

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting date: February 14, 2024
Street

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
- Tenzin Dolkar, District 15
- Wendy Wulff, District 16
- = present, E = excused

Call to order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council to order at 4:03 pm

Agenda approved

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

Approval of minutes

It was moved by T. Carter, seconded by Morales to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2024, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

Consent business

Consent business adopted (items 1-5)

1. 2024-21: That the Metropolitan Council approve a request by Scott County to construct a grade separated interchange at Trunk Highway 169 and County State Aid Highway 59 in St. Lawrence Township, subject to further review and approval by the Metropolitan Council if there are any significant changes in the design of the proposed project.
2. 2024-35: That the Metropolitan Council to adopt the attached review record including:
 - Authorize the City of Brooklyn Park to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect;
 - Revise the City's forecasts for population and households as shown in Table 1 of the Review Record.
 - Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for

Transportation and Water Supply.

3. 2024-22: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute amendment 11 to Contract #17P058 with Kimley-Horn and Associates for Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Design Support Services for a total contract amount not to exceed \$40,098,047.
4. 2024-37: That the Metropolitan Council:
 - Award 20 Mainstream and 12 Veteran's Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Project Based Vouchers (PBV) to five projects: Bottineau Ridge Phase II, Gladstone, PPL BC Family Housing Phase I, Carver Oaks Senior Residence, and Nolte River Place.
 - Authorize the Metro HRA Director and Manager to execute the necessary documents with the project owners of the awarded projects.
5. 2024-26: That the Metropolitan Council:
 - Award one homeownership Local Housing Incentives Account (LHIA) grant to the City of Minneapolis for the ReFresh Minneapolis project totaling \$74,966.
 - Authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreements on behalf of the Council.

It was moved by Morales seconded by Pacheco.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business – Reports of standing committees

Community Development

1. 2024-25: City of North Oaks Red Forest Way South Comprehensive Plan Amendment (Amended). That the Metropolitan Council adopt the Review Record and take the following action: Establish a date to conduct a public hearing to discuss and receive comment on a proposed plan modification for the City of North Oaks Red Forest Way South Comprehensive Plan Amendment. The hearing will take place at the Community Development Committee meeting on Monday, Marh 4, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

It was moved by Lilligren seconded by Lindstrom.

Motion carried.

2. 2024-41: That the Metropolitan Council approve the 2024 Livable Communities Act Fund Distribution Plan as shown in Attachment 1 for the TBRA and LHIA Accounts (only), while pausing grants offered under the LCDA account.

Lilligren moved this action, seconded by T. Carter.

Johnson said there was robust discussion held at the Community Development meeting on this topic. The concern was that we may have geographic equity issues as it relates to the ability for small suburban communities to receive these awards. The goal is to try to improve this for the 2025 round of grants, with workshops held with staff and Council Members.

Johnson then offered an amendment to the motion that reads:

That the Metropolitan Council: (1) approve the 2024 Livable Communities Act Fund Distribution Plan for all LCA Programs as shown in Attachment 1 of the staff report to the Community Development Committee; and (2) direct Council staff to add to the 2024 Committee work plan a Council Member engaged process for reviewing the LCA program to address the equity scoring criteria, geographic distribution of awards, and barriers to participation in the program.

The amendment was seconded by Lilligren.



Council members expressed their concerns about equitable and geographic distribution of funds and the need for a fair and balanced process that encourages all cities to participate in LCA programs, and their frustration that process changes discussed in the past have not always been implemented.

The motion to amend the main motion was voted on, with one no vote. **Motion to amend carried.**

The main motion as amended was voted on, with one no vote. **Motion as amended carried.**

Environment

1. 2024-27: That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute a Cooperative Construction Agreement with the City of Vadnais Heights for the design and construction of access improvements to Interceptor 1-VH-422 for an amount not to exceed \$900,000.

It was moved by Lindstrom seconded by Cederberg.

Motion carried.

2. 2024-28: That the Metropolitan Council ratify the Emergency Declaration for repairs to Interceptor 7113 in Orono in an amount not to exceed \$3,750,000.

It was moved by Lindstrom seconded by Dr. Carter.

Motion carried.

3. 2024-29: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 23P076 with Engineering & Construction Innovations, Inc. to construct the Lake Elmo West Connection in an amount not to exceed \$28,795,749.

It was moved by Lindstrom seconded by Cederberg.

Motion carried.

4. 2024-30: That the Metropolitan Council approve the process for the 2024-2026 Water Efficiency Grant Program and authorize staff to advertise the availability of grant funding and solicit applications.

It was moved by Lindstrom seconded by Barber.

Motion carried.

Management

No Reports.

Transportation

1. 2024-34 SW: That the Metropolitan Council adopt the 2024 annual targets for the roadway safety performance measures, which advance a long-term goal of zero deaths.

It was moved by Barber seconded by Toni Carter.

Motion carried.

Joint reports

1. 2024-12 JT: That the Metropolitan Council adopt the Advisory Comments and Review and take the following actions:
 - Authorize the City of Empire to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
 - Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Water Safety.



- Approve the City of Empire's Comprehensive Sewer Plan; and
- Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Wastewater.

It was moved by Lilligren seconded by Wulff.

Motion carried.

Information

No Information Items.

Reports

Chair

Council Members

Regional Administrator

General Counsel.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 4:53 PM

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 14, 2024.

Council contact:

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