

Making Tracks



November 2010

Downtown St. Paul



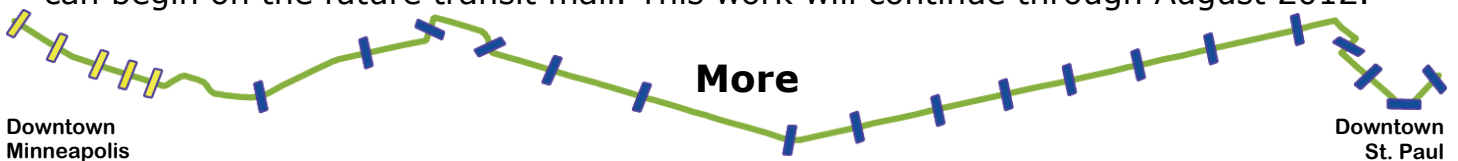
Fourth Street in downtown St. Paul is reopen to vehicle traffic between Minnesota and Broadway streets. Utility relocation and road construction are substantially complete there.

Utility work, road construction substantially done on Fourth Street

Fourth Street in downtown St. Paul is reopen to traffic after crews substantially completed utility relocation and road construction the day before Thanksgiving. In December, crews will finish installing pavers, lights, traffic signals and pole foundations for the overhead system of wires that will power the light-rail trains. Work in 2011 and 2012 will involve laying tracks, building stations and installing the electrical and communication systems.

In the Capitol area, private utility relocation began this summer, and public utility relocation and heavy construction began after Labor Day on Robert and 12th streets north of Interstate 94. The work will be substantially done in November 2011.

On the East Bank of Minneapolis, crews have substantially completed road improvements started over the summer to prepare streets around Washington Avenue to handle more traffic when it is converted into a transit mall. Washington will be closed to traffic in May 2011 after University of Minnesota classes end so work can begin on the future transit mall. This work will continue through August 2012.



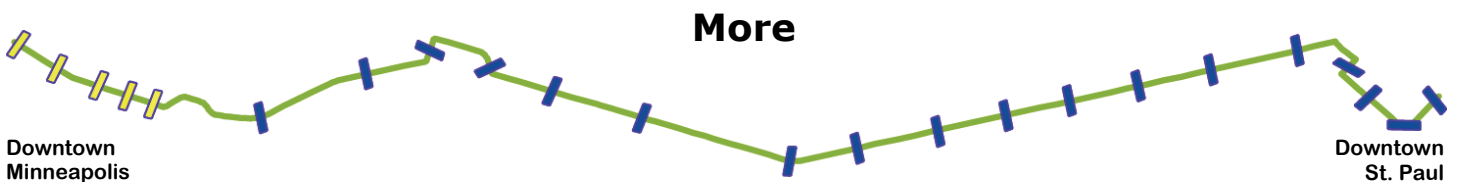


Heavy construction (continued from Page 1)...

In the beginning of October, Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy began work to relocate and upgrade utility lines that are underground on the West Bank near Cedar and Washington avenues. CenterPoint has completed its work on Washington. Xcel work will continue into early 2011 depending on weather. Construction on the West Bank and work to strengthen the Washington Avenue bridge, which began at the end of November, will be substantially complete in November 2012.



In mid-November, crews paved Fourth Street in front of the Sibley Square Ramp.





Downtown St. Paul construction information session

Two Central Corridor Light Rail Transit construction informational sessions will be held Dec. 9 to cover construction details and general timeline for construction on Fourth Street, Cedar Street, the operation and maintenance facility and the skyway on Fifth Street between Cedar and Minnesota streets. The meetings are identical and will cover the same information; two are being offered to make it easier for more people to attend.

Central Corridor LRT Informational Sessions

Dec. 9
3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
First National Bank Building, Training Center
332 Minnesota St. (5th/Minnesota entrance)
St. Paul, MN

Dec. 9
6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
US Bank Center
101 E. 5th St., Ste. 240
St. Paul, MN

Representatives from the Central Corridor Project Office (CCPO) will be at these meetings with project partners.

Please RSVP your attendance to community outreach coordinator Dana Happel at dana.happel@metc.state.mn.us or 651-602-1954.

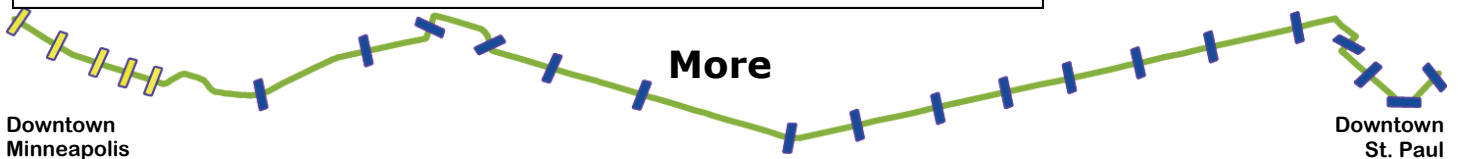


Capitol-area



Crews built a new driveway in November off of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to the governor's parking lot because the driveway from University Avenue will be closed to make room for LRT tracks.

Roger Carrera (inset) is the earthworks/utilities supervisor for Walsh Construction. Walsh is building the line's eastern seven miles, including the stretch in front of the Orville Freeman State Office Building above.



West Bank utility relocation



Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy began relocating and upgrading utilities in October on the West Bank near Cedar and Washington avenues. CenterPoint has completed its work on Washington. Xcel work will continue into early 2011 depending on the weather. Construction on the West Bank and work to strengthen the Washington Avenue bridge will be substantially complete in November 2012.



Read about construction plans for the University of Minnesota and the Washington Avenue bridge at <http://tinyurl.com/238y4x8>





Western St. Paul portion of University Avenue

A subcontractor examines and prepares to photograph the exterior of the Carleton Lofts on University Avenue as part of a pre-condition survey before construction begins in March 2011 on the western St. Paul segment of University Avenue from Emerald Street to Hamline Avenue.

University Ave. gets ready for construction start in March 2011

Heavy construction for the Central Corridor LRT Project on University Avenue will begin in March 2011 at Emerald Street and progress eastward to Hamline Avenue through November. Properties between Hamline and Robert Street will have another year to prepare before construction begins in their area in March 2012.

Pre-construction activities began this fall between Emerald and Hamline.

Crews painted utility markings so utilities would know where to dig small holes to confirm locations of underground lines before beginning utility relocation.

Temporary traffic signal poles were installed in November before the ground froze so existing traffic signal poles can be removed next spring to make room for road and sidewalk reconstruction.

Contractor crews have completed examinations of buildings fronting University Avenue to note their current conditions before construction starts.

For questions about these activities, contact Rita Rodriguez, community outreach coordinator for the University Avenue area from Emerald to Griggs Street, at rita.rodriguez@metc.state.mn.us or 651-602-1805.

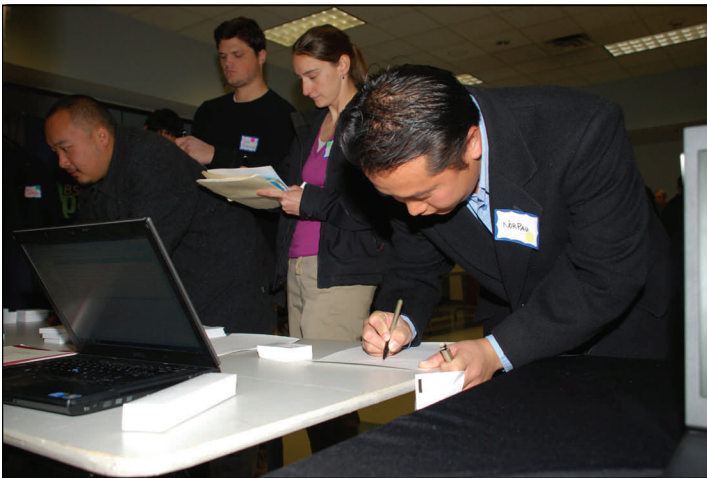


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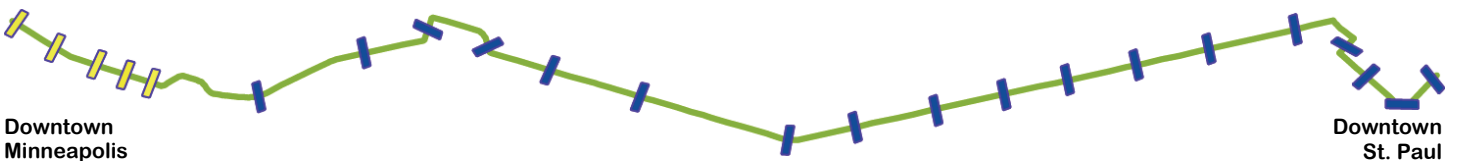
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At the Nov. 12 Construction Career Expo...

Rose Jenkins of St. Paul (right) was among more than 400 people who registered their information with www.LRTWorks.org, which provides contractors and subcontractors information about job seekers and their skills. Norpau Moua of St. Paul (below) takes notes while introducing himself to contractors and subcontractors.



Justin Dean (right), workforce coordinator for Ames-McCrossan, talks with several job seekers during the Construction Career Expo. Dean's firm will build the line's western three miles.



Downtown
Minneapolis

Downtown
St. Paul



About the project: The Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project will link downtown St. Paul and downtown Minneapolis along Washington and University avenues via the state Capitol and the University of Minnesota. Construction began in late summer 2010 on the planned 11-mile Central Corridor line, and service will begin in 2014. The line will connect with the Hiawatha LRT line at the Metrodome station in Minneapolis and the Northstar commuter rail line at the Target Field Station. The Metropolitan Council will be the grantee of federal funds. The regional government agency is charged with building the line in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The Central Corridor Management Committee, which includes commissioners from Ramsey and Hennepin counties, the mayors of St. Paul and Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota, provides advice and oversight. Funding is provided by the Federal Transit Administration, Counties Transit Improvement Board, state of Minnesota, Ramsey and Hennepin counties' regional railroad authorities, city of St. Paul, Metropolitan Council and the Central Corridor Funders' Collaborative.

Construction hotline is 651-602-1404. **For general questions or comments,** call 651-602-1645 or email centralcorridor@metc.state.mn.us

For more information, visit: www.centralcorridor.org

