

Minutes

Transportation Committee



Meeting date: January 26, 2026

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: Robert St Chambers

Members present:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair, Deb Barber, D4 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tyronne Carter, District 3 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anjuli Cameron, District 8 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair, Reva Chamblis, D2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Pacheco Jr., District 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toni Carter, District 14 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Johnson, District 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yassin Osman, District 7 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victor Obisakin, District 15 |
- = present, E = excused

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 Barber 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 mentioned by Council Member Barber.

Agenda approved

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

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Carter, Toni, seconded by Carter, Tyronne to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2026, regular meeting of the Transportation Committee. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment

Members of the public spoke to the Committee about the proposed H Line route.

Employee recognition – Metro Transit

1. Metro Transit General Manager

Kandaras introduced Legislative Director Judd Schetnan who presented awards to Bus Operator Xia Yang and District Streets Supervisor Lance Wallace.

Reports

1. Metropolitan Transportation Services Director
Carlson reported on new Transit Link On-Demand pilot service in Forest Lake, Stillwater, and Hastings.
2. Metro Transit General Manager
Kandaras reported on Metro Transit employee work over the past week.
3. Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)
Carlson reported on the December and January TAB meetings, specifically the release of the Regional Solicitation for public comment.

Consent business

Consent business adopted

1. 2026-30 SW: Streamlined 2026-2029 TIP Amendment Request – Three Project Adjustments (Joe Barbeau 651-602-1750)
2. 2026-31 SW: Streamlined 2026-2029 TIP Amendment Request: Minneapolis Safe Streets for All (Joe Barbeau 651-602-1750)

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Obisakin.

Motion carried.

Non-consent business

1. 2026-2: 2026 Xcel Energy Metropass License Renewal (Blia Xiong 612-349-7713)

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Carter, Tyrone, that the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to: Enter into and execute a new 5-year Metropass Agreement with Xcel Energy with a renewal period of January 1, 2026 – 2031 to provide Metropass to eligible employees. Potential revenue for the term of this agreement is estimated at \$2.2M.

Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Barber stated the item could proceed consent to Council.

2. 2026-16: Blue Line Lake Street/Midtown Renovation Design Contract Amendment #2, Contract 23P050 (Christina Morrison 612-349-7690)

It was moved by Obisakin, seconded by Carter, Tyrone, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a second amendment to contract 23P050 with 4RM+ULA Architects for the METRO Blue Line Lake St/Midtown Station Renovation design and construction support services, in an amount not to exceed \$1,178,081.

Council Members asked questions about lack of bids, safety, design plan considerations.

Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Barber stated the item could proceed consent to Council.

3. 2026-20: Metro Transit Customer Support, Text for Safety, and Outreach Technology Modernization, Contract 25P148 (Kelly Morell 612-349-7563)

It was moved by Obisakin, seconded by Carter, Toni, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 25P148 with Catalyst Consulting Group Inc that will provide Customer Support, Text for Safety, and Outreach software and implementation services in an amount not to exceed \$19,646,725.

Council Members asked about budget specifics, future strategies,



Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Barber stated the item could proceed consent to Council.

4. 2026-22: Metro Transit Agency Safety Plans (ASP) (Andrew Brody 651-602-1671)

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Obisakin, that the Metropolitan Council adopt Revision 8 of the Bus Transportation Agency Safety Plan and the Light Rail Transportation Agency Safety Plan for Metro Transit as required by 49 CFR Part 673.

Council Members voiced appreciation for staff work to improve the process.

Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Barber stated the item could proceed consent to Council.

5. 2026-23: Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS) Agency Safety Plan (ASP) (Andrew Brody 651-602-1671)

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Carter, Toni, that the Metropolitan Council adopt Revision 5 of the Agency Safety Plan for Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS) as required by 49 CFR Part 673.

Motion carried. Hearing no objection, Chair Barber stated the item could proceed consent to Council.

Information

1. Midtown Greenway Trail Expansion Study (Steve Elmer 651-602-1756)

Council Members asked questions about roles and responsibilities of those involved in the project.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Transportation Committee meeting of January 26, 2026.

Council contact:

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