



**METRO Blue Line Extension**  
**Meeting of the Corridor Management Committee**  
**October 14, 2021**  
**1:30 PM**  
Virtual

**CMC Members:** Robert Lilligren, Jeff Lunde, Irene Fernando, Tonja West-Hafner, Chris Meyer, Denise Butler, Nichole Buhler, Bridget Rief, Mike Barns, Felicia Perry, Kathi Hemken, Abdi Salah, Dani Hans, Mike Opatz, Bill Blonigan

**Meeting Summary**

**1. Call to Order and Welcome**

Commissioner Fernando called the meeting to order at 1:33 PM.

**2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 24, 2021**

Council Member Lilligren moved to approve the minutes, Mayor Pro-temp West-Hafner seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**3. Committee Reports**

Jason Greenberg provided an update on the Community Advisory Committee. He shared that most of the discussion was regarding the Anti-Displacement work and meeting C Terrence.

Felicia Perry shared a report on the Business Advisory Committee. They heard some updates on engagement in July and August. There have been over 2,000 points of contact and 200 comments so far. They are excited that engagement is translating into more conversations with community. They also had updates on engineering. Tim and Felicia asked about the staff involved from Minneapolis and how they are being engaged. They talked about the project schedule and had an update on the anti-displacement work.

Abdi Salah thanked Felicia for her work and shared he is happy to connect her with staff from the City who are working on this project. Commissioner Fernando voiced that the Met Council and Hennepin County would also like to be helpful on those conversations.

**4. Introductions & Anti-Displacement Discussion with CURA**

Commissioner Fernando introduced the topic of displacement and presented the next item. She said this is just as important as technical aspects of the planning.



C Terrence who is director of Community Based Programs introduced the work of CURA, his experience in transit and their team. C Terrence shared their approach to work which involves a reparative justice model. This is not about the outcomes but also the process in which the work is contextualized, and the work gives agency to the people impacted by the work.

C Terrence shared CURA's theory of change which combines actionable research for policy with advocacy and organizing. They recognize what is problematic about the traditional methods of research in which researchers drop in, extract information, and later present a report. Instead, their model uses a shared experience model which informs people impacted by the research to make decisions. C Terrence shared some background on gentrification in Minneapolis and Saint Paul. They are expanding this research into the Northwest suburbs. Commissioner Fernando highlighted that the map shows where transit is and underlines the importance of this corridor.

C Terrence answered a question from Felicia Perry about graphics: he shared that graphics could be brought together by the design lab at CURA to improve on more wordy materials. C Terrence discussed the formation of anti-displacement work group. He sought input about how to make that a transparent process. Mayor Hemken voiced that it's important to have elected officials in the committee since they will bring the policies back to their community. C Terrence identified the issues that occur when people who are implementors are not involved in the process, and when the group goes through a process and they are delivering recommendations to people who are uninvolved. There needs to be people involved from both groups in that journey along the way to build a shared analysis. Denise Butler suggested thinking about how the CAC and the Bottineau Community Works are currently working, that there be community members and community organizations sitting in on this group. C Terrence shared input from the CAC and BAC including bringing people who are experiencing displacement or are vulnerable to it.

C Terrence shared tangible actions for equitable decision making. These actions included building community capacity to understand transportation more complexly, resource community organizations and groups to do work for projects and beyond projects, give community time to understand and comment, when concerns/ideas go beyond the scope of the project, then expand the scope of the project. He provided an overview of their research plan which will include a review of best practices, a case study of Green and Blue Lines, a baseline study for the Blue Line corridor, needs assessment, policy recommendations and a development of indicators for residents and business displacement.

He shared how this work is contextualized by the past work done by community members for years. They will detail the history of disinvestment and exclusion of marginalized



communities to support this contextualization. He emphasized that part of the work is to make this reparative and to lay out how governments and other entities have a role in this work. Finally, he caveated that the research agenda may change as community partners develop their own research needs so that they can be fully capacitated to create an anti-displacement vision that matches their needs. Bill Blonigan shared that he would like Robbinsdale and other cities to have some specific research to understand how it will affect each area differently. C Terrence shared that they will be looking at all station areas along the corridor. He also said that people might be displaced to other suburbs so this will be important in terms of anticipating the needs of those people. Commissioner Fernando pointed out that he started by talking about the conditions that create this situation, and part of that could be the conditions of cities outside of Minneapolis. She also said that it would be good to use resident stories, who are less likely to hear that policy makers and she would like to see how those can be made actionable. C Terrence reviewed the plan outcomes which included recommendations to address many angles of displacement that will be documented in a report. Commissioner Fernando asked if there would be rolling recommendations or if they would be at the end of 18 months. C Terrence said that there is a lot that is known already in terms of displacement in the corridor. There are studies that have been done already and can be brought into this process. There might be opportunities for recommendations along the way if the committees are open to that. Sam O'Connell also highlighted that they will be doing engagement with around 5,000 members of the community.

## **5. Project Evaluation Criteria**

Sam O'Connell shared some information on the Evaluation Framework. She shared that the project principles are the foundation of the framework and how those work with the project goals to form the framework. Sam shared an example for Goal 1 which includes reviewing items like population density. Dan shared how Goal 6 could be evaluated by reviewing what opportunities to historically disinvested communities. They can look at redlining and historic racial covenants and how these tie to present day disparities. He emphasized these will help show which route best serves the project goals. These will also tie into the process to justify investment from the federal government.

## **6. Upcoming Events**

- Robbinsdale Open House: Wednesday, October 27 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Elim Church
- Minneapolis Community Workshops & Office Hours.
  - Lunch Hour Workshop: Tuesday, Nov. 9, from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM, Episcopal Church.
  - Office Hours: Friday, Nov. 12 from 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM, Episcopal Church.
  - Virtual Workshop: Monday, Nov. 15 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM.
  - Evening Workshop: Tuesday, Nov. 16 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Capri Theater.



- Office Hours: Wednesday, Nov. 17 from 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM, North Regional Library.

**7. Next Meeting: November 12, 2021**

**8. Adjournment**

**Next CMC Meeting: Thursday, November 12, 2021**