



Monthly Report

May 2009

DEIS: Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) Evaluation Process Progressing

After a series of open houses late this summer, it is expected that the Southwest Transitway Technical Advisory Committee will make an LPA recommendation to the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). The PAC action on the LPA this fall will 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 alignment for the Southwest LRT line. In the meantime, the DEIS consultants continue to assemble information and technical analyses to inform a recommendation on the LPA. The most recent of these analyses, Technical Memorandum #3: Screening Evaluation Criteria, is posted on the Southwest Transitway website at southwesttransitway.org/publications. Forthcoming information and technical materials will be posted on the website as soon as they are available.

Station Area Planning Progressing

Hennepin County contracted Hay Dobbs, PA to partner with the cities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, and St. Louis Park, to complete Station Area Planning in each of the suburban communities connected by the Southwest Transitway.

Each of the cities have completed the two rounds of visioning sessions at which key business and property owners gathered to develop a framework for creating concept plan alternatives which include sidewalk and street locations, landscaping, transit station approaches and exits, public open space and parks, building types, density, and locations, land use, and pedestrian and bicycle paths.

Hay Dobbs prepared up to three concept plans for each station area in the corridor based upon the initial input at the first visioning session. At the second visioning session, the concept plans were reviewed and recommendations were presented at public meetings in each of the communities. Did you miss the public meeting in your community? See southwesttransitway.org for information distributed at the meetings in Hopkins, Minnetonka, and St. Louis Park. Please check southwesttransitway.org for dates, times and locations for the first Eden Prairie public meeting, as well as second public meetings in all cities.

Committee Activity

Southwest Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)

The Southwest PAC met on April 8, 2009 to review the status of the locally preferred alternative (LPA) evaluation process, and discuss a public involvement plan leading up to the selection of the LPA. The Southwest PAC is expected to recommend an LPA for consideration by the HCRRA in Fall of 2009, following three open houses and one public hearing where public input will be sought.

The PAC will meet next on Wednesday, May 13 at 8:00am at the St. Louis Park City Hall.

Southwest Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

In April, Hennepin County and HDR staff met with TAC members from each city to identify areas along the alignments that need more attention in the DEIS. Each of these items were presented to the TAC at the April 30, 2009 meeting; the TAC forwarded several items for additional study by the consultant.



SOUTHWEST transitway

green means go.

Southwest Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

The Southwest CAC did not meet in April. The CAC will meet next on Wednesday, May 27, 2009, at 6pm at the Wolfe Lake Professional Center in St. Louis Park.

Southwest Business Advisory Committee (BAC)

Project staff continue to reach out to the business community, meeting with business associations and chambers of commerce.

Public Outreach Meetings

City of Lakes Business Association	April 17
Lyn-Lake Business Association	April 21
Nicollet-Lake Business Association	April 29

