

RESOLUTION 2012R-xxx
By Lilligren

Supporting the Metropolitan Council's 2012 Bonding Request for Southwest Light Rail Transit.

Whereas, the proposed Southwest Light Rail Transit line from Eden Prairie to Minneapolis will run through the City of Minneapolis, with station locations at West Lake Street, 21st Street, Penn Avenue, Van White Blvd., and Royalston before interlining with other LRT at the Intermodal Station in downtown Minneapolis; and

Whereas, the Southwest Light Rail Transit line is a key element in our City's future as it will connect businesses and workers, support economic growth, improve transit options for residents, and provide housing choices; and

Whereas, the Southwest Light Rail Transit line will contribute to the economic vitality of our City and region and support the overall economic competitiveness of the State of Minnesota; and

Whereas, the Federal Transit Authority has determined that the relocation of freight rail from the locally preferred alternative (LPA) is a necessary part of the project and the City of Minneapolis has conditioned support for this route on the relocation of the current freight rail from the corridor; and

Whereas, the City Council is supportive of the Southwest Light Rail Transit project; and

Whereas, the Metropolitan Council has requested that \$25 million be provided in the 2012 bonding bill for the Southwest Light Rail Transit project and the Governor of the State of Minnesota supports this request; and

Whereas, approving this funding request is crucial to keeping the Southwest Light Rail Transit project on schedule as it moves through Preliminary Engineering and seeks final federal approval;

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

That the City of Minneapolis supports the bonding bill request made by the Metropolitan Council and supported by the Governor and urges all Hennepin County state legislators to support the bonding request for Southwest Light Rail Transit and to work to make sure that the State of Minnesota continues to provide resources for this crucial regional transportation project.