

Meeting of the Transportation Committee
Monday, January 11, 2010

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

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was present when Vice Chair McFarlin called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 pm on January 11, 2010 at Metropolitan Council Chambers, St. Paul.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Scherer seconded by Steffen to adopt the agenda for January 11, 2010 Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Steffen seconded by Beach to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2009 regular Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

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

Arlene McCarthy, Director Metropolitan Transportation Services, reported that in January, MTS will be focusing on the Metropolitan Highway System Investment Study (MHSIS) and the Southwest Transitway Project. More information on the MHSIS will be presented at the 1/13/10 Council meeting. A one-day workshop will be held on 1/28/10; Council members will be receiving invitations from CTS on behalf of MC and MnDOT.

On 1/20/10 the Council Committee of the Whole will receive a presentation on the Southwest Corridor LPA (locally preferred alternative) selection. The communities have been very proactive and have shown interest in moving the project forward at a quick pace. This COW meeting will include a presentation on the Central Corridor as well.

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

Transit Police report

Transit police are extremely pleased to report that operator assaults are down again this past year, for the third year in a row, from 44 in 2006, to 29 in 2007, to 22 in 2008, and finally to 16 in 2009. That represents a 27% reduction from 2008 and a 63% reduction from 2006. Although we remain cautiously optimistic about this reduction, there is a direct correlation with the number of uniformed transit police officers who are riding on board buses. That number reached 17,177 hours last year just on buses, not including Light Rail or Commuter Rail, and included 1,475 hours in December.

Hiawatha Light Rail

Hiawatha light rail began 45 consecutive nights of testing to finish the rail signal and reverse crossing start work on Sunday night which will then complete the 3 car train platform work project.

Work is anticipated to be completed by March. As soon as all this work is completed, we will be able to operate 3 car trains in time for the opening of Target Field.

Bike2Benefits members record impressive savings

The nearly 3,000 members of the Bike2Benefits program administered by Metro Transit logged more than 375,000 miles in 2009, collectively saving nearly 19,000 gallons of gas and reducing their total CO2 emissions by almost 180 tons by bicycling instead of driving alone. Members recorded nearly 51,000 trips, including 4,600 trips that combined bicycling with transit.

Employee Recognition

“You Build Our Success” is the theme of Council-wide employee recognition events. Councilmember Scherer was present at the agency-wide recognition celebration last week. Workplace celebrations at individual work sites continue this week.

BUSINESS – Non-Consent Items

SW 2010-3 2010-2013 TIP Amendment: Purchase 25 Vehicles (TRF-0036-10) and 2010 Rural Transit Operating Assistance (TRF-0031-10) (TAB Action 2009-53)

Carl Ohrn, MTS Planning Analyst, presented this item. There were no questions from committee members. Motion by Scherer, seconded by Leppik:

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include: TRF-0036-10, Purchase 22 Class 400 and Class 500 vehicles (ARRA); and TRF-0031-10, Metropolitan Council rural transit operating assistance for 2010.

Motion passed.

SW 2010-6 Adopt Amended Resolution No. 2009-11 Authorizing an Interagency Agreement with MnDOT to Fund the TBI

Mark Filipi, Manager Technical Planning Support Metropolitan Transportation Services, presented this item. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Steffen, seconded by Hilker:

That the Council adopt amended Resolution 2009-11 authorizing the execution of an Interagency Agreement with MnDOT to accept Federal Funds for the Travel Behavior Inventory (TBI) and authorize the Regional Administrator to execute said agreement with MnDOT.

Motion passed.

SW 2010-7 Maplewood Mall Parking Structure Design, Project 62911

Lindsay Sheppard, Metro Transit Project Manager, presented this item and answered questions from Steffen requesting clarification as to where the funds are coming from, and from McFarlin regarding the criteria for awarding the bid to this proposer.

Motion by Steffen, seconded by Hilker:

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a professional services contract for design and construction support services relative to the Maplewood Mall Transit Center Expansion in Maplewood, at a cost of \$939,363.

Motion passed.

2010-8 Authorization to Amend Contract 09P075 with Trapeze ITS for the Purchase of Bus AVL/APC Equipment

Pat Jones, Metro Transit Assistant Dir. Engineering & Facilities, presented this item. He explained that unit costs were included in the original contract with Trapeze ITS and we are not taking advantage of that cost to be able to install the equipment when new buses arrive in the summer of 2010.

Discussion followed requesting clarification of the original sole source contract, and the regional advantage of having all buses on the same system.

Motion by Peterson, seconded by Aguilar:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to amend Contract 09P075 with Trapeze ITS for the Purchase of Bus AVL/APC Equipment (approved in Business Item 2008-248) in the amount of \$1,300,000.

Motion passed.

Hearing no objection, Vice Chair McFarlin stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

2010-9 Master Funding Agreement for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit with the City of Minneapolis

Mark Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager Metro Transit, presented this item. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Scherer, seconded by Hilker:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Master Cooperative and Funding Agreement for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project with the City of Minneapolis. Metropolitan Council execution of this Agreement is contingent on a Letter of No Prejudice (LONP) from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Motion passed.

2010-11 Amendment to Titan LLC Advertising Sales Contract

Bruce Howard, Metro Transit Director of Marketing, presented this item and answered questions from committee members regarding revenue projections for similar transit agencies in this economy, projected sales and growth needed, letter of credit required of Titan LLC, the inclusion of Target Field when completed. Steffen stated that this contract must work because of the budget that has been adopted. McFarlin suggested changing the wording in the motion; Dave Theisen, MC Deputy General Counsel, stated that the FTA recommends the wording that is in the current motion when the contract is sole source. The motion remained as proposed.

Motion by Scherer, seconded by Steffen:

That the Metropolitan Council: (1) find that the current economic climate has had a significant and adverse effect on advertising and the advertising industry; (2) determine that the best alternative for maximizing its advertising revenue under prevailing circumstances is to renegotiate and amend its current contract with Titan; and (3) authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute amendments to the Titan Outdoor, LLC., contract substantially in compliance with the attached term sheet.

Motion passed.

2010-15 2010 Unified Operating Budget Amendment

Sean Pfeiffer, MTS Financial Analyst, presented this item. There were no questions from committee members.

Motion by Scherer, seconded by Leppik:

That the Council:

- Amend the 2010 Unified Operating Budget in accordance with the table attached to the business item.

Motion passed.

INFORMATION

1. Aviation Planning Update.

Connie Kozlak, Manager Systems Planning MTS, gave a presentation on the Aviation System Technical Report, the purpose of the report to inventory the existing system and roles, forecasting, evaluate performance and identify needs.

2. MAC MSP Long-Range Plan

Connie Kozlak Manager Systems Planning MTS introduced Denny Probst and Bridget Rief from Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC), who presented on the MAC long-range plan for MSP and the

reliever airports. The long range plan consists of proposed improvements in 5-year increments, over the next 20 years.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair McFarlin adjourned the Transportation Committee meeting at 6:00 p.m. January 11, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
LuAnne Major, Recording Secretary