

SOUTHWEST

Green Line LRT Extension



SWLRT Community Advisory Committee

January 10, 2013



EDEN PRAIRIE | MINNETONKA | EDINA | HOPKINS | ST. LOUIS PARK | MINNEAPOLIS



Today's Topics

- 2013 Project Look Ahead
- Preliminary Engineering Consultant Contract Awards
- Peer Review Consultant Contract Request for Proposal (RFP)
- Environmental Program Update
- Community Works Update
- Station Focus: Louisiana Station
- Member and Committee Reports
- Public Forum



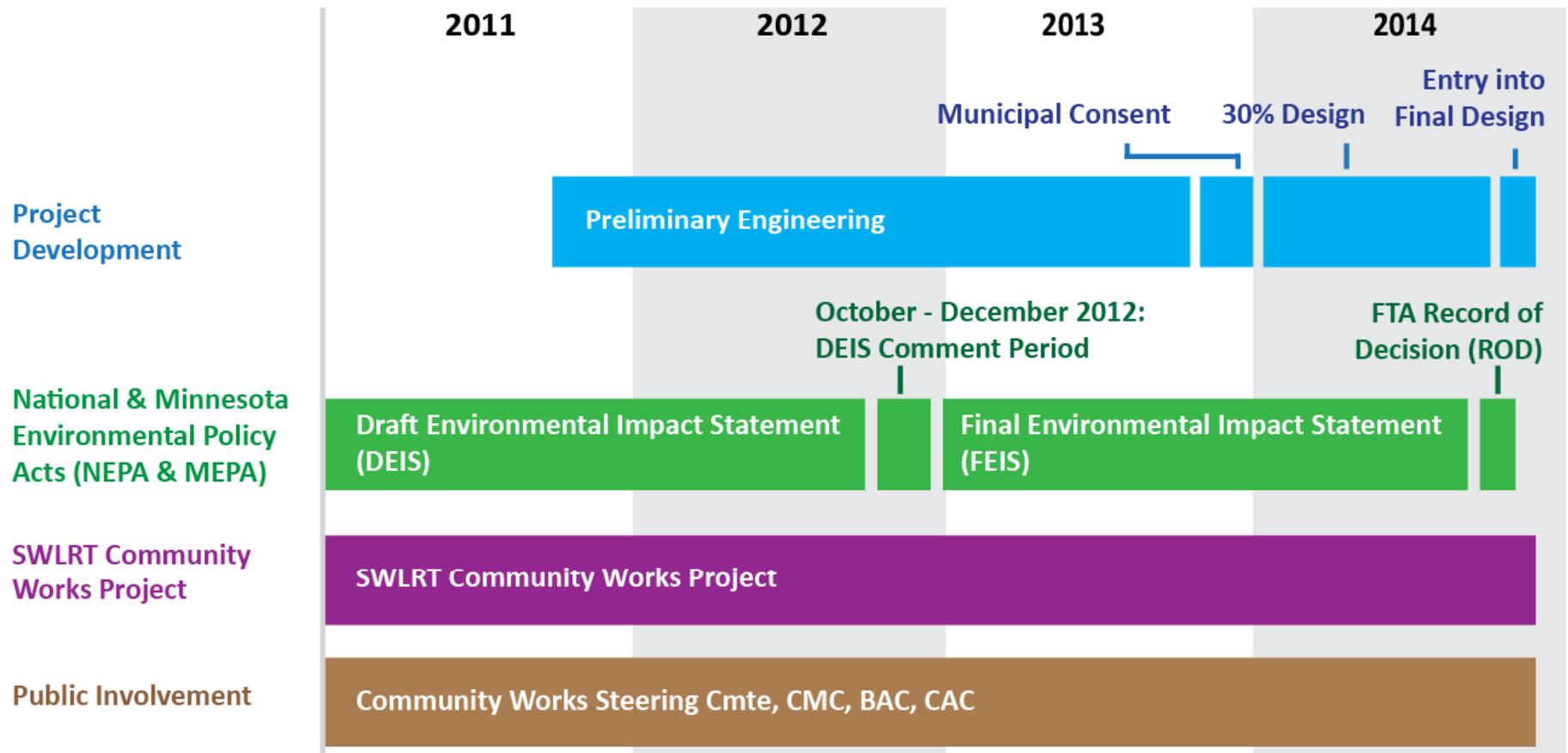
2013 Project Look Ahead



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Project Development Overview





2013 Key Issues/Decisions

- Freight Rail Co-Location and Relocation
- Eden Prairie Alignment Alternatives
- Operations and Maintenance Facility



A Look Ahead: Project Wide

Key Tasks

- Revise New Starts Application
- Update Management Plans
- Update Ridership and Financial Forecasts

Key Milestones

- Q3 2013: Submit New Starts Update for FFY 2015 to FTA
- Q2 2014: Request Entry into Final Design
- Q4 2014: Complete Preliminary Engineering / Enter Final Design



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Green Line LRT Extension

Preliminary Engineering Consultants Contract Awards

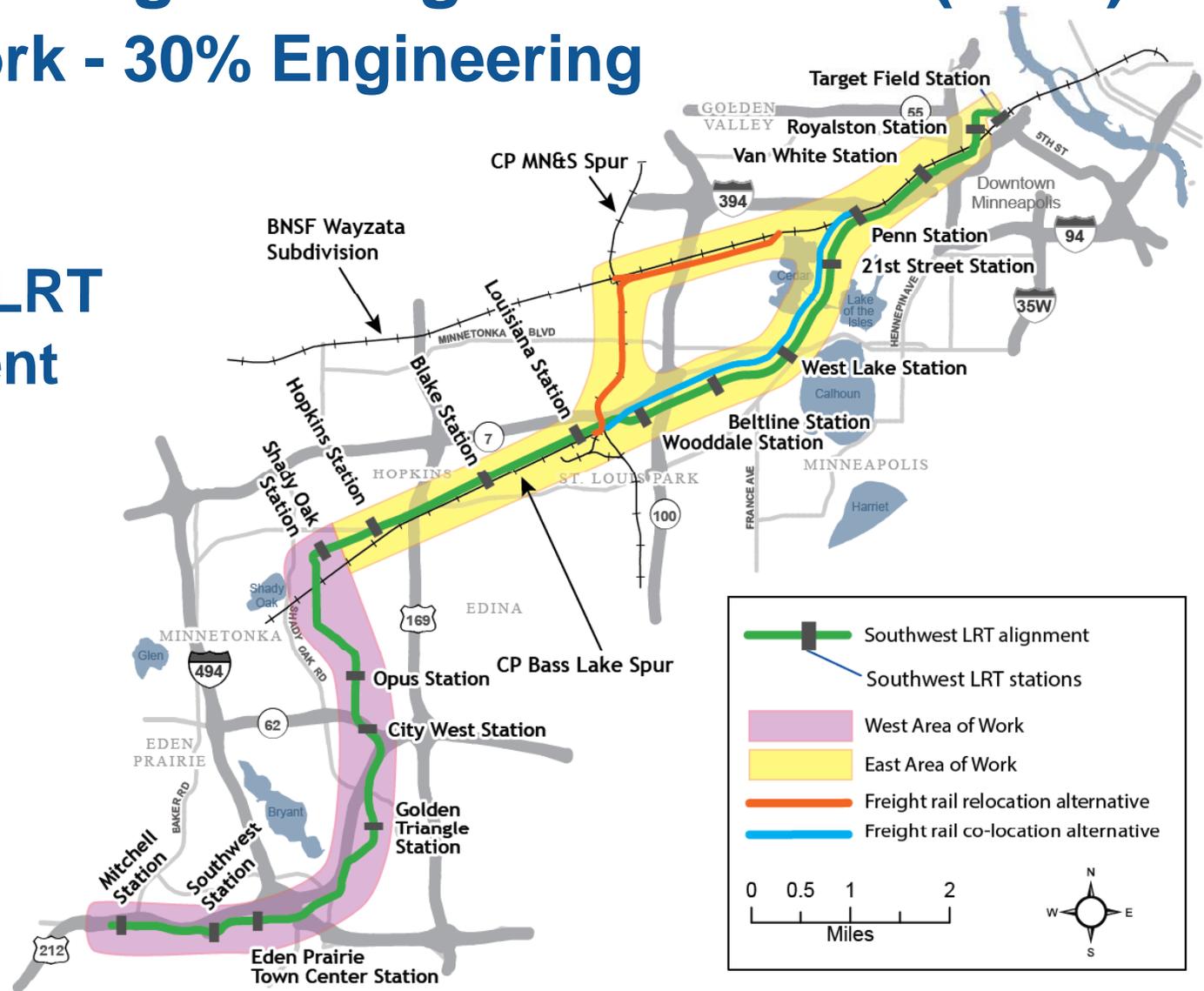


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Preliminary Engineering Consultants (PEC) Scope of Work - 30% Engineering

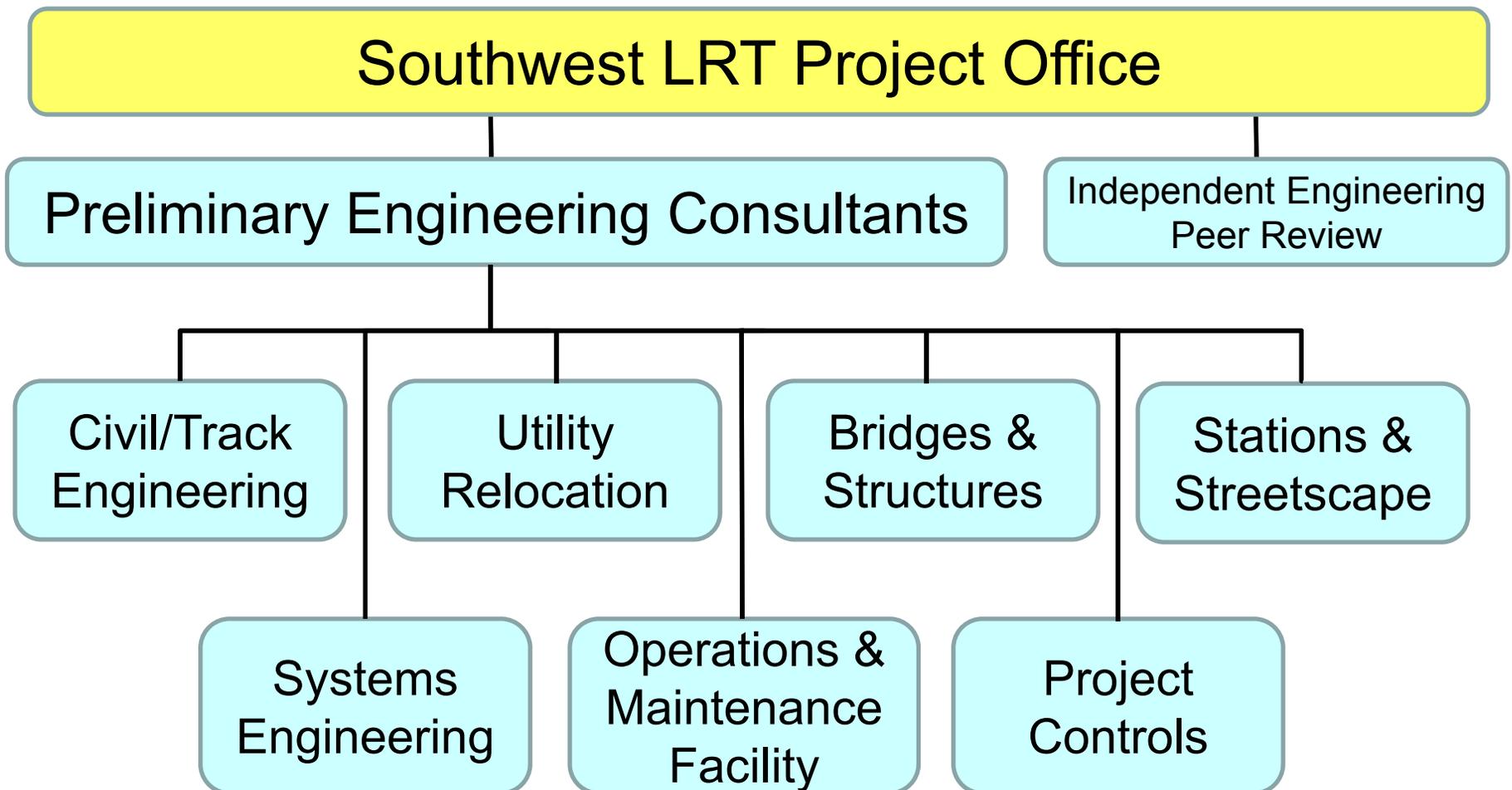
Full SWLRT Alignment





Preliminary Engineering Consultants

Scope of Work - 30% Engineering





PEC Procurement Process: Evaluation Panels

- Consist of six members for each procurement
 - Southwest LRT Project Office (2)
 - Light Rail Operations
 - MnDOT
 - Hennepin County
 - Community Works
- Identify most qualified proposer
- Provide recommendation to the Council



PEC Procurement Process: Technical Advisory Groups

- Consist of six members for each procurement
- Provide technical review and input

PEC West

- SWLRT Project Office
- MnDOT
- Eden Prairie
- Hopkins
- Minnetonka
- Metropolitan Transportation Services

PEC East

- SWLRT Project Office
- MnDOT
- Hopkins
- Minneapolis
- St. Louis Park
- Three Rivers Park District



December 19, 2012 Council PEC Actions:

- Awarded PEC West contract to AECOM
 - Contract amount not-to-exceed \$16,787,963
 - Proposal achieves 17% DBE goal
- Awarded PEC East contract to Kimley-Horn and Associates
 - Contract amount not-to-exceed \$16,788,349
 - Proposal achieves 17% DBE goal



Preliminary Engineering Activities

- Location of LRT track
- Location of freight rail track
- Location/layout of stations and station access
- Location/layout of park and ride facilities
- Location of pedestrian/bike trails impacted by project
- Layout of roadway features:
 - Turn lanes, lane widths, traffic signals
- Location/layout of Operations & Maintenance Facility (OMF)
- Identification of LRT systems elements



A Look Ahead: Engineering & Design

Key Tasks

- Conduct Geotechnical and Field Survey Work
- Resolve Design Challenges and Technical Issues
- Prepare Municipal Consent Plans
- Prepare 30% Design Plans and Specs

Key Milestones

- Q3 2013: Submit Municipal Consent Plans for Agency Review
- Q4 2013: Complete Municipal Consent Approval Process
- Q1 2014: Finalize 30% Design Plans and Specs



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Peer Review Consultant Contract Request for Proposal (RFP)



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Peer Review Consultant (PRC) Procurement Schedule

Major Milestones	Dates
Advertise RFP	12/14/12
Hold pre-proposal conference	1/23/2013
Receive proposals	3/14/13
Interview proposers	April 2013
Conduct proposal evaluations/negotiation	April 2013
Award & sign contract	May 2013



PRC Scope of Work

- Complete engineering reviews on plans, calculations and specifications
 - 30% Design
 - 60% Design
 - 90% Design
- Conduct spot reviews on engineering work products



PRC Independent Reviews

- Activities managed by the SPO Deputy Project Director
- Precluded from participating on any other SWLRT consulting contracts
- SPO will make final determination on PRC reviews and recommendations



Environmental Program Update





Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>
Oct 12, 2012	EPA published NOA in Federal Register
Nov 13, 2012	Public Hearing – Hennepin County Government Center, A-2400
Nov 14, 2012	Public Hearing – St. Louis Park City Hall
Nov 29, 2012	Public Hearing – Eden Prairie City Hall
Dec 7, 2012	Comment period extension in Federal Register
Dec 31, 2012	DEIS public comment period closed



DEIS Public Hearing Dates and Locations

11/13/12, Hennepin County Government Center, A-2400

4:00 to 5:00 PM, public open house (Public Service Level)

4:30 PM, Formal Public Hearing

11/14/12, St. Louis Park City Hall, 5005 Minnetonka Blvd

5:00 to 6:00 PM, public open house

6:00 PM, Formal Public Hearing

11/29/12, Eden Prairie City Hall, 8080 Mitchell Road

5:00 to 6:00 PM, public open house

6:00 PM, Formal Public Hearing



DEIS Summary of Comments

- 750+ comments received
 - Verbal comments received during public hearings:
 - Minneapolis – 22 comments
 - St. Louis Park – 52 comments
 - Eden Prairie – 29 comments

- Examples of themes
 - Freight rail
 - Impacts to businesses
 - Impacts to traffic
 - Impacts to trails



DEIS Public Comment Process

- Hennepin County collected comments
- Upon the close of the comment period, Hennepin County to turn over all comments received to the Council
- SPO is using project management software to capture comments and track analysis and responses during Final EIS (FEIS) development
- FTA and the Council will consider all comments submitted and provide responses to substantive comments in the FEIS



Responsible Government Unit Authority

- Responsible Government Unit (RGU) authority transferred from HCRRA to Council on December 31, 2012
 - Required under Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)
 - Assigned to the government unit with greatest authority over project
 - Council responsible for environmental process, including development of FEIS
 - Council and HCRRA approved transfer effective as of close of comment period
 - Notice published in Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Monitor on January 7, 2013



Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) Consultant - Procurement Schedule

Major Milestones	Dates
Advertise RFP	Jan 4, 2013
Proposals Due	Feb 7, 2013
Interview proposers	Feb 2013
Proposal evaluations / negotiations	Mar/Apr 2013
Contract Award / Notice to Proceed	June 2013



FEIS Consultant Scope of Work

- Prepare FEIS
- Support Agency Coordination Activities
- Support Public Involvement Activities
- Support Environmental Permitting Activities



A Look Ahead: Environmental

Key Tasks

- Prepare FEIS
- Conduct Phase I Environmental Site Assessment
- Conduct Phase II Archaeological Survey
- Conduct Architectural/Historic Structures Survey

Key Milestones

- Q2 2013: FEIS Consultant Hired
- Q4 2013: Complete Phase I Environmental Site Assessment
- Q4 2013: Complete Phase II Archaeological Survey
- Q4 2013: Complete Architectural / Historic Structures Survey
- Q3 2014: FTA issues Record of Decision (ROD)



Community Works Update

- 2013/2014 Work Plan
- Urban Land Institute Developer Workshop Overview
- Transitional Station Areas Action Plans (TSAAP)



Member and Committee Reports

- Community Works Steering Committee: December 20
 - meeting materials: southwesttransitway.org/communityworks
- Community Advisory Committee: January 2
 - meeting materials: swlrt.org, click on “Meetings and Committee Materials”
- Business Advisory Committee: January 9
 - Topics of interest survey results
- 2013 Meeting Schedule (see handout)



BAC Topics of Interest Survey Results

1. Station location/platform connections
2. Land Use
3. Tied: Business outreach, parking, station and platform designs, traffic impacts
4. Tied: Lessons learned from Hiawatha and Central, PE, trails/parks/bike facility impacts, transit-oriented-development



More Information

Online:

www.SWLRT.org

Email:

SWLRT@metrotransit.org





SOUTHWEST LRT
community works

green means go.

connecting people to jobs, housing, shopping, and fun.

Southwest Light Rail Transit (LRT)

“A corridor of opportunity”

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Metropolitan Council Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board Minnehaha Creek Watershed District SouthWest Transit ULI-MN





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Hennepin Community Works was created in the mid 1990s

Mission

To enhance how the communities of Hennepin County work together to create good jobs, provide access to employment, and build the long term value of communities by investing in infrastructure, public works, parks, and the natural environment and by improving the existing implementation systems.

Principles

- Stimulate employment development
- Build bridges for effective planning and implementation
- Maintain and improve natural systems
- Strengthen communities through connections
- Enhance the tax base

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Southwest LRT Community Works Vision

The Southwest LRT corridor: connecting people to jobs, housing, shopping, and fun.

The Southwest Community Works Initiative collaborates with citizens, businesses, and government to align land use and transit planning so that the Southwest LRT Corridor is a premiere destination that is

· accessible · livable · vibrant

Economic competitiveness and job growth

Promoting opportunities for business and employment growth

Housing choices

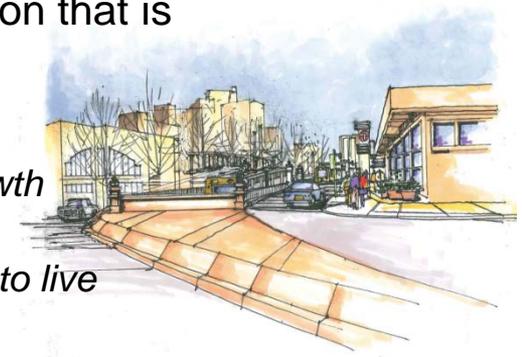
Positioning the Southwest LRT communities as a place for all to live

Quality neighborhoods

Creating unique, vibrant, safe, beautiful, and walkable station areas

Critical connections

Improving affordable regional mobility for all users

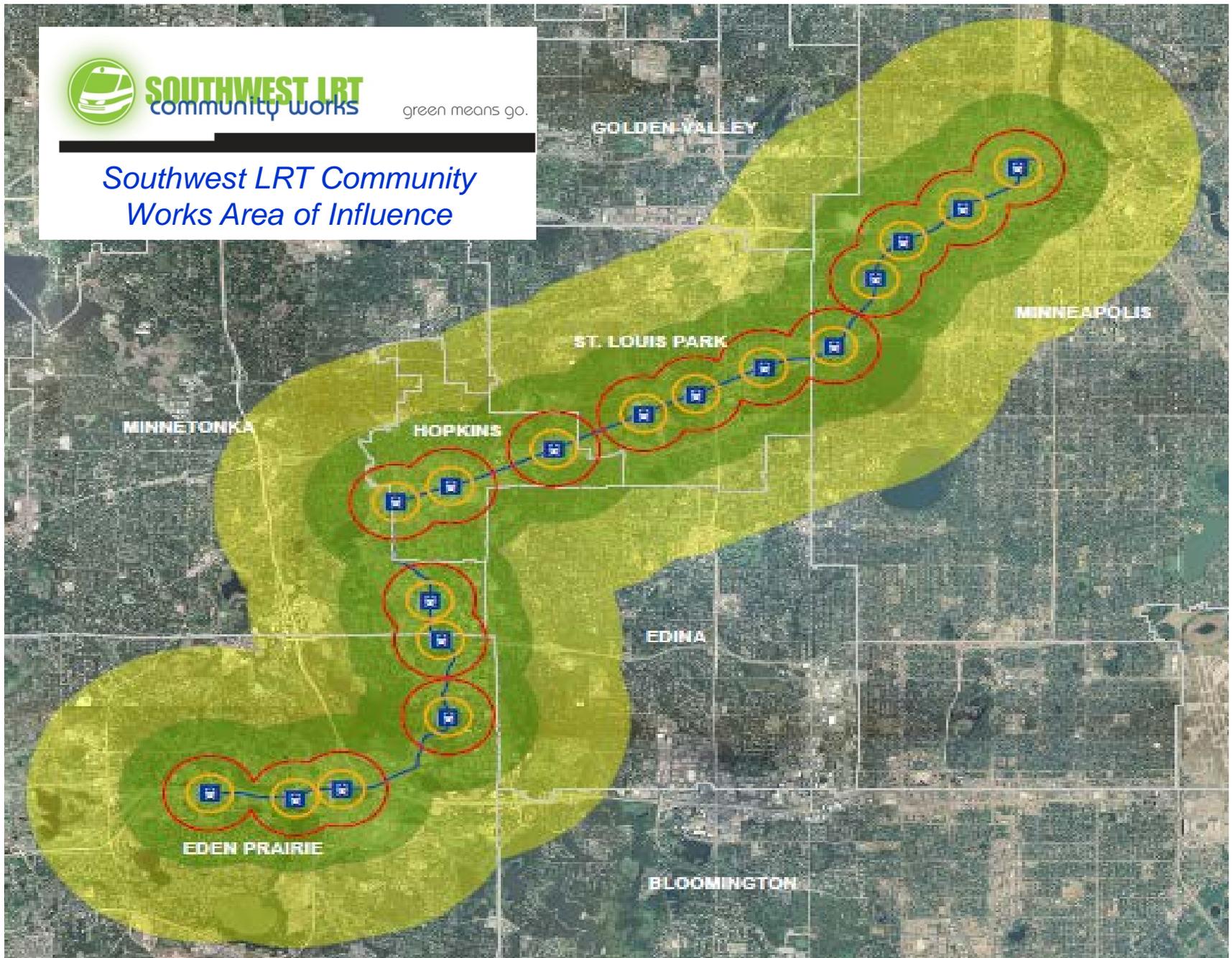




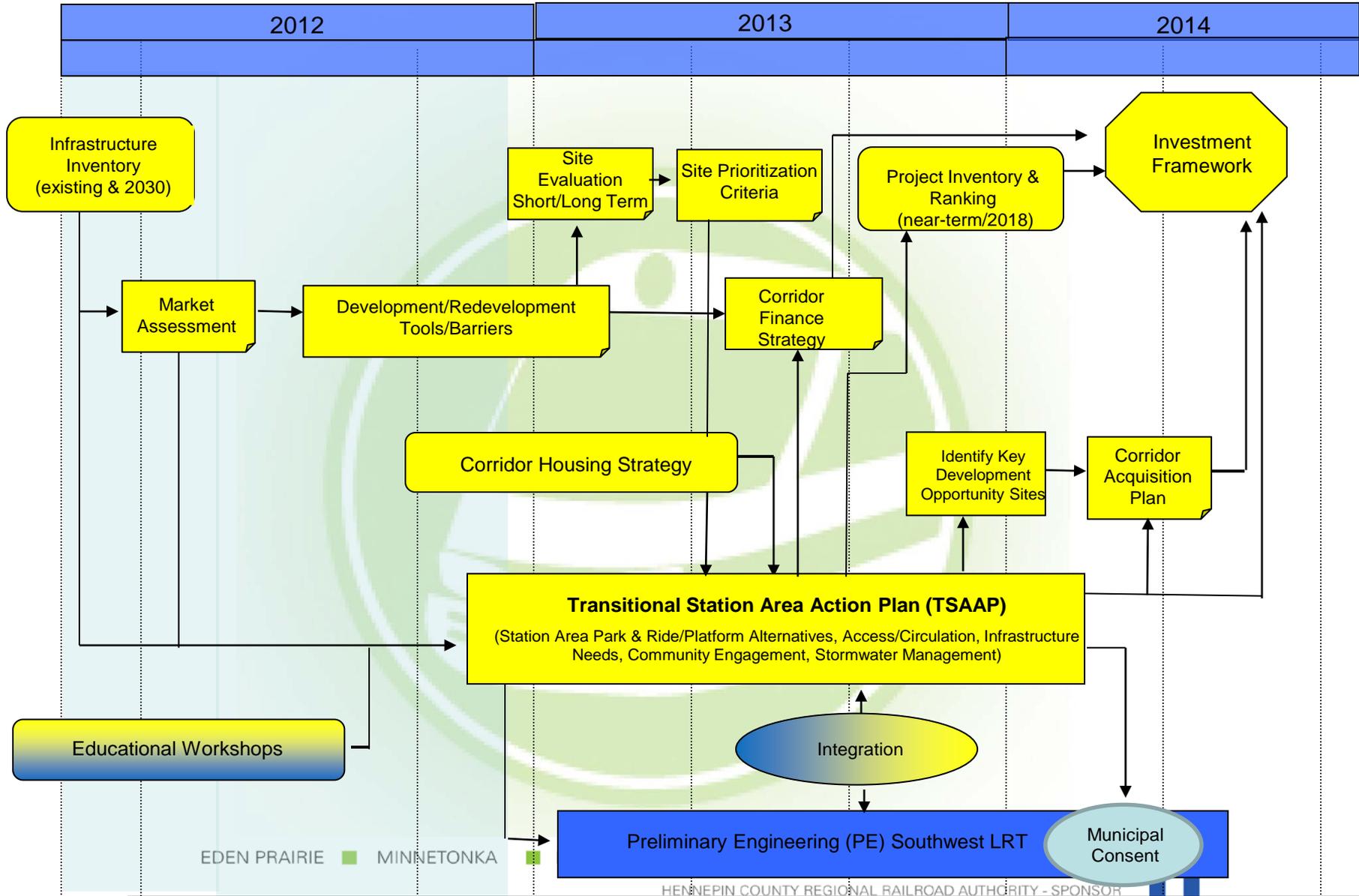
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Southwest LRT Community Works Area of Influence



Southwest LRT Community Works Adopted Workplan Activities



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Developer Workshop

Southwest LRT Corridor Community Works and ULI Minnesota engaged an independent panel of local and national developers, economists, and designers to work with the Technical Implementation Committee and provide corridor and station recommendations with a particular focus on five key station areas:

- Penn Avenue
- Beltline Boulevard
- Blake Road
- Golden Triangle
- Mitchell Road

The intended outcome was to identify key development opportunities, barriers and strengths related to land use and station location, and identify critical infrastructure improvements for consideration by the Cities, County and Southwest Project Office linking land use and engineering with market knowledge.

Lessons Learned

- 1. Identify specific corridor-wide targets for both community benefits and economic development** – avoid forcing mixed use and higher densities into each station stop if not supported by long-term market trends, significant city funding and/or special entitlements;
- 2. Incorporate market and development criteria** when determining station platform locations, master plan goals, road networks, and zoning standards;
- 3. Extend mobility/access/connections to places** using local bus and shuttle services to serve where people live, work, recreate, learn and are entertained;
- 4. Derive the station influence area and specific boundaries** in order to achieve equity and sustainability goals, typically beyond the half-mile circle – even if this creates strangely shaped and irregular districts;
- 5. Enable market metrics to shape station area land uses** – not every location will become a mixed-used, dense development. OK for districts to emphasize workforce housing, employment, major shopping or education/recreation facilities;

Lessons Learned

6. **Street designs, pedestrian networks and open spaces** are equally as important as the transit infrastructure and building development in achieving overall community and development benefits;
7. **Avoid over planning specific development design** – use building typologies to help identify essential infrastructure that can support the future density over time;
8. **Phase incremental infrastructure improvements** that can be funded over time incorporating transit agency, city, district and project-sourced revenues;
9. **Emphasize parking facilities that can be shared** by transit riders, shoppers, visitors and diners;
10. **Create a long-term district organization** comprised of property owners, business operators, resident organizations and other stakeholders in order to achieve a vibrant transit oriented place.

Topics for Further Discussion

- Process for Metro Transit to provide operating and capital cost data for alternatives early in the PE process;
- Ability to gain control of potential workforce housing sites;
- Legislative enabling language and seed funding to establish infrastructure district(s)
- Coordinating entity to focus on infrastructure and placemaking system wide.



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Transitional Station Area Action Plans (TSAAP)

Bridge the gap between current conditions and future needs by recommending infrastructure improvements that maximize Light Rail Transit system investments by:

- ❖ Supporting anticipated development by opening day of LRT
- ❖ Identifying prime sites & joint development opportunities
- ❖ Enhancing existing businesses
- ❖ Supporting a full range of housing opportunities
- ❖ Ensuring multimodal access to the station and surrounding area
- ❖ Setting the stage for long-term development

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TSAAP Components

- ❖ LRT Elements (park/ride, platforms, etc.) Locations
- ❖ Access and Circulation Plans
- ❖ Infrastructure Plan (2012-2018)
- ❖ Public Outreach/Engagement
- ❖ Stormwater Management
- ❖ Action Plans



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TSAAP Builds Upon Related Work

- Station Vision/Typologies
 - Market Assessment
- Infrastructure Inventory (existing + 2030)
 - Housing Analysis
- Development Tools Assessment



Transitional Station Area Action Plans

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How do we get THERE from HERE?

From Opening Day to TOD



public investment

transit
streetscape
infrastructure



market opportunity
one building/one project
at a time





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For more information on
Southwest LRT Community Works

www.southwesttransitway.org

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Louisiana Station Area

Louisiana Station

METRO Green Line extension



Taking care of the community

Louisiana Station is home to the regional medical center Park Nicollet-Methodist Hospital. Thousands of people are employed at the hospital, and thousands more benefit from their care.

The station is located in a center of light industrial and big-box retail uses, such as Japs-Olson and the corporate headquarters of Construction Materials, Inc.

The surrounding area includes single and multi-family residential areas, including Meadowbrook Apartments. You can even access the trails and canoe or fish at nearby Minnehaha Creek.

Future development will be driven by the station's proximity to the hospital, including healthcare, offices and possibly hotels. New, moderate-density residential development is also envisioned.

Fast facts

Population	2,316
Households	1,145
Employment	7,263

Population, Household, and Employment figures are within a half mile of the station stop.

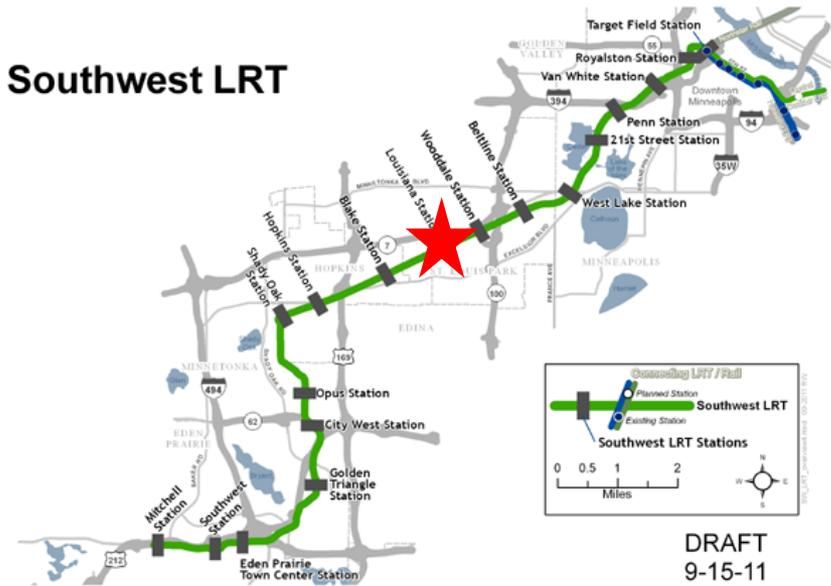


Meadowbrook, a large apartment complex along Excelsior Boulevard, was built around 1950. When constructed, it was the largest multi-family complex in the Midwest.

For more information, visit www.stlouispark.org
www.southwesttransitway.org



Southwest LRT



DRAFT
9-15-11

St. Louis Park
MINNESOTA

Experience **LIFE** in the Park

Overview



Overview



Overview

Public Uses

- Regional Trail
- Parks
- Library
- High School
- MSC

Environmental

- Minnehaha Creek
- Creosote & National Lead Superfund Sites



Overview

Businesses

- Methodist Hospital
- Sam's Club
- Japs-Olson
- Hardcoat

Neighborhoods

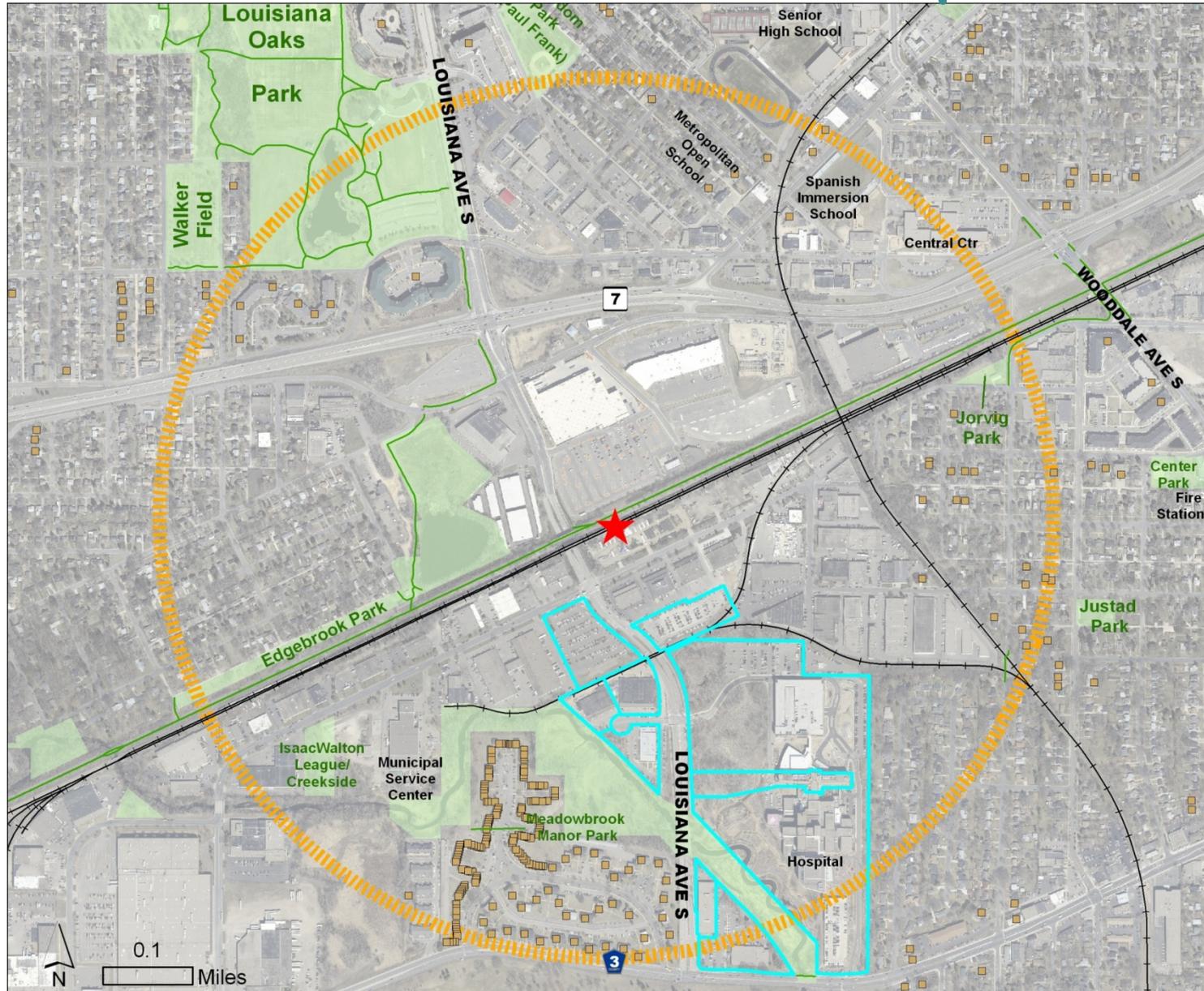
- Meadowbrook
- Brooklawns
- Oak Hill
- South Oak Hill
- Lennox



Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital

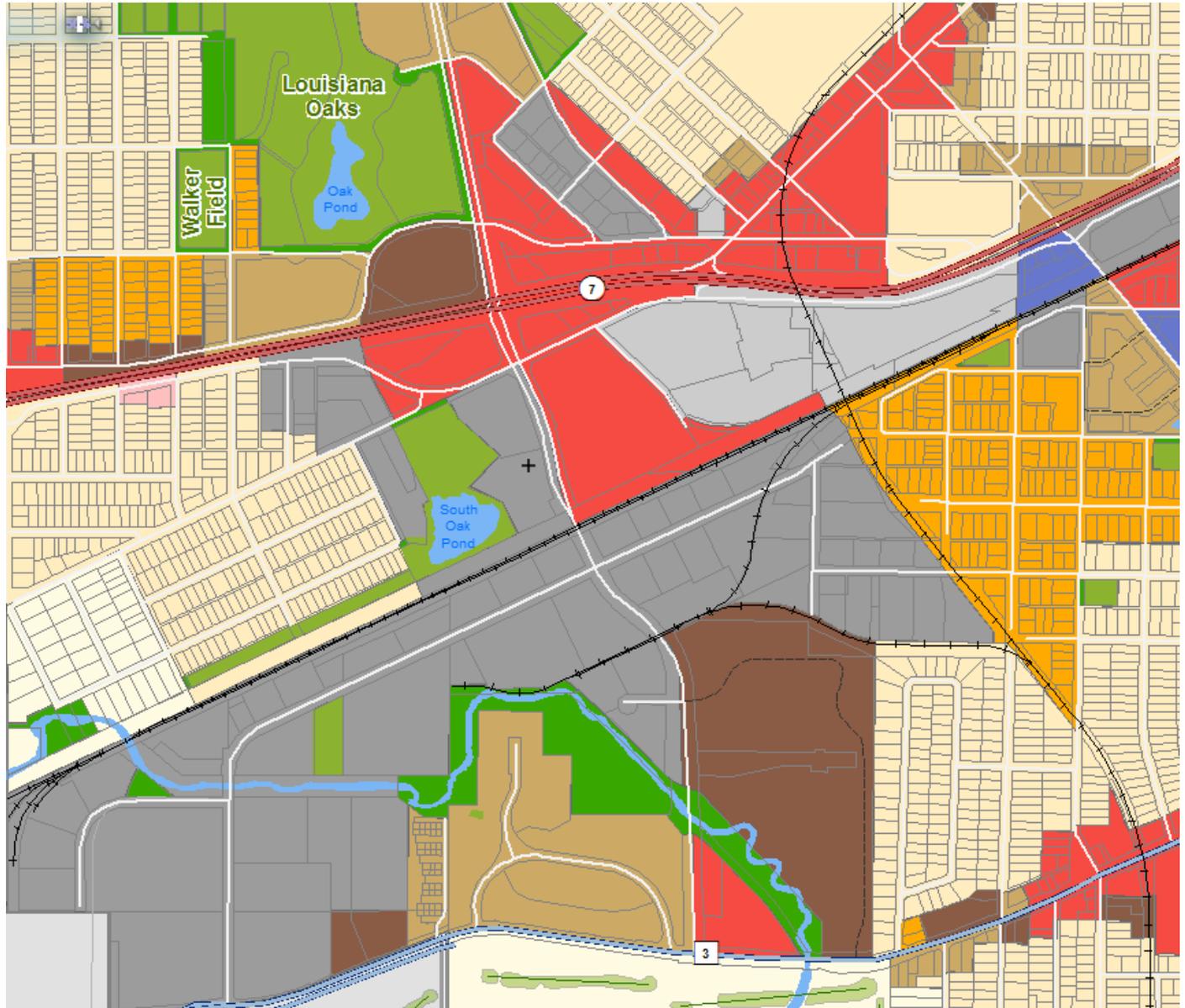
Park Nicollet- Methodist Hospital

- 53 acres
- Main Campus
- Support Buildings
- Parking Lots
- Creek/Wetland



Zoning

Industrial,
Commercial,
Residential,
Parks & Open Space



Land Use Plan

New
Business Park
Designation



Legend

RL - Low Density Residential	OFC - Office
RM - Medium Density Residential	BP - Business Park
RH - High Density Residential	CIV - Civic
MX - Mixed Use	PRK - Park and Open Space
COM - Commercial	ROW - Right of Way
IND - Industrial	RRR - Railroad

Prepared by the City of St. Louis Park
Community Development Department
January 2, 2012

0.25
Miles



Private Investment

Methodist Hospital

- Heart & Vascular Center
- Frayenshuh Cancer Center



Park Nicollet



Private Investment

Sam's Club

- Built a new building on existing site
- Built a new connection to the regional trail connection



Private Investment

Hardcoat

- Former Flame Metals
- Purchase & Remodel

Photo by Golgi Photos



Private Investment

Oak Hill II

- Approved Medical Office



Major Public/Private Investment

Highway 7 Corporate Center

- Redeveloped National Lead Superfund Site
- Multi-tenant Office/Flex Building

	<u>Before</u>	<u>After</u>
Jobs	0	350
Tax Base	\$3,000,000	\$13,500,000

Real Estate Recycling

 **St. Louis Park**
MINNESOTA

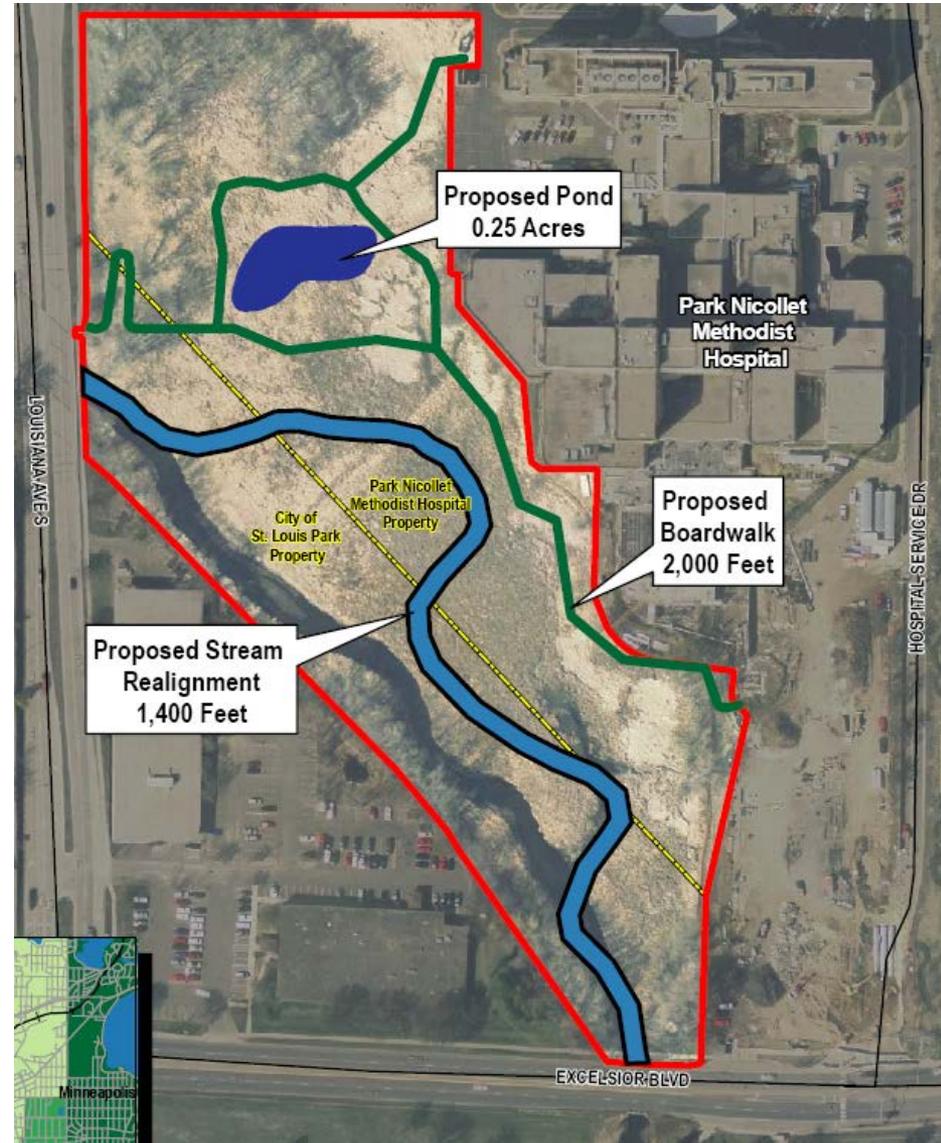
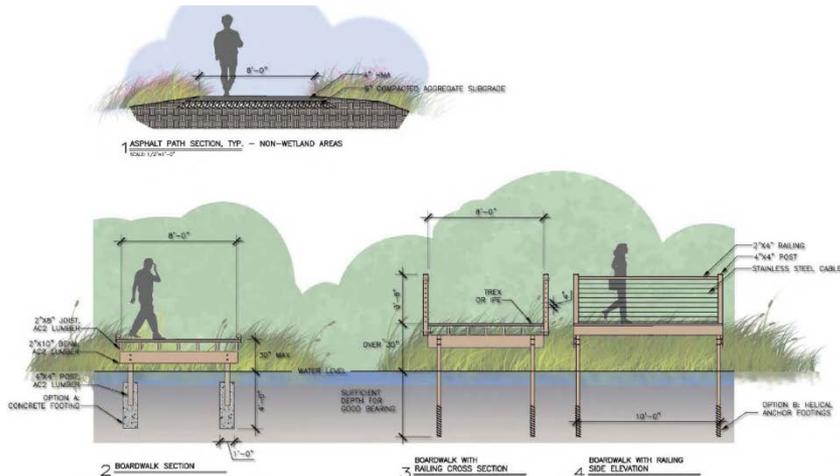
Experience **LIFE** in the Park



Major Public/Private Investments

Methodist Hospital & Minnehaha Creek Watershed

- Creek Restoration
- Boardwalk & Trails



Major Public Investments

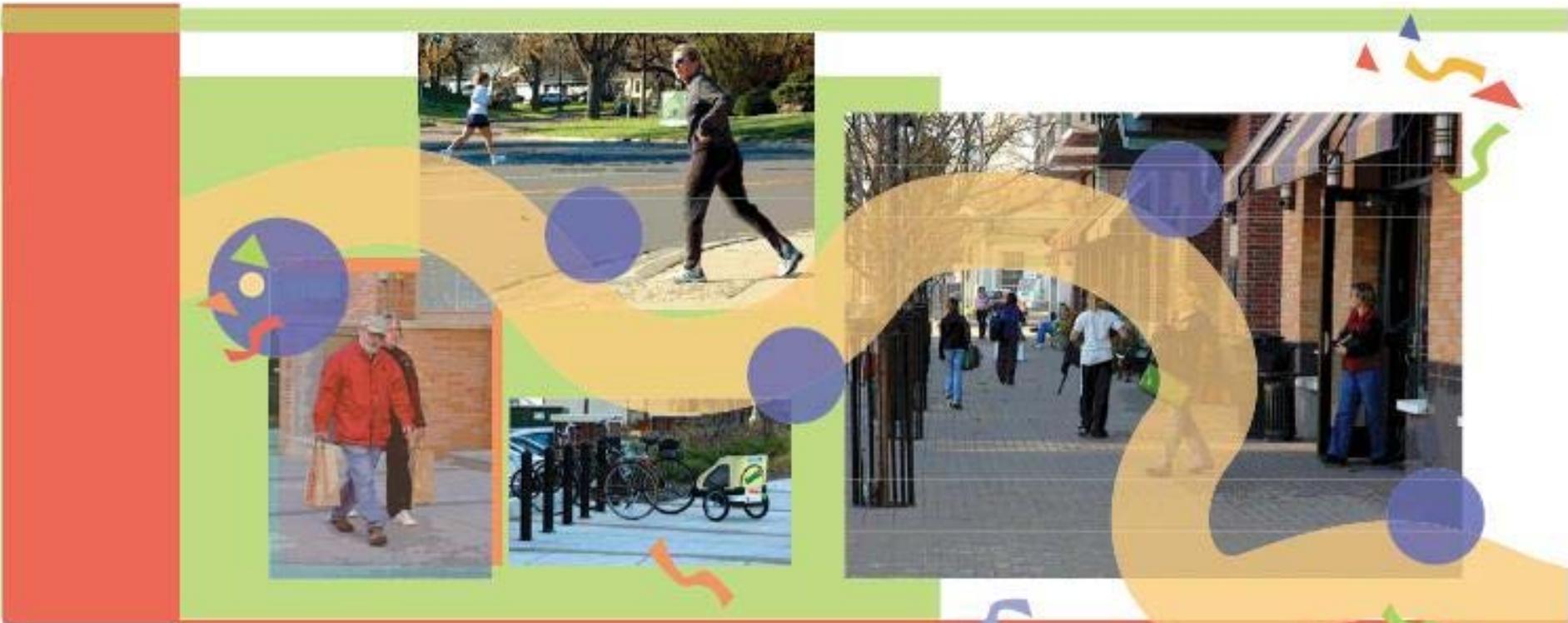
Municipal Service Center

- Remodel & Expansion



Major Public/Private Investments

Connect the Park!



Active Living  *Sidewalks and Trails*

A Bicycle and Pedestrian System Plan for the City of St. Louis Park



Major Public Investments

Connect the Park!



1/2 Mile Conceptual Bicycle Grid
(Goal grid system to link destinations)

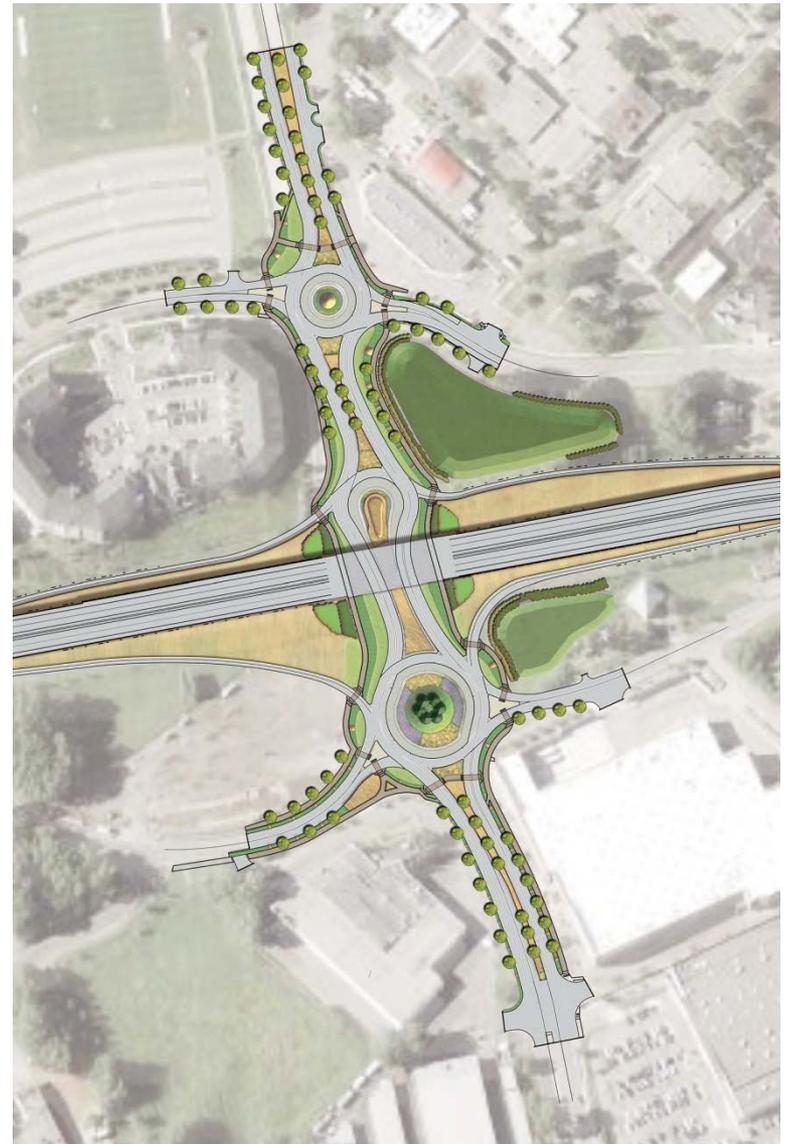


1/4 Mile Conceptual Sidewalk Grid
(Goal grid system to link destinations)

Major Public/Private Investments

Highway 7 & Louisiana Interchange

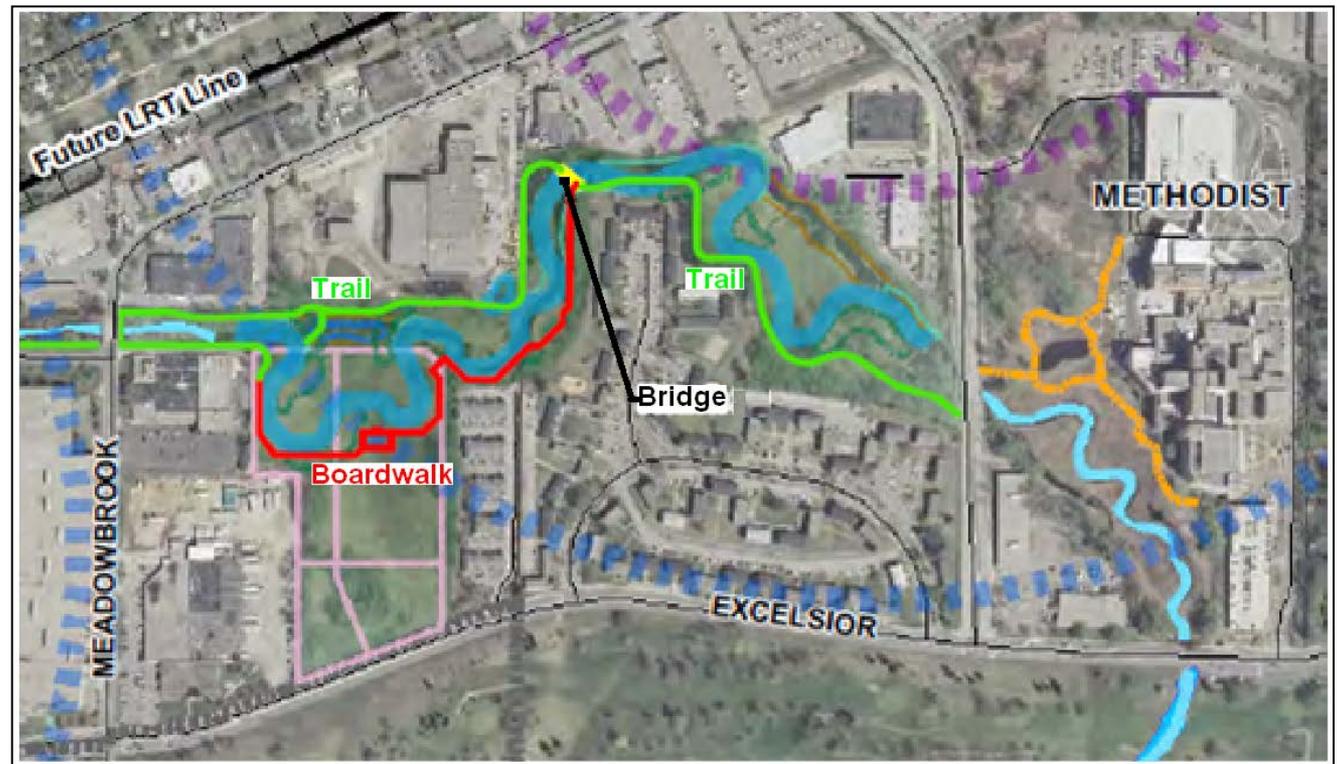
- Hwy 7 over Louisiana (2013-2014)
- Roundabouts replace 3 existing signals
- Trails constructed on both sides of the road



Major Public Investments

Minnehaha Creek Restoration

- Restores 4,500 feet of Minnehaha Creek
- Treat large amounts of stormwater runoff
- Improves public access with trails and canoe landings



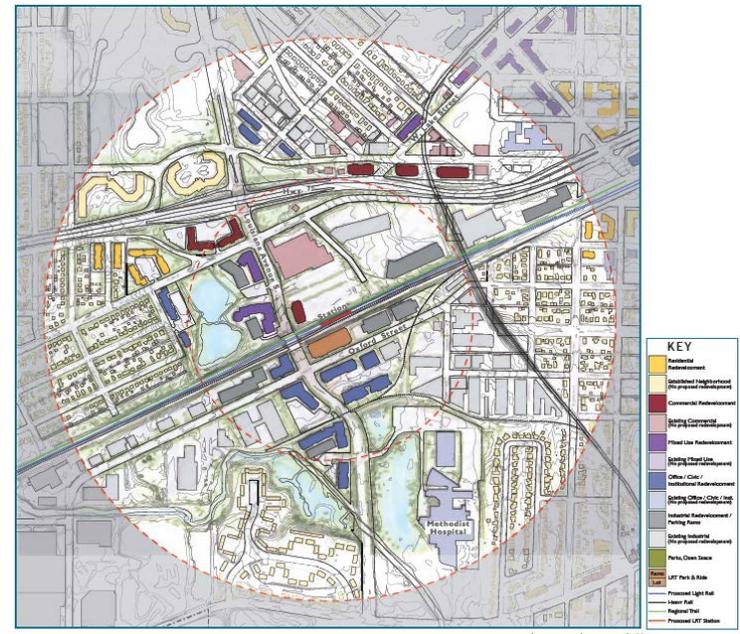
Previous Station Area Planning

PRINCIPLES

- Create a healthcare centered destination
- Create more pedestrian connections between Hwy 7 and Methodist Hospital
- Address Multi-modal access
- Incorporate Park and Ride parking

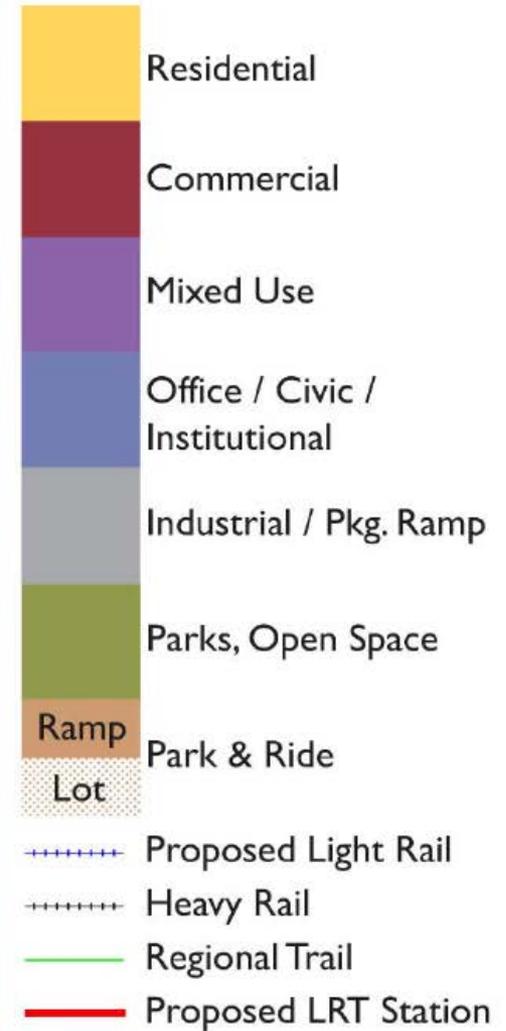
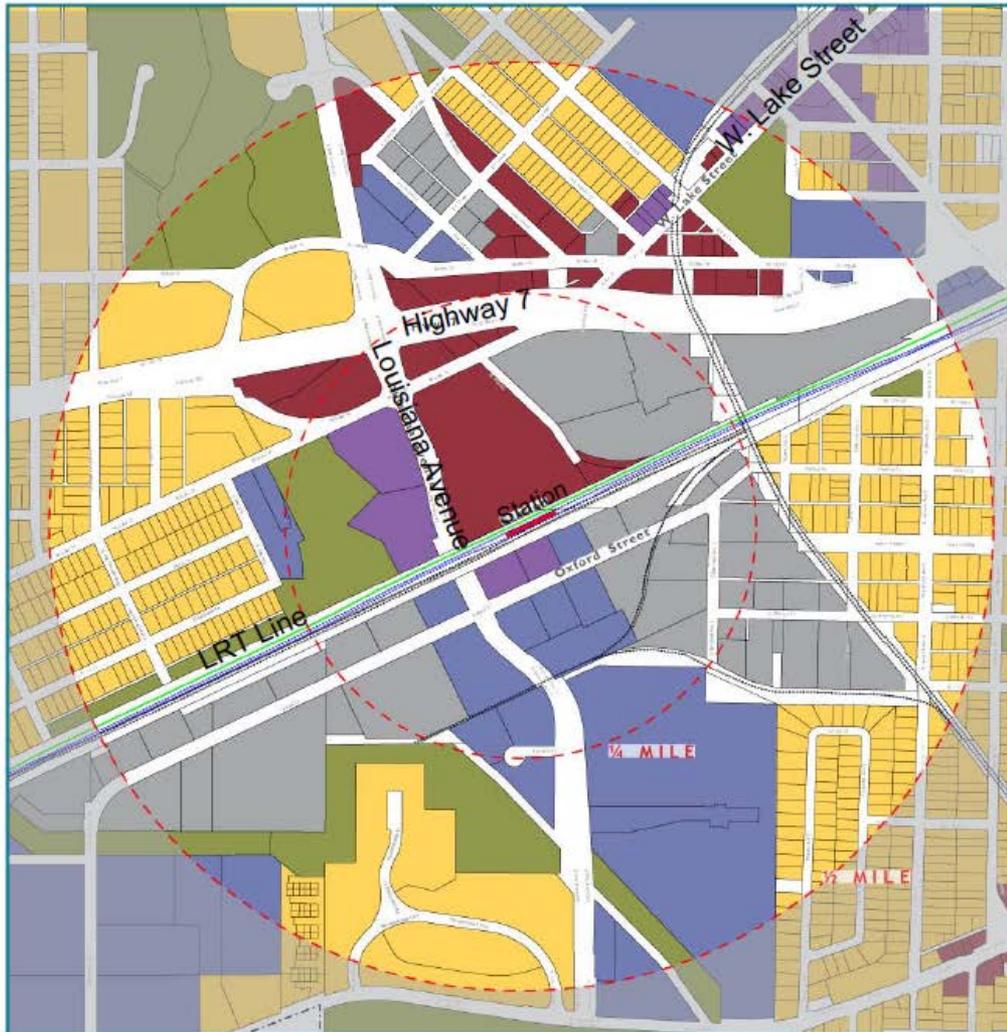


Aerial view looking southeast illustrating potential long term development near the LRT station.

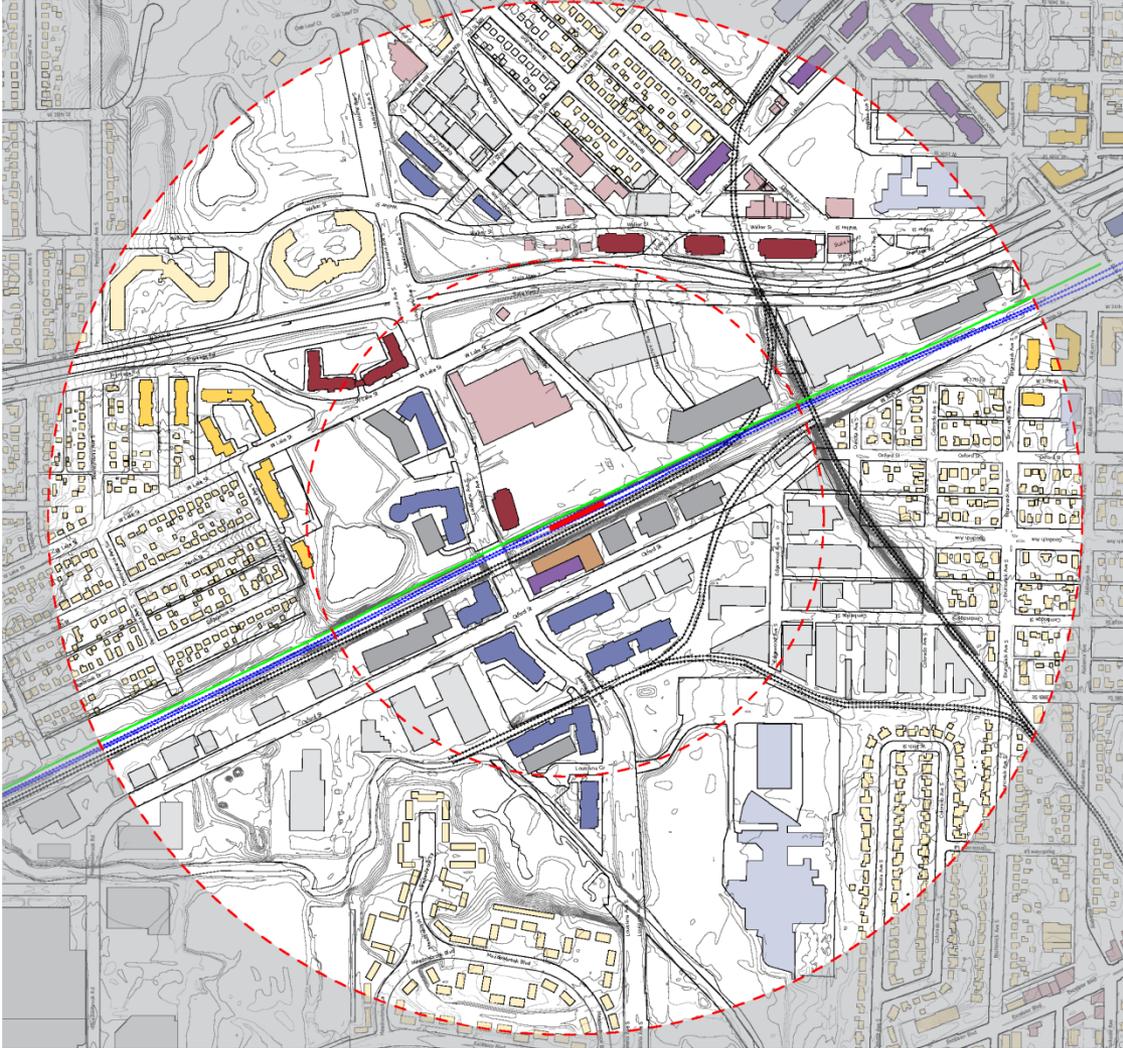


LOUISIANA CONCEPTUAL SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Land Use



Conceptual Site Development Plan

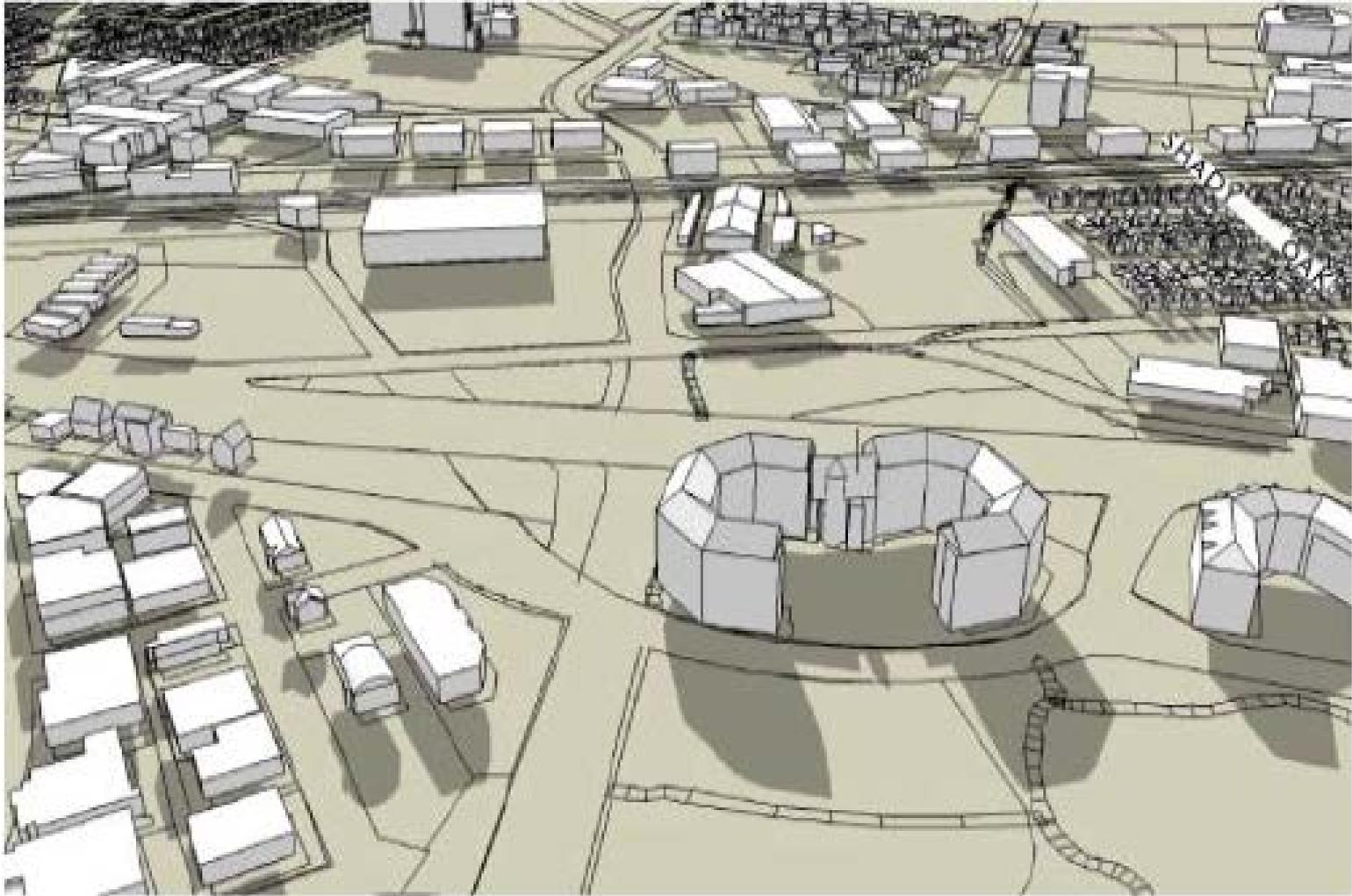


December 2009

www.southwesttransitway.org



Birds Eye View (Existing)



Station Area Planning (Ideas)



Station Area Planning (Ideas)



Station Area Planning (Ideas)

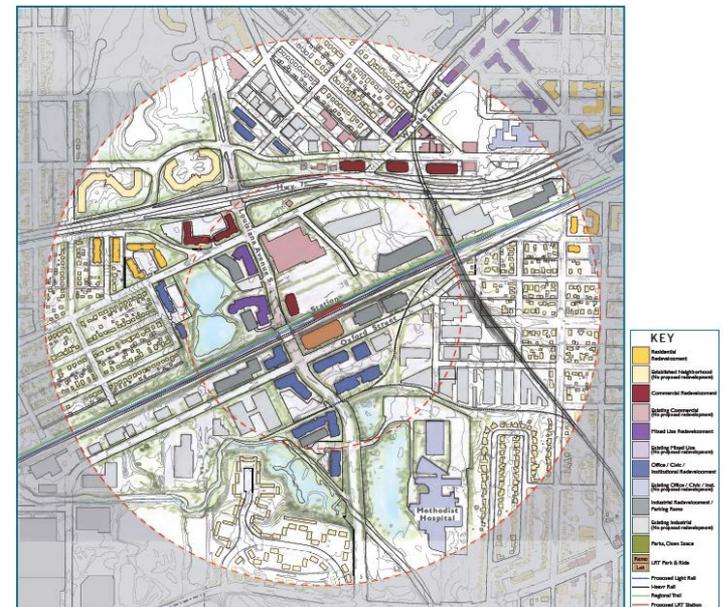


Current Planning Studies

- Walker-Lake Area
 - Stormwater Master Plan
 - LCDA TOD Grant
- Louisiana LRT Station Area
 - LCDA Pre-Development Grant
 - Land Use & Design Guidelines, Environmental Investigation, Redevelopment Strategies



Aerial view looking southeast illustrating potential long term development near the LRT station.



LOUISIANA CONCEPTUAL SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

0' 400' 800'

Planning & Pre-development Studies

- Freight rail
- LRT alignment
- Ped/bike connections
- Vertical circulation
- Road network
- Design guidelines
- Regional stormwater



Thank You!

Southwest LRT

