



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Public Works

Date: November 18, 2014

To: Honorable Kevin Reich, Chair Transportation and Public Works Committee

Subject: **Arterial Bus Rapid Transit Along Penn Ave North**

Recommendation:

Approve a resolution of support for Metro Transit's "C" Line Arterial Bus Rapid Transit (ABRT) along Penn Ave N.

Previous Directives:

- None

Department Information:

Prepared by: Jenifer Hager P.E., Principal Professional Engineer 673-3625

Approved by: _____
Steven A. Kotke, P.E., Director of Public Works

Presenters in Committee: Jenifer Hager, P.E.

Financial Impact

- None

Community Impact

- City Goals – This initiative supports the following city goals:
 - A hub of economic activity and innovation: Businesses – big and small – start, move, stay and grow here.
 - Living well: Minneapolis is safe and livable and has an active and connected way of life. High-quality and convenient transportation options connect every corner of the city.
- Comprehensive Plan - Supports Comprehensive Plan Goals

Supporting Information

Metro Transit has developed a plan to implement bus rapid transit along certain arterial streets within the metro area. Arterial bus rapid transit, or ABRT, is a package of transit enhancements that adds up to a faster, more reliable trip and an improved experience on Metro Transit's busiest bus routes. The first ABRT corridor, known as the "A" Line, will run along Snelling Ave and is set to open in 2015.

The "C" Line is proposed to be the second corridor implemented by Metro Transit. It will run from the Brooklyn Center Transit Center south along Penn Ave N to Olson Memorial and into Downtown Minneapolis utilizing 7th and 8th Streets S with stops spaced approximately every one half mile. The "C" Line will substantially replace the route 19 however local route 19 will continue to run along Penn Ave at revised frequencies in order to meet rider's needs. The "C" Line will make important regional connections to both the Green and Blue Lines and the "C" Line is being planned in coordination with Hennepin County's Community Works initiative along Penn Ave N.

Arterial bus rapid transit is designed to provide a higher quality, faster and more reliable transit experience. ABRT offers:

- More frequent service, every 10 minutes (like light rail) with fewer stops;
- Faster boarding with pre-payment, enforcement will be by Transit Police (like light rail);
- "Stops" will become "Stations" with heated shelters, more transit information, better maps and real-time departure signs;
- Stations will have security cameras, emergency phones and improved lighting;
- BRT buses will look different, be more recognizable and have wider aisles and additional doors.

RESOLUTION No. XXXXX

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF METRO TRANSIT'S C LINE ARTERIAL BRT PROJECT

WHEREAS, Metro Transit intends to implement the C Line Arterial Bus Rapid Transit project to improve transit service and facilities in Minneapolis and Brooklyn Center; and,

WHEREAS, Metro Transit intends to build enhanced transit stations as part of the Project serving 7th & 8th Streets, Olson Memorial Highway, Penn Avenue, and Osseo Road in Minneapolis; and Brooklyn Boulevard, Brooklyn Center Transit Center and intermediate points in Brooklyn Center; and,

WHEREAS, the Project will be of mutual benefit to Metro Transit and the City of Minneapolis; and,

WHEREAS, Metro Transit is requesting financial participation through a number of funding sources to implement the Project; and,

WHEREAS, Metro Transit and the City of Minneapolis are mutually committed to collaboratively developing the Project within the City limits;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Minneapolis hereby supports the Project and Metro Transit's funding requests for the timely implementation of the Project.

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