

Meeting of the Central Corridor Business Advisory Committee July 16, 2007

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Tanya Bell, Denise Currie, Lori Fritts, Brenda Kyle, Sharon Johnson, Brian Thoemke, Christine Wiegert, Jim Roth, Kathy Bjerke, Khue Yang, Ken Hinz,

Members Absent: Harry Melander, Nell McClung, Chang Thao, Peter Latuff, Julio Fesser, David Jones, Sondra Reis, David Youmans, Tom Olesak, Jeannine Kessler, Guy Mingo, Kay Baker

Others Present: Robin Caufman, Jan Morlock, Beth Elliott, Jennifer Jordan, Eve Vang, Shoua Lee, Va-Megn Thoj, Rita Rodriguez, Nkongo Cigolo, Jessica Hill, Paul Mandell, Linda Jungwirth, Arlene McCarthy, Kathryn O'Brien

1. Welcome

Brief welcome by Lori Fritts, Co-Chair BAC

2. Introductions

Committee members introduced themselves and were asked to tell the location of their business or property they owned or operated. Modification of the Agenda out of respect for the speaker's time: Lake Street Business Mitigation and Next Steps moved forward in the Agenda.

3. Metropolitan Council Update

Robin Caufmann introduced the new staff working with the Metropolitan Council including Shoua Lee, Rita Rodriguez, Nkongo Cigolo, Jessica Hill. Committee members then heard about the Central Corridor Management Committee and the Central Corridor Community Advisory Committee. We also received a brief update on planning and contract work at the Metropolitan Council.

4. Land Use and LRT Planning

Karen Lyon introduced the topic of land use and LRT planning by reviewing the Federal Transit Administrations (FTA) expectations for land use information in the project application. The FTA likes to see progress on land use planning activities during the engineering and design process. Ms. Lyon reviewed the 4 FTA land use components they use in the evaluation process, including:

- Existing Land Use
- Transit-supportive plans & policies
- Performance & impacts of policies
- Other land use considerations Ms. Lyons also reviewed examples of each of these components before responding to questions.

The next presentation was given by Paul Mandell, Principal Planner for the (CAAPB). He provided an overview of the role of this agency. The CAAPB was created by the legislature to

address planning and design related issues with the historic Capitol area. Three of the stations fall under the CAAPB including the Rice Street, Capitol East and Cedar & 10th Streets Station. Projects the CAAPB is currently working on include (1) parking assessment and (2) upgrades and enhancements to the Capitol.

Jen Jordan and Beth Elliot presented the City of Minneapolis' land use planning activities. Ms. Jordan started with an overview of recent planning activities. The City is in the process of reviewing broad policies in its comprehensive plan. The City is also reviewing small area plans of three neighborhoods along the Central Corridor including University Ave. SE, SEMI and Cedar Riverside.

Ms. Elliot talked about the process for developing the small area plans. The City is planning for 1 year to complete the plan and is involving the public in the process, starting with the West Bank small area plan. The City is looking at issues related to land use, transportation and transit. The Cedar Riverside neighborhood will be unique in the city because it will be the only one to be served by two LRT stations. The City is incorporating transit oriented development and pedestrian access to the station area into the plan. Ms. Jordan discussed the SEMI area plan which is focusing on redevelopment of old industrial areas. The City is also addressing infrastructure issues such as stormwater management and transportation improvements to alleviate traffic on University. The plans are to promote it as an employment generator.

Ms. Jordan talked briefly about the 29th Avenue and University Avenue station. The City engaged the public in the land use planning decisions. The small area land use plan reflects the community's vision for the station area.

The City is also working on plans for the Downtown East/North Loop area that includes the new baseball stadium and lots of existing parking. The City already has regulatory measures in place to encourage transit oriented development around the station areas, such as all the development that has occurred in the historic mill district.

Orlyn Miller, Director of Planning and Architecture at the University of Minnesota, gave the next presentation. Mr. Miller focused his presentation of three activities (1) status of the campus master plan, (2) Central Corridor LRT campus study and (3) developments along the line. The U of M is working on plans around the new stadium, which in the long term will result in the reduction of surface parking and creation of a transit hub with a structured parking ramp. Plans for future development include construction of potentially 1 million square feet of research/office facilities near the stadium. After reviewing the information in the slides, Mr. Miller answered several questions.

Allen Lovejoy, Principal Planner, presented the City of St. Paul's land use planning activities including the Development Strategy. Mr. Lovejoy presented highlights of the City of St. Paul's Development Strategy. The next steps include looking at station area planning. The plan is to catch up to the City of Minneapolis with station area plans and development regulations to promote transit oriented development so that we can update the new starts application to meet FTA expectations. The City will also look at pedestrian and bike access, especially north/south and radial links from the stations. Due to time, Mr. Lovejoy abbreviated his presentation. There were no questions