



Jan. 9, 2014 St. Louis Park Town Hall Meeting Discussion Questions

Community Impacts

1. The St. Louis Park community has been through these analyses for many years. What would you like to see differently this time?
2. For those elected and appointed officials here tonight, what do you expect from them during this process.
3. What do you think St. Louis Park would need if the TC&W was rerouted through the community?
4. What would the residents of St. Louis Park like to see happen if building shallow tunnels is found to be impossible?
5. We've heard the community is concerned about the number of homes or businesses required to move freight rail safely as well as impacts to community cohesion. The consultant will quantify these impacts in the report. Are there other community impacts you think should be included in the report?

Technical Design and Engineering

1. The Met Council has identified proposed metrics based on community feedback (see **Proposed Metrics** handout) that will be measured or quantified in the report. Which are you most concerned about? Are there others that you would like to see in the report?
2. As part of the scope of work, the independent consultants will quantify technical details such as grade, curves, compensate grade, reverse curves. Are there other technical details you think should be addressed in the report?
3. What do you want decision makers to know generally about the technical issues?

Safety Considerations

1. We've heard significant concerns about safety and freight rail. It is proposed that the report identify metrics such as proximity to homes and schools as well as at grade crossings. Are there any other safety metrics you think should be included?
2. The freight rail consultant will quantify the number of homes that will need to be acquired for each relocation option. How many homes are too many before you'd suggest dropping the alternative?
3. The freight rail consultant will quantify the proximity of freight rail tracks to homes. How close is too close and would you suggest that the home be acquired if that alternative was selected?

Freight Rail Operational Considerations

1. The independent consultant is working with the freight railroads to understand the operational impacts of relocation alternatives to their business. What are your concerns about this issue?
2. The consultant will assess operational impacts of relocation alternatives to a railroad company and the businesses it serves. How concerned are you about impacts to those Minnesota businesses?

Significant Obstacles to Implementation

1. As part of the scope of work, the consultant will identify significant obstacles to freight rail implementation, which could include the removal or installation of major utilities or freight rail facilities. Other issues could include procedural issues such as the relocation rail service requiring federal approval. What are other significant obstacles?

Costs

1. The consultant will be looking at the cost of construction, operations and ongoing maintenance. Are there other costs that should be considered?