

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 25, 2016

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 10, 2016

Subject: Authorization to release the recommended *C Line Station Plan* for public comment

District(s), Member(s): District 7, Gary Cunningham; District 2, Lona Schreiber

Policy/Legal Reference: Public Accountability Policy 2-1; Public Involvement in the Transportation Planning Process 1-3b

Staff Prepared/Presented:

Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510

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Katie Roth, Project Manager, BRT/Small Starts, 612-349-7772

Scott Janowiak, Planner, BRT/Small Starts, 612-341-5733

Division/Department: Metro Transit, BRT/Small Starts Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Authorize release of the recommended C Line Station Plan for public review and comment
- Direct staff to collect comments through Friday, March 11, 2016 via mail and email, summarize comments, and report the findings to the Metropolitan Council

Background

The recommended *C Line Station Plan* identifies station locations for the C Line bus rapid transit (BRT) corridor. Recommended station locations result from planning activities that began in 2013 and continued through the end of 2015 in partnership with Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis.

A draft version of this plan was published on November 6, 2015. Comments on the draft *C Line Station Plan* were accepted through December 20, 2015. Five open houses, transit rider outreach, and neighborhood meetings were held during this comment period to gather input on planned station locations. Over 150 comments were received. Upon completion and approval, the plan will identify the final planned locations for C Line stations in advance of detailed design and engineering.

Rationale

The proposed comment period continues transparent and meaningful discussion with the public about the C Line. It also provides an opportunity for staff and the Council to better understand the components of the recommended *C Line Station Plan* that are important to communities in the corridor.

Funding

The C Line planning process has been funded using Metro Transit operating budget resources. Full funding for delivery of the C Line project is not yet identified.

Known Support / Opposition

Public engagement on the draft plan has identified strong support for the C Line and transit improvements in the Penn Avenue corridor. Local partners have been supportive of the project and will continue to be closely involved as the project transitions into the detailed design and engineering phase.