and governmental partners who supported the Government Affairs work at the Capitol this session. The presenter also thanked the late Representative Melissa Hortman and shared that she was responsible for the Community Tree Planting grants approved in the consent agenda.

The presentation highlighted the 2025 legislative session noting it was a budget year, and provided a session overview including a high-level summary of the legacy omnibus bill which included the Clean Water Fund and the Parks & Trails Fund. The presenter provided highlights of the judiciary and public safety omnibus bill and the omnibus transportation bill. Presenter highlighted 2025 regular and special session outcomes regarding funding including base general funding for Metro Mobility and Metro Move services, as well as Regional Transit Capital Bond authorization and the capital investment bill.

Council members appreciated the team for their work and thanked them for their leadership, and asked questions about a potential 2nd special session. Regional Administrator O'Connor praised the team for leaning in to make the region better together.

Reports

CM Pacheco appreciated the legacy of Lt. Beverly Rodriguez as an integral part of the HAT team and recognized her membership as a member of the National Latino Police Officers Association.

Chair Zelle shared his praise of the late Representative Melissa Hortman's bipartisan reach as an amazing last official act and noted tragedy doesn't dissolve the work.

Chair Zelle also shared that Governor Walz has appointed two new members of the Metropolitan Council to be sworn in at the July 9, 2025 regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. Chair Zelle also shared gratitude for CM Vento's service as a council member and for her many other roles in the community.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:07 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 25, 2025.

Council contact:

Ginger Fride, Recording Secretary
Ginger.Fride@metc.state.mn.us
651-602-1842