

RESOLUTION 2010R-008

By Colvin Roy

Supporting the Southwest Transitway Locally Preferred Alternative.

Whereas, *The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth*, the City's Comprehensive Plan, includes a policy to "Encourage growth and reinvestment by sustaining the development of a multi-modal transportation system" (Policy 2.1) as well as "Make transit a more attractive option for both new and existing riders" (Policy 2.4); and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis supports the development of the Southwest Transitway to further build out a robust, integrated regional multi-modal transit system that reinforces downtown Minneapolis as the economic and cultural center of the region; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis supports the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) transit planning process, including the designation of Light Rail Transit as the mode for the Southwest Transitway; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis has representatives on the Southwest Transitway Citizen Advisory, Technical Advisory, and Policy Advisory Committees and has participated in the planning and development of the Southwest Transitway throughout the FTA process in cooperation with Hennepin County, Mn/DOT, Metro Transit, and the Cities of Eden Prairie, Edina, Hopkins, Minnetonka, and St Louis Park; and other stakeholders; and

Whereas, Transitway Technical Advisory Team, Policy Team and Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority have recommended the same Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) and forwarded that recommendation to the Metropolitan Council for inclusion in the Regional Transportation Policy Plan; and

Whereas, the FTA requires that the Regional Transportation Policy Plan be formally amended to designate the Southwest Transitway Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA); and

Whereas, the Metropolitan Council is seeking resolutions of support of the recommended LPA from each of the affected jurisdictions;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City of Minneapolis supports the continued development and implementation of the Southwest Transitway and supports the Locally Preferred Alternative as recommended by the Southwest Transitway Technical Advisory Committee, Policy Advisory Committee, and Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority and forward the resolution to the Metropolitan Council for inclusion in the Regional Transportation Policy Plan.

Be It Further Resolved that the current environmental quality, natural conditions, wildlife, urban forest, and the walking and biking paths be preserved and protected during construction and operation of the proposed Southwest LRT line.

Be It Further Resolved that any negative impacts to the parks and park-like surrounding areas resulting from the Southwest LRT line are minimized and that access to Cedar Lake Park, Cedar Lake Regional Trail, Kenilworth Trail and the Midtown Greenway is retained.

Be It Further Resolved that mitigation measures and the resulting costs be determined as early as possible in Preliminary Engineering (PE)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) phase and documented clearly in the Southwest LRT project budget.

Be It Further Resolved that the City will continue to work cooperatively and collaboratively with its partners in all remaining aspects of the Southwest Transitway process including station area planning, environmental review, preliminary engineering, final engineering, mitigation solutions, construction, and operations.

Adopted 1/15/2010. Yeas, 11; Nays, 1 as follows:

Yeas - Hofstede, Lilligren, Colvin Roy, Tuthill, Quincy, Glidden, Hodges, Samuels, Gordon, Reich, Johnson.

Nays - Goodman.

Absent - Schiff.