

Metropolitan Council

Metro Transit Heywood Chambers, 560 Sixth Avenue North, Minneapolis MN 55411

Meeting of the Transportation Committee Monday, July 23, 2012

Members Present	Steve Elkins, Chair Lona Schreiber, Vice Chair Roxanne Smith	Jon Commers John Đoàn Jennifer Munt	James Brimeyer Adam Duininck Edward Reynoso
Members Absent	None		
Staff Presiding	Brian Lamb, General Manager Metro Transit	Arlene McCarthy, Director Metropolitan Transportation Services	
TAB Liaison	Robert Lilligren		

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was present when Committee Chair Elkins called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. on July 23, 2012, at Metro Transit Heywood Chambers, Minneapolis.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Reynoso, seconded by Smith to adopt the agenda for the July 23, 2012 Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Munt, seconded by Đoàn to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2012 Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Metro Transit

Tom Randall, Senior Manager of Revenue Operations, introduced Nick Eull, Manager of Passenger Fare Revenue Processing. Mr. Eull has been with Metro Transit since 2002, initially as a Transit Control Center supervisor and subsequently moving into the Finance division, where he helped design and implement the regional Smart Card Fare Collection system and continues to manage the team that maintains the fare collection system for Metro Transit's buses, rail platforms, transit stores and retail outlets. Most recently, Mr. Eull was named one of *Mass Transit* magazine's "Top 40 Under 40," a distinction for which individuals are nominated by their peers and colleagues in the industry. These professionals are considered outstanding leaders in public transportation who have shown a capacity for innovation and demonstrated leadership and a commitment to making an impact in transit.

Chair Elkins and General Manager Lamb offered their thanks and congratulations to Mr. Eull and presented him with a plaque commemorating his achievement.

METRO TRANSIT GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Brian Lamb, General Manager, Metro Transit, reported the following:

A new enhancement to Metro Transit's automated phone line provides a faster option for NexTrip users. Now, a customer can say or enter a transit stop's unique number to instantly receive predicted NexTrip real-time departures from any of the 15,000 transit stops currently active in the region. Customers may also continue to enter a route, direction and timepoint for NexTrip times. Stop numbers are available at metrotransit.org or from Transit Information Center agents. Customers currently use the NexTrip phone service about 240,000 times per month.

Metro Transit's Marketing department has announced that on July 5 the official Facebook page for Metro Transit was launched at Facebook.com/MetroTransitMN. The site will feature several updates per week about service changes,

promotions and more. The site is linked from metrotransit.org. More aggressive promotion of the page will begin in the weeks ahead.

Starting today State Fairgoers can save on admission with Metro Transit Bus Bargain Tickets ordered through metrotransit.org. Roundtrip fares from express sites are \$4 (instead of \$5) when purchased online before August 22. A group ticket is also available offering four round-trip rides for the price of three – \$15. With the Fair opening on August 23, the Marketing Department will make a comprehensive presentation to the committee at its August 13 meeting.

The review and assessment of candidates for the position of Metro Transit Chief of Police is being wrapped up by the outside consultant. Background checks are also nearly completed. It is anticipated that finalist interviews will be scheduled by the end of this month and a new Chief will be named sometime in the month of August.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT

Arlene McCarthy, Director, MTS, reported the following:

Staff is in the process of putting together a report for this committee on the recent federal transportation authorization bill, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21). Information will be summarized and consolidated from the perspective of how it affects the Met Council, Metro Transit and the region.

MTS staff and its consultant attended the July 11 meeting of Metropolitan Emergency Services Board (MESB) to participate in a discussion about the Metro Mobility radio system. The consultant shared the MTS report and the short- and long-term options that have been identified, noting that further analysis would need to be done. Gerri Sutton explained the Council's process of how staff makes recommendations to the committee and the Council. An eventual capital budget amendment would most likely be the means by which the selected strategy would be endorsed by the full Council. The MESB passed a motion, anticipating that the Council would reach decision by December and agreeing to provide monthly updates. MTS staff will continue to work with MESB staff providing input over the coming months

As noted in the Councilmembers' Friday Report, CNBC recently published its sixth annual report, "America's Top States for Business 2012." Minnesota ranked #11 overall and received its highest score in the category of Infrastructure and Transportation, in which the state ranked #2 overall.

TAB LIAISON REPORT

Tab Liaison Robert Lilligren reported that the Transportation Advisory Board did not meet this month.

BUSINESS

Consent Items

There were no consent items.

Non-Consent Items

2012-231: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (Green Line): Funding Agreement with the City of St. Paul for Traction Power Sub Station 12

Metro Transit Deputy General Manager Mark Fuhrmann presented the business item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Commers, seconded by Reynoso:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a Funding Agreement with the City of St. Paul requiring the City to reimburse the Metropolitan Council for the cost of a Permanent Easement with the St. Paul Port Authority for Traction Power Sub Station 12 (TPSS -12) in the Capital City Parking Ramp.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2011-232: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (Green Line): Easement Agreement with the Port Authority of the City of St. Paul for Traction Power Sub Station 12.

Metro Transit Deputy General Manager Mark Fuhrmann presented the business item. There were no questions from committee members and no further discussion.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Commers:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a Permanent Easement Agreement with the Port Authority of the City of St. Paul and Wells Fargo Bank National Association for the permanent location of Traction Power Sub Station 12 (TPSS -12) in the Capital City Parking Ramp.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Chair Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2011-236 SW: Tokens: Temporary Fare Change Clarification

Metro Transit Director of Finance Ed Petrie presented the business item. Staff responded to questions regarding future options for fare media.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Smith:

That the Metropolitan Council approve a Temporary Fare Change for Tokens where a single token will be valid for both local peak and off-peak and express fares for up to a value of \$2.25 with the token sales price set at \$1.75, effective for the period of August 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013.

Motion passed.

INFORMATION

1. Commuter Challenge Results

Bruce Howard, Metro Transit Director of Marketing and Customer Services, and Dan McLaughlin, Executive Director of the Minneapolis Transportation Management Organization (TMO), provided a recap of the results of the Commuter Challenge held between April 1 and June 30, 2012.

2. Metropolitan Council Recommended Comments on MnDOT Multimodal Plan

Amy Vennewitz, MTS Deputy Director, presented general comments and specific suggestions from the Council on MnDOT's statewide plan. Final adoption of the plan is expected by September, 2012.

3. Metro Area Freight Rail Presentation

MTS Planning Analyst Steve Elmer and Dave Christianson, Rail Project Manager for MnDOT, provided information about rail systems in the Twin Cities metro area including background, agency roles, relationships among systems and planning.

4. Special Counsel Report: Southwest LRT Engineering Services Consultant Contract Procurement

The report was prepared and presented by Hammargren & Meyer, P.A.

BUSINESS

Non-Consent Items (continued)

2012-234 SW: Southwest Light Rail Transit Project (Green Line Extension) Engineering Services Consultant Contract Procurement 11P173

Metro Transit Deputy General Manager Mark Fuhrmann presented the business item. Staff responded to questions about funding, regulations, and development timeline. Chair Elkins then opened the floor for questions or comments from the public. There were none.

Proposed action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to:

- Cancel the procurement for Contract 11P173 for an Engineering Services Consultant for Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT);
- Develop and issue new Requests for Proposals for Engineering Services Consultant(s) for developing engineering documents to 30% completion of project engineering;
- Develop and issue a new Request for Proposal for an independent engineering peer review consultant tasked with review of contract deliverables generated by the Engineering Services Consultant(s).

Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Reynoso to move the business item to the full Council without recommendation.
Motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Elkins adjourned the Transportation Committee meeting at 6:29 p.m. July 23, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Maday, Recording Secretary