

RESOLUTION NO. 10-071

RESOLUTION REQUESTING HENNEPIN COUNTY REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY (HCRRRA) REANALYZE THE POTENTIAL ROUTES IN THE 2009 TCWR FREIGHT RAIL REALIGNMENT STUDY IN GREATER DETAIL

WHEREAS, in 2009 Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority conducted a study titled, "TCWR Freight Rail Realignment Study" that evaluated options for moving freight rail from the Kenilworth corridor; and

WHEREAS, this study considered six options for TCWR operations, and

WHEREAS, the six options were not adequately or equally evaluated in the report, and

WHEREAS, additional information that evenly applies criteria to each option is necessary to ensure a viable, cost-effective route is selected.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY the City Council of the City of St. Louis Park:

1. The City Council hereby requests Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority more fully evaluate the six options previously evaluated.
2. The additional study should evenly apply the same evaluation criteria to each route.
3. The evaluation should include, but not be limited to, such items as: an explanation of the future routes to Minneapolis and St. Paul; impacts to crossing Highway 100; a quantification of the number of at-grade road crossings and number and proximity of homes, schools and other sensitive uses along each route; impacts on public safety and transportation networks; operational impacts for TCWR and cost to compensate for possible competitive TC&W disadvantage due to route selection; an analysis of routing both freight rail and light rail through the Kenilworth corridor right-of way; and more detailed analysis of the projected costs for each route, including property acquisitions, environmental mitigation, and other factors outlined in the letter from St. Louis Park to the County in July 2009.
4. The evaluation should ensure that the analysis and criteria are applied consistently and equally for each route to provide a basis and understanding for decision making.
5. The analysis should be done in sufficient detail and reported in a format that makes it possible for St. Louis Park to fully understand the positive and negative impacts of each alternative on St. Louis Park itself.

Reviewed for Administration:

Adopted by the City Council July 6, 2010

City Manager

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk