

A bill for an act
relating to transportation; requiring transit implementation plan to meet
80 percent of transit needs in greater Minnesota by 2015; requiring annual
assessment of ridership needs of people with disabilities in metropolitan area;
requiring annual transit report; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections
174.24, by adding a subdivision; 473.1465, by adding a subdivision; proposing
coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 174.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 174.24, is amended by adding a
subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Transit service needs implementation plan.** The commissioner shall
develop and implement a transit service needs implementation plan that contains a goal of
meeting at least 80 percent of unmet transit service needs in greater Minnesota by July 1,
2015, and meeting at least 90 percent of unmet transit service needs in greater Minnesota
by July 1, 2025. The plan must include, but is not limited to, the following: an analysis of
ridership and transit service needs throughout greater Minnesota; a calculation of unmet
needs; an assessment of the level and type of service required to meet unmet needs; an
analysis of costs and revenue options; and, a plan to reduce unmet transit service needs as
specified in this subdivision. The plan must specifically address special transportation
service ridership and needs. The commissioner may amend the plan as necessary, and
may use all or part of the 2001 greater Minnesota public transportation plan created by the
Minnesota Department of Transportation.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. **[174.247] ANNUAL TRANSIT REPORT.**

(a) By February 15 annually, the commissioner shall submit a report to the legislature on transit services outside the metropolitan area. The Metropolitan Council and any public transit system receiving assistance under section 174.24 shall provide assistance in creating the report, as requested by the commissioner.

(b) The report must include, at a minimum, the following:

(1) a descriptive overview of public transit in Minnesota;

(2) a descriptive summary of funding sources and assistance programs;

(3) a summary of each public transit system receiving assistance under section 174.24;

(4) data that identifies use of volunteers in providing transit service;

(5) financial data that identifies operating and capital costs, and funding sources, for each public transit system and for each transit system classification under section 174.24, subdivision 3b;

(6) a summary of progress with the transit service needs implementation plan under section 174.24, subdivision 1a, including identification of any adjustments made to the plan; and

(7) a calculation of the amounts of surplus or insufficient funds available for (i) paying the state share of transit operating costs under section 174.24, subdivision 3b, and (ii) following the transit service needs implementation plan.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 473.1465, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4. Special transportation service assessment. As part of its annual update to the performance evaluation report under section 473.13, subdivision 1a, the Metropolitan Council shall include an assessment of progress towards meeting transit goals for people with disabilities. The assessment must include, but is not limited to, the following: a description of proposed program enhancements; an assessment of progress; identification of the estimated total number of potential and actual riders who are disabled; an assessment of the level and type of service required to meet unmet ridership needs; and an analysis of costs and revenue options, including a calculation of the amounts of surplus or insufficient funds available for achieving paratransit needs.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.