

Meeting of the Transportation Committee
Monday, August 25, 2008

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair M. Hill Smith called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm on August 25, 2008 in the Metro Transit FT Heywood Chambers. While awaiting a quorum, Chair Smith requested that staff proceed with the Employee Recognition and information items.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Metro Transit

Vladimir Banchik was recognized for his work in the LRT Signal & Communications department. Andy Lukaszewicz, Director of Rail Systems Maintenance, introduced Banchik and provided a brief background as well as highlights of Banchik’s contributions to Hiawatha Light Rail operations. Chair Smith and General Manager Brian Lamb offered their thanks and congratulations and presented Banchik with a certificate of achievement.

INFORMATION

1. Performance Measures Report for July 2008
Vince Pellegrin and Dave Indrehus reported on Metro Transit bus and rail performance for July, including on-time service, reliability and safety and security.
2. Monthly Ridership Report for July 2008
Ed Petrie, Metro Transit Director of Finance, and Bruce Howard, Metro Transit Director of Marketing, presented ridership figures and a marketing update for July.

A quorum being present, the meeting continued.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved by Hilker, seconded by Leppik to adopt the agenda for the August 25, 2008 meeting. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Hilker, seconded by Peterson to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2008 regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion passed.

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

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

- 1) The Minnesota State Fair opened on August 21. Metro Transit will again be providing express service and free shuttles from selected park and ride lots to the fairgrounds.
- 2) Transit advertising sales revenue is up 15% over 2007 through July.

3) The Republican National Convention will be held in St. Paul September 1 – 4. Bus detours will be in effect to accommodate the planned security. While not providing direct service to the RNC, Transit will be providing buses, operators and police officers for the purpose of potential detainee transport.

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

1) MTS is planning for the RNC as it affects Metro Mobility services. Paul Colton and other staff are working to establish guidelines in responding to increased demand, including screening procedures and complying with any special ADA requirements in place for the convention.

BUSINESS – Non-Consent Items

2008-211 2008-2013 Capital Improvement Program and Capital Program and Budget Amendment
Ed Petrie and Sean Pfeiffer presented this item. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Leppik, seconded by Peterson,
That the Metropolitan Council:

- Amend the 2008 Authorized Capital Program (multi-year authorization) by adding spending authority to the Transportation Division as follows:

Metro Transit	\$ 351,394,041
Metropolitan Transportation Services	\$ 8,096,309

- Amend the 2008 Capital Budget (annual appropriation) by increasing spending authority to the Transportation Division as follows:

Metro Transit	\$ 11,310,000
Metropolitan Transportation Services	\$ 1,361,000

Approve new projects and transfers between capital projects as detailed in Attachment 1 (included with original business item).

Motion passed unanimously. Item will proceed to Management Committee.

2008-226 Subway Lease at 28th Avenue Park and Ride

Wayne Schafer presented this item and responded to committee member questions regarding particular terms of the lease.

Motion by Beach, seconded by Peterson,

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a lease agreement with Subway Real Estate Corporation for the retail space within the 28th Avenue Park and Ride for a 5-year term with three 5-year extensions.

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

SW 2008-229 Northstar Commuter Rail Public Hearings to Set Fares

This item was presented by Adam Harrington, Metro Transit Senior Manager of Operations Planning. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Peterson, seconded by Leppik,

That the Metropolitan Council authorize a series of public hearings on recommended Northstar Commuter Rail fares.

Motion passed unanimously.

SW 2008-230 Authorization to Reject All Proposals for Northstar Maintenance Services

Ed Byers, Northstar Senior Manager, and Chris Gran, Director of Purchasing, presented this item and responded to questions from committee members including the expiration date of the price proposals, the impact of delaying this action, the operating and funding relationships for this service, and the accuracy of the Metro Transit cost estimate.

Motion by Steffen, seconded by Peterson,

That the Metropolitan Council reject all proposals for Northstar Commuter Rail Line Maintenance Services (RFP Number 08P018) and that Council staff be directed to perform the work described in the Request for Proposals.

Motion passed unanimously.

2008-235 Adoption of the 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Liaison, presented this item to the committee and answered questions from committee members. Steffen asked a question about two projects that are in the TIP. Arlene McCarthy stated that staff will respond to Steffen with clarification.

Motion by Steffen, seconded by Peterson,

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Adopt the 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program.
2. Certify that the Twin Cities Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process is being carried on in conformance with all applicable federal requirements of:
 - Section 134 of Title 23, U.S.C., Section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49 U.S.C. app. 1607);
 - Sections 174 and 176 (c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506 (c) and (d).
 - Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of the 1964 and Title VI assurance executed by each state under 23 U.S.C. 324 and 29 U.S.C. 794;
 - Section 1101 (g) of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century (Pub. L. 105-178) regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in FHWA and FTA funded planning projects (Pub. L. 97-424, Section 105 (f); 49 CFR part 23); and
 - The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (Pub. L. 101-336, 104 Stat. 327, as amended) and U.S. DOT regulations (Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities (40 CFR parts 27, 37 and 38).
3. Certify the TIP conforms with the provisions of 49 CFR part 20 regarding lobbying restrictions on influencing certain federal activities.
4. Find that the TIP is consistent with the Transportation Development Guide Chapter/Policy Plan, which is in conformance with applicable federal transportation and air quality regulations.
5. Find that the TIP meets all applicable federal requirements.
6. Find that the TAB provided adequate opportunity for public, agency and transit operators involvement through its regular process and special public meetings, and hearing.
7. Transmit the 2009-2012 TIP along with these comments to the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Motion passed unanimously.

2008-236 Adoption of Draft 2030 Transportation Policy Plan for Purposes of a Public Hearing

Amy Vennewitz, MTS Deputy Director, presented this item. Based on committee discussion it was stipulated that one comment be added to the list and the proposed responses to two existing comments be changed.

Motion by Leppik, seconded by Hilker,

That the Metropolitan Council adopt the Draft 2030 Transportation Policy Plan incorporating recommended modifications (attached as part of Business Item) for purposes of a public hearing on October 22, 2008, with continued acceptance of public comments until 5 pm, November 10, 2008.

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

2008-241 Authorization for Public Hearing on 2030 Draft Transportation Policy Plan

Amy Vennewitz presented this item to the committee. There was no further discussion.

Motion by Hilker, seconded by Leppik,

That the Metropolitan Council authorize a public hearing on the Draft 2030 Transportation Policy Plan to be held on October 22, 2008, at 5 pm.

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

SW 2008-237 A Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Saint Paul for the Metropolitan Council to Provide Police Officers, Buses and Bus Operators to Help Maintain Public Safety during the 2008 Republican National Convention

Julie Johanson presented this item and provided minor clarification. There was no further discussion.

Motion by Beach, seconded by Leppik,

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Saint Paul to provide not less than 4 buses with bus operators and not less than 14 police officers to help maintain Public Safety during the Republican National Convention.

Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION continued

3. Minneapolis Coordinated Street Furniture Program and Urban Partnership Agreement for Marquette Avenue and Second Avenue Transit Passenger Amenities
Craig Lamothe, UPA Transit Project Manager, presented this item, including visual representations of the planned construction.
4. 2008 JARC and New Freedom Solicitation
Cole Hiniker, MTS Financial Planner, provided an update on the 2008 solicitation for federal funding of the New Freedom and Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) programs.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m., August 25, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Maday, Recording Secretary