

2.1 Subd. 5. **Grant application and awards; Grant Evaluation and Ranking System**
2.2 **(GEARS) Committee.** (a) The joint powers board shall establish a grant application
2.3 process and identify the amount of available funding for grant awards. Grant applications
2.4 must be submitted in a form prescribed by the joint powers board. An applicant must
2.5 provide, in addition to all other information required by the joint powers board, the
2.6 estimated cost of the project, the amount of the grant sought, possible sources of funding
2.7 in addition to the grant sought, and identification of any federal funds that will be utilized
2.8 if the grant is awarded. A grant application seeking transit capital funding must identify
2.9 the source of money necessary to operate the transit improvement.

2.10 (b) The joint powers board shall establish a timeline and procedures for the award of
2.11 grants, and may award grants only to the state and political subdivisions. The board shall
2.12 define objective criteria for the award of grants, which must include, but not be limited to,
2.13 consistency with the most recent version of the transportation policy plan adopted by the
2.14 Metropolitan Council under section 473.146. The joint powers board shall maximize the
2.15 availability and use of federal funds in projects funded under this section.

2.16 (c) The joint powers board shall establish a GEARS Committee, which must consist
2.17 of:

2.18 (1) one county commissioner from each county that is in the metropolitan
2.19 transportation area, appointed by its county board;

2.20 (2) one elected city representative from each county that is in the metropolitan
2.21 transportation area;

2.22 (3) one additional elected city representative from each county for every additional
2.23 400,000 in population, or fraction of 400,000, in the county that is above 400,000 in
2.24 population; and

2.25 (4) the chair of the Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee.

2.26 (d) Each city representative must be elected at a meeting of cities in the metropolitan
2.27 transportation area, which must be convened for that purpose by the Association of
2.28 Metropolitan Municipalities.

2.29 (e) The committee shall evaluate grant applications following objective criteria
2.30 established by the joint powers board, and must provide to the joint powers board a
2.31 selection list of transportation projects that includes a priority ranking.

2.32 (f) A grant award for a transit project located within the metropolitan area, as defined
2.33 in section 473.121, subdivision 2, may be funded only after the Metropolitan Council
2.34 reviews the project for consistency with the transit portion of the Metropolitan Council
2.35 policy plan and one of the following occurs:

2.36 (1) the Metropolitan Council finds the project to be consistent;

3.1 (2) the Metropolitan Council initially finds the project to be inconsistent, but after a
 3.2 good faith effort to resolve the inconsistency through negotiations with the joint powers
 3.3 board, agrees that the grant award may be funded; or

3.4 (3) the Metropolitan Council finds the project to be inconsistent, and submits the
 3.5 consistency issue for final determination to a panel, which determines the project to be
 3.6 consistent. The panel is composed of a member appointed by the chair of the Metropolitan
 3.7 Council, a member appointed by the joint powers board, and a member agreed upon by
 3.8 both the chair and the joint powers board.

3.9 (g) Grants must be funded by the proceeds of the taxes imposed under this section,
 3.10 bonds, notes, or other obligations issued by the joint powers board under subdivision 7.

3.11 ~~(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, in fiscal year 2009, of~~
 3.12 ~~the initial revenue collected under this section, the joint powers board shall allocate~~
 3.13 ~~at least \$30,783,000 to the Metropolitan Council for operating assistance for transit.~~

3.14 Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, of the initial revenue collected under this
 3.15 section, the joint powers board shall allocate to the Metropolitan Council:

3.16 (1) at least \$30,000,000 in fiscal year 2012; and

3.17 (2) at least \$39,199,000 in fiscal year 2013.

3.18 (i) The Metropolitan Council shall expend funds allocated under paragraph (h):

3.19 (1) for bus operations under sections 473.371 to 473.449, and excluding (i) bus rapid
 3.20 transit operations, and (ii) light rail transit and commuter rail operations under sections
 3.21 174.90, 473.3993 to 473.3999, and 473.4051 to 473.4057; and

3.22 (2) solely within those counties that are in the metropolitan transportation area.

3.23 (j) Nothing in paragraphs (h) or (i) prevents grant awards to the Metropolitan Council for
 3.24 capital and operating assistance for transit ways and park-and-ride facilities."

3.25 Page 20, after line 29, insert:

3.26 "Sec. 9 **METROPOLITAN LIVABLE COMMUNITIES FUND; TRANSFERS.**

3.27 (a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, sections 473.25 to 473.255, or any other
 3.28 law, the Metropolitan Council may transfer to its transit operating budget in 2011, 2012,
 3.29 and 2013, up to 50 percent of the sum of balances in, revenues in, and amounts otherwise
 3.30 credited, transferred, or distributed to, each of the following accounts in 2011, 2012,
 3.31 and 2013:

3.32 (1) the tax base revitalization account pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section
 3.33 473.252;

3.34 (2) the livable communities demonstration account pursuant to Minnesota Statutes,
 3.35 section 473.253; and

4.1 (3) the local housing incentives account pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section
 4.2 473.254.

4.3 (b) The council may not transfer funds under this section that are committed to
 4.4 grant or loan awards made by the council.

4.5 (c) The council shall use any amounts transferred under this section to cover
 4.6 operating deficits for transit services provided or assisted by the council under Minnesota
 4.7 Statutes, sections 473.371 to 473.449. If the council transfers funds pursuant to this
 4.8 section, the council shall amend the annual distribution plan described in Minnesota
 4.9 Statutes, section 473.25, paragraph (d), and include information about the transfer in the
 4.10 annual report required under Minnesota Statutes, section 473.25, paragraph (e).

4.11 Sec. 10. **RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION LOAN FUND; TRANSFERS.**

4.12 (a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 473.167, or any other law, the
 4.13 Metropolitan Council may transfer to its transit operating budget in 2011, 2012, and
 4.14 2013, up to 75 percent of the amounts levied and collected in 2011, 2012, and 2013 under
 4.15 Minnesota Statutes, section 473.167, subdivision 3. The council shall use the amounts
 4.16 transferred to cover operating deficits for transit services provided or assisted by the
 4.17 council under Minnesota Statutes, sections 473.371 to 473.449.

4.18 (b) If the council transfers funds pursuant to this section, the council shall within
 4.19 two weeks notify the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representatives
 4.20 and senate committees with jurisdiction over transportation policy and finance concerning
 4.21 the transfers.

4.22 Sec. 11. **APPLICATION.**

4.23 Sections 9 to 10 apply in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey,
 4.24 Scott, and Washington."

4.25 Page 34, line 30, delete "transportation" and insert "government"

4.26 Page 34, line 33, after the first semicolon insert: "authorizing temporary transfers
 4.27 from the metropolitan livable communities fund accounts and the right-of-way loan
 4.28 acquisition fund for transit operating deficits; modifying funding sources for metropolitan
 4.29 livable communities fund accounts;"

4.30 Renumber the sections in sequence and correct the internal references

4.31 Amend the title accordingly