

**Minutes of the  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Monday, June 23, 2014

<b>Committee Members Present:</b>	<b>Steve Elkins Katie Rodriguez Jon Commers</b>	<b>Edward Reynoso Jennifer Munt James Brimeyer</b>
<b>Committee Members Absent:</b>	<b>Adam Duininck, Chair McCarthy, Marie</b>	<b>Lona Schreiber, Vice Chair</b>
<b>TAB Liaison Present:</b>	<b>none</b>	

**CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum was present when Councilmember Elkins called the regular meeting of the Council's Transportation Committee to order at 4:05 p.m. June 23, 2014.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

It was moved by Commers, seconded by Reynoso to approve the amended agenda for the June 23, 2014 meeting. Motion passed.  
It was moved by Rodriguez, seconded by Brimeyer to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2014 meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion passed.

**TAB LIAISON REPORT**

There was no report from TAB.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Metro Transit**

Brian Lamb introduced Metro Transit Police Chief AJ Olson who presented employee recognition awards to Officers Steve Schoephoerster (and canine partner Cooper) and Scott Tinucci (and canine partner Izzy). The officers and their partners are trained in explosive detection, and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in their fields at National Canine Detector Trials in Bloomington last month. Schoephoerster and Cooper demonstrated their skills for the committee.

**MTS DIRECTOR and METRO TRANSIT GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS**

Metro Transit General Manager Brian Lamb reported the following:

- 1) The Green Line is now open. There were 107,000 rides given opening weekend; 400,000 used the transit system during Green Line opening weekend. These are the levels projected for 2015. The Blue Line celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Thursday. The average Blue Line weekday ridership exceeds the 2020 forecasts by 20%.
- 2) Metro Transit received recognition from APTA for its training program for safety around LRT. The new training program is 3 times faster than classroom training.
- 3) The Anoka Ramp (Northstar) grand opening is scheduled. This ramp replaces a surface lot across from it, and will serve a multi-modal function.
- 4) The Operator Ovation Brunch will be held this Wednesday, recognizing 51 operators. TC Chair Duininck will be a guest speaker.

In response to a comment by Brimeyer, Lamb stated that Metro Transit continues to work with the City of St. Paul to improve on methods for signal timing on CCLRT. There have been some improvements in the downtown area, more improvements are needed on University Avenue.

Metropolitan Transportation Services Dep. Dir. Planning & Finance Amy Vennewitz reported the following:

Monthly MVST receipts are at 99.13%, not quite the forecasts or budget. The budget is 95%.

## **BUSINESS**

### **Consent Items**

Motion by Munt, seconded by Reynoso and passed to approve the following consent items.

2014-136 SW: 2014-2017 TIP Amendments for US 169 Reconstruction

Motion: 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 the US 169 reconstruction/overlay project from MN 282 to MN 21 in Jordan in 2015 (SP#7008-100).

2014-137: Purchase Motorola Voice Communications Console Hardware, Software and Installation Services

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a purchase order for two Motorola MCC7500 voice communications systems, nine Motorola MCC7100 voice communications systems and installation services in an amount not to exceed \$601,000.

(MTS Dep. Dir. Planning & Finance Amy Vennewitz noted that a portion of this item is sole source)

2014-152: 2014-2017 TIP Amendment for I-94 Westbound exit ramp to 5<sup>th</sup> St. S. in Minneapolis

Motion: That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the I-94 westbound exit ramp to 5<sup>th</sup> St. S. project in 2015 (SP#2781-462) with \$6,790,000 in TED funds and \$3,000,000 in local funds for a total cost of \$9,790,000.

### **Non-Consent Items**

2014-1134 SW: Southwest Light Rail (Green Line Extension) – Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to FEIS Contract 12P255 with CH2M Hill, Inc.

Metro Transit Acting Project Director – SWLRT Craig Lamothe presented this item.

Motion by Reynoso, seconded by Munt that the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to existing contract 12P255 with CH2M Hill, Inc. to extend the contract period through December 31, 2015 and increase the contract value by \$1,860,000 for a total contract value of \$5,245,670 for additional consulting services for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Project for completion of a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS), Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), and environmental permitting activities.

Motion passed with Elkins abstaining from the vote.

2014-147: Approve Recommended Plan for A Line BRT project scope

Metro Transit Senior Planner/BRT/Small Starts Katie Roth presented this item.

Motion by Commers, seconded by Munt that the Metropolitan Council approve the Recommended Plan for the A Line BRT project scope.

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, CM Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2014-146: Recommend adoption of the revised Orange Line Project Plan update

Metro Transit Senior Planner/BRT/Small Starts Christina Morrison presented this item. In answer to Brimeyer, Morrison explained the proposed route on the streets in Minneapolis and that staff continues to work on this.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Reynoso to recommend adoption of the revised Orange Line Project Plan Update, incorporating public comments. The Project Plan Update, upon adoption, will serve to inform an application to the Federal Small Starts program, help FTA determine an environmental path for the Orange Line, and update the Council's Transportation Policy Plan.

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, CM Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2014-148: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (Green Line): Siemens LRV Contract Amendment for Spare Parts, Special Tools, Engineering and Vehicle Modifications

Metro Transit Asst. Dir. Rail Vehicle Maintenance Rick Carey presented this item.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Commers that the Metropolitan Council approve a contract amendment to increase the Siemens light rail vehicle (LRV) contract value by up to \$1,616,000 for a revised contract value of \$217,664,820 in accordance with the requirements of LRV Contract 09P157 Section 5.12.

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, CM Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

2014-151 SW: 2030 TPP Amendment for I-694 and I-494 for public comment

Metropolitan Transportation Services Planning Analyst Mary Karlsson presented this item. Munt expressed concern with moving two projects together in one motion, as she is in support of the I-494 project, but not the I-694 project. She asked if the two projects could be separated when the item comes back for action by the TC. Vennewitz stated that this could be brought as a comment during the public comment period. Rodriguez reminded members that the CoC program was endorsed by Dayton, MnDOT and others and was under a short time frame. It may be too late to amend actions now, but committee members should look for a better way to provide input into project selection in future CoC programs.

Commers asked for clarification on the rationale that these projects advance the five outcomes identified in Thrive MSP 2040, how equity & sustainability outcomes are advanced by these projects. Karlsson stated that these projects were discussed by several entities, staff, committees and this is the best and most practical option for the CoC funding in the short time frame allowed in order to fund projects that are ready.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Rodriguez that for the purposes of holding a public hearing and receiving public comment, the metropolitan Council:

- Release the proposed amendment (attached) to the 2030 Transportation Policy Plan which adds funding received through the Corridors of Commerce program for a project on Interstate 694 from Lexington to Rice Street and for a project on Interstate 494 from I-394 to I-94 using funding resulting from cost savings in the statewide Chapter 152 Bridge Preservation program; and
- Authorize a public comment period from June 26 through August 21, 2014 including a public hearing on the proposed amendment to be held on August 11, 2014 at 5:00 pm.

Motion passed.

2014-150: 2014 Transit Capital Improvement State GO Bonds Allocation

Metro Council Director Government Affairs Judd Schetnan presented this item.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Rodriguez that the Metropolitan Council allocates \$15 million in appropriated 2014 state general obligation (G.O.) bond funds for the Transit Capital Improvement Program as follows:

\$9.0 M	A Line/Snellings BRT
\$2.0 M	Orange Line 35W/Lake Street Station
\$1.0 M	Bottineau LRT
\$2.0 M	Gateway Corridor
\$1.0 M	Red Line Cedar Grove Station

Motion passed. Hearing no objection, CM Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

## INFORMATION

### 1. Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC) Report

Metro Mobility Customer Services Manager Andy Streasick introduced TAAC Chair Ron Biss. Biss has served as TAAC chair for 7 years, and been a member of TAAC for 20 years. Biss explained the mandate and function of TAAC and highlighted some of the accomplishments and projects for which TAAC has provided input to the Council.

### 2. Metro Transit Bus Reliability

Metro Transit Director of Maintenance OHB Rob Milleon presented this item and answered questions from committee members about certain routes that may experience more reliability problems than others.

### 3. Regional Solicitation Evaluation (RSE) Update

Metropolitan Transportation Services Senior Planner Heidi Schallberg presented this item.

Brimeyer questioned whether the equity measures have been broadly accepted and CM Elkins responded that the RSE PMT continues to work on the equity measures.

4. 2040 TPP TAB Comments and Proposed Changes

Metropolitan Transportation Services Dep. Dir. Planning & Finance Amy Vennewitz presented this item. Elkins noted that staff has been responding well to comments; the sidebars and call-outs are good. He noted the need to integrate trail maps with bikeway maps. He also noted concern that using the last TBI is a "snapshot in time" and may not fully show the force of trends. Vennewitz will provide a revised Draft TPP to members by 7/09 for review prior to the 7/14 Transportation Committee meeting.

5. Discuss 7/14 Transportation Committee meeting scheduled to be held @ FT Heywood

Brian Lamb reminded members that the All Star Game is scheduled for 7/15 at Target Field and there are various activities at Target Field during the week. Traffic may be heavier getting to Heywood, councilmember parking will be available, as usual, at Heywood for the 7/14 TC meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.