

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

May 31, 2011

Next Governing Council Meeting: June 8, 2011, 6:30 PM

www.dcc-stpaul-mpls.org

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

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Central Corridor Construction Communications Overview

Navigating traffic, detours, bus route changes, and finding parking in the corridor in the midst of construction can be quite difficult. There are several ways of accessing information about changes due to construction.

Every week the Central Corridor Project Office releases **Construction Updates** for sections of the corridor under construction. These sections include:

- **Minneapolis East Bank and West Bank** which covers the areas between Downtown Minneapolis and Emerald Ave including the University of Minnesota Campus area, the transitway, Marcy Holmes, Southeast Como and Prospect Park.
- **University Avenue**, which covers the areas on the western end of University Ave between Emerald Ave to Hamline Ave.
- **Capitol Area**, which includes information for the Capitol Area in Saint Paul.
- **Downtown Saint Paul**, which includes information for all of downtown Saint Paul.

Individuals can subscribe to one or all of the Construction Updates by visiting the Met Council website URL <http://www.metrocouncil.org/transportation/ccorridor/CCLRTSubscribe.htm>.

Any questions that are not addressed by the Central Corridor Construction updates should be forwarded to the **Construction Hotline** at **651-602-1404**. Community members are also strongly encouraged to call this numbers with any concerns regarding traffic, safety, pedestrian access, noise or other issues. Community members and business owners may also contact the **Central Corridor community outreach coordinator** for the area in which they live or work. A list of the outreach coordinators can be found at <http://www.metrocouncil.org/transportation/ccorridor/CCcontacts.htm>.

The City of Saint Paul has also created a guide page to getting around at <http://stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=4535>. This list includes an interactive Google Map of Downtown Saint Paul major construction and alternative route, it can be found by clicking "Downtown Construction Map" under the green heading "Driving and Parking".

Bus riders can access information about bus route detours and bus stop closures by visiting <http://www.metrotransit.org/rail-construction.aspx>. **Metro Transit** has created a special page on their website dedicated to information regarding bus changes due Central Corridor construction. The site also features an interactive map, which allows users to view the routes and identify bus stops they utilize by number for quick access to information specifically for that stop. Riders may also call the transit information hotline at **612-373-3333** to listen to NexTrip bus scheduling information and to speak to a representative between the hours of 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends and holidays. Riders should pay attention to **Rider Alerts** that are posted in bus shelters and major bus stops that may have information about future detours or bus stop closures.

Central Corridor LRT Project

Work on Transit /Pedestrian Begins

The first phase of creating the new Transit & Pedestrian Mall began with the closure of Washington Avenue from Oak Street to Pleasant Street in mid-May. This closure re-routes approximately 150 busses to 4th Street and University Avenue. Stadium Village businesses are working with the Central Corridor

Project Office to improve access signage to businesses and parking. Eventually, the mall will re-open to transit service (LRT and buses) pedestrian, bicycles, and emergency vehicles. West-bound traffic seeking to cross the Washington Avenue Bridge is being diverted through campus via Pleasant Street and east-bound traffic crossing the bridge is being diverted to the East River Road via Delaware Street, which wraps around the Weisman Museum.

DBE/AA Oversight Committee Update

During the May 19 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Affirmative Action (DBE/AA) meeting, Walsh Construction and Ames/McCrossan Joint Venture both reported exceeding the DBE goal of 15%. Ames McCrossan stands at 19.79% of the total sub-contract dollars going to DBEs. Walsh reports 18.85%.

Walsh is currently exceeding the 6% goal for women hires with 12.85%, but is just short of meeting the minority goal of 18% with 17%. Walsh is at 9.58% project completion. Walsh is currently working with specific subcontractors who are falling short to improve their effort to meet hiring goals. Ames/McCrossan is currently exceeding both the women and minority project goal, with 7.3% and 19.6% respectively. Ames/McCrossan is at 4% project completion.

Reports on LRTWorks revealed that contractors have begun utilizing the website and that Walsh Construction has actually made two hires from the site. John O'Phelan of Job Connect, which hosts the LRTWorks website reported that the website has received job entries for projects other than CCLRT. There are currently 1105 sign ups on LRTWorks, 519 of which indicated completed construction training.

Corridor News and Activities

Central Corridor Public Art Plan Update

Christine Podas-Larson, Executive Director of Public Art Saint Paul and lead members of the consultant team for the Central Corridor Public Art Plan Todd Bressi and Cliff Garten visited the May 11 Governing Council meeting and shared with the group the intended planning process for the Public Art Plan.

The first and current phase of the team's work will entail research and orientation on the corridor. The team will visit several times to collect information, to better understand the art practice as it happens now in the corridor and to learn about the different communities that live in the corridor. The team wishes to meet with community members and organizations, and is very interested in visiting the neighborhood organizations and district councils along the Central Corridor alignment. The next phase will involve an active art event orchestrated by Rebar Group Inc. DCC staff member Karyssa Jackson will be an independent contractor to the project, assisting the team with community engagement.

May 5 and May 10 Community Forums

On May 5 and May 10, the Community Agreements Coordinating Committee (CACC) with support from the DCC held a series of two Community Forums on Equitable Development and Jobs in the Central Corridor. The first forum generated a lively discussion about the Frogtown Square development on Dale and University Avenue and the possibility for future development in both Saint Paul and Minneapolis. The second evening gave an overview of construction careers in Central Corridor.

June 3 PPERRIA Ice Cream Social

Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association will be holding an ice cream social, Friday, June 3 from 4:30 pm to 8 pm. The event will include the opportunity to visit the top of the Witch's Hat Tower.

LISC Affordable Housing Planning Initiative

The Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) has announced that it and the cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis are co-hosting a 6 to 8 month process that will produce a "Central Corridor Affordable Housing Coordinated Plan." The purpose of the plan is "to provide a coordinated set of strategies that government, community, finance, and development partners can work toward to achieve affordable housing options, and identify policies that will enable those strategies to succeed."

Not wanting to start from scratch, the process will begin with a thorough review and synthesis of recent initiatives and existing plans that address housing in one way or another. It will also include 2 to 3 corridor-wide community forums and several additional community engagement strategies. A 24-member project team, with 6 representatives from 4 stakeholder groups — community initiatives, development (non-profit and for profit), finance and government — will review information gathered, vet the feasibility of proposed strategies and policies, and assist with identification of indicators of progress toward affordable housing outcomes. The Central Corridor Funders Collaborative Funding is providing financial support for the initiative.

The DCC is working with the University District Alliance to ensure that neighborhood organizations are full integrated into the process and influence the substance and outcomes of the process and plan.

DCC News

The DCC now has a table-top display that is available for presentations and fairs. Member organizations are welcome to request to use the display during events.

The DCC welcomes Madeline Jack, a recent graduate from the University of St. Thomas. Madeline will work for the DCC as HECUA intern and will assisting with support to the Community Agreements Coordinating Committee.

Visit the DCC website at 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>.

The District Councils Collaborative of Saint Paul and Minneapolis gratefully acknowledges 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