

# Southwest LRT Final Environmental Impact Statement – Notice of Availability

**Project Title:** Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (LRT) (METRO Green Line Extension) Project

**Description:** The Metropolitan Council (Council) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued a Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS), Final Section 4(f) Evaluation, and Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement for the Southwest LRT Project (METRO Green Line Extension). The Southwest LRT Project is approximately 14.5 miles of new double-track proposed as an extension of the METRO Green Line (Central Corridor LRT). It will operate from downtown Minneapolis through the communities of St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka, and Eden Prairie, passing in close proximity to Edina. Based on findings from the Project’s Alternatives Analysis and input received from the public and agencies, the Council identified the Project’s Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) on May 26, 2010. The LPA was incorporated within two of the seven alternatives evaluated in the Draft EIS published on October 12, 2012: LRT 3A (relocation) and LRT 3A-1 (co-location). After publication of the Draft EIS, the Council undertook a process to develop and evaluate potential adjustments to LRT 3A and LRT 3A-1 based on comments received on the Draft EIS. FTA and the Council determined that some of the design adjustments in the cities of Eden Prairie, St. Louis Park, and Minneapolis; and the proposed operations and maintenance facility in Hopkins had the potential to result in new adverse impacts. Those design adjustments were evaluated in a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation Update, published on May 22, 2015.

The Final EIS documents the following:

- purpose and need for the Project;
- alternatives considered;
- anticipated impacts that will result from implementing the Project, including avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures;
- description of the Project’s public involvement and agency coordination;
- Project’s proposed finance plan;
- comments received during the Draft EIS, Supplemental Draft EIS, and Amended Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation public comment periods; and,
- responses to comments.

Comments on the adequacy of the Final EIS may be submitted in writing to Nani Jacobson (contact information below) through June 13, 2016. Following the review period and consideration of the comments received on the adequacy of the FEIS, a Federal Record of Decision and Minnesota State Adequacy Determination are anticipated. The Record of Decision and Adequacy Determination will document the Council’s and FTA’s final decision regarding the environmental phase of the Project.

**Document Availability:** The Final EIS; including the Section 4(f) Evaluation, Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement, and all appendices; is available online at [www.metrocouncil.org/swlрт/feis](http://www.metrocouncil.org/swlрт/feis).

The Final EIS is available at the locations listed below. A CD of the Final EIS is available upon request.

- **Eden Prairie City Hall:** 8080 Mitchell Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55344
- **Eden Prairie Public Library:** 565 Prairie Center Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55344
- **Minnetonka City Hall:** 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka, MN 55345
- **Minnetonka Public Library:** 17524 Excelsior Blvd., Minnetonka, MN 55345
- **Hopkins City Hall:** 1010 First Street South, Hopkins, MN 55343
- **Hopkins Public Library:** 22 Eleventh Avenue North, Hopkins, MN 55343
- **Edina City Hall:** 4801 West 50th Street, Edina, MN 55424
- **St. Louis Park City Hall:** 5005 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park, MN 55416
- **St. Louis Park Public Library:** 3240 Library Lane, St. Louis Park, MN 55426
- **Southwest LRT Project Office:** 6465 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 500, St. Louis Park, MN 55426
- **Minneapolis City Hall:** City Engineer's Office, 350 South Fifth Street, Room 203, Minneapolis, MN 55414
- **Minneapolis Central Library:** 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN
- **Walker Public Library:** 2880 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55408
- **Linden Hills Public Library:** 2900 West 43rd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55410
- **Sumner Public Library:** 611 Van White Memorial Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55411
- **Franklin Public Library:** 1314 East Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55404
- **Metropolitan Council Library:** 390 Robert Street North, St. Paul, MN 55101
- **Minnesota Department of Transportation Library:** 395 John Ireland Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155
- **Minnesota Legislative Reference Library:** 645 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155

To request special accommodations, contact Dan Pfeiffer, Southwest LRT Assistant Public Involvement Manager, at 612-373-3897 or [Daniel.pfeiffer@metrotransit.org](mailto:Daniel.pfeiffer@metrotransit.org) at least ten days prior to the end of the comment period.

**Responsible Governmental Unit:** Metropolitan Council

**Contact Person:**

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