

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: February 8, 2016

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 24, 2016

<b>Subject:</b>	Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension) Updated Station Names
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Metropolitan Councils Transitway Guidelines
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Mark W. Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager, 612-373-3810 Craig Lamothe, SWLRT Project Director, 612-373-3830 Robin Caufman, Asst. Dir. A/C/O, 651-602-1457
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Metro Transit / Green Line Extension Project Office

### Proposed Action

The Metropolitan Council (Council) approve the revised station names for the Southwest (Green Line Extension) Light Rail Project:

Current Name	Revised Name
Royalston	Royalston Ave/Farmers Market
Van White	
Penn Ave	Bryn Mawr
21 <sup>st</sup> St	West 21 <sup>st</sup> St

### Background

Several project partners have proposed several station name changes and have asked for the process and timeline for changing station names on the METRO Green Line Extension (SWLRT). Further, there are two proposed stations on the Green Line Extension that have the same name as two proposed stations on the Blue Line Extension. Per the Metropolitan Council's Transitways Guidelines, stations need to be distinct from each other to avoid complications with system integration and confusion from the general public.

The Regional Transitways Guidelines provide the following guidance about station naming:

- The name should reflect local geography (major cross-street or landmark).
- The name should be easy for the general public to recognize, particularly potential transit customers who are not familiar with the region and/or the corridor.
- The name should be distinct from the names of other stations to the extent feasible so that the name does not create confusion for potential customers or emergency responders.
- The name should be succinct and the use of two names for one station should be avoided.

## Rationale

The following table summarizes the current station names' consistency with the Transitway Guidelines.

Station	Consistency with <i>Transitways Guidelines</i>
Royalston Ave	Consistent, street; adding Farmers Market would make it more recognized to general public
Van White Mem Blvd	Inconsistent, duplicate name with BLRT
Penn Ave	Inconsistent, duplicate name with BLRT
21 <sup>st</sup> St	Consistent, major street, adding "West" would make it consistent with street signs
West Lake Street	Consistent, major street
Beltline Blvd	Consistent, major street
Wooddale Ave	Consistent, major street
Louisiana Ave	Consistent, major street
Blake Rd	Consistent, major street
Downtown Hopkins	Consistent, landmark of downtown Hopkins
Shady Oak	Consistent, landmark of existing industrial park and redevelopment area
Opus	Consistent, landmark of business campus
City West	Consistent, landmark of existing parkway and mixed use area
Golden Triangle	Consistent, landmark of business campus
SouthWest Station	Consistent, landmark of business campus, SWT station

Staff proposed potential names for those stations to start the discussion and sought feedback from the cities and the Southwest LRT advisory committees.

There was general consensus for retaining or revising all station names except Van White Station. The Corridor Management Committee did request additional consultation with local stakeholders regarding the preferred new name for Van White Station. Staff will engage with stakeholders between the committee and Council meetings and make a recommendation to the Council for its consideration on February 24, 2016.

## Funding

Revising the station names at this time before the construction bid documents are finalized avoids costly change orders later.

## Known Support / Opposition

The cities along the alignment as well as the Southwest LRT Technical Project Advisory Committee, Community Works Steering Committee, Community Advisory Committee, Business Advisory Committee and Corridor Management Committee provided feedback on station names.