

# Minutes

Metropolitan Council



**Meeting date:** December 3, 2025

**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 4:08 p.m.

## Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment

The Dakota Land, Water, and People Acknowledgment was read by Council Member Jenkins.

## Agenda approved

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

## Approval of minutes

It was moved by Morales, seconded by Toni Carter approve the minutes of the November 12, 2025, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council. **Motion carried.**

## Swearing-in of Met Council Chair

Oath of Office administered by MnDOT Commissioner Nancy Daubenberger. Chair Hutcheson provided incoming remarks.

## Public invitation

No public comments were made.

## Public hearing

1. **2025-308:** Public Hearing on the Draft 2025 Regional Economic Framework (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Alternative)  
Chair Hutcheson opened the public hearing at 4:28 p.m. There were no public comments and Chair Hutcheson closed the public hearing at 4:28 p.m.

## Consent business

Consent business adopted (Items 1-7)

1. **2025-278:** The Metropolitan Council approve the 2026 Financial Institutions list.
2. **2025-280:** That the Metropolitan Council approve an amendment to the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program to add its Southwest Transit Station Rehabilitation project.
3. **2025-281:** That the Metropolitan Council approve an amendment to the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program to adjust the cost of Minneapolis' 21st Avenue South bicycle and pedestrian project and to adjust the cost and scope of Saint Paul's Payne Avenue bicycle and pedestrian project.
4. **2025-282:** That the Metropolitan Council approve an amendment to the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program to adjust the scope and cost of three projects.
5. **2025-284:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment for contract 22P150 with Trapeze Software Group, Inc., to provide scheduling software and support that will increase the contract value by \$3,226,876 for a total contract not to exceed amount of \$5,013,977.
6. **2025-285:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Chief Information Officer to execute a Letter of Understanding as an amendment to contract 16I032 with the Local Government Information System (LOGIS) Association that will add subscription access to Brazos Citation Software Solutions (Brazos).
7. **2025-293:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a contract with AVI-SPL LLC., to provide video conference, paging maintenance, and support services in an amount not to exceed \$1,100,000 and a term of five years.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Morales.

**Motion carried.**

## Non-consent business – Reports of standing committees

### *Community Development*

1. **2025-297:** That the Metropolitan Council:
  1. Award six (6) Livable Communities Demonstration Account Affordable Homeownership Grants totaling \$3 million, as outlined in Table 1.
  2. Authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute the grant agreements on behalf of the Council.

Table 1. 2025 Livable Communities Affordable Homeownership Funding Recommendation

City	Project	Funding Recommendation
City of Maplewood	Duluth Street	\$400,000
City of Minneapolis	Pedzo Star	\$229,212
City of Minnetonka	Mills Twinhomes	\$420,000
City of Minnetonka	Scattered Site	\$300,000
City of Saint Paul	642 Selby (The Beasley)	\$900,000
City of Saint Paul	Serenity Townhomes	\$750,788
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$3,000,000</b>

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Osman.

**Motion carried.**

### ***Environment***

1. No reports.

### ***Management***

1. No reports.

### ***Transportation***

1. **2025-286:** That the Metropolitan Council (“Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Subordinate Funding Agreement No.11 (#14I044K) with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (“MnDOT”) in an amount not to exceed \$2,574,957.32.

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Barber.

**Motion carried.**

2. **2025-301:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract 17P060 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., to extend the contract term and add a not to exceed amount of \$2,694,772.57 for a total contract not to exceed amount of \$26,229,825.55.

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Barber.

**Motion carried.**

### ***Joint Reports***

1. No reports.

### ***Other business***

1. **2025-53:** That the Metropolitan Council approve Audit Policy RF 5-1.

It was moved by Lee, seconded by Jenkins.

**Motion carried.**

2. **2025-54:** That the Metropolitan Council approve Audit Committee Charter.



It was moved by Lee, seconded by Jenkins.

**Motion carried.**

3. **2025-300:** That the Metropolitan Council approve and make effective on Thursday, December 4, 2025, the following special and advisory committee assignments, as recommended by the Chair and pursuant to Council Bylaws, Article III.
  - a. METRO Blue Line Extension Corridor Management Committee: Hutcheson (Chair), Chamblis, Cameron, Osman (Alternate)
  - b. METRO Blue Line Extension Project Development Board: Hutcheson (Chair), Chamblis, Cameron (Alternate)
  - c. METRO Green Line Extension Corridor Management Committee: Hutcheson (Chair), Tyronne Carter, Lilligren, Cameron (Alternate)
  - d. METRO Green Line Extension Executive Change Control Board: Hutcheson (Chair), Tyronne Carter, Lilligren (Alternate)
  - e. METRO Gold Line Executive Change Control Board: Hutcheson (Chair), Lee, Jenkins (Alternate)
  - f. METRO Purple Line Corridor Management Committee: Hutcheson (Chair), Lee, Lindstrom (Alternate), Cederberg (Alternate)

It was moved by Osman, seconded by Tyronne Carter.

**Motion carried.**

## Information

### 1. **Legislatively Mandated Reports (Government Affairs Team)**

Nathan Hanson, Legislative and Community Relations Coordinator, presented on the Legislatively Mandated Reports. The presenter provided an informational overview of processes that the Metropolitan Council uses to produce, track, and submit reports mandated by Minnesota State Legislature. This included a brief summary of where reports come from and the process of preparing and distributing them.

The presenter also overviewed the work that is being done internally to fill the requirements laid out by the Minnesota State Legislature and highlighted the role that Government Affairs plays in this process. Government Affairs looks at every bill that is introduced to determine if it has an impact on the Met Council. Additionally, the team facilitates tracking and partner coordination, performs reviews, and suggests process improvements.

### 2. **Q3 2025 Safety and Security Action Plan** (Lesley Kandas 612-349-7513, Matt Broughton 612-34-7472, Interim Chief Joseph Dotseth 612-349-7269, Jeremy Zoss)

Lesley Kandas, General Manager of Metro Transit, provided an overview of the presentation and outlined a few in-progress actions and coordinated layers of official presence. Matt Broughton, Assistant Director of Bus Transportation and Administration, presented on two of the coordinated layers of official presence: supplemental security and a social service program. Supplemental security is contracted with Inter-Con Security, providing staff and training as well as access to the real-time scheduling and dispatch system. Presenter shared plans for procuring a social service program for homelessness and mental health outreach, rolling out in early 2026. Antoinette Brasson, Assistant Director of Field Operations, gave an update on TRIP agent staffing. Presenter highlighted agents' roles such as inspecting fares, assisting riders, performing CPR, and administering Narcan as necessary.

Joe Dotseth, Metro Transit interim Chief of Police, welcomed Chair Hutcheson to Metropolitan Council and shared highlights from Metro Transit Police Department (MTPD).

Chief Dotseth provided an update on MTPD staffing, and outlined retention rates, hiring goals, and an explorer program for those interested in becoming a licensed officer. Presenter shared that crime rates on transit decline as officer presence increases.

Jeremy Zoss, Principal Communications Specialist for Public Safety, presented on the Coordinated Safety and Security Communications Plan. Presenter highlighted three components to this plan: building public awareness of the Safety and Security Action Plan, sharing rider testimonials through short-form videos on social media, and planning different engagement activities with the public.

Council members shared appreciation for the work the presenters have done to provide a safe and welcoming environment for riders. Council members asked questions about retention and officer trainings.

## Reports

Chair Hutcheson shared that there will be a METRO E Line grand opening and ribbon cutting event on Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at Minneapolis College.

Council Member Barber informed the Council to check their calendar for the location of the December 8, 2025 Transportation Committee meeting. The meeting will take place at Heywood Chambers in Minneapolis.

Council Member Lee shared that he was invited to the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Hmong New Year Celebration at the Saint Paul RiverCentre.

## 6:00 p.m. Public Comment on Budget and Levies

Chair Hutcheson opened the public comment at 6:10 p.m. Donald Kloek provided comments on METRO Gold Line and questioned the use public funds for this project. There were no additional public comments and Chair Hutcheson closed the public comment at 6:14 p.m.

Chair Hutcheson re-opened the public hearing at 6:21 p.m. to allow one additional resident to speak. Cindy Bradley, resident of Woodbury, provided public comments from a small businessowner perspective who is impacted by rising property taxes due to street assessments.

Chair Hutcheson closed the public comment at 6:24 p.m.

1. **2025-279:** Adoption of the following Resolutions for the Metropolitan Council's 2026 Unified Budget and the 2025, Payable 2026, Tax Levies:

**2025-24:** Adopting the Metropolitan Council's 2026 Unified Budget

**2025-25:** Adopting the Metropolitan Council's 2025 Property Tax Levy for General Purposes for Certification to the Minnesota Commissioner of Revenue

**2025-26:** Adopting the Metropolitan Council's 2025 Property Tax Levy for General Purposes for Certification to the County Auditors

**2025-27:** Adopting the 2025 Property Tax Levy for the Livable Communities Demonstration Account in the Metropolitan Livable Communities Fund

**2025-28:** Adopting the 2025 Property Tax Levy for the Tax Base Revitalization Account of the Livable Communities Act

**2025-29:** Certifying the Property Tax Levy for 2025 for Debt Service on Issued and To Be Issued Transit Bonds 2025-30 Certifying the Property Tax Levy for 2025 for Debt Service on Issued and To Be Issued Park Bonds

Ned Smith, Chief Finance Officer, provided an overview of the budget. Council members thanked staff for their hard work on the budget throughout the year and noted that the budget has gone through all the standing committees.

It was moved by Johnson, seconded by Osman.

**Motion carried on the following roll call vote:**

Aye	15	Johnson, Chamblis, Dr. Carter, Barber, Lilligren, Osman, Cameron, Morales, Lindstrom, Dr. Cederberg, Jenkins, Lee, Toni Carter, Wulff, Hutcheson
Nay	0	
Absent	1	Obisakin

**Adjournment**

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

**Certification**

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 3, 2025.

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**Council contact:**

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