

Metropolitan Council

Metropolitan Council Chambers, 390 No. Robert St., St. Paul, Mn. 55101

**Meeting of the Central Corridor Management Committee
March 11, 2009**

Members Present	Peter Bell, Chair	Scott McBride	Kathleen O'Brien (Bob Baker – alt)
	Toni Carter	Rafael Ortega	Peter McLaughlin
	Jim Westerhaus	Chris Coleman	Tom Hanson (Keith Bogut – alt.)
	Reynaldo Aligada	Bob McFarlin	
Members Absent	Paul Krause	R.T. Rybak	

1. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was present when Chair Peter Bell called the March 11, 2009 regular meeting of the Central Corridor Management Committee to order at 1:10 pm at the Metropolitan Council offices at 390 North Robert St., St. Paul.

2. APPROVAL OF 2/11/08 MINUTES

A motion was made by Coleman, seconded by Westerhaus to approve the minutes from the 2/11/09 meeting. The motion carried.

3. BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL (BAC) AND COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) REPORTS

Karri Plowman reported from the BAC. The BAC reviewed the streetscaping plan and businesses commented on items that should be addressed now, such as the overhead cantenary poles, 4th street utility movement concerns. In answer to an earlier question from Coleman, Plowman reported that the BAC is working on a “what have you heard” document and has prepared a preliminary 7-page document that, when complete, will be distributed to the community.

Robin Cauffman reported from the CAC. The CAC discussed many of the same items that were before the CCMC in February. Comments on construction packages, timing, access, etc. have been forwarded to the construction staff. The CAC is looking at various communication techniques to apply during construction. The next meeting will include discussions regarding the public art process, power traction substation update, and the DBE plan. A schedule for the public art process meetings was distributed to the CCMC.

4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY

Gary Erickson presented an update on the operations and maintenance facility proposed for the Diamond Products Building site in Lowertown. The presentation included the community comments and concerns, and responses to those concerns. Erickson cited other sites that were considered and the reasons the sites were rejected.

5. 4th STREET ALIGNMENT – UNION DEPOT STATION TO BROADWAY STREET

Dan Soler gave an update on the 4th Street alignment from the end station at the Union Depot to the Diamond Products Building (proposed O&M site). The 4th street alignment was proposed to be a one-way street. In response to the City of St. Paul concerns that the street remains a 2-way, the project office has redesigned track centers. Because this section of the track is after the last station and the trains are going only to and from the maintenance facility, the trains are able to move more slowly and should not be passing each other. Full stops at intersections will eliminate the need for the train bells. The lower speed will lessen the noise and vibration. Train traffic will be mostly early/and late in the day.

6. DBE PLAN

March 11, 2009 Central Corridor Management Committee Meeting

Wanda Kirkpatrick presented an overview of the Federal DBE Program, Met Council's DBE program, DBE outreach efforts, DBE monitoring and achievement. Committee members discussed whether "good faith effort" is enough to achieve goals, and why the Metro Council uses State DBE goals. Kirkpatrick will report to Chair Bell the reasons why Metro Council uses State DBE goals and whether there is any flexibility. McLaughlin suggested that Metro Council share information with the Twins Ballpark staff regarding the ballpark staff experience with preparation in order to achieve the workforce to meet DBE goals.

7. CONTINGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mark Fuhrmann reported on the Contingency Management Process, including eligibility, base scope and mitigation measures and discussion regarding betterments to the base scope. Coleman stated that the University Avenue streetscape issues are important and the City of St. Paul will be working hard to see how these betterments could be financed. He questioned whether there is a way to measure a betterment's attribution to the project as a whole, and said he would like to see criteria for this. McLaughlin stated that the committee must remember the core function of the line and the possible need for 3-car trains, and McFarlin stated that costs and overruns could face the project and there may be a need later to discuss the possible use of contingency funds to operate the line.

8. NEXT MEETING – April 8, 2009 1:00 PM

Motion by McLaughlin, seconded by Baker and passed, to adjourn the 3/11/09 CCMC meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, LuAnne Major, Recording Secretary