



Regional Railroad Authority

Agenda

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

December 12, 2023 - 10:10 a.m.

Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300

ROLL CALL

1. **Agenda of December 12, 2023 is Presented for Approval** 2023-458
Sponsors: County Manager's Office
Approve the agenda of December 12, 2023.
2. **Minutes from November 21, 2023 are Presented for Approval** 2023-459
Sponsors: County Manager's Office
Approve the November 21, 2023 Minutes.

POLICY ITEM

3. **Approval of the 2024-25 Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority Budget and the 2024 Tax Levy** 2023-554
Sponsors: Public Works
 1. Approve and adopt the 2024 budget of \$38,914,319 and the 2025 budget of \$21,147,595, with all changes noted in the attached budget addenda.
 2. Approve and adopt the 2024 tax levy of \$34,167,111, a 12.4% increase over the 2023 RCRRA tax levy.

CORRIDOR UPDATES

ADJOURNMENT



Regional Railroad Authority

Request for Board Action

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

Item Number: 2023-458

Meeting Date: 12/12/2023

Sponsor: County Manager's Office

Title

Agenda of December 12, 2023 is Presented for Approval

Recommendation

Approve the agenda of December 12, 2023.

Regional Railroad Authority

Request for Board Action

Item Number: 2023-459

Meeting Date: 12/12/2023

Sponsor: County Manager's Office

Title

Minutes from November 21, 2023 are Presented for Approval

Recommendation

Approve the November 21, 2023 Minutes.

Attachments

1. November 21, 2023 Minutes

Regional Railroad Authority

Minutes

November 21, 2023 - 10:15 a.m.

Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300

The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority met in regular session at 9:41 a.m. with the following members present: Frethem, Martinson, McGuire, Reinhardt, Xiong and Chair Ortega. Also present was Ryan O'Connor, County Manager.

ROLL CALL

Present: Frethem, Martinson, McGuire, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong
Absent: Moran

1. Agenda of November 21, 2023 is Presented for Approval [2023-532](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of November 21, 2023.

Motion by Martinson, seconded by McGuire. Motion passed.

Aye: Frethem, Martinson, McGuire, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

Absent: Moran

2. Minutes from October 17, 2023 are Presented for Approval [2023-534](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the October 17, 2023 Minutes.

Motion by Frethem, seconded by Xiong. Motion passed.

Aye: Frethem, Martinson, McGuire, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

Absent: Moran

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

3. Amendment to the Capital Grant Agreement with Metropolitan Council and Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority for the Project Development Phase of the METRO Purple Line Bus Rapid Transit Project [2023-507](#)

Sponsors: Public Works

1. Approve the Amendment to the Capital Grant Agreement for the Project Development Phase by and among the Metropolitan Council, Ramsey County, and the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority for the METRO Purple Line Bus Rapid Transit Project.
2. Authorize the Chair to execute the Agreement.
3. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and contracts and execute amendments to agreements and contracts in accordance with procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of funding.

Motion by Reinhardt, seconded by Xiong. Motion passed.

Aye: Frethem, Martinson, McGuire, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

Absent: Moran
Resolution: R2023-013

4. Easement Agreement with the City of Saint Paul for Kellogg/3rd Street and Bridge Replacement

[2023-501](#)

Sponsors: Property Management

1. Approve an easement agreement with the city of Saint Paul, 15 Kellogg Boulevard West, Saint Paul, MN 55102, on Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority property, including Union Depot, adjacent Kellogg Boulevard for a one-time payment of \$800,000.
2. Authorize the County Manager to approve and execute the easement agreement in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Reinhardt. Motion passed.

Aye: Frethem, Martinson, McGuire, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

Absent: Moran

Resolution: R2023-014

CORRIDOR UPDATES

Discussion can be found on archived video.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ortega declared the meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Regional Railroad Authority

Request for Board Action

Item Number: 2023-554

Meeting Date: 12/12/2023

Sponsor: Public Works

Title

Approval of the 2024-25 Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority Budget and the 2024 Tax Levy

Recommendation

1. Approve and adopt the 2024 budget of \$38,914,319 and the 2025 budget of \$21,147,595, with all changes noted in the attached budget addenda.
2. Approve and adopt the 2024 tax levy of \$34,167,111, a 12.4% increase over the 2023 RCRRA tax levy.

Background and Rationale

The proposed 2024 Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority (RCRRA) budget is \$38,914,319. The proposed 2025 RCRRA budget is \$21,147,595. The RCRRA certified a proposed maximum levy of \$34,167,111 for 2024 on September 26, 2023, which represents an increase of 12.4% from 2023 and is the maximum allowed under state law.

	Operations	CIP	Totals
Budget	\$ 14,564,319.00	\$ 24,350,000.00	\$ 38,914,319.00
Revenues	\$ 2,525,858.00		\$ 2,525,858.00
Fund Balance		\$ (2,819,274.00)	\$ (2,819,274.00)
Subtotal	\$ 12,038,461.00	\$ 21,530,726.00	\$ 33,569,187.00
Tax Delinq.	\$ 221,136.00	\$ 376,788.00	\$ 597,924.00
Total Tax Levy	\$ 12,259,597.00	\$ 21,907,514.00	\$ 34,167,111.00

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

☒ Well-being ☐ Prosperity ☒ Opportunity ☒ Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

The 2024-25 RCRRA proposed budget and tax levy allows the RCRRA to deliver projects that have a positive impact on users of all races and abilities. RCRRA transit projects are part of the Ramsey County All Abilities Transportation Network, whose policy is a commitment to creating and maintaining a transportation system that provides equitable access for all people regardless of race, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, health, education, abilities and economics.

Community Participation Level and Impact

The development of the county's transitway projects (Green Line, Gold Line, Purple Line and Riverview Corridors) can be used as a model of highly effective, transparent, and creative community engagement to connect with and hear a range of different voices and perspectives for the projects. Community engagement is embedded into the process and occurs throughout the lifecycle of the projects.

Two public hearings are incorporated in the budget process and included opportunities for public comment.

- Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. - Ramsey County Courthouse, Room 300 Council Chambers - 15 West Kellogg Blvd., Saint Paul, MN 55102.
- Wednesday, December 6, 2023 - 6:00 p.m. - Maplewood Community Center, 2100 White Bear Avenue, Maplewood, MN 55109.

Both public hearings had a virtual option to participate in addition to the in-person locations noted above.

☒ Inform ☒ Consult ☐ Involve ☐ Collaborate ☐ Empower

Fiscal Impact

Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority approval and adoption is required for the 2024-25 RCRRA proposed budget and the 2024 RCRRA proposed tax levy. The amounts approved with this action are reflected in the 2024-25 proposed budget as presented to the Ramsey County Board.

Last Previous Action

On September 26, 2023, the Ramsey County Regional Authority approved setting the proposed maximum levy of \$34,167,111 (Resolution R2023-011).

On September 19, 2023, the Ramsey County Board held a Public Hearing on the 2024-25 proposed biennial budget and 2024 tax levy.

On September 12, 2023, the Budget committee of the Whole reviewed the Economic Growth and Community Investment Service Team's proposed budgets including the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority.

On August 22, 2023, the County Manager presented the proposed 2024-25 biennial budget to the Board of County Commissioners.

Attachments

2024-25 Budget Addenda - Regional Rail Authority

2024-2025 Budget Addenda - Regional Rail Authority

	2024 Budget					2025 Budget				
	FTEs	Appropriations	Revenue	Fund Balance	Levy	FTEs	Appropriations	Revenue	Fund Balance	Levy
2024-2025 County Manager Proposed Budget, 8/22/2023		38,924,603	2,525,858	2,819,274	33,579,471		21,158,517	2,561,032	(17,065,168)	35,662,653
** No September Addenda Items Presented for Consideration **	-	38,924,603	2,525,858	2,819,274	33,579,471	-	21,158,517	2,561,032	(17,065,168)	35,662,653

Administrative budget addenda recommended to adjust the 2024-25 County Manager Proposed Budget

Regional Rail Authority									
Adjust levy uncollectible amount to 1.75%		(10,284)		(10,284)		(10,922)			(10,922)

Commissioner budget addenda recommended to adjust the 2024-25 County Manager Proposed Budget

** No commissioner addenda items

2024-25 Budget as Approved by the County Board	-	38,914,319	2,525,858	2,819,274	33,569,187	-	21,147,595	2,561,032	(17,065,168)	35,651,731
Total adjustments from the previously proposed 2024 Budget	-	(10,284)	-	-	(10,284)	-	(10,922)	-	-	(10,922)