

Minutes

Metropolitan Council



Meeting date: October 14, 2026

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

- ☒ Chair, Robin Hutcheson
- ☐ Judy Johnson, District 1
- ☒ Reva Chamblis, District 2
- ☒ Tyronne Carter, District 3
- ☒ Deb Barber, District 4
- ☒ John Pacheco Jr., District 5

- ☐ Robert Lilligren, District 6
- ☒ Yassin Osman, District 7
- ☐ Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- ☒ Diego Morales, District 9
- ☒ Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- ☐ Gail Cederberg, District 11

- ☒ Mark Jenkins, District 12
- ☒ Chai Lee, District 13
- ☒ Toni Carter, District 14
- ☒ Victor Obisakin, District 15
- ☒ Wendy Wulff, District 16
- ☒ = present

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Metropolitan Council acknowledges that the land we currently call Minnesota and specifically the seven-county region is the ancestral homeland of the Dakota Oyate who are present and active contributors to our thriving region. As part of the Metropolitan Council's commitment to address the unresolved legacy of genocide, dispossession, and settler colonialism and the fact that government institutions, including the Metropolitan Council, benefitted economically, politically, and institutionally after the forceable removal of the Dakota Oyate, the Metropolitan Council is dedicated to instilling Land, Water, and People Commitments in regional policy. These commitments support the Dakota Oyate, the eleven federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Ho-Chunk Nation, and the American Indian Communities representing over 150 diverse Tribal Nations that call the seven-county region home.

Call to order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Hutcheson called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council to order at 4:01 p.m.

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Council Member Dr. Tyronne Carter.

Agenda approved

Council members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Osman, seconded by Morales to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2026, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

Public invitation

Diem Van Groth addressed the Council regarding the Brooklyn Center Transit Center bathrooms.

Erik Falkman addressed the Council regarding the Brooklyn Center Transit Center bathrooms and its impacts on the community.

Jim Soderberg addressed the Council regarding the Brooklyn Center Transit Center bathrooms.

Matt Durand addressed the Council regarding the Brooklyn Center Transit Center restrooms and its impact on his business and workers.

Miles Hahn addressed the Brooklyn Center Transit Center restrooms and its impact to the nearby business community.

Consent business

Consent business adopted (Items 1-9)

1. **2026-163:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached version of the following policy:
 - RF 4-2 Government-to-Government Tribal Relationship Policy.
2. **2026-168:** That the Metropolitan Council approve the attached Utility Allowance Schedule as shown in Table 2 for use in the Housing Choice Voucher and other rent assistance programs effective January 1, 2027.
3. **2026-170:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to contract 21P290 with Schmitt & Sons Transportation, Inc. for transit services that will add \$5,000,000, for a total contract not-to-exceed amount of \$34,255,000.
4. **2026-172:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract 20I052 with the St. Louis Park Economic Development Authority to add a not to exceed amount of \$180,659.71 for a total not to exceed amount of \$3,664,826.71.
5. **2026-174:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize a public hearing to gather input on the draft Facility Plan for the 1-MH-401 River Crossing, Project Number 809526.
6. **2026-175:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize a public hearing to gather input on the draft Facility Plan for the Maple Plain 8352 Forcemain Improvements, Project Number 802803.
7. **2026-176:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt Resolution 2026-12 authorizing the acquisition and condemnation of real estate property for the Chanhassen Interceptor 8253-327 Improvements Phase 2, ES Project No. 802806.
8. **2026-177:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 25P345 with SAK Construction for the construction of the Forest Lake 7029 Rehabilitation in an amount not to exceed \$13,765,683.
9. **2026-179:** That the Metropolitan Council ("Council") authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") # 26I057, 26I058 and 26I059 with the Cities of Hopkins, St. Louis Park and Eden Prairie.

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Jenkins. Chair Hutcheson provided remarks on the importance of the Government-to-Government Tribal Relationship Policy and

the commitments of the Council.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business – Reports of standing committees

Community Development

1. No reports.

Environment

1. No reports.

Management

1. No reports.

Transportation

1. **2026-162:** The Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute amendment 2 for contract 22P103A with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to increase the contract value by \$36,677,854 for a total contract not to exceed amount of \$175,953,302

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Osman.

Motion carried.

2. **2026-180:** The Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 25P308 with Procellis Technology for technology services contract in an amount not to exceed \$25,200,000.

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Obisakin.

Motion carried.

Joint reports

1. No reports.

Other business

1. No reports.

Information

1. Public Comment Budget Update and 2027 – 2032 Capital Program

Ned Smith, Chief Financial Officer, introduced the Capital Program Budget presentation, which shares budget details for the coming five years. Smith noted that on October 28, 2026, the Capital Budget and Operating Budget will be presented to the Council as a unified budget presentation, Adopt Public Comment Draft Budget, and will return to the Council in December for approval.

The presenter gave a recap of key figures of the 2027 Operating Budget, including the distribution of this budget between the divisions of the Metropolitan Council as well as the sources that contribute to this total. The presenter then outlined the 2027

Capital Program Budget, sharing the budget breakdown by department and category, and outlining sources that contribute to this budget.

Christine Dwyer, Director of Budget Revenue, Environmental Services, broke down the portion of the Capital Program Budget that relates to the Environmental Services (ES) division. Interceptor Projects will account for 55% of the Capital Program Budget, and 45% will be allocated to Treatment Plants. The ES Capital Program objectives include rehabilitating and preserving assets, meeting system capacity needs, and improving service quality. Dwyer recapped the 2027 Water Recovery Resource Facility (WRRF) Capital Programs projects as well as the 2027 Design / Construction Projects.

Kristin Prescott, Acting Finance Director for Metro Transit, presented the 2027-2032 Capital Program priorities for Metro Transit and Contracted Transit. The presenter outlined the revenue assumptions, citing Regional, State, and Federal revenue sources. The presenter shared the Capital Program budget uses by department, category, and source. Katie Roth, Assistant Manager of Project Planning and Delivery at Metro Transit, spoke about the evolving Capital Planning process at Metro Transit and its alignment with strategic framework and priorities. Prescott detailed the Metro Transit budget sources, uses, and budget drivers: transitway expansion, bus & rail revenue fleet, and supporting states of good repair for light rail and facilities. Roth concluded the Transportation portion of the presentation by sharing preparations for 2028-2033 Capital Improvement Program development.

Heather Giesel, Director of Finance and Administration at Community Development, broke down the Community Development budget by department, category, and sources. The presenter identified notable modifications to the Capital Improvement Program, including commitments and adjustments made.

The Regional Administrator asked for a summary of key dates for the year's remaining budget items. Council Member Lee expressed appreciation for the Regional Parks System Equity Grant Program as a memorable part of his service.

Reports

Chair Hutcheson reported on the Regional Water Planning convening, which was led by Met Council's Environmental Services division. The convening brought partners together to problem solve regional issues. In addition, Chair Hutcheson read a letter from a community member, Daniel, regarding their appreciation for the services provided by the Met Council

Council Member Dr. Tyronne Carter shared his experience at Mpact Transit + Community conference in Toronto.

Council Member Lindstrom provided a report out on the Government-to-Government convening in Morton, MN and the Council was well-represented.

Council Member Obisakin shared a recap of a recent visit with Eagan High School students.

Regional Administrator shared two updates regarding the Council's transit finance report to the Minnesota State Legislature, as well as the Council's leased office space at Securian building.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 14, 2026.

Council contact:

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Metropolitan Council