



PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC) MEETING Meeting Minutes

Date: November 15, 2007
Time: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Location: Room 319, City Hall
Attendees: See attached roster

Agenda

1. Housekeeping
 - a. Minutes from last meeting
 - b. Report on public meetings
2. Status of Downtown Action Items
 - a. Nicollet Mall Service Improvements and Hybrid Buses
 - b. Urban Partnership Agreement
 - c. Bike lanes removed from 2nd and Marquette and bike use permitted on Nicollet Mall
 - d. 13th Street Pedestrian Improvements
 - e. East-West Transit Spine
3. Discussion of Citywide Ten-Year Action Plan
4. Discussion of Streetcar Feasibility Study
5. Next Steps

Summary of Items Discussed

Housekeeping

There were no comments on the minutes from the last meeting.

Report on Public Meetings

Charleen Zimmer summarized the issues discussed at the public meetings in October. Approximately 200 people attended the meetings. A lot of common themes were heard at the meetings, including:

- traffic calming and speed management on higher volume roadways
- improved bicycle and pedestrian safety
- interest in the next steps for identifying a first streetcar line

- geographic equity issues related to higher potential ridership due to existing density along south Minneapolis streetcar lines, compared with North/Northeast Minneapolis streetcar lines, where existing densities are lower.
- confusion over the shortest operable segments for streetcar implementation as it relates to the Midtown Greenway. The consultants recommended that the Midtown Greenway be constructed as one complete segment because its ridership is closely linked to the SW and Hiawatha LRT lines. Therefore, a shortest operable segment was not identified in the report.

Status of Downtown Action Items

- **Nicollet Mall Service Improvements and Hybrid Buses**

Adam Harrington briefed the committee on the deployment of hybrid buses on Nicollet Mall. 19 hybrid buses have been received, earlier than expected, which will be in service on routes 17 and 18 starting Monday. By the time a total of 50 hybrid buses are received, all local routes on Nicollet Mall will be hybrid technology. The rest of the Nicollet Mall service improvements are dependent upon Metro Transit's budget. They are not sure whether the free bus stop at the Convention Center will be implemented before the Republic National Convention, due to additional service costs with extending route 10.
- **Urban Partnership Agreement**

The FTA portion of the UPA funding (includes 2nd/Marquette) is now in the TIP/STIP, making expenses eligible for federal reimbursement, assuming Spring legislative approval for toll lanes and the \$56 million local match. The FHWA portion requires air quality analysis and will be amended into the TIP/STIP at a later date. Public Works is evaluating various construction staging scenarios for 2nd/Marquette.
- **Bike lanes removed from 2nd and Marquette and bike use permitted on Nicollet Mall**

The Bicycle Advisory Committee reviewed the City Council direction on bicycle facilities on 2nd, Marquette and Nicollet at its last meeting and recommended a one-year test of 24-hour bicycle use of the bus passing lanes on 2nd/Marquette. Public Works will forward the BAC recommendation to City Council. Metro Transit has concerns about the safety of bicycle use of these lanes during peak periods due to the high volume of buses in the lanes and moving in and out of the passing lanes.
- **13th Street Pedestrian Improvements**

Public Works is moving forward with the 13th Street pedestrian improvements. A project manager has been assigned. Richard Anderson noted that the Loring Park neighborhood has been concerned that resources will be invested in 13th Street, while Grant Street is not being adequately maintained. Public Works will be meeting with the property owners and the neighborhood as they move forward on design.
- **East-west Transit Spine**

Metro Transit and Minneapolis have developed a draft methodology. A steering committee will be formed, likely made up of the PSC members representing downtown.

Citywide Action Plan

Charleen Zimmer explained that expected changes to the Citywide Action Plan as a result of public comment include:

- Need for speed management strategies on higher volume roadways
- Clarify relationship between action plan and comprehensive plan

She will send the Committee a word-tracked version showing changes from the 9/14/07 version. There were no other comments on the Citywide Action Plan from the PSC.

Streetcar Feasibility Study

Charleen Zimmer explained that expected changes to the Streetcar Feasibility Study as a result of public comment include:

- Clarification of the meaning of shortest operable segments
- Clarification of decision-making on streetcars in corridors with potential regional transitway service, including Nicollet, Midtown Greenway, and West Broadway.

Zimmer also noted that written comments had been provided by the Midtown Greenway Coalition and that these comments will be included in the summary of public comments. The issues raised in the Coalition comments had been previously discussed by the PSC. There were no other comments on the Streetcar Feasibility Study from the PSC.

Next Steps

There will be no December meeting. The Street and Sidewalk Design Guidelines will be discussed at the January PSC meeting.

**PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE
RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

Meeting Date/Time: November 15, 2007, 4:00-6:00 pm

Location: Room 319, City Hall

OFFICIAL MEMBER	NAME	ORGANIZATION	PRESENT
Alternate/PMT	Abegg, Michael	Suburban Transit Representative	X
X	Akre, John	Northeast Sub-Area	X
X	Anderson, Richard	Mpls Bicycle Advisory Committee	X
X	Brown, Tim	Mpls Parks	
Alternate/PMT	Byers, Bob	Hennepin County Transportation	
X	Davis, Douglas	Mpls Senior Citizens Adv Commission	
X	Dewar, Caren	Southwest Sub-Area	X
X	DeWitt, John	East Sub-Area	X
Staff	Diaz, Nacho	Consultant to CPED	X
Consultant	Dock, Fred	Meyer Mohaddes	
Alternate/PMT	Elliott, Beth	Minneapolis CPED	
PMT	Elwood, Don	Minneapolis Public Works	X
Staff	Flintoft, Anna	Minneapolis Public Works	X
X	Gerber, Darrell	Southwest Sub-Area	
Alternate/PMT	Gieseke, Mark	Mn/DOT – Metro State Aid	
X	Greenberg, Bob	Downtown Sub-Area Business Rep	
Alternate/PMT	Griffith, John	Mn/DOT Metro	
X	Grube, Jim	Hennepin County	
X	Harrington, Adam	Metro Transit – Service Development	X
X	Hay, Steven	Minneapolis CPED	X
X	Indieke Cross, Margot	Mpls Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities	
Alternate/PMT	Johnson, Tom	Hennepin County Transportation	
X	Johnson, William	Transit Rider Representative	
X	Keysser, Janet	Transit Rider Representative	
X	Kjonaas, Rick	Mn/DOT – SALT	
X	Kotke, Steve	Minneapolis Public Works	
X	Kozlak, Connie	Metropolitan Council	X
Consultant	Lutey, Paul	Nelson Nygaard	
Alternate/PMT	Mahowald, Steve	Metro Transit – Service Development	X
X	McLaughlin, Mike	Downtown Council	X
Consultant	Messner, Gina	Meyer Mohaddes	
X	Moe, Susan	FHWA	
X	Morlock, Jan	University of Minnesota	
Consultant	Nelson, Bonnie	Nelson Nygaard	
X	O'Keefe, Tom	Mn/DOT – Metro	

