

Metropolitan Council

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

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Meeting of the Central Corridor Management Committee

**July 8, 2009**

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|-----------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Members Present | Peter Bell, Chair                    | Tom Hanson<br>(Keith Bogut – alt.) | Kathleen O’Brien<br>(Bob Baker – alt.) |
|                 | Toni Carter<br>(Jackie Cooper – alt) | Rafael Ortega                      | Peter McLaughlin                       |
|                 | Jim Westerhaus                       | Khani Sahebjam                     | Reynaldo Aligada                       |
|                 | Chris Coleman<br>(Russ Stark – alt)  |                                    |  |
| Members Absent  | Paul Krause                          | Robert McFarlin                    | R.T. Rybak                             |

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum was present when Chair Peter Bell called the July 8, 2009 regular meeting of the Central Corridor Management Committee to order at 1:00 pm at the Metropolitan Council offices at 390 North Robert St., St. Paul.

**2. APPROVAL OF 6/10/09 MINUTES**

A motion was made by Westerhaus, seconded by Stark to approve the minutes from the 6/10/09 meeting. The motion carried.

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

Karri Plowman reported that the Central Corridor Partnership has brought a vendor under contract to work on a construction marketing plan. The University Ave. Business Association, the St. Paul Area Chamber. the Midway Chamber are on board. There will be a series of meetings directly with business and property owners, The vendor will take the input and formulate 2 or 3 ideas for the businesses that a small committee can select from. It will be a local campaign. The idea will brought to the “First Friday” group which is made up of staff of the agencies and many of the project partners to create plans to implement the campaign.

Plowman added that the BAC will be moving to agendas dealing mostly with mitigation concerns at future meetings.

Robin Caufman reported from the CAC. Fuhrmann presented some of the mitigation strategies to address noise, traffic, and vibration. Discussion was held about addressing access during construction. There also was discussion and review of the construction communication plan for the Fourth Street utility relocation. This plan will be expanded and applied to University Avenue and the entire corridor as the project moves forward. Member feedback and suggestions were requested for working through organizations to convey communication. The July CAC meeting has been canceled; the BAC will meet in July.

Two public meetings will be held (one has been held already) with stakeholder and downtown businesses to share information about the 4<sup>th</sup> Street utility relocation. A new e-mail system has been implemented called “constant contact” to send out information. Contact Robin Caufman for information.

**4. PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Mark Fuhrmann presented the Final Environmental Impact Statement and offered copies to the committee members. The FEIS has been published by the FTA; the comment period closes 7/27. Fuhrmann also presented a detailed project schedule and highlighted important activities that are coming up in August 2009.

## **5. IN-FILL STATION SCENARIOS**

Mark Fuhrmann presented seven in-fill station scenarios (A through G) in response to CCMC request. Any or all of the scenarios are feasible. Fuhrmann explained each of the scenarios in detail and how each could affect the CEI, project schedule, budget and funding impact. The committee discussed and asked questions of Fuhrmann to clarify several points.

The committee also discussed Scenario F in detail regarding the use of contingency funds to build an in-fill station, and adding the language into the bidder's documents (add-alternate) for the possibility of constructing an in-fill station with possible release of contingency money, if available.

Based on committee discussion, Fuhrmann will review the schedule durations to see what is currently assumed for station construction excluding sub-grade work. He will provide an estimate of the time to construct a station to committee members to aid in their decision making for infill stations.

Fuhrmann also noted the next steps toward infill station decisions.

## **6. ACCESS DURING CONSTRUCTION**

Dan Soler explained the two different types of access that need consideration during construction: pedestrian - employees, customers & residential; vehicular - garbage pick-up, buses, deliveries & parking lots. There are typical strategies that are used to accommodate access during construction. Soler presented slides of examples of some of the strategies. Khani Sahebjam stated that this is a Design/Bid/Build project and contractors may propose different and innovative methods of providing access during construction, using best practices. Soler stated that the bidding documents will not be so restrictive as to prevent contractors from being innovative.

Robin Cauffman gave an update of the outreach and communication plans to inform the public, businesses and property owners during construction.

## **7. HIAWATHA LRT BIKE EXPERIENCE**

Jim Alexander reported on the Hiawatha LRT bike experience including a map of bike locker locations and bike boarding statistics. McLaughlin suggested surveying people as to whether they like the bike docking stations on LRT. Denver allows people to stand with their bikes on the train. Baker questioned whether 4 racks per car are enough, need to look at where bike path locations cross the LRT line, and may need additional capacity. Baker also suggested that CCPO staff have on-going discussions with a committee from the U of M on specifications, numbers, etc.

## **8. NEXT MEETING – AUGUST 12, 2009 1:00 PM**

There were no new items from committee members.

Motion by Baker, seconded by Stark to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, LuAnne Major, Recording Secretary