

Meeting of the Transportation Committee
Monday, June 23, 2008

Members Present	Mary Hill Smith, Chair Annette Meeks, Vice Chair Craig Peterson	Brian McDaniel Natalie Haas Steffen Kirstin Sersland Beach	Peggy Leppik Richard Aguilar Daniel Wolter
Members Absent	Georgie Hilker	Roger Scherer	
Staff Presiding	Brian Lamb, General Manager Metro Transit	Arlene McCarthy, Director Metropolitan Transportation Services	
TAB Liaison	David Gepner		

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, M.Hill Smith called the June 23, 2008 regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 pm at Metro Transit FT Heywood Chambers, Minneapolis.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved by McDaniel, seconded by Beach to adopt the agenda for the June 23, 2008 meeting. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Beach, seconded by McDaniel to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2008 regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion passed.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Metro Transit

Metro Transit Police Chief Dave Indrehus introduced Officer Richard Raymond, recipient of the Metro Transit Police Officer of the Year award for 2007, and Officer Rollie Martinez, recipient of the Timothy Bowe Memorial Award for 2007. Indrehus commended both officers for their professional excellence and contributions to the MTPD.

Wayne Schafer, Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities Manager, introduced John Powell, a janitor with the Engineering and Facilities Department. Powell is being recognized for his continued outstanding service and attitude and for helping to maintain a positive work environment for the East Metro staff.

Chair Smith and GM Lamb thanked and congratulated all three honorees and presented each with a plaque of recognition.

**METRO TRANSIT GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT and DIRECTOR
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REPORT**

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

- 1) June 26, 2008, marks the fourth anniversary of the opening of the Hiawatha Light Rail. Metro Transit has served 33.4 million light-rail passengers since then.
- 2) A report from the finance division shows that more than a quarter of all rides in May were taken by customers using Go-To cards. Overall smartcard use has remained strong even with a decrease in U-Pass rides due to the UofM summer break. This year through May, Go-To cards have accounted for 26.7% of all rides.
- 3) Switch repair has been completed on the Hiawatha Light Rail, with the track crossover switches rebuilt for better reliability. A photograph was shown of the repair work in progress.
- 4) A picture of the first newly-painted Northstar Commuter Rail locomotive was displayed for the committee. Mark Fuhrmann will present a Northstar project update at the June 25 Met Council meeting.

Arlene McCarthy, Director Metropolitan Transportation Services, reported on the following:

- 1) The Federal Transit Administration will conduct a Title VI compliance review of the Metropolitan Council beginning June 24, 2008. This review is required of all FTA subrecipients to ensure compliance with the terms of Title VI legislation with regard to low-income and minority groups, among others.
- 2) The Council is currently gearing up for the FTA Drug and Alcohol Policy compliance review. Key staff has attended FTA training and will also receive training from auditors prior to the review.

BUSINESS – Non-Consent Items

SW 2008-166 Urban Partnership Agreement (UPA) Park-and-Ride Design Services, Project 63740 (Lindsay Sheppard 612-349-7679)

Lindsay Sheppard, of Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities, presented this item. Chair Smith inquired as to why the FTA was required to approve the property purchase for the Twin Lakes site in Lakeville. Staff replied that when using federal funds, FTA procedures require review and approval of appraisals and recommended purchase costs.

Motion by Meeks, seconded by McDaniel,

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a professional services contract for design and construction support services relative to the two Urban Partnership Agreements (UPA) Park-and-Ride structures in Lakeville and Roseville.

Motion passed.

SW 2008-167 Approval of Public Hearing Content for Potential Fare Adjustments

This item was presented by Ed Petrie, Director of Finance Metro Transit, and Gerri Sutton, Assistant Director MTS. Discussion followed and questions about the fare increases and options were asked and answered.

Motion by Leppik, seconded by Meeks,

That the Metropolitan Council approve information scheduled to be presented at public hearings for the purpose of public comment and input prior to adoption of any required regional fare adjustments.

Motion passed.

INFORMATION

1. Performance Measures Report for April/May 2008

Vince Pellegrin, Metro Transit Chief Operating Officer, and Metro Transit Police Chief Dave Indrehus presented performance, safety and security data for bus and rail for April and May, 2008. There were no questions from committee members.

2. Monthly Ridership Report for April/May 2008

Ed Petrie, Metro Transit Director of Finance, and Bruce Howard, Metro Transit Director of Marketing, presented ridership data for April and May, noting increased ridership across the board and highlighting new programs such as Bike2Benefits and the Drive Less summer campaign.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m., June 23, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Maday, Recording Secretary