

Making Tracks

March 2012



A capital year for construction

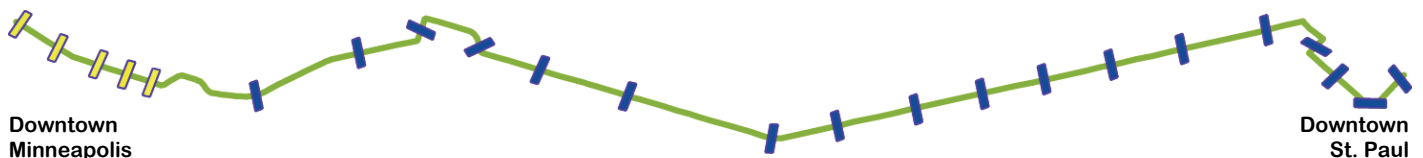
On Cedar Street from Seventhth to 11th streets in St. Paul, District Energy is relocating hot water pipes used for heating, and contractor crews are relocating the sanitary sewer and water main.

Tenth Street Station construction will start as soon as utility work allows, which is likely by early summer.

Double tracks and roadway will be installed mid to late summer. Tracks will be built in the center of Cedar north of Tenth. South of Tenth, though, they will be on the east side of Cedar, allowing one-way traffic southbound.

An overview of this year's work on Cedar is at:

<http://tinyurl.com/7nsu5dw>



Downtown Minneapolis

Downtown St. Paul

Cedar Street in St. Paul near future Tenth Street Station



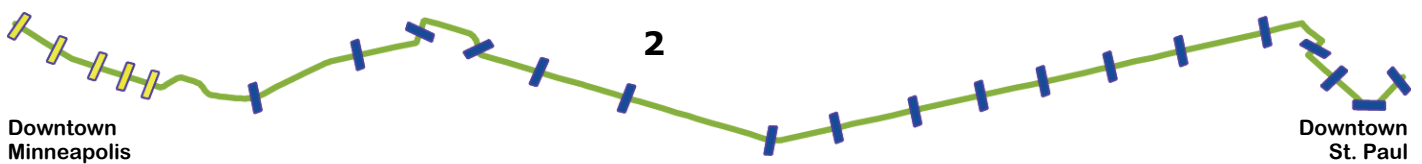
We'll get you there

Crews built walkways and accessible ramps along Cedar Street to help pedestrians get through the construction zone. Cedar Street will be closed to through traffic through November.



Robert Street Station

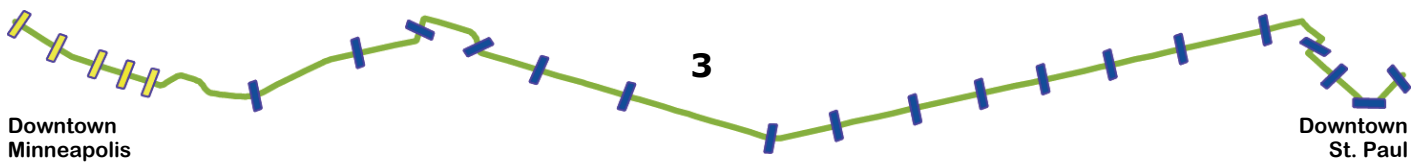
Crews install the canopy on the Robert Street Station in front of the Orville Freeman State Office Building.



University Avenue East—St. Paul



Heavy construction began March 1 (above) on eastern University Avenue near Gordon Parks High School. University from Hamline Avenue to Victoria Street was busy with construction by March 15 (below) with the road removed on the south side and traffic shifted to the north.



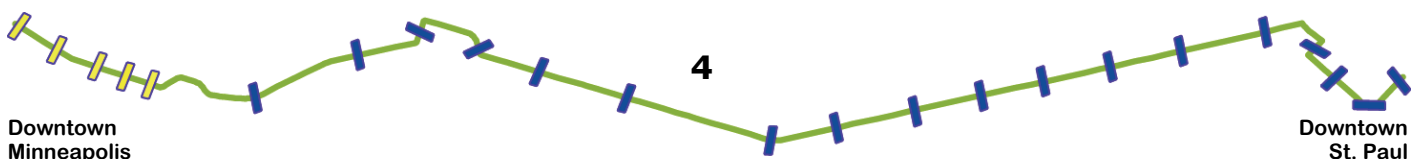
Downtown
Minneapolis

Downtown
St. Paul

University Avenue East—St. Paul



The Central Corridor LRT Project uses variable message signs to direct motorists to destinations, such as the Midway shopping area, in the construction zone. In addition, weekly construction updates provide access information. Sign up for the updates by entering your email address in the red Stay Connected box at the top left of the www.centralcorridor.org homepage or look under the Construction section on the homepage.



Downtown
Minneapolis

Downtown
St. Paul

University Avenue East—St. Paul

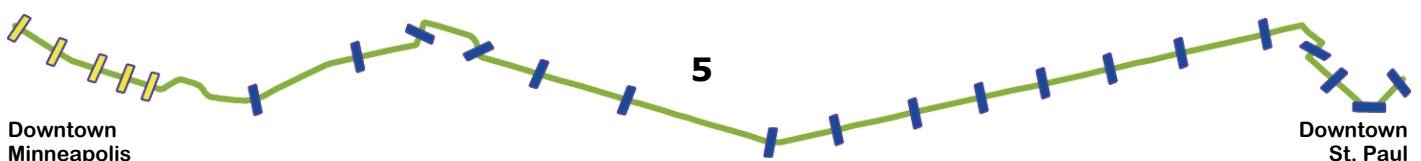


Lexington Pkwy Station art gets assist from Gordon Parks students

Gordon Parks High School art students with artist Seitu Jones (red shirt), teacher Randy Starr (back row at left) and artist Alex Walton (gray shirt, kneeling) with a panel of hackberry leaves they have been carving out of wood. The panel will be used to make a mold to cast the leaf pattern in concrete. The concrete panel will be applied later this year to the Lexington Parkway Station's communications cabinets as part of the station's art design.

Light rail trains will be operating on University Avenue long after these students are out of high school, carrying riders by their artwork. "I told them they're going to be telling their grandkids they worked on this," Jones said.

For details about the art, visit the Lexington Parkway Station page:
<http://tinyurl.com/ckoxrcb>

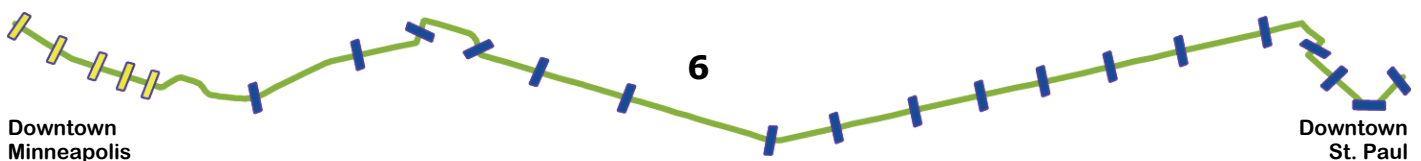


Prospect Park Station area on University Avenue



Prospect Place, a 17-unit market-rate rental property with retail space, is among the nearly 40 residential and commercial/retail developments in various stages of construction, planning or near completion along the Central Corridor LRT line. Tracks in the Prospect Park area of University Avenue should be installed sometime this summer.

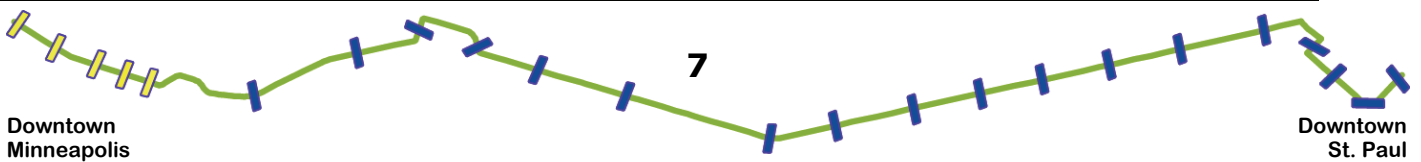
For details about the developments, see the December news release:
<http://tinyurl.com/cbtesok>



East Bank/Stadium Village



Two Stadium Village businesses got creative with their billboards to let customers know they are open for business despite construction. Toppers (www.toppers.com) at 702 Washington Ave. SE will deliver pizza. Raising Cane's at 825 Washington Ave. SE provides parking directions at www.raisingcanesminnesota.com for fans of its chicken fingers.



Downtown
Minneapolis

Downtown
St. Paul

West Bank Station



The canopy for the West Bank Station goes up this month.

Overviews of construction this year by area

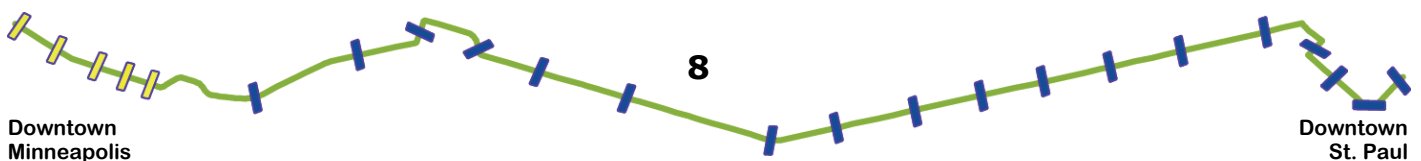
West Bank: <http://tinyurl.com/82smjde>

East Bank/Stadium Village: <http://tinyurl.com/7bu6csc>

Prospect Park: <http://tinyurl.com/7a78snn>

University Avenue East—St. Paul: <http://tinyurl.com/7pbzds4>

Cedar Street and Central Station: <http://tinyurl.com/7nsu5dw>





Bus information—Visit www.metrotransit.org/construction for construction-related bus detours and bus stop closures during construction.

Weekly construction updates— Get weekly construction updates to learn how to get around during construction by entering your email address in the gray Stay Connected box at the top left of the www.centralcorridor.org homepage.

Addressees will receive updates every Friday for the sections of the corridor they choose. The updates provide a look at the week ahead with details on lane shifts, crosswalk and sidewalk closures and alternate routes and relocated bus stops. The public also can sign up to receive project newsletters such as Making Tracks and DBE News.

24-hour construction hotline - 651-602-1404.

Follow us at: www.twitter.com/cclrt

For general questions or comments - Call 651-602-1645 or email centralcorridor@metc.state.mn.us

About the project: The Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project will link downtown St. Paul and downtown Minneapolis along Washington and University avenues via the state Capitol and the University of Minnesota. Construction began in late summer 2010 on the planned 11-mile Central Corridor line, and service will begin in 2014. The line will connect with the Hiawatha LRT line at the Metrodome station in Minneapolis and the Northstar commuter rail line at the Target Field Station. The Metropolitan Council is the grantee of federal funds. The regional government agency is charged with building the line in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The Central Corridor Management Committee, which includes commissioners from Ramsey and Hennepin counties, the mayors of St. Paul and Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota, provides advice and oversight. Funding is provided by the Federal Transit Administration, Counties Transit Improvement Board, state of Minnesota, Ramsey and Hennepin counties' regional railroad authorities, city of St. Paul, Metropolitan Council and the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative. For more information, visit www.centralcorridor.org

