

Metropolitan Council

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

Meeting of the Transportation Committee

Monday, July 23, 2007

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

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, R. Susag called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:00 pm on July 23, 2007 at Metro Transit Chambers, Minneapolis.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved by McDaniel, seconded by Steffen to adopt the agenda for the July 23, 2007 Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Susag asked that the minutes be amended to correct a figure included in information item #1 referencing a 450-vehicle ramp. The number should be 1,450. It was then moved by Wolter, seconded by McDaniel to approve the amended minutes from the July 9, 2007 regular Transportation Committee meeting. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Jan Homan, Metro Transit Director of Bus Maintenance, introduced Tim Patrin, a senior mechanic who has been with Metro Transit for 18 years. Homan reported that Patrin had discovered a critical design error in the coolant system which has been responsible for multiple hose failures on Metro Transit buses. Homan congratulated him on his contributions to Metro Transit. A recognition plaque was presented by Chair Susag and General Manager Brian Lamb.

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

Arlene McCarthy, Director Metropolitan Transportation Services, reported that the "BlueXpress" service which was implemented on July 16 in Scott County has been well received and that the Met Council will continue its funding. Met Council/Metro Transit is currently preparing an application to host Rail-Volution in 2010. The application deadline for hosting Rail-Volution is August 6, 2007.

Brian Lamb, General Manager Metro Transit, reported that there have recently been a number of instances of vandalism on Hiawatha LRVs. Individuals apprehended for throwing rocks, which broke windows on HLRT trains, to date have all been juveniles, some as young as nine and ten years old. Measures for increasing security are being explored, including ways to more closely monitor/control access to a bicycle and pedestrian ramp near one of the larger park-and-ride lots. Metro Transit will be providing service for the

Target Art Hop on August 4 and August 5. Transit is also gearing up for this year's Minnesota State Fair. More details will be provided at the next Transportation Committee meeting.

McCarthy and Lamb reported that Minneapolis is on the short list of cities being considered for a UPA grant and will participate in a conference call with Mn/DOT and USDOT on July 30. They noted that continued participation at this point in the process is a good sign. The finalists are scheduled to be announced on August 8, with up to three selected.

BUSINESS – Consent Items

- 2007-247 1. Interagency Agreement with MnDOT for Corridor Transitway Modeling (Carol Becker 651-602-1756, Amy Vennewitz 651-602-1058). Motion by Scherer, seconded by Wolter, motion passed.

Motion: That the Regional Administrator be authorized to execute an interagency agreement with MnDOT for a \$25,000 contribution to the modeling for the 2030 Transit Master Plan.

BUSINESS –Action Items

None

INFORMATION

1. 2008 Operating Budget

Brian Lamb and Arlene McCarthy presented the 2008 operating budget for Metro Transit and Metropolitan Transportation Services and answered questions from Committee members.

2. Performance Measures Report for May and June

Vince Pellegrin, Metro Transit Chief Operating Officer, presented performance goals and measures for Metro Transit bus and rail service. Highlights included on-time performance, vehicle reliability and safety and security data.

3. Monthly Ridership Report for May and June

Ed Petrie, Metro Transit Finance Director, and Bruce Howard, Metro Transit Marketing Director, reported on bus and rail ridership levels and marketing strategies to continue to increase ridership.

4. Monthly Metro Transit Police Security Update

A.J. Olson, Metro Transit Deputy Chief of Police, provided an update on activities and initiatives of the transit police force, highlighting the "Operation Shamrock" drug sting operation in St. Paul, the progress in establishing the downtown Minneapolis "SafeZone" and recruitment status related to increasing the size of the force.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

R. Susag adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m. June 23, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Maday, Recording Secretary