

Metropolitan Council

Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 No. Robert St., St. Paul, Mn. 55101

**Meeting of the Transportation Committee
Monday, April 27, 2009**

Members Present	Bob McFarlin, Vice Chair Craig Peterson	Kirstin Sersland Beach Natalie Haas Steffen	Peggy Leppik Richard Aguilar
Members Absent	Roger Scherer	Georgie Hilker	Annette Meeks, Chair
Staff Presiding	Brian Lamb, GM, Metro Transit	Arlene McCarthy, Director MTS	
TAB Liaison	David Gepner		

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was not present when Vice Chair McFarlin called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 pm on April 27, 2009 at Metropolitan Council Chambers, St. Paul. McFarlin began the meeting with Metro Transit Employee Recognition while waiting for a quorum.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Metro Transit

Metro Transit Police Chief Indrehus introduced Deputy Police Chief A.J. Olson who received the employee recognition in honor of his graduation from the FBI National Academy on March 20th.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A quorum was now present. It was moved by Steffen seconded by Beach to adopt the agenda for April 27, 2009 Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Peterson seconded by Beach to approve the minutes from the April 13, 2009 regular Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

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

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

- 1) Nine bids were received for the construction of HLRT American Blvd Station, six were below engineer’s estimates. Bids are being evaluated and construction is scheduled to begin by June 2009.
- 2) HLRT three-car platform work has begun. There will be an altered evening schedule after 11:00 to allow uninterrupted construction.
- 3) Service changes will occur on May 30 to complete the implementation plan and include restructuring routes serving the Robbinsdale Transit Center, Highway 55, Winnetka and Boone Avenue corridors.
- 4) Reconstruction of the Starlite Transit Center in Brooklyn Park will begin in May, to add more capacity.
- 5) Sector 8 Northwest Metro Transit Restructuring Study second phase is ready to be implemented the first week of May. Extensive customer outreach was done to inform the public.
- 6) Metro Transit is returning as a Presenting Sponsor of the Living Green Exposition this coming weekend. 20,000-25,000 visitors are expected. Free bus ride passes are available and can be downloaded from the website.

Arlene McCarthy, Director Metropolitan Transportation Services, reported:

- 1) On May 1, staff will host an information session on the Regional Solicitation to go through the package and help facilitate applicants with their applications for funds.

- 2) Minneapolis/St. Paul is currently hosting the APA conference. An estimated 4,500 planners are expected to attend. Various tours and activities are planned, including bicycle facilities and UPA projects being constructed.

BUSINESS – Non-Consent Items

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Stimulus Funding Update

Ed Petrie, Metro Transit Director of Finance, gave a presentation overview of the ARRA Metropolitan Area Transit Funding including funding sources, priorities, types of projects, application timelines and next steps, and unique competitive grant opportunities.

2009-121 Amended 2009-2014 Capital Improvement Program and Capital Program and Budget Amendment

Ed Petrie, Metro Transit Director of Finance, presented this item to the committee and explained that the Metro Transit portion of the item has been amended to include ARRA funds. This amended item has been to the Management Committee and approved, and will advance to the full Council upon approval by the Transportation Committee.

Motion by Steffen, seconded by Beach:

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Amend the 2009 Authorized Capital Program (Multi-year authorization) by adding spending authority to the Transportation Division as follows:

Metro Transit	\$ 68,627,098
Metropolitan Transportation Services	\$ 1,492,728
- Amend the 2009 Capital Budget (annual appropriation) by increasing spending authority to the Transportation Division as follows:

Metro Transit	\$ 2,110,855
Metropolitan Transportation Services	\$ 1,492,728
- Approve changes as detailed in Attachment 1 (attached to the business item).

Motion passed.

2009-152 Procurement of Metro Mobility Buses

Paul Colton, Metro Mobility Senior Manager, presented this item to the committee. Council Member Peterson inquired as to what the standards are for a bus or other technology to meet the State of Minnesota's and Council's "Go Green" initiative. Staff responded that there is no formal criteria, however, past projects have had a positive cost/benefit ratio, fuel efficiency is improved and pollution is reduced with the purchase of hybrid/electric buses over the buses that are being replaced.

Steffen requested that the words "on May 13, 2009" be added to the last sentence of the action in the motion.

Motion by Steffen, seconded by Peterson,

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a purchase agreement with Hogle Bus Company Inc. (MNDOT Contract 440473) for up to 16 buses in an amount not to exceed \$1,745,000 contingent upon approval of Council capital amendment business item 2009-121 on May 13, 2009.

Amended motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Vice-Chair McFarlin stated that this item could move to the full Council as a consent item, provided it follows item number 2009-121 on the Council Agenda for that meeting date.

2009-147 Authorization to Exercise Option to Purchase 29 Articulated Transit Buses

Jan Homan, Metro Transit Director of Bus Maintenance, presented this item to the committee. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Leppik, seconded by Steffen:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise an existing contract option with New Flyer of America, Inc., to purchase 29 sixty-foot, articulated low-floor transit buses in an amount not-to-exceed \$19,000,000 contingent upon approval of Council item 2009-121, titled "2009 Unified Capital Improvement Plan and Capital Program and Budget Amendment" on May 13, 2009.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Vice-Chair McFarlin stated that this item could move to the full Council as a consent item, provided it follows item number 2009-121 on the Council Agenda for that meeting date.

2009-127 Authorization to Exercise Contract Options to Purchase Eight Thirty-foot Transit Buses for Anoka County

Alex Curtiss, MTS Manager Fleet Services, presented this item to the committee; there were no questions from committee members.

Steffen requested that the words "on May 13, 2009" be added to the last sentence of the action in the motion.

Motion by Steffen, seconded by Peterson:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to exercise existing contract options with Gillig Corporation, to purchase eight thirty-foot replacement buses for Anoka County in an amount not to exceed \$2,700,000 contingent upon approval of Council capital amendment business item 2009-121 on May 13, 2009.

Amended motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Vice-Chair McFarlin stated that this item could move to the full Council as a consent item, provided it follows item number 2009-121 on the Council Agenda for that meeting date.

2009-144 2009-2012 TIP Amendment: Include Eight Cable Median Barrier Installation Projects, Safety Grants Under Title 23 (TAB Action 2009-26)

Carl Ohrn, MTS Planning Analyst, presented this item to the committee. He explained that these federal funds are available because of state compliance with seatbelt laws for two years.

Motion by Steffen, seconded by Leppik:

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include eight cable median barrier installation projects funded by safety grants under Title 23.

Motion passed.

2009-145 2009-2012 TIP Amendment: Include New Starts Funding for the Central Corridor LRT Project (TAB Action 2009-27)

Carl Ohrn, MTS Planning Analyst, presented this item to the committee. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Peterson, seconded by Leppik:

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include a total of \$25,000,000 for the Central Corridor LRT New Starts PE and Final Design.

Motion passed.

Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project Update

Mark Fuhrmann, Metro Transit Deputy General Manager, gave a project update on Central Corridor Light Rail as an opening for Business Items 2009-139, 140, 138 & 141 which follow.

2009-139 Cooperative Construction and Relocation Agreement with the Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Saint Paul for Public Water

Rich Rovang, AGM-Transit Systems Development, presented this item to the committee.

Steffen asked for the following changes to the motion shown in italics following:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize *and direct* the Regional Administrator:

List the original motion from the business item but then add another bullet at the end of the motion:

- *Execution of this agreement shall be contingent on the Metropolitan Council completing the Final Environmental Impact Statement process and receiving a Letter of No Prejudice (“LONP”) from the FTA.*

Motion by Leppik, seconded by Peterson:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize and direct the Regional Administrator:

- To negotiate and execute a Cooperative Construction and Relocation Agreement with the Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Saint Paul relative to the 4th Street Advance Utility Construction in Saint Paul in an amount not to exceed \$425,000.
- Execution of this agreement shall be contingent on the Metropolitan Council completing the Final Environmental Impact Statement process and receiving a Letter of No Prejudice (“LONP”) from the FTA.

Amended motion passed.

2009-140 Cooperative Construction and Relocation Agreement with the City of Saint Paul for Public Sewers

Rich Rovang, AGM-Transit Systems Development, presented this item to the committee.

Steffen asked for the following changes to the motion shown in italics:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize *and direct* the Regional Administrator:

List the original motion from the business item but then add another bullet at the end of the motion:

- *Execution of this agreement shall be contingent on the Metropolitan Council completing the Final Environmental Impact Statement process and receiving a Letter of No Prejudice (“LONP”) from the FTA.*

Motion by Leppik, seconded by Peterson:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize and direct the Regional Administrator:

- To negotiate and execute a Cooperative Construction and Relocation Agreement with the City of Saint Paul relative to the 4th Street Advance Utility Construction of public sewers in Saint Paul in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.
- Execution of this agreement shall be contingent on the Metropolitan Council completing the Final Environmental Impact Statement process and receiving a Letter of No Prejudice (“LONP”) from the FTA.

Amended motion passed.

2009-138 Cooperative Construction and Utility Relocation Agreement and Loan Agreement with District Energy St. Paul and District Cooling St. Paul

Rich Rovang, AGM-Transit Systems Development, presented this item to the committee. Members questioned if the final loan agreement will return to the Transportation Committee for approval. This will not be necessary as the Regional Administrator is charged with executing the final loan agreement.

Steffen asked for the following changes to the motion shown in italics:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize *and direct* the Regional Administrator:

List the original motion from the business item but then add another bullet at the end of the motion:

- *Execution of this agreement shall be contingent on the Metropolitan Council completing the Final Environmental Impact Statement process and receiving a Letter of No Prejudice (“LONP”) from the FTA.*

Motion by Peterson seconded by Beach:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize and direct the Regional Administrator:

- To negotiate and execute a Cooperative Construction and Utility Relocation Agreement with District Energy St. Paul and District Cooling St. Paul relative to the 4th Street Advance Utility Construction in Saint Paul in a principal amount not to exceed \$2,500,000; and
- To negotiate and execute a Loan Agreement acting as the Metro Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) with District Energy and District Cooling requiring full reimbursement to the Council for the cost of installation.
 - Execution of this agreement shall be contingent on the Metropolitan Council completing the Final Environmental Impact Statement process and receiving a Letter of No Prejudice (“LONP”) from the FTA.

Amended motion passed.

2009-141 Contract Amendment for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Engineering Services Consultant Rich Rovang, AGM-Transit Systems Development, presented this item to the committee and explained the necessity of this amendment because of five areas that were not specific in the contract originally, that require additional work or have had a change in scope.

Motion by Peterson, seconded by Leppik:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator:

- To execute an amendment to the professional services contract with AECOM USA, Inc. for advancing Preliminary Engineering for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) project in an amount not to exceed \$995,799, for a total amended contract amount of \$92,235,715; and
- To issue a Notice-To-Proceed (NTP) to AECOM USA, Inc. to advance Preliminary Engineering for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit for the additional design and engineering activities set forth below, in an amount not to exceed \$995,799 for total contract spending authority not to exceed \$52.3 million.

Motion passed.

INFORMATION

1. Overview of Northstar Insurance Requirements

Phil Walljasper, Director Risk Management and Claims, gave an overview of the Northstar insurance requirements, types of insurance needed, timing, etc. and answered questions from committee members.

2. Performance Measures Report for March 2009

Vince Pellegrin, Metro Transit, and Dave Indrehus, Metro Transit Police, gave the performance and reliability measures report for bus and rail for March 2009, and a report of same from the Police Department.

3. Monthly Ridership Report for March 2009.

Ed Petrie and Bruce Howard, Metro Transit, gave the ridership, marketing and Travel Demand reports for March 2009.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair McFarlin adjourned the Transportation Committee meeting at 6:20 p.m. April 27, 2009.

Respectfully submitted, LuAnne Major, Recording Secretary