

Minutes

Transportation Committee



Meeting Date: April 11, 2022

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: Virtual

Members Present:

- | | | |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair, Deb Barber, D4 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Pacheco, District 6 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kris Fredson, District 14 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair, Reva Chamblis, D2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Raymond Zeran, District 9 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phillip Sterner, District 15 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Molly Cummings, District 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Francisco Gonzalez, District 12 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = present, E = excused |

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Chair Barber called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:01 p.m. on the following roll call.

Present	7	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Fredson, Gonzalez, Sterner, Zeran
Absent	1	Pacheco

Agenda Approved

Chair Barber noted that a roll call vote was not needed for approval of the agenda unless a Council Member offered an amendment to the agenda. Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Gonzalez, seconded by Sterner to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2022 regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. **Motion carried** on the following roll call vote.

Aye	7	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Fredson, Gonzalez, Sterner, Zeran
Nay	0	
Absent	1	Pacheco

Reports

1. Metropolitan Transportation Services Contracted Services Director Gerri Sutton on behalf of Director Charles Carlson

Planning

It's the final call for Regional Solicitation applications. Applications for this round of funding are due this Thursday, April 14. The Transportation Advisory Board will select projects for funding in late 2022.

Finance

FY22 apportionments were announced yesterday.

Contracted Services

We will present the Metro Mobility update as an information item to the full Council on Wednesday.

2. Metro Transit General Manager Wes Kooistra
Operator and Service Update

Thankfully, COVID cases remain low across the region. And cases among Metro Transit employees also continue to remain quite low. The federal face mask requirement for public transportation currently is set to expire on April 18. We will be monitoring whether it is again extended. Metro Transit continues to see some modest ridership growth. Right now, we are at about 53% of pre-pandemic ridership system wide. To put this in national context, we are hearing from American Public Transportation Association that, nationwide, transit ridership is closer to 60% pre-pandemic levels. We still have a long way to go to rebuild ridership. This will need to include increasing service as we have the operators to do so.

Cummings asked how Metro Transit pay and benefits compare. Kooistra said the packages are favorable with other transit operators but there is also competition coming from places like Amazon, etc. so there may be other competition in hiring.

3. Transportation Advisory Board (TAAC) David Fenley
The TAAC report has been deferred to a future meeting.

Consent Business

Consent Business Adopted

1. **2022-79:** METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit – Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 6 with St. Paul (Robin Caufman 651-602-1457)
2. **2022-80:** METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit – Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 6 with Woodbury (Robin Caufman 651-602-1457)
3. **2022-81:** METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit – Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 2 with St. Paul Regional Water Services (Robin Caufman 651-602-1457)
4. **2022-90:** METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit – Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 7 with Woodbury (Robin Caufman 651-602-1457)

It was moved by Sterner seconded by Cummings.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Aye	8	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Fredson, Gonzalez, Pacheco, Sterner, Zeran
Nay	0	
Absent		

Non-Consent Business

1. **2022-77:** METRO D Line – Station Plan Amendment #1

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Cummings, that the Metropolitan Council approve Amendment #1 to the D Line Station Plan, to add a new station at Osseo Road & 47th Avenue and update the location for a permanent southbound platform at Portland Avenue & 77th Street.

Metro Transit Environmental Compliance Lead Adam Smith presented this item. Chamblis asked about the temporary stations. Assistant Director Katie Roth said this is being coordinated with both Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis. Chamblis asked about the funds and the extra station. Roth said there is capacity for the additional station in the project budget.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Aye	8	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Fredson, Gonzalez, Pacheco, Sterner, Zeran
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Nay	0
Absent	

2. **2022-78: METRO B Line – Corridor Plan Amendment #1**

It was moved by Fredson, seconded by Sterner, that the Metropolitan Council approve Amendment #1 to the B Line Corridor Plan, to update platform locations at three planned B Line stations: Lake & Lyndale, Lake & Bloomington, and Lake & Cedar.

Metro Transit Environmental Compliance Lead Adam Smith presented this item. There were no questions or comments from Council Members.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Aye	8	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Fredson, Gonzalez, Pacheco, Sterner, Zeran
Nay	0	
Absent		

3. **2022-87: METRO Green Line Extension Master Contract II for Bass Lake Spur Freight Rail Maintenance and Repair (Rebid), Contract 21P143A**

It was moved by Gonzalez, seconded by Chamblis, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to reject all bids for contract 21P143A for Master Contract II for Bass Lake Spur Freight Rail Maintenance and Repair and resolicit bids for this contract.

Metro Transit Contracts and Risk Manager Nat Gorham presented this item. Sterner asked why the first bid was nonresponsive. Gorham said once the information is public more details can be given. Procurement Director Jody Jacoby said there was only one bid left remaining after others were rejected. Gonzalez asked for examples of a nonresponsive bid. Jacoby said nonresponsive means a bidder did not meet a requirement set forth in the bidding documents, such as a failure to meet the DBE requirement, or that they did not provide a bid security. Cummings asked about the ability to adjust and if the bidding pool is small. Smith said the bidding pool is small but the Met Council has worked to reach out to the bidding community.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote. Hearing no opposition, Chair Barber said the item could go consent to Council.

Aye	8	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Fredson, Gonzalez, Pacheco, Sterner, Zeran
Nay	0	
Absent		

4. **2022-88: Hiawatha Light Rail Wheel Truing Machine Replacement - Contract 20P265**

It was moved by Fredson, seconded by Chamblis, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract with NSH USA Corporation, to manufacture a replacement wheel truing machine for the Hiawatha (Blue Line) Operations and Maintenance Facility (O&MF), in the amount of \$2,295,493.20.

Metro Transit Project Manager Jay Wesley presented this item. Cummings asked if there was a secondary market or recyclable option. Wesley said it might not be because of its age but the team is looking into it. Gonzalez asked about equipment lifespan.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote. Hearing no opposition, Chair Barber said the item could go consent to Council.

Aye	8	Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Fredson, Gonzalez, Pacheco, Sterner, Zeran
Nay	0	
Absent		



Information

1. Metro Transit Service Equity Evaluation

Metro Transit Service Development Assistant Director Kristin Thompson, Principal Data Scientist Joey Reid, and Route Planning Manager Cyndi Harper presented this item. Chamblis said this shows success of measuring against a baseline with equity.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Transportation Committee meeting of April 11, 2022.

Council Contact:

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