

**Southwest Light Rail Transitway (SWLRT)
Community Advisory Committee Meeting**

April 24, 2014

**Southwest Project Office
6465 Wayzata Blvd, Suite 500
St. Louis Park, MN 55426
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM**

Meeting Summary

CAC Members and Alternates: Ann Beuch, Art Higinbotham, Barry Schade, Bob Aderhold, Bob Tift, David Greene, Donald Eyberg, Jeff Ylinen, Jennifer Munt, Jeanette Colby, John Erickson, Kandi Arries, Matt Flory, Neil Trembley, Rolf Peterson, Vicki Moore, Claudia Johnston-Madison, Lisa Walker

Agency Staff and Guests: Craig Lamothe, Sam O’Connell, Sophia Ginis, Daren Nyquist, Dan Pfeiffer, Laura Baenen, Tania Mahtani, Brent Schleck, Amanda Kappes, Kevin Locke, Katie Walker, Larry Moran, Kerri Pearce Ruch, HD Peterson

1. Welcome and Introductions

CAC Co-Chair Munt opened the meeting with a round of introductions. Co-Chair Munt asked if there were any changes to the meeting minutes from March 27, 2014.

Claudia Johnston-Madison noted that she wasn’t listed as attending. She also asked to have “Claudia Johnston-Madison asked if this means increased operating costs and Mark Wegner said he did not know at this time” added to the minutes on page three third paragraph. Finally, that the comments attributed to Julie Williams beginning on page seven under CAC Recommendation to CMC should be attributed to her not Julie Williams.

Co-Chair Munt noted that she and Co-Chair Colby were not listed in the attendance list and should be added.

Co-Chair Colby noted that she wasn’t list as an attendee. Co-Chair Colby also asked for additional changes. First, under section three, in the sentence that reads “In August of 1998 Twin Cities & Western Railroad was moved to the Kenilworth Corridor”, Co-Chair Colby recalled Mark Wegner acknowledging that this move was supposed to be temporary in nature and that the railroad expected neighborhood residents to be upset by the reopening of the freight line and David Greene also remembered that. Second, under section three, in the sentence that reads “Early on, when light rail was assumed as the mode through Kenilworth it was assumed that freight would be relocated but it would be a separate project”, Co-Chair Colby asked that the minutes reflected that Mark Wegner stated that it was his understanding that if the cost of the freight relocation was included in the analysis of the alternatives then the cost benefit ratio would have tipped it out of balance. Third, under section three, in the

sentence that reads “TC&W told the county that the 2008 didn’t work and the more restrictive 2010 design didn’t work for their operations”, Co-Chair Colby didn’t recall that Mark Wegner said he told the county but did recall that Mark Wegner said he had concerns about it. Claudia Johnston-Madison stated that she thought Mark Wegner said that he told the county. Fourth, under section three, in the sentence that reads “When the 2012 DEIS (Draft Environmental Impact Statement) came out it used the 2010 design and so in TC&W’s opinion they weren’t taken serious” and Co-Chair Colby wanted to underscore that Mark Wegner felt there was a lack of respect for TC&W. Fifth, in the paragraph in section three which begins “Kathryn Kottke stated that she read TC&W comment to...”, Co-Chair Colby stated that there are some words missing in several places, it says “Mark Wegner responded that he does not know, what he did know is that going up a hill would and would need to quantify the cost of horsepower to get up the hill” and Co-Chair Colby asked that staff go back and clarify. After review, the sentence reads, “Mark Wegner responded that he does not know the cost to make Brunswick Central economically equivalent to current route, what he did know is that going up a hill would cost more than the current route which is going down in grade and would need to quantify the cost of horsepower to get up the hill”. Finally, under section three, in the sentence that reads “Jami LaPray asked whether the subsidy would be lump sum or in perpetuity”, Co-Chair Colby stated that there is no other reference to subsidy and doesn’t recall the term subsidy being used and is unclear what it means there. Sam O’Connell stated that she did remember discussion of an operating subsidy, staff will review and clarify in the notes. New sentence reads “Jami LaPray referenced Kathryn Kottke’s question regarding the economics and asked whether the subsidy would be lump sum or in perpetuity”.

2. Project Update

Sam O’Connell and Craig Lamothe presented an update on the approval of the scope and budget. The Corridor Management Committee met on April 2, 2014, took public testimony and made a recommendation on the project scope and budget. On April 9, 2014, the Metropolitan Council took public testimony and adopted the project’s scope and budget. The scope included a Mitchell Road Station and shallow LRT tunnels over the channel in the Kenilworth Corridor with a 2019 opening of the line. The recommended project budget is \$1.673 – \$1.683 billion dollars. The Metropolitan Council submitted updated Municipal Consent Plans to the cities and county on April 22, 2014. The Metropolitan Council and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority will hold a joint open house and public hearing on May 29, 2014.

3. Hennepin County Community Works

Katie Walker and Kerri Pearce Ruch presented an update on Hennepin County Community Works 2013 Accomplishments; the Southwest Corridor Investment Framework which includes the Transitional Station Area Action Plans, Corridor Wide Housing Strategy, expanding partnerships with the Southwest Investment Partnership and HUD Sustainable Communities Peer Exchange, Station Area Profiles, Walk Shed Analysis Tool, and continued public engagement. Katie Walker presented Hennepin County Community Works’ 2014 Implementation Activities.

4. Community Advisory Committee

Sam O’Connell presented the Community Advisory Committee next steps; the committee will not meet during the Municipal Consent process, seek new member nominations in July, and hold a kick-off

meeting in September. The next phase of the project will focus on environmental process, station design and access, Operations and Maintenance Facility (OMF), multimodal connections, and art/landscaping.

5. Member and Committee Reports/Public Forum

Vicki Moore distributed an event flier for “North Moves: a community celebration and open mic, engaging issues of health and transportation in the Harrison Neighborhood” on May 3 from 11 am to 2 pm at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

6. Adjourn