Transitional Station Area Action Plans (TSAAP) – Project Team

- Hoisington Koegler Group (HKGi)
- Urban Strategies
- IBI Group
- Community Design Group
- RCLCO
- WSB & Associates
Transitional Station Area Action Plans (TSAAP)

- Intended to promote opening day readiness by bridging the gap between current conditions and future needs by addressing:
  - Station platform locations
  - Park and ride sites
  - Future development potential
  - Access and circulation planning
  - Infrastructure planning
  - Creative stormwater management solutions
TSAAP and SPO/PE Teams – a Coordinated Effort

### Southwest LRT Transitional Station Area Action Plans

**General Project Schedule**

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<th>Task 1 - Organize the Effort</th>
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### Project Development Overview

- **2011**: Preliminary Engineering
- **2012-2013**: Municipal Consent, 30% Design, Entry into Final Design
- **2014**: Project Development
Technical Charrette Process

- Meet with communities to understand station framework – character, vision, function, etc.
- Conduct technical exercise including planners, engineers, TSAAP consultants, etc.
- Generate initial concepts and ideas for all 17 station sites for subsequent review, testing and modification
Charrette Format

- Day One: Tour station sites, overall briefing
- Days Two through Five: Design sessions for all 17 station sites
  - Initial overview by city staff
  - Breakout into 2 teams
  - Exploration of concept ideas
  - Reconvene teams for reporting
Charrette Participants

- **Staff from:**
  - Hennepin County
  - Consulting team: HKGi, USI, IBI, RCLCO, WSB, and CDG
  - Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka and Eden Prairie
  - SPO and PE Teams
  - Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
  - Others
  - **TOTAL OF 78 PARTICIPANTS!**
Charrette Results
129 lineal feet of ideas – text and sketches!

Charrette outcomes depicted in pictures...
Charrette Results

- Defined key directions/opportunities
  - *Blake Example* – City sees this station area as an appropriate site for workforce housing

- Defined key considerations for PE Teams
  - *Blake Example* – Explore option to move light rail south/freight rail to north

- Defined considerations for Opening Day
  - *Blake Example* – Complete Blake Road streetscape improvements

Charrette outcomes depicted in words
Charrette Results

- Next Review Steps – All Stations:
  - Meetings with staff members from each community (2/20 to 2/26)
  - March 6th – Technical Implementation Committee
  - March 21st – Steering Committee Meeting
  - March 27th – BAC Meeting
  - March 28th – CAC Meeting
  - Expanded community input
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
For you this evening

- Overview of the Community Engagement Plan
Effective Engagement

Invites
Elicits
Informs

Moves toward, and supports specific actions
What we want to do

- Create an effective process
- Build participation, understanding, ownership and support
- Avoid potential blindspots
- Improve project outcomes
Why?

- Previous stages have already completed extensive outreach
- But ...
Community Engagement Plan
What is it?

- A roadmap to achieve the Community Engagement vision
- It leverages work and contacts made in previous stages
Community Engagement Plan
SW LRT Transitional Station Area Action Plans (TSAAP)

DRAFT 02/20/12
Outline

1) Introduction
2) Activities, Locations and Purpose
3) Environmental Justice
4) Traditionally underrepresented communities (CET grantees)
5) Media and community contacts
6) Project stakeholders and agency partners
Activities, Locations and Purpose
A city-by-city approach

- Working closely with staff at each city to ensure:
  - Best methods for context and issues
  - Focused outreach where needed
  - Appropriate response to citizen concerns

- Documentation of all comments, information and guidance to project team
Potential tools
Open house meetings / Workshops
Listening sessions / Focus groups
Listening sessions / Focus groups

- Ten to fifteen participants
- Deeper, detailed conversations
  - Meet with civic groups or other stakeholders with interest and knowledge of previous stages of the work as well as potential changes contemplated in this work
  - They take place within the regularly occurring meetings of host organizations, assuring a consistent level of participation and minimizing need for extensive outreach
Listening at community events
Websites and media
Southwest LRT Community Works 
... beyond the rails

Imagine a trip on a quick and efficient light rail train running diagonally out from downtown Minneapolis through SW metro area suburbs. With 17 stations along the way, stopping at key destinations in Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka and Eden Prairie, this proposed line will have 30,000 riders per day, and be connected to major rail and bus lines, including Hiawatha LRT, Central Corridor LRT (Green Line), and Northstar Commuter Rail. Through connections, riders will be able to get to many key Twin Cities destinations - University of Minnesota, Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport, Mall of America, the State Capitol, downtown St. Paul.

In addition to adding another great way to beat congestion, the Southwest LRT line will help grow the economy, add jobs, and create opportunities for quality housing and walkable neighborhoods. Hennepin County and partner cities are working together with the Metropolitan Council and others to catalyze actions that will turn new opportunities into realities. This effort is called the Southwest LRT Community Works program, and this website is dedicated to sharing information about this program.

Hennepin County is the lead agency for the Southwest LRT Community Works program working in collaboration with partner cities, the Metropolitan Council, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, Southwest Transit, the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board, and the Urban Land Institute-MN under the guidance of the Southwest LRT Community Works Steering Committee. The adopted vision for the corridor is to connect people to jobs, housing, shopping and fun.

Metro Transit is the lead agency for the design and construction of the Southwest LRT line working with Hennepin County and the Cities along the corridor. Metro Transit will also be responsible for...
What is the most exciting thing you learned at the New Partners for Smart Growth Conference?

We encourage you to share some of the most exciting information or ideas you have learned about at the conference! What's the most interesting thing you...

What Do You Think?

What are communities doing to implement smart growth? Show us!
Other media

- News Releases and Media Alerts
  - Media list established in previous stages of this project
  - Local and regional news outlets, websites and public access outlets

- Community Newsletter Articles
  - For all communities in corridor

- News Organizations
  - Many outlets have been following the news about SW LRT
Other tools
Make it fun
And to conclude ...
Key questions / issues

- How to coordinate TSAAP, PE, and city engagement efforts
- Setting up effective feedback loops for responding to community guidance
Suggestions for community engagement:

Katie Walker
Hennepin County
Co-Manager Southwest LRT Community Works

katie.walker@co.hennepin.mn.us
Thank you!