

Economic Development Commission Item

April 14, 2026



Subject	Erik Hansen - Chief Executive Officer, SouthWest Transit (SWT)	
Section	<u>VISITOR PRESENTATIONS</u>	Item No: E.1
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SUMMARY

Erik Hansen - Chief Executive Officer, SouthWest Transit (SWT), will share information and updates about SouthWest Transit (SWT).

BACKGROUND

Erik Hansen - Chief Executive Officer

Erik grew up on an Iowa farm and then moved to Colorado, where he worked in marketing roles in the private sector and served as a County Commissioner, Mayor, and Councilmember in the Denver suburbs. Erik moved back to the Midwest to take a position as a City Administrator and has been CEO since June of 2023.

He completed his MBA from the University of Denver and his BA from Truman State University. Erik lives in Chanhassen; he enjoys spending time with his two college-age kids, is an avid skier, and spends way too much time on Zillow trolling homes and dreaming of his next home improvement project.

History of Southwest Transit

In 1986, the southwest Minneapolis suburbs of Chaska, Chanhassen, and Eden Prairie decided to opt out of the Metropolitan Transit Commission transit system under Minnesota State Statutes. Together, they formed their transit service, SouthWest Metro Transit, through a joint powers agreement.

Today, they are known as SouthWest Transit (SWT), an award-winning transit agency serving the SouthWest Twin Cities area through bus, on-demand rideshare, and shuttle services.

DISCUSSION

RECOMMENDATION

As this is a visitor presentation, no formal action is required.

ATTACHMENTS