



## Metropolitan Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Robert Street Council Chambers

4:00 P.M.

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## **Metropolitan Council Meeting**

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Council Chambers

4:00 P.M.

### **Part I - Narrative**

#### **Attendance:**

Peter Bell, Chair; Roger Scherer, Tony Pistilli, Bob McFarlin, Craig Peterson, Peggy Leppik, Annette Meeks, Lynette Wittsack, Natalie Steffen, Sherry Broecker, Rick Aguilar, Kirstin Sersland Beach, Daniel Wolter

#### **Members absent:**

Polly Bowles, Kris Sanda, Georgeanne Hilker, District 16 Vacant

#### **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda**

A quorum being present, the Chair called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council to order at 4:07 p.m. It was moved by Wittsack, seconded by Broecker to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

#### **Minutes**

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Steffen to approve the minutes of the Metropolitan Council Meeting of February 11, 2009. Motion carried.

#### **Public Invitation**

##### Art McGrane, Chair of the Represented Labor Coalition of the Metropolitan Council,

representing nearly 3000 union members, thanked Chair Bell and Regional Administrator Weaver for their support of a Labor / Management Committee to work collaboratively and proactively on employee health benefit issues.

### **Part II - Exhibits**

#### **Business**

##### Metropolitan Airport Commission (MAC) Update on Delta / Northwest Airlines Merger and Arrival of SW Airlines

Jack Lanners, MAC Chairman and Jeff Hamiel, Executive Director, spoke optimistically of the MSP International Airport operations, noting that, in recent year, the MSP Airport has been recognized numerous times for its amenities. Their greatest challenge is planning ahead to remain competitive in the future. The LRT has been a resounding success for airport business. Nearly 3000 employees commute daily via the Hiawatha Line. Business travelers use the LRT as their travel option to the downtown business district.

##### Twin Cities Housing Update and Economic Outlook

Ryan Jones, Manager MetroStudy Twin Cities Division, provided a Briefing on the Housing Update and Economic Outlook for the Fourth Quarter, 2008.

Metrostudy is the leading provider of primary and secondary market information to the housing and related industries nationwide. Today's study concludes it's not about housing anymore, it's about the economy. With no job growth, there is no housing growth. MN housing inventories show an eight year supply, with consumer demand very low. The housing market will remain challenging for most, if not all of 2009. Reducing inventory and repositioning underperforming developments will ultimately help position the Twin Cities market for possible growth in late 2009.

### *Committee Consent List*

#### 2009-20 - Sunfish Lake Comprehensive Plan Update Review File No. 20403-1

It was moved by Wolter and seconded by Meeks

"That the Metropolitan Council adopts the attached Review Record and takes the following actions:

Recommendation of the Community Development Committee:

1. Authorize the City of Sunfish Lake to put its 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update (Update) into effect without any plan modifications;
2. Change the planning area designation of the City from "Developing" to "Rural Residential" in the *2030 Regional Development Framework*;
3. Remind the City that it needs to forward to the Council the date when the watershed organizations approved the Comprehensive Storm Water Management Plan (CSWMP), and the date the City approved the CSWMP;
4. Recommend that the City revise the Update to refer to the City's most recent CSWMP, the 2008 plan, throughout the document;
5. Remind the City that Minnesota Statutes 473.864 requires the City to formally adopt the Update within nine months, submit two copies to the Council, and submit a copy of the City Council Resolution adopting the Update to the Metropolitan Council following final action;
6. Remind the City that it is required to submit any updated ordinances and controls intended to help implement the Update to the Council upon adoption."

Motion carried.

#### 2009-33 - Land Use Advisory Committee (LUAC) Recommendation

It was moved by Wolter and seconded by Meeks

"That the Metropolitan Council receive the recommendations of the Land Use Advisory Committee regarding the Fiscal Impacts of Growth study."

Motion carried.

#### 2009-43 - Authorization to Award and Execute Contract for Grounds Maintenance Services for Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Facilities

It was moved by Wolter and seconded by Meeks

"That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract with Husker Outdoors, Inc. in the amount of \$264,720 to provide grounds maintenance services for MCES facilities for a period of three years."

Motion carried.

2009-44 - Authorization to Purchase Polymer for the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant

It was moved by Wolter and seconded by Meeks

"That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to issue a purchase order to Polydyne Incorporated, to provide Clarifloc CE-817 & CE-819 Polymers to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant at a unit price of \$0.145 & \$1.21 per pound respectively."

Motion carried.

*Report of the Transportation Committee*

2009-34 - 2009 Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Review

It was moved by Meeks and seconded by Leppik

"That the Metropolitan Council:

1. finds the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) has an adequate public participation process for development and review of its 2009 Capital Improvement Program (CIP);
2. finds the 2009 CIP projects have adequate funding and are in conformance with the region's Aviation System Plan and consistent with Council policy; and
3. approves the following projects: MSP Taxiway C/D Complex, the Runway 12L/30R reconstruction, and the Flying Cloud Airport Runway 10R/28L construction."

Motion carried.

2009-36 - Authorization to Approve Contract Amendment for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Final Environmental Impacts Statement Contract

It was moved by Meeks and seconded by McFarlin

"That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an amendment to the professional services contract with HDR Engineering for Environmental Services to complete the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) project in an amount not to exceed \$627,000, for a total amended contract value of \$3,718,345, and to extend the contract time period to June 30, 2009."

Council Member Sersland Beach recused herself from any discussion or vote on this item.

Motion carried.

2009-42 - Approval of the 2008 Jobs Access Reverse Commute (HARC) and New Freedom Solicitation Project Recommendation

It was moved by Meeks and seconded by Broecker

"That the Metropolitan Council:

1. approve the list of projects recommended for federal funding for up to \$1,777,343 under the Jobs Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program and for up to \$582,267 under the New Freedom program as listed in Attachment A; and a list of recommended contingency projects for up to

- \$717,563 under the JARC program as listed in Attachment A.;
2. authorize the Regional Administrator to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the JARC program and the New Freedom program to fund the recommended projects and the contingency list of JARC projects.”

Motion carried.

2009-45 - Authorization to Execute Grant Agreements with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority for the Construction of the Apple Valley Transit Station

It was moved by Meeks and seconded by Wolter

"That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to

1. execute an agreement with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority to provide \$6,950,000 in Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) and \$1,255,000 in Dakota County Regional Rail Authority (DCRRA) funds for the construction of the Apple Valley Transit Station;
2. execute an agreement with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority to provide \$742,500 in federal discretionary funds and \$185,625 in Cedar Avenue BRT Corridor G.O. Bonds for the construction of the Apple Valley Transit Station.

Motion carried.

*Report of the Management Committee*

There were no Items.

*Report of the Environment Committee*

Items were on the Consent List and Joint Report.

*Report of the Community Development Committee*

Items were on the Consent List and Joint Report.

*Joint Report of the Community Development and Environment Committees*

2009-01 - City of North Saint Paul 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update Review File No. 20366-1, Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan

It was moved by Steffen and seconded by Peterson

"That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Review Record and take the following actions from each committee:

Recommendations of the Community Development Committee:

1. Authorize the City of North St. Paul to put its Comprehensive Plan Update into effect with no plan modifications.
2. Remind the City that Minnesota Statutes 473.864 require it to formally adopt the Comprehensive Plan Update after the Council's final action and require the City to submit two copies of the adopted Update to the Council for its records.
3. Remind the City to submit a copy of the City Council resolution adopting the Update to the Council for its records.

4. Remind the City that it is required to submit to the Council upon adoption any updated ordinances and controls intended to implement the Update
5. Advise the City that once the WMP is approved, the City needs to review and update its ordinances to be consistent with the new standards and rules of the watershed districts. In addition, the ordinances need to be updated to be consistent with the NPDES construction general permit and MS4 permit requirements.
6. Advise the City that after it adopts the final version of the Water Management Plan, it needs to forward to the Council a copy of that final version along with the dates the Watershed Districts approved the plan and the date when the City adopted the final plan
7. Recommend that the City continue to implement conservation programs targeted at reducing residential water use.

Recommendations of the Environment Committee:

1. Approve the City’s Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan. Remind the City that a copy of the City Council Resolution adopting its Tier II Plan needs to be submitted to the Metropolitan Council for its records.”

Motion carried.

## Other Business

### [2009-73 - Metropolitan Council Member Committee Assignments](#)

It was moved by Scherer and seconded by Meeks

"That the Metropolitan Council That the Metropolitan Council approve the following committee assignments recommended by the Chair Pursuant to Council Bylaws, Article III.1.

<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Community Dev.</b>	<b>Environment</b>	<b>Management</b>
<i>Meeks, Chair</i>	<i>Steffen, Chair</i>	<i>Leppik, Chair</i>	<i>Scherer, Chair</i>
Aguilar	Aguilar	Beach	Broecker
Beach	Bowles	Bowles	McFarlin
Hilker	Broecker	Peterson	Peterson
Leppik	Hilker	Scherer	Pistilli
McFarlin, Vice Chair	Meeks	Wittsack	Sanda
Peterson	<b>Pistilli, Vice Chair</b>	Wolter, Vice Chair	Wittsack Vice Chair
Scherer	Sanda		
Steffen	Wolter		

Motion carried.

### [Annual Resident Survey](#)

Libby Starling, Metropolitan Council Research Manager, presented a summary of the 2008 Metro Residents Survey, an annual poll measuring the public’s opinion on the region’s quality of life, leading regional issues and the Metropolitan Council. Parks, trails and the natural environment once again top the list of most attractive feature for the metropolitan area. The Council’s performance approval rating continues to rise.

Regional Administrator will instruct staff to conduct a local elected officials' survey concurrently with the next resident survey.

## **Reports**

### *Chair*

Chair Bell reported

- he and Regional Administrator Weaver will travel to Washington DC this month to visit with the MN Congressional delegation regarding Central Corridor funding and economic recovery funds;
- he has testified on Council initiatives before several House and Senate Committees;
- he delivered his State of the Region message on February 2, 2009.

### *Council Members*

There were no reports.

### *Regional Administrator*

Regional Administrator Weaver reported that Council Members received a letter from the MN State Auditor, regarding their 2008 audit of Metropolitan Council activities and Chair Bell will respond. Representative Hornstein has authored legislation (H.F.620) authorizing the annual audit of the Metropolitan Council be conducted by a private certified public accountant in accordance with procedures set by the State Auditor.

### *General Counsel*

Assistant General Counsel Mark Thompson had no report.

## **Adjournment**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

## **Part III – Certification**

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council Meeting of February 11, 2009.

Approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Curtiss  
Secretary