Minutes

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: August 10, 2026 **Time**: 4:00 PM **Location:** Heywood Chambers

Members present:

- ☒ Chair, Reva Chamblis, D2
- ☒ Vice Chair, Victor Obisakin, D15
- ☐ Judy Johnson, District 1
- ☒ Tyronne Carter, District 3
- ☐ Deb Barber, District 4
- ☒ John Pacheco Jr., District 5
- ☒ Yassin Osman, District 7
- ☐ Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- ☐ Toni Carter, District 14

☒ = 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, Committee Chair Chamblis called the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee to order at 4:01 p.m.

Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Chair Chamblis.

Agenda approved

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

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Obisakin, seconded by Osman to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2026, regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. **Motion carried**.

Public Hearing on Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) Amendment 3: Changes to METRO Purple Line, Adding METRO J and K Lines

Jude Heimel, Dick Lesicko, Mike Dorsher, Sharon Markham, Ruth Belmonte, Darlene Baber, Leslie Ryan and Sharon Weller (members of the Realife Co-op of Phalen Village) provided public comments related to the Bronze Line project and the proximity of the Johnson Parkway bridge to their building.

Reports

1. Metropolitan Transportation Services Executive Director

   No report.

2. Metro Transit General Manager

   No report.

3. Transportation Accessibility Advisory Board (TAAC)

   No report.

Consent business

1. There were no consent items on the agenda.

Non-consent business

1. **2026-144:** Transit Link Service for Scott and Carver Counties, Contract 26P221

   It was moved by Osman, seconded by Obisakin, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 26P221 with Transit Team for Transit Link services in Scott and Carver County in the amount not to exceed $20,259,200 through July 31,2030.

   Metropolitan Transportation Services Transit Link and Metro Move Manager Sheila Holbrook-White and Transit Link Senior Project Administrator Sheila Williams presented this item. Pacheco questioned the reasoning behind Scott County's decision and if the positions were union represented. Holbrook-White stated there were two staff members at the county that manage this contract, both of which were retiring and the county decided to not backfill their positions. Metropolitan Transportation Services Executive Director Charles Carlson clarified the positions are county positions, not Council positions. Obisakin asked if this scenario has happened before. Williams stated that there was a prior interagency agreement with Anoka County that was terminated for similar staffing reasons. Carlson noted a clerical error in the motion of the business item, noting the total contract not to exceed amount should read $20,259,200.

   Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Chamblis stated this item could proceed as consent to Council.

Information

1. State Fair Update

   Metro Transit Senior Market Development Specialist Jessica Cross presented this item. Pacheco and Obisakin questioned why the express route from Minneapolis wasn't running and how the express routes are picked.

2. 2027 Operating Budget Overview

   Metro Transit Acting Finance Director Kristin Prescott and Metropolitan Transportation Service Finance Director Heather Giesel presented this item. Council members discussed planning for fuel prices, factors contributing to the decrease in the Transit Link budget and federal funding.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:44p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the

Transportation Committee meeting of August 10, 2026.

Council contact:

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