

**APPENDIX C:
Central Corridor BRT Alternative Construction Duration**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kathryn O'Brien
Environmental Services Manager

FROM: James Gersema, PE

DATE: October 23, 2012

SUBJECT: CENTRAL CORRIDOR BRT ALTERNATIVE CONSTRUCTION DURATION

The Central Corridor Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) alternative is proposed to contain sections of dedicated guideway operation and sections of mixed traffic operation. It is assumed that both types of BRT section would require full reconstruction of the corridor to provide improved pavement strength and rideability, pedestrian facilities, and reconstructed utilities. In addition, the BRT alternative assumes that transit stations would be constructed with the same amenities as the Light Rail Transit (LRT) alternative, and that there would be similar bridge replacement and/or rehabilitation along the corridor with the exception that a new bridge over I-35W would not be needed, and that modification to the existing LRT bridge over I-35W would not be needed.

The overall construction timeline of the BRT alternative can reasonably be expected to be shorter in duration than the LRT alternative; however, the duration of the civil work activities and station construction is expected to be slightly longer. The difference in civil work activities is the result of the differing alignment alternatives through downtown Minneapolis. The LRT alternative is able to utilize the Hiawatha LRT track and stations, while the BRT alternative would be routed on 4th Street in mixed traffic. This alternate alignment adds more than an additional mile of corridor pavement rehabilitation, pedestrian facility upgrades, and station construction.

The construction timeline for the LRT alternative includes additional time dedicated to construction and testing of the train communication and power systems and the construction of the operations and maintenance facility; these are activities that would not be needed for the BRT alternative, thus, reducing the overall duration of BRT construction.

JDG/gjd

cc: Beth Bartz, SRF
Mona Elabbady, SRF

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O'Brien, Kathryn

From: Soler, Dan
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2012 9:16 AM
To: O'Brien, Kathryn
Subject: BRT Construction Duration
Attachments: 121023_Memo_O'Brien.pdf.pdf

Kathryn,

I have reviewed the attached memo prepared by SRF regarding the proposed duration of a BRT alternative for the Central Corridor project. I concur with the analysis presented in the memorandum. I agree that the overall timeline of construction of a BRT alternative would be less due to the elimination of the systems construction and testing of the project. I also agree that the civil construction portion of the project (roadways, utilities, stations, etc.) would be at least as long or longer than the civil construction associated with the LRT project.

Thanks for the opportunity to review and comment on this issue.

DAN

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