

Meeting of the Transportation Committee
Monday, October 22, 2007

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

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, M. Hill Smith called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 pm on October 22, 2007 at Metro Transit Chambers, Minneapolis.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved by McDaniel, seconded by Wolter to adopt the agenda for the October 22, 2007 Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Meeks, seconded by Leppik to approve the minutes from the October 8, 2007 regular Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Metro Transit

Maria Crescini, Metro Transit Manager of Instruction, introduced Larry Rolf, Supervisor of Instructors, and recognized him for his 32 years of service with Metro Transit. She cited his many accomplishments and contributions to the organization in a number of roles. Rolf was presented with a plaque by Chair Hill Smith and GM Lamb.

PRESENTATION – Suburban Transit Authority Providers

This presentation will be made a future meeting of the Transportation Committee.

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

B. Lamb reported that downtown Minneapolis is currently hosting the National Training Institute Workshop, which includes approximately 240 participants from all over the U.S. The Northstar Full Funding Grant Agreement is in Congress for its 60-day review. The agreement is expected to be ready for signatures by December 11. Lamb commended staff on their work toward this achievement, with particular recognition of the efforts of Mark Fuhrmann.

A. McCarthy reported that after extended deliberation the Met Council/Metro Transit application to host Rail-Volution in 2010 was not chosen by the selection panel. Boston was chosen for 2009 and Portland for 2010. Another application will likely be made in the future.

BUSINESS – Consent Items

None

BUSINESS –Action Items

2007-307 2007-2012 Capital Improvement Program and Capital Program and Budget Amendment

Ed Petrie, Metro Transit Director of Finance, presented this item for committee approval. He answered a question from N. Haas Steffen regarding the replenishment of funds transferred.
Motion by Susag, seconded by Steffen, motion passed.

Motion:

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Amend the 2007 Authorized Capital Program (Multi-year authorization) by adding spending authority to the Transportation Division as follows: Metro Transit, \$14,490,382.
- Amend the 2007 Capital Budget (annual appropriation) by increasing spending authority to the Transportation Division as follows: Metro Transit, \$8,126,353.
- Approve transfers between capital projects as detailed in Attachment 1 of the agenda item.

Hearing no objections, M. Hill Smith stated that this item could move to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2007-338 Design of the Hiawatha Light Rail Transit American Boulevard Station and Platform

Tom Thorstenson, Metro Transit Director of Engineering & Facilities, presented this item to the committee. He answered questions regarding the quality and scope of the contract and the reasons for adjustment in cost estimates and provided clarification of funding levels from various sources. B. Lamb responded to questions about alternatives to extending the rail platforms and the trains.
Motion by Susag, seconded by Leppik, motion passed with McDaniel, Hilker, Meeks and Steffen voting no.

Motion:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a professional services contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates for design and construction support services of the HLRT American Boulevard Station and Platform Extensions at 10 HLRT stations.

2007-345 Procurement of Replacement and Expansion Metro Mobility Buses

Paul Colton, Metro Mobility Operations Manager, presented this item to the committee for approval. There was no discussion.
Motion by Meeks, seconded by Leppik, motion passed.

Motion:

That the Regional Administrator be authorized to execute purchase agreements with the following vendors for small buses:

1. North Central Bus & Equipment (MNDOT Contract 437102) for up to 23 buses in an amount not to exceed \$1,396,786; and
2. Hoglelund Bus Co. Inc. (MNDOT Contract 437103) for up to 10 buses in an amount not to exceed \$549,317; and
3. Superior Transit Sales DBA Minnesota Body & Equipment (MNDOT Contract 437105) for up to 10 buses in an amount not to exceed \$556,673.

Hearing no objections, M. Hill Smith stated that this item could move to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2007-346 Amendment to Consulting Contract for 2030 Transit Master Plan Corridor Modeling

Carol Becker, MTS Planning Analyst, presented this item. Becker and A. McCarthy responded to questions from the committee regarding the number of potential corridors to be studied, levels of analysis and potential redundancy of rail lines. C. Becker will provide R. Susag with a list of all corridors submitted for analysis.

Motion by Susag, seconded by Meeks, motion passed.

Motion:

That the Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract amendment with SRF Consulting to conduct transitway corridor modeling for \$42,287 for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$292,287

Hearing no objections, M. Hill Smith stated that this item could move to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2007-347 SW Authorization to Award Contract for Two Rivers Area Transit Service

Bruce Dreier, MTS Project Administrator, presented this item and provided clarification of the location of the Two Rivers Area and the distinction between this and other service areas.

Motion by Beach, seconded by Hilker, motion passed.

Motion:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract with Laidlaw Transit Services to provide Two Rivers Area Transit Service from December 1, 2007 to November 30, 2012, in an amount not to exceed \$9,818,344.

2007-348 2007-2010 TIP Amendment and 2008-2011 TIP Amendment, Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Program Funding (TAB Action 2007-57)

Carl Ohrn, MTS Planning Analyst, presented this item. There were no questions from the committee. Motion by Steffen, seconded by Leppik, motion passed.

Motion:

That the Metropolitan Council concur with Transportation Advisory Board action to amend the 2007-2010 TIP and the Draft 2008-2011 TIP to include JARC program projects and New Freedoms Program projects as described in the background material attached to the agenda item

Hearing no objections, M. Hill Smith stated that this item could move to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2007-349 2007-55: 2007-2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment and 2008-2011 TIP Amendment, Pilot Program to Retrofit Diesel On-Road Public Vehicles (TAB Action 2007-55)

Carl Ohrn, MTS Planning Analyst, presented this item and responded to questions from committee members regarding the nature of the program and the responsibilities of the Met Council. He also provided an overview of the application and approval process with regard to current and future CMAQ funds.

Motion by Susag, seconded by Leppik, motion passed.

Motion:

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2007-2010 TIP and the Draft 2008-2011 TIP to include SP# CM-7-BIO: MPCA Pilot Program to Retrofit On-Road Public Vehicles.

Hearing no objections, M. Hill Smith stated that this item could move to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2007-350 SW Award Assistant Project Director for Design and Engineering Services Contract for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit

Chris Gran, Metro Transit Director of Purchasing, presented this item and along with Rich Rovang, Central Corridor Project Office, answered questions about various details of the contract and cost estimates. Mark Fuhrmann, Central Corridor Project Director, provided further background information on staffing requirements and projections and on the proposed consultant.

Motion by Susag, seconded by Beach, motion passed, with Leppik voting no.

Motion:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator:

- To negotiate and execute a professional services contract with Gary Erickson for Assistant Project Director for Design and Engineering Services for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) project in an amount not to exceed \$467,000.
- To issue a Notice-To-Proceed for Preliminary and Advanced Preliminary Engineering activities through the end of calendar year 2008 in an amount not to exceed \$278,000.

2007-351 Transit Provider Assistance Agreements for Calendar Year 2008

John Harper, Supervisor of Contracted Services, and Gerri Sutton, Assistant Director of Contracted Services, presented this item to the committee. In response to a question by Member Hilker, Harper explained the process of determining funding levels for individual programs.

Additional discussion revolved around the decision to not fund the Reach for Resources program.

Reach for Resources representatives Mary Perkins, Executive Director, and Patrick Boley, Board Member, presented to the committee and joined the discussion. They stated that Reach for Resources did not concur with the SCS Audit Report and cited a number of specific concerns with regard to the service needs of their clients. A. McCarthy and G. Sutton provided further information about the certification process and the historical data used in the decision. Staff offered to meet with Reach for Resources staff to explore service options for their clients.

Because of the perceived unmet need, Boley requested that the committee reconsider the \$11,000 annual funding. M. Hill Smith suggested Boley track the number of trips not served throughout 2008 and return to the Council with a funding request for 2009 if the need remains unmet.

Motion by Meeks, seconded by Susag, motion passed.

Motion:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute transit assistance agreements with transit service providers, not to exceed the amounts listed in Attachment A of the agenda item. The agreements shall be effective for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008.

Hearing no objections, M. Hill Smith stated that this item could move to the full Council as a Consent Item.

INFORMATION

1. Monthly Ridership Report for September (Ed Petrie 612-349-7624, Bruce Howard 612-349-7694)
This information item will be presented at the November 26 Transportation Committee meeting.
2. Performance Measures Report for September (Vince Pellegrin 612-349-7511, Dave Indrehus 612-349-7201)
This information item will be presented at the November 26 Transportation Committee meeting.
3. Access Minneapolis (Adam Harrington 612-349-7797)
Adam Harrington, Metro Transit Manager of Route and System Planning, presented an update to the Access Minneapolis downtown plan and answered general questions from committee members regarding the feasibility study of streetcar service as a potential component of the plan.
4. Central Corridor Costing Update (Mark Fuhrmann 651-602-1942)
This information item will be presented at the November 26 Transportation Committee meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

M. Hill Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:28 pm October 22, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Maday, Recording Secretary