

Metropolitan Council

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

Meeting of the Transportation Committee Monday, June 4, 2012

Members Present	Steve Elkins, Chair Lona Schreiber, Vice Chair John Đoàn	Roxanne Smith Edward Reynoso Jon Commers	James Brimeyer Jennifer Munt
Members Absent	Adam Duininck		
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 special meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. on June 4, 2012 at Metropolitan Council Chambers St. Paul.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Smith, seconded by Schreiber to adopt the agenda for the June 4, 2012 Transportation Committee meeting. Motion passed.

Following adoption of the agenda, Chair Elkins suggested discussion of Business Item 2012-176. Metro Transit Deputy General Manager Mark Fuhrmann addressed the committee with information regarding Business Item 2012-176. He stated that he recently learned from the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County that a report on the Sabo Bridge failure (and URS Corporation in regard to the bridge) is expected soon. Fuhrmann suggested postponing action on Business Item 2012-176 until the report is available and the Transportation Committee has the benefit of this report. Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Smith, to postpone action on Business Item 2012-176 to a later date. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Reynoso, seconded by Munt, to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2012 Transportation Committee meeting. Motion passed.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Metro Transit

Metro Transit General Manager Brian Lamb recognized Bob Gibbons, who retired but is working as part of the PRO program. Gibbons has been working with a group of 10 persons on the Metro Transit's High School Transportation project to expand the Student Pass program with Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) for the 2012-2013 school years. Gibbons presented awards to two of the team members, namely:

Kristin Thompson, Transit Planner in Service Development, who is working on the service plan to accommodate students; and

Anjie Olsen, customer services and marketing, who is working on the materials and materials available on Metro Transit website.

Metro Transit Manager Public Relations John Siqveland presented employee recognition awards to the following members of the Web Core Team at Metro Transit: John Sanborn, Sam Changtum, Matt McGuire and Art Brakob. These employees have continually added features to applications and integrated the site which has grown to become the dominant source of transit information for our customers.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT

Arlene McCarthy, Director, MTS, did not have a report at this meeting.

METRO TRANSIT GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

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

Transit Promotion Wins Statewide 'Best In Show' Award

Back in May 2011, Metro Transit sent out 3,000 mailers to the neighborhood of Linden Hills with a limited-time offer to use an enclosed \$10 Go-To Card. Now the Minnesota Association of Government Communicators (MAGC) has awarded Metro Transit's "Linden Hills Neighborhood Direct Mail" promotion with the Best in Show award of 2011. The mailer was chosen from 151 entries submitted by government agencies throughout Minnesota. In the year since the mailing was sent, those who participated in the promotion have taken more than 13,000 rides and added in excess of \$13,000 in value to their Go-To Cards.

On-Time Performance Solid In April

Buses were 89.1 percent on time for April, bringing on-time performance to 90.2 percent so far this year. Northstar achieved on-time performance of 97.3 percent in April. Year-to-date performance on Northstar is 98.6 percent – significantly above of the 2012 goal of 95 percent. Hiawatha light-rail trains were on-time 96.9 percent of the time in April, raising its year-to-date average to 94.2 percent.

Miles Between Bus Road Calls Tops 8,000 Again In April

Bus Maintenance reports 8,275 miles between maintenance road calls in the month of April. This is the second highest monthly total ever and the second consecutive month above 8,000 miles. This performance raises the year-to-date average to 7,506 miles – 31.3 percent higher than the same period last year. Miles between maintenance road calls is the primary measure of bus reliability.

Police Exceed April Goal For Bus Onboards By More Than 10%

Metro Transit uniformed and plainclothes officers rode buses 2,794 times in April versus a Metro Transit Police goal of 2,500 rides. The actual result exceeds the goal by 10.2 percent. In addition, members of the MAD DADS organization, which focuses on promoting civility and good riding behavior, rode buses for 260 hours in April. Both transit police and MAD DADS focus on the busiest routes and stops – particularly busy local routes serving downtown Minneapolis.

BUSINESS

Consent Items

A motion was made by Reynoso, seconded by Doan to approve items 2012-173 and 2012-174 as consent items. Motion passed unanimously.

2012-173 Motion: That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include St. Croix River Crossing Pre-construction Projects SP#8217-82045PE (Bridge Plan Design) and SP#8217-82045PR (Peer Review).

2012-174 Motion: That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include projects selected by MnDOT to receive FTA 5310: Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Program funds.

Non-Consent Items

2012-165: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (Green Line): 50% Constructed Contingency Commitment
Metro Transit Deputy General Manager Mark Fuhrmann presented the item. Councilmember Brimeyer questioned what FTA's concerns are on providing contingency funds to the Interchange project and the Union Depot. Fuhrmann responded that the Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) scope mentions both items, although FTA's concerns are about the construction components, which are not specifically laid out in the FFGA.

Councilmember Munt asked why the City of St. Paul didn't express interest earlier in the relocation of the TPSS. M. Fuhrmann stated extensive discussions were held with St. Paul. The City had the Port Authority approve the placement of this move. The \$500,000 will be matched by the City and the Port Authority through the donation of property.

Motion by Commers, seconded by Munt:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to:

- Authorize the use of \$7.5 million in Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) (Green Line) project contingency funds at the 50% constructed milestone towards the Minneapolis Interchange Project (\$4 million), the St. Paul Union Depot Project (\$3 million) and the relocation of traction power substation #12 from the Central Station block in downtown St. Paul (\$500,000), subject to FTA concurrence;
- Negotiate and execute a subordinate funding agreement with the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority for the allocation of CCLRT (Green Line) contingency funds to the Minneapolis Interchange Project;
- Negotiate and execute a subordinate funding agreement with the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority for the allocation of CCLRT (Green Line) contingency funds to the St. Paul Union Depot Project.

Motion passed unanimously.

2012-176: Southwest Light Rail Transit Project (Green Line Extension): Award Professional Engineering Services Consultant Contract

This item has been postponed to a later date

2012-177: The Interchange – Authorization to Negotiate and Execute Two Grant Agreements and one Master Cooperation and Funding Agreement

Metro Transit CCPO Manager of Projects, MarySue Abel presented the item. During the presentation, Abel stated that the total estimated cost of the Interchange project is \$79.3 million, not \$84.7 million as shown in the business item. Councilmember Brimeyer asked about the funding for the Council's contribution. Abel responded that Federal Formula funds would be used for the Council's contribution and that the Unified Capital Program Amendment Item 2012-157 that followed would address this further.

Motion by Schreiber, seconded by Smith:

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the following agreements for the development of The Interchange project:

- Grant Agreement for TIGER III (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) grant with the US Department of Transportation (USDOT), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority (HCRRA); and a Subrecipient Grant Agreement (SGA) with HCRRA for transfer of TIGER III funds
- Grant agreement for 2011 and 2012 State GO Bonds with HCRRA
- Master Cooperation and Funding Agreement with HCRRA for transfer of Council funds; and subordinate funding agreements to identify funding sources and track project costs

Motion passed unanimously.

2012-157: 2012 Unified Capital Program Amendments

Metro Transit Director of Finance Ed Petrie and Metropolitan Transportation Services Principal Financial Analyst Sean Pfeiffer presented their respective division's unified capital program amendments. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Đoàn, seconded by Commers:

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Amend the 2012 Authorized Capital Program (multi-year authorization) by adding spending authority as follows:

Metro Transit-	\$ 43,866,127
Metropolitan Transportation Services	\$ 61,200

- Amend the 2012 Capital Budget (annual appropriation) by increasing appropriation as follows:

Metro Transit	\$ 43,866,127
Metropolitan Transportation Services	\$ 61,200

Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION

There were no information items scheduled for this meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Elkins adjourned the Transportation Committee meeting at 4:45 p.m. June 4, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
LuAnne Major, Recording Secretary