

Metropolitan Council

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

Meeting of the Central Corridor Management Committee

May 13, 2009

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was present when Chair Peter Bell called the May 13, 2009 regular meeting of the Central Corridor Management Committee to order at 1:05 pm at the Metropolitan Council offices at 390 North Robert St., St. Paul.

2. APPROVAL OF 4/08/08 MINUTES

A motion was made by Westerhaus, seconded by McBride to approve the minutes from the 4/08/09 meeting. The motion carried.

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

Kirsten Sersland Beach reported from the CAC. The Parking Solutions Team report was presented at the April 16 meeting by Dan Soler and Craig Blakley. The CAC members provided feedback to the report. There was discussion about encouraging transit use for employees, parking spaces available, entrances in the back of retail space, alley lighting/security and upgrades, residences facing back entrances. There also was discussion about “hide-and-riders”, people who park in the neighborhoods and ride the LRT. Next meeting is May 21st, and will include station design and public art.

Robin Caufman reported from the BAC. Parking issues were discussed, many of the same issues were discussed at the BAC as at the CAC. Snow removal along University Avenue, with the operation of LRT, was also discussed. There was suggestion to have some of the parking management strategies be in place prior to operation (also prior to construction) of the LRT, to give the public/business owners/employees a chance to get used to the changes. Next meeting is May 18th and will include discussion about station design, public art, and business mitigation.

4. WTS PRESENTATION OF THE ROSA PARKS DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

Mary Gute, WTS Minnesota Immediate Past President, presented the Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award for the work of the Central Corridor Community Outreach staff for their work in the spirit of inclusiveness in the community.

5. 4TH STREET AREAWAYS

Dan Soler, CCPO Engineer, presented this item to the committee. Areaways are the location/space within public right-of-way under sidewalks. Some areaways are occupied by permit and can be basement levels of buildings. St. Paul ordinance states that the property owners are responsible for vacating or dealing with the aspects of what they have in the areaway when a public project needs to use that areaway. The CCPO has been identifying how the different areaways are being used, what will be the impacts of CCLRT to that areaway, on Fourth Street in St. Paul. Soler presented the locations and options on Fourth Street pertaining to areaway roofs and light/OCS poles.

6. STATION DESIGN STATUS/ARTIST CONCEPTS

Mark Fuhrmann introduced Alicia Vap, Project Manager for Station Design & Streetscape at the CCPO. Vap gave an update on the station designs. The stations have a consistent footprint; the ticket vending machine, shelters, signage will be standard. The primary materials include copper, concrete, steel, brick and metal. The artists can have some flexibility in the color and material of some of the elements in the station. A cost update was performed in April, and the costs remain within the project budget. There can be adjustments to the canopy design; it would be considered a third-party betterment.

Vap named the five artists and the three stations that each are assigned (listed below), and explained the different styles of the artists, and shared the artists initial concepts. The artists have a budget of \$187,000.

Nancy Blum – West Bank, East Bank, Fairview

Roberto Delgado – Stadium Village, Snelling Avenue, 4th Street & Cedar Ave

Seitu Jones – Lexington Parkway, Dale Street, Rice Street

Janet Lofquist – 29th Avenue, Capitol East, 10th Street

Myklebust & Sears – Westgate, Raymond, Union Depot

Vap highlighted the process and next steps for the public art process.

7. CASH FLOW UPDATE

Mark Fuhrmann gave a cash flow update for the project. He answered Carter's question that the vehicle sales tax exemption is included in the expenditure chart. McLaughlin pointed out that, although the finance charges amount is "outside" of the CEI it is, nevertheless, an expenditure in real dollars. There is a need to communicate to the Congressional District the need for dollars up front in the project. Bell has been in conversations with the delegation about the need for additional resources.

Fuhrmann pointed out the FTA 2010 New Starts ratings elevated from medium - to medium-high - on the overall rating and the project justification.

Fuhrmann gave an update of the peer projects vying for federal funds.

8. WASHINGTON AVE. BRIDGE – UPPER PEDESTRIAN LEVEL – HENNEPIN COUNTY

Joe Gladke, Hennepin County Manager of Engineering Transportation Planning, gave an update of the Washington Avenue Bridge and pedestrian deck modifications. The modifications were performed in March and April (completed in April). This work does not address structural issues pertaining to LRT operation on the bridge.

9. LAFAYETTE BRIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - MnDOT

Chris Roy, MnDOT, presented this item to the committee. MnDOT is working with the CCPO to design the new Lafayette Bridge with the proposed CCLRT Operation and Maintenance and track location in mind.

10. NEXT MEETING – June10, 2009 1:00 PM

Chair Bell asked for comments and requested topics from members for future meetings.

Carter asked for an update on mitigation and impacts on University Avenue, and the disproportionate transit improvement for the neighborhood close to Western Avenue.

McLaughlin advised that the bonding bill is being debated on the House Floor at present. The proposed bill contains \$26 M for High Speed Rail and Passenger Rail (to go through MnDOT), \$21M for LRT/BRT/Transit (\$8.5M off the top for Central Corridor, the \$12.5M balance to be used for a list of projects-some of which are included in this project (managed through Metro Council with Counties Transit Improvement Authority and any other appropriate entities involved in the particular project). Bell stated that the Central Corridor will move forward regardless of the passage of this bonding bill.

Motion by Carter, seconded by Wagenius to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, LuAnne Major, Recording Secretary

