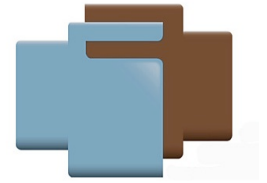


DISTRICT COUNCILS COLLABORATIVE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

D-6 North End ♦ D-7 Frogtown ♦ D-8 Summit-University ♦ D-11 Hamline-Midway ♦ D-12 St. Anthony Park
D-13 Union Park ♦ D-14 Macalester Groveland ♦ D-17 Capitol River ♦ Prospect Park East River Road
Southeast Como ♦ Marcy Holmes ♦ West Bank ♦ University District Improvement Association



DCC UPDATE

January 18, 2011

Next Governing Council Meeting: February 9, 2011, 6:30 PM

www.dcc-stpaul-mpls.org

Central Corridor Resource Center ♦ 1080 University Avenue W., Saint Paul

Like the *District Councils Collaborative* on Facebook ♦ Follow us at <http://twitter.com/DCCstpaulmpls>

Transit 101: Preventing service cuts and fare increases in 2011 Wed, February 2, 2011 • 7 – 8:30 pm • Central Corridor Resource Center

On February 2, Transit for Livable Communities (TLC) and DCC will be co-sponsoring the “Transit 101” Workshop at the Central Corridor Resource Center. Minnesota is facing a \$6 billion budget deficit. Like just about everything else, transit is at risk for budget cuts. Millions of dollars in operating funds for bus and rail come from the state general fund. Cuts would likely mean service cuts, fare increases, or both. Rep. Beard, the chair of the House Transportation Committee, has said, “it’s all on the table.” ([2011, January 10, Star Tribune.](#))

Find out where transit money comes from and how we can help protect bus & train service at this introduction to transit funding and decision-making. Forget the tech-speak! TLC will provide user-friendly information you can use to work with us for a fully-funded sustainable transportation system – including bus service to support the Central Corridor once it’s open in 2014.

Go to TLC’s website for more information or to sign up: (Signups welcome but not required – all are welcome!)

<https://www.thedatabank.com/dpg/132/mtgdetail.asp?formid=tlcmeet&caleventid=19030>.

To read TLC’s blog about the upcoming session, go to:

<http://tlcminnesota.typepad.com/blog/2011/01/looking-ahead-to-the-2011-legislative-session.html>

Central Corridor LRT Project

Joint Disadvantaged Business Enterprises / Affirmative Action Committee Update

In a recent update the DBE/AA office released a list of the DBE sub-contractors currently working or contracted to work on the project. To view the full list, go to url: <http://www.metrocouncil.org/transportation/ccorridor/news/Alerts/DBEFall10.pdf>

During the January 12, Central Corridor Management Committee meeting Senior Equal Opportunity Consultant, Pat Calder reported on Workforce Trades needed for LRT Constructions. Trades include:

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| •Plumber | •Concrete Finisher | •Equipment Oper. |
| •Roofer | •Electronic Technician | •Insulator |
| •Sheetmetal Worker | •Electronic Installer | •Ironworker |
| •Sprinkler Fitter | •Glazer | •Laborer |
| •Taper | •Tiler | •Lineman |
| •Tender | •Bricklayer | •Mechanic |
| •Truck Drivers | •Carpenter | •Painter |
| •Landscaper | •Cement Mason | •Pipefitter |
| •Waterproofer | •Electrician | •Pile Driver |

The Met Council has launched its [LRTWorks](#) site for those interested in construction job opportunities on the Central Corridor project.

LRT Construction

All construction contracts for the Central Corridor have been let. Major construction on the western end of the line between Emerald and Hamline is scheduled to begin in 10 weeks, or March 1. Most of the construction underway has been put on hold because of winter weather. Where possible, contractors have continued working. This includes:

- **Utility work** on the East and West Banks of the U of M and on Cedar Avenue in downtown Saint Paul; and
- **Washington Avenue Bridge** reinforcement work.

Where construction has stopped for the winter, the contractor is responsible for maintaining traffic and pedestrian access.

Construction Communication Committees (CCCs) — The Central Corridor Project Office is forming a CCC for University Avenue from Emerald to Hamline. The DCC and individual district councils in this segment have each been invited to appoint a representative. To receive weekly construction updates please go www.centralcorridor.org and sign up!

CCLRT Project Contingency Fund

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires each project to set aside about 30% of the budget for a contingency fund to provide for unforeseen construction costs. For Central, that's about \$287 million. The FTA and the local funding partners contribute equally to this fund and, thus, share in decision-making over use of this fund. As the construction reaches certain levels of completion, a portion of the contingency fund is released for items that (1) meet FTA guidelines and (2) were in the Environmental Review process and have received clearance.

The Central Corridor Project Office, FTA, and local funding partners are now developing a decision-making framework for releasing this fund. In August 2009, the Central Corridor Management Committee adopted an "Agreement in Principle" for use of contingency funds. Although the Metropolitan Council did not pass a resolution agreeing to the principles, it seems as though this agreement will inform the framework being developed. Mark Fuhrmann, Met Council New Starts Rail Program Director, will provide a further update in February and start reporting monthly this spring.

Use of funds now available because of budget "underruns"—about \$34 million—has not yet been determined, although it is agreed that all funding partners will be included in decision-making.

Central Corridor Branding and Station Naming

At the Community Agreements meeting January 3, Metro Transit Marketing Director, **Bruce Howard** and Central Corridor Project Office Manager of Public Involvement, **Robin Kaufman** presented on Regional Transitways Branding Framework and Naming. During the presentation Mr. Howard detailed what informed the Branding Framework decisions. The transit branding framework is meant to simplify the brand for a progressively growing transit system. Much of the decision to use color names to identify LRT lines was influenced by the common use of colors on other LRT and BRT lines around the country.

The CACC has continued to voice its concern that branding and naming decisions that will affect neighborhoods and communities along the line are being made without adequate community input. Mr. Howard stated that there would be opportunities for community engagement in the station naming process.

Public Art for Missing Stations

The Central Corridor Project Office is seeking community input and ideas on Station Art. The Project Office is circulating questionnaires for the Hamline, Western and Victoria Stations that offer an opportunity for community members to submit their ideas and make suggestions. PDFs of

the questionnaire can be found at the [DCC website](#) by clicking the link in the blue Community Forum block.

The DCC has appointed Karen Inman to serve as its representative on the Victoria and Western Station public art committees and Steve Samuelson to serve on the Hamline public art committee. **For more information, contact Shoua Lee at 651-602-1014.**

Corridor News and Activities

St Paul Drafting Proposal for Side Street Parking

The City of St Paul is proposing to manage side street parking by: 1) implementing 2-hour parking, 8 am - 6 pm, on most side streets; 2) where parking is already time-limited with signs, changing signage to 2-hour parking, 8 am to 6 pm. Exceptions include commercial vehicle loading areas, residential permit areas, existing meters, school bus loading, and peak hour parking bans ("No Parking or Stopping 7-9 am"); 3) enforcing these new limits to encourage turnover of parking spaces; and 4) continuing enforcement of existing meter and residential permit parking.

To date, reactions to the proposal have been lukewarm. Prospect Park has concerns that the plan will result in more hide-n-ride bus commuters on their residential streets and some large employers and owners of buildings with multiple tenants are concerned that employees and tenants will not have adequate longer-term parking.

The City welcomes comments on the proposal, please contact Christina Morrison at Christina.morrison@ci.stpaul.mn.us. Maps of existing and proposed side street parking are available at <http://www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=2734>.

DCC News

The DCC bids farewell to Mark Nelson, St. Anthony Park representative, who has resigned from his post as he is no longer a resident of the neighborhood. The DCC wishes to thank Mark and acknowledge his contributions not only to Governing Council but also to the Program and Neighborhood Impacts of Closing Washington Avenue committees. Lauren Fulner serves as the interim representative until St. Anthony Park appoints a new representative.

The District Councils Collaborative of Saint Paul and Minneapolis wishes to gratefully acknowledge funding support from the Saint Paul Foundation, F.R. Bigelow Foundation, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and McKnight Foundation, which makes our work possible.