

## 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

June 20, 2011

Next Governing Council Meeting: July 13, 2011, 6:30 PM

[www.dcc-stpaul-mpls.org](http://www.dcc-stpaul-mpls.org)

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

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### Forgivable Loans now Available to small businesses in the Central Corridor

The first season of Central Corridor LRT construction is in full swing, with activity happening Downtown St. Paul, along Washington Avenue and on the western end of University between Emerald and Hamline Avenue. Road detours, fencing, and one-lane traffic have significantly affected the revenue of businesses in areas of construction, with some businesses reporting losses of as much as 60%.

An announcement was made June 20 that the City of Saint Paul had chosen the Neighborhood Development Center (NDC) and Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) to administer the funds. The NDC will begin administering loans immediately for Saint Paul. MCCD will begin administering loans to Minneapolis businesses next Monday, June 27. Loan information can be found at <http://stpaul.gov/DocumentView.aspx?DID=16870> or by contacting the loan administrators directly. According to the Met Council announcement: "Forgivable loan applications may be submitted 60 days or more after construction has started in the immediate area of a business. Loans of up to \$20,000 per eligible business will be interest free and forgiven in equal installments over five years if the business can certify that it is operating on the Central Corridor each year." Gross annual sales of the business cannot exceed \$2 million dollars. The loan is only available to business located in a Central Corridor construction zone or that are in within one block of construction.

NDC will be holding informational sessions for Saint Paul loan applicants at the Central Corridor Resource Center. On the following dates:

- Thursday, June 23 - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Thursday, June 30 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 5 - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Thursday, July 7 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 12 - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Thursday, July 14 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 19 - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Thursday, July 21 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The funding partners for the forgivable loan program include, the city of St. Paul, the Metropolitan Council, the city of Minneapolis the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative and Living Cities philanthropic collaborative. There is approximately \$5.6 million in forgivable loans and 650,000 in grants available for Central Corridor business aid.

### Central Corridor LRT Project

#### Construction Updates

On University Avenue construction crews are beginning to build new curbs and gutters and lay pavement on the south side of University between Emerald and Hampden and at intersections as far east as Snelling. Replacement of sidewalks between Emerald and Hampden will begin soon.

Downtown Saint Paul Fourth Street is closed between Robert and Minnesota St. Construction crews are preparing for track installation between Wacouta and Broadway.

The Minneapolis construction update now lists typical construction hours and details the scheduled open and close of ramps off I-35 and Washington Avenue Interchange.

To sign up for construction updates visit [www.centralcorridor.org](http://www.centralcorridor.org) beneath the "Construction" tab.

#### DBE/AA Oversight Committee Update

Contractors made reports on progress reaching Disadvantage Business Enterprise and Workforce goals at the June 16 DBE/AA Oversight committee meeting. Both Walsh and

Ames/McCrossan are meeting or exceeding their workforce goals. Contractor numbers reported are as follows:

	DBE*	Women	Minority	% Complete
Ames/ McCrossan	20.12%	7.1%	19.2%	6.2%
PCL	N/A	33%	2.9%	3%
Walsh	18.94%	11.21%	18.47%	9.5%

The numbers in the DBE column represent contract dollar amount percentages allotted to Disadvantage Business Enterprises, not amount paid to date. PCL has not yet been paid and thus did not DBE have numbers to report at the meeting.

## Corridor News and Activities

### CACC Welcomes New Members

The Community Agreements Coordinating Committee (CACC) welcomed five new members at their June 6 meeting. There were three vacant seats available for Minneapolis representation and two from Saint Paul. New members include: **Fred Burton, Adrienne Dorn, Ali Warsame, Tom Goldstein, and Sarah Nichols.**

### Completion of Pedestrian Realm Planning Study

Research of pedestrian realm planning in Central Corridor is complete. CURA researcher, **Hayley Bonsteel** presented the executive summary of the draft report and shared her findings at the last CACC Neighborhood Livability work group on May 18. The work group is currently formulating recommendations identifying next steps in response to the report.

### Western Station Public Art Open House

On Thursday, June 30 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, the Metropolitan Council will be hosting the Western Station Public Art open house. Station artist, Catherine Widgery, will be present to share art concepts and receive feedback from the community. The event will be held at the Lao Family Community is located at 320 University Avenue West, St. Paul. For more info contact Shoua Lee at 651-602-1014 or [shoua.lee@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:shoua.lee@metc.state.mn.us).

### “University is Alive” Saints Game and Zombie Crawl

On Thursday, July 7, Central Corridor businesses are teaming up with the Saint Paul Saints to host the “University is Alive” Saints Game on Zombieland Night. The event ticket cost is \$18. This price includes general admission to the game, 1 hat, 1 hot dog, 1 raffle ticket and a \$5 donation to a fund for small business micromarketing grants. More information can be found at <http://www.discovercentralcorridor.com/events.html> or [www.saintsbased.com](http://www.saintsbased.com).

### Community Engagement Study

District Councils Collaborative Intern, **Nolan Levenson** completed a research study investigating successful community en-

gagement in regional transitway planning and development in five cities around the United States. The research focused on best practices and lessons learned about engagement of under-represented groups.

The CACC has convened a task force to discuss the findings and identify next steps for the future directions of the CACC. DCC representatives, **Anne White** and **Phil Anderson**, Minneapolis City Council Member **Cam Gordon** and Ramsey County **Commissioner Toni Carter** have volunteered to be apart of the task force.

## Discover Central Corridor

The **Discover Central Corridor campaign** an initiative of the Saint Paul Chamber of Commerce. The campaign focuses on the slogan “buy local” and is meant connect the community to businesses impacted by light rail construction. It also functions to assist businesses located 3 blocks in either direction of light rail construction to find and utilize marketing and communications resources from sources like other businesses, non-profits, state and local government. Information about the Discover Central Corridor campaign can be found at [www.discovercentralcorridor.com](http://www.discovercentralcorridor.com). The website includes a list of affected businesses.

The **Discover Central Corridor Perks Card (also called the Loyalty Card)** offers discounts to cardholders at participating businesses. The cards are free of charge. Information about participating businesses can be found at [www.centralcorridorperks.com](http://www.centralcorridorperks.com) by clicking on the “discounts” tab. iPhone and Android cellphone can also download the “PerksCard Mobile” app to receive information about discounts directly on their cellphones. **All other phones**, text “corridor” to 82350 or visit our mobile website [m.perkscard.com](http://m.perkscard.com) to register online. This initiative has been funded solely by individual businesses.

## DCC News

The DCC welcomes HECUA Interns, **Erin Scott** and **Alysa Friedrich**, both of whom will be working part-time with the DCC and HECUA on Affordable Housing Planning efforts.

**Visit the DCC website** at [www.dcc-stpaul-mpls.org](http://www.dcc-stpaul-mpls.org) for daily blogs, calendar events and news. The website features a convenient RSS feed to keep you up to date. Like us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/districtcouncilscollaborative>.

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