



MEMORANDUM
Physical Development Department
763-593-8095 / 763-593-8109 (fax)

Executive Summary For Action
Golden Valley City Council Meeting
August 18, 2015

Agenda Item

METRO Blue Line Extension Update

Prepared By

Jason Zimmerman, Planning Manager

Project Summary

A concept plan for a park and ride facility on the “triangle” property located at the intersection of Golden Valley Road and Theodore Wirth Parkway was shared with the City Council at the Council/Manager meeting on August 11. The same concept plan was shared with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board on August 5. The Project Office will continue to study this option to determine if it may be a viable solution to the City’s parking concerns.

Overall, the Project Office is continuing to work to have remaining issues resolved – including the relocation of transmission lines in the corridor, the placement of power sub stations, agreements with BNSF regarding freight rail, among others – at the September or October Corridor Management Committee meetings.

A tentative date of December 10 has been identified for the delivery of the Municipal Consent package to each of the five cities along the light rail route. A joint open house/public hearing by the Met Council and the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority is tentatively scheduled for January 28, 2016. Each city along the line would be required to hold a public hearing and vote on Municipal Consent within 45 days so that the process is completed by March 14.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement will not be published until August of 2016. As outstanding environmental questions and concerns are critical to the City Council’s Municipal Consent decision, staff is pushing to have various technical reports authored by the Project Office environmental review team made public later this fall.

Recommended Action

Receive and file METRO Blue Line Extension Update.