



Monthly Report

July 2009

DEIS: Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) Evaluation Results To Be Presented at Open Houses in August

The DEIS consultants continue to assemble information and technical analyses to inform a recommendation on the LPA. The evaluation includes ridership forecasts, cost estimates, cost-effectiveness calculations, transit mobility measures, and an inventory of potentially affected critical environmental resources. This information will be used to select the preferred LRT route, which is called the Locally Preferred Alternative or LPA.

Open houses are planned for August to release the evaluation results for the three potential Southwest LRT lines.

- August 11 6:30 - 8:00pm at Hopkins City Hall
- August 13: 6:30 - 8:00pm at Marriott Southwest Hotel in Minnetonka
- August 13: 11:30am - 1:00pm at the Downtown Minneapolis Library
- August 18: 6:30 - 8:00pm at St. Louis Park City Hall
- August 19: 6:30 - 8:00pm at Eden Prairie City Hall

In late August, it is expected that the Southwest Transitway Technical Advisory Committee will set in motion the process of selecting the routing of the Southwest LRT line. The Technical Advisory Committee will make a recommendation on the preferred route and forward it to the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). After a public hearing in mid-September, the PAC will make a route recommendation that will then be forwarded to the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) board. The HCRRA's official action will then be brought to the Metropolitan Council as a request for amendment of the Council's 2030 Transportation Policy Plan to show the chosen route for the Southwest LRT line.

Station Area Planning

In conjunction with the locally preferred alternative evaluation results, final station area plans will be presented at public open houses held in mid-August in Hopkins, Minnetonka, St. Louis Park, and Eden Prairie. The final station area plans will incorporate the input from the visioning sessions and public meetings held in each community over the past year. Station area plans will be used to inform changes to each city's land use plan and zoning code.

Committee Activity

Southwest Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)

The Southwest PAC met on June 10, 2009 to review the status of the locally preferred alternative (LPA) evaluation process. The PAC passed a resolution in support of a \$5 million allocation from the 2009 bonding bill proceeds. The funds will be distributed by the Metropolitan Council and would be used for Southwest LRT Preliminary Engineering (PE) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

The Southwest PAC will meet next on Wednesday, July 29 at 8:00am at the St. Louis Park City Hall when the results of the locally preferred evaluation will be presented, kicking off an intensive public outreach period.



SOUTHWEST
transitway

green means go.

Southwest Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The Southwest TAC met to review and refine proposed refinements to the conceptual engineering plans suggested by city staff.

Southwest Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

The Southwest CAC did not meet in June. The CAC will meet next on Wednesday, July 22, 2009, at 6pm at the Wolfe Lake Professional Center in St. Louis Park.

Southwest Business Advisory Committee (BAC)

Project staff continues to reach out to the business community; a forum for businesses along the alignments is planned for later this summer.

Public Outreach Meetings

Kenwood Isles Area Association Meeting June 3

