

Meeting of the Transportation Committee
Monday, August 11, 2008

Members Present	Annette Meeks, Vice Chair Georgie Hilker Richard Aguilar Peggy Leppik	Brian McDaniel Craig Peterson Natalie Haas Steffen	Daniel Wolter Roger Scherer Kirstin Beach
Members Absent	Mary Hill Smith, Chair		
Staff Presiding	Arlene McCarthy, Director Metropolitan Transportation Services	Mark Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager Metro Transit	
Others Present	Robert Lilligren Minneapolis City Councilmember		

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Acting Chair Scherer called the August 11, 2008 regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:30 pm at Metro Transit FT Heywood Chambers, Minneapolis.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved by Wolter, seconded by Hilker to adopt the agenda for the August 11, 2008 meeting. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Hilker, seconded by Leppik to approve the minutes from the July 28, 2008 regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion passed.

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

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

- 1) A UPA Evaluation Workshop was held Monday and Tuesday of last week with the consultant team assigned to the Twin Cities region. A project tour was led by Craig Lamothe on Monday afternoon, and a meeting was held on Tuesday to explore what in the project would be measured and how. The consultant team will compile a proposed evaluation package based on the outcome of the meeting.

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

- 1) The grand opening ceremony for the 28th Avenue Park and Ride facility was held this afternoon at 3:00 pm.
- 2) On August 14 Metro Transit will announce a new partnership with Google in which transit schedule information is integrated into Google Maps.
- 3) Transit operations for the first pre-season game of the Minnesota Vikings went smoothly. Distribution of park-and-ride usage will be monitored as public awareness of the 28th Avenue ramp increases.
- 4) On August 4 Metro Transit and six other transit providers joined Mayor Rybak for the official groundbreaking for the downtown Minneapolis Marquette Avenue/Second Avenue UPA project.

BUSINESS – Non-Consent Items

2008-215 Authorization to Exercise Gillig Contract Options to Replace Plymouth Buses

Alex Curtiss, MTS Fleet Manager, presented this item. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Leppik, seconded by Beach,

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise existing options on contract #07P162 with Gillig Corporation to purchase thirteen forty-foot transit buses in an amount not-to-exceed \$5,075,000.

Motion passed unanimously. Hearing no objection, Acting Chair Meeks stated that this item could go to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2008-216 Procurement of Metro Mobility Buses

Alex Curtiss, MTS Fleet Manager, presented this item and responded to a question from CM Scherer regarding fuel options for the vehicles.

Motion by Peterson, seconded by Beach,

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a purchase agreement with Superior Transit Sales, LLC (MNDOT Contract 438835) for up to 22 buses in an amount not to exceed \$1,105,602.

Motion passed unanimously. Hearing no objection, Chair Meeks stated that this item could go to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2008-217 Fare Adjustment Recommendation

This item was presented by Ed Petrie, Metro Transit Director of Finance. There was general discussion of available options and their impact.

Motion by Scherer, seconded by Wolter,

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the recommended fare change proposal (attached) for service operated by all regional transit providers participating in the regional fare structure, with changes to be effective October 1, 2008, or as noted on the attached proposal.

The item passed on a voice vote of 9 to 1, with Steffen voting no.

2008-224 Authorization for the Regional Administrator to Negotiate and Execute a Revenue Contract for State Fair Transit Service

Julie Johanson, Metro Transit Deputy Chief of Operations for Bus, presented this item and responded to questions from committee members regarding operating structure and charter service requirements.

Motion by McDaniel, seconded by Hilker,

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into a revenue contract with Lorenz Bus Service, Inc., for the purpose of providing free parking lot shuttle buses to the State Fair. This contract will be in effect August 21, 2008, through September 1, 2008, and is expected to cover the cost of operating the service.

Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION

1. 2008 State Fair Update

Bruce Howard, Metro Transit Director of Marketing, reported on status of State Fair planning including marketing initiatives and a recap of 2007 transit statistics.

2. Second-Quarter 2008 Regional Ridership Report

Elaine Koutsoukos, MTS Senior Planner, provided an update on ridership levels for all regional providers and projections for progress toward 2030 goals.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Meeks adjourned the meeting at 5:32 p.m., August 11, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Maday, Recording Secretary