



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

Date: January 14, 2010
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Subject: **Southwest Corridor Locally Preferred Alternative**

Recommendation:

- 1) Approve resolution supporting Locally Preferred Alternative as recommended by the Southwest Transitway Technical Advisory Committee, Policy Advisory Committee and Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority and forwarded to the Metropolitan Council for inclusion in the Regional Transportation Policy Plan

Previous Directives:

- October 2, 2009; Receive and File; Report from Hennepin County Housing, Community Works, and Transit.
- January 2, 2006; Appoint Council Member Robert Lilligren and Council Member Ralph Remington to serve as Policy Advisory Committee members for the Southwest Corridor
- September 5, 2005; Receive and File; SW Corridor study update
- July 1, 2005; Appoint Council Member Dan Niziolek and Council Member Gary Schiff as Policy Advisory Committee members for the Southwest Corridor Alternatives Analysis process.
- November 21, 2003; Approve the process of the LRT Corridor study and that the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority to pursue the next phase of study as amended; with the understanding that the HCRRA will work with Minneapolis in further evaluating alternative route configurations, which would directly connect Uptown into this regional corridor.

Prepared by: Brette Hjelle, Public Works Interagency Coordinator x2365

Approved by:

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Don Pflaum, Transportation Planning and Engineering

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Approval	NA	Date
Civil Rights Affirmative Action Plan	Approval	NA	Date
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Approval	NA	Date

Financial Impact

No financial impact

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: All affected neighborhoods have been notified

City Goals: CONNECTED COMMUNITIES: Integrated, multimodal transportation choices border to border.

Comprehensive Plan: Project consistent with comprehensive plan

Zoning Code: NA

Background Information

The Southwest Corridor is a regional light-rail transit corridor that serves Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka, and Eden Prairie. Once completed, the Southwest Corridor will directly connect to the Hiawatha LRT Corridor, to the Central Corridor Line, to the Northstar Commuter Rail Line, and to the Bottineau Corridor Line in Downtown Minneapolis.

In February 2010 the Metropolitan Council will consider adding the Southwest Corridor to its 2030 Transportation Plan. By doing so, the Metropolitan Council will eventually take the lead in completing the project and will operate and maintain the system once built. The Metropolitan Council has asked that each of the communities along the line to pass a resolution supporting the locally preferred alternative recommendation made by the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority in November 2009.

Attachment – Resolution
Met Council Request