

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Committee Members Present:

Chávez, Reynoso, Munt, Rummel, Van Eyll, Melander, Schreiber, Elkins, Duininck, McCarthy, Kramer, Haigh

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Haigh called the regular meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:03p.m. on Wednesday, April 2, 2014.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Reynoso, seconded by Schreiber to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Reynoso, seconded by Chávez to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2014 regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole. Motion carried.

BUSINESS

SWLRT/Green Line Extension Update—Mark Fuhrmann, Chris Weyer, Jim Alexander

Jim Alexander began the presentation by explaining the staff recommendations for technical issues #1 (retain Mitchell Road Station in Eden Prairie) and #21 (shallow LRT tunnels over the channel in Kenilworth Corridor with a 2019 opening). A map of the Eden Prairie alignment to Mitchell Road highlighted the locations of the Mitchell Station, the Southwest Station, the EPTC Station, and the Golden Triangle Station. All of these aforementioned stations will have new Park and Ride facilities ranging from 160 to 900 spaces. A detailed map of the Southwest Station in Eden Prairie was presented to show the configuration of the expanded parking structure and SW Transit operations. The SW Transit offices will need to be relocated. There will be a good arrangement to accommodate both bus and rail transit, Alexander reported.

The next slide showed the alignment from the West Lake Station to the Penn Station, with the shallow LRT tunnels highlighted. The south tunnel would be approximately 2,200' in length, and the north tunnel would be approximately 2,500' long. Artist renderings of what these tunnels would look like were also presented.

Mark Fuhrmann provided an overview of the recommended project budget, which is between \$1.673B and \$1.683B. He explained that the main cost drivers are as follows: 16 stations, 15.8 miles of LRT with Mitchell Road Station serving as the westernmost station; shallow LRT tunnels in the Kenilworth Corridor with an LRT bridge over the channel; advancing construction one year and opening for revenue in 2019. Fuhrmann stated that \$1.68B is mid-range when compared with other LRT projects nationally.

Chair Haigh introduced the SWLRT CMC resolution, which recommends the Council adopt the SWLRT project scope and direct the project staff to proceed with advancing the design. The Council is scheduled to vote on the project next week. If the vote passes, the municipal consent process will start on April 10, 2014. The Council and the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) are scheduled to hold a joint open house and public hearing the week of May 12, 2014. The cities along the line are scheduled to hold open houses and public hearings beginning the week of May 19, 2014.

The group briefly discussed the schedule. CM Munt stated that the Council's recommendation should include the north tunnel.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 4:45p.m.

Emily Getty
Recording Secretary