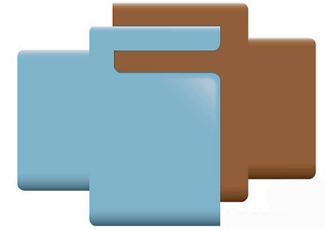


DISTRICT COUNCILS COLLABORATIVE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

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 CapitolRiver • Prospect Park East River Road
Southeast Como • Marcy Holmes • West Bank • University District Improvement Association



DCC UPDATE

December 2011

Next Governing Council Meeting: January 11, 2012 6:30 PM

www.dcc-stpaul-mpls.org

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

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Looking Forward: 2012 in Central Corridor



On December 11, 2011 the DCC celebrated, along with other members of the Stops for Us Coalition, the acceptance of a 2010 National Achievements in Environmental Justice award presented by Lisa Garcia, Environmental Protection Agency senior advisor on environmental justice. The celebration was a wonderful tribute to the efforts of members of the Central Corridor community to ensure equity and justice in the build out and development of the \$1 billion Central Corridor LRT project. A booklet titled, *Stops For Us: Organizing for Equity Along the Central Corridor* was published as a part of the celebration, with support of the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative, Knight Foundation and individual donors. A limited number of hard copies are available at the DCC Office, if you would like a copy please call or you may download the booklet electronically at <http://dcc-stpaul-mpls.org/special-projects/stops-us>. As we look forward to 2012, the DCC is preparing to continue this work as we focus on the issues neighborhood livability and equity in development and transit. We urge you to stay connected to this work through our newsletters, the DCC website and community discussions and we commit to continue to keeping you informed.

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Pictures from top left: EPA Award statue, Cover of *Stops For Us: Organizing for equity in Central Corridor* Booklet, Award Recipients at celebration event. (Group photo courtesy of Central Corridor Funders Collaborative)

Central Corridor LRT Project

Construction

Major construction of Central Corridor LRT ended on time November 30, 2011. Construction will resume again in early spring 2012. Construction will begin on the eastern end of University Avenue between Hamline Avenue and Rice Street at this time. Construction will also continue between Emerald and West Bank in Minneapolis.

There are some important things to note as we move forward into 2012. Robin Caufman, formerly Central Corridor Manager of Public Involvement, has been promoted to Southwest and Central Assistant Director of Administration, Public Involvement and Communications. Shoua Lee, Outreach Coordinator for St. Paul East from Griggs to I-94, will be Acting Manager of Public Involvement for Central Corridor. Additionally, Nkongo Cigolo will be handling the Construction Communication Committees for St. Paul East this spring.

The DCC is planning a community meeting to discuss how our neighborhoods can prepare for next year's construction season. Details will be coming soon.

Central Corridor Project Workforce / DBE

The Central Corridor DBE/AA Joint Oversight Committee meeting met December 15, 2011.

Workforce participation contractor progress

The project goal is 18% minority participation and 6% female participation

	Minority	Female
Walsh	18.04	6.12
Ames/McCrossan	16.81	7.56
PCL	17.62	6.13

**Represents participation through 11/30/2011*

Station Naming and Identity

On December 22, 2011 a group of district councils, neighborhood associations and community leaders met to discuss the naming of future Central Corridor Light Rail Stations. The group is working to develop community processes that will effectively empower neighbors and transit users to critically impact station name decisions. This work will occur in the form of organizing at the neighborhood level, gener-

ating recommendations, and advocating for those recommendations to be heard by the Met Council.

Corridor News and Activities

Transit, More than a Ride: Trusted Advocate Project

The DCC is currently reviewing applications for Trusted Advocate positions and will be making selections and contracting with individuals in early January. A community meeting to introduce the Trusted Advocates and share more about the transit service study is being scheduled. Details will be available soon.

The DCC has partnered with Metro Transit to help support and enrich community engagement in the transit study process. DCC will be implementing a Trusted Advocate pilot project, which will contract with proven community organizers, advocates and leaders of different communities. This project is being made possible through the support of the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative.

For more information about the Trusted Advocate Project contact: Karyssa, karyssa@dcc-stpaul-mpls.org or call 651-528-8165.

Central Corridor Walkability/Accessibility Survey

The DCC will be welcoming Macalester student, Scott Vargo to assist with work related to the Central Corridor neighborhood walkability and accessibility survey. The survey is being designed to assess current walking conditions within a half-mile of light rail stations, and to determine what actions should be taken to make these routes safe and pleasant for all ages and levels of mobility.

Small Business Loan Program

During the December 14 Central Corridor Management Committee (CCMC) meeting it was reported that a total of 53 business loans had been approved as of Dec. 12, 2011, with a total dollar amount approved to date at \$785,862. Individual loan amounts ranged from \$1,256 to \$20,000 (the maximum amount available). Nine applications were deemed ineligible. There is currently a balance of \$3,014,138 still available for future loans.