

# Making Tracks



June 2007

## Four outreach coordinators know seven languages

The Central Corridor LRT Project has hired four community outreach coordinators who know seven languages among them and assigned them to specific geographic areas on the ethnically diverse route. The four and their territories are:

### Snelling & Lexington

Nkongo Cigolo (pronounced EN'-kong-goh SEEG'-uh-loh) – Formerly outreach coordinator for the Rural Integrated Development Program of Africa based until recently in Golden Valley, he speaks Swahili, French and English. Contact: 651-602-1559, [nkongo.cigolo@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:nkongo.cigolo@metc.state.mn.us)

### 29th Ave., Stadium Village, East Bank, West Bank

Jessica Hill – Previously a support services staffer for the National Institute of Health Policy, she knows Somali, French, American Sign Language and English. Contact: 651-602-1840, [Jessica.hill@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:Jessica.hill@metc.state.mn.us)

### Dale, Rice and Capitol East

Shoua Lee (pronounced SHOO'-ah LEE') – Formerly project manager/loan specialist for the city of St. Paul's Department of Planning and Economic Development, she speaks Hmong and English. Contact: 651-602-1014, [shoua.lee@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:shoua.lee@metc.state.mn.us)

### Fairview, Raymond and Westgate

Rita Rodriguez – Executive director for the Association of Women Contractors and a previous business owner on University Avenue, she speaks Spanish and English. Contact: 651-602-1805, [rita.rodriguez@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:rita.rodriguez@metc.state.mn.us)

### Downtown Minneapolis, Downtown St. Paul

Robin Caufman – A planning analyst/sector representative with the Met Council for six years, she became manager of public involvement last October and supervises the outreach coordinators. Contact: 651-602-1457, [robin.caufman@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:robin.caufman@metc.state.mn.us)

The project also hired recent College of St. Benedict graduate Eve Vang in May to help with outreach until September. She speaks Hmong and English.

## Firm with experience in complex light rail projects gets Central Corridor contract

The Central Corridor LRT Project selected a consultant this month to begin the preliminary engineering study so the largest one-time public works project in the state's history can move forward. The Metropolitan Council voted to give its regional administrator authorization to negotiate and execute a contract up to \$35.5 million with DMJM Harris, a New York-based engineering firm that has tackled light rail projects in southern New Jersey, Los Angeles and Dallas. The contract includes many local businesses as subcontractors.

### For more information about the project, visit:

<http://www.metrocouncil.org/transportation/ccorridor/centralcorridor.htm>.

**Questions or Comments?** Call the Met Council comment line at 651-602-1500 or e-mail us at

[data.center@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:data.center@metc.state.mn.us)

