



MEMORANDUM
Physical Development Department
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Executive Summary For Action

Golden Valley City Council Meeting

January 20, 2016

Agenda Item

METRO Blue Line Extension Update

Prepared By

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Summary

With the approval by the Metropolitan Council of the revised project scope and cost estimate in December of 2015, the biweekly Issue Resolution Team meetings have transitioned to Design Resolution Team meetings and will continue throughout 2016 to address a number of items related to the light rail project.

In December and January, staff reviewed possible park and ride design options, new trail connections at the Golden Valley Road and Plymouth Avenue stations, and potential improvements to the Golden Valley Road and Theodore Wirth Parkway intersection. As these concepts advance, plans will be presented at the Technical Project Advisory Committee (TPAC), Community Advisory Committee (CAC), and Business Advisory Committee (BAC) before being reviewed by the Corridor Management Commission (CMC).

Staff has been directed to prepare a letter to officials at Hennepin County, MnDOT, Metro Transit, and the Metropolitan Council that outlines the City's interests in continuing to pursue additional improvements to the transit and transportation network in Golden Valley, including the infrastructure of Golden Valley Road, improved bus connections to the proposed Golden Valley Road station, and future Highway Bus Rapid Transit service along Highway 55. If approved by the City Council, the letter would be submitted to the various agencies prior to the City's Municipal Consent vote on February 16.

Staff for the Hennepin County Community Works Steering Committee have expressed interest in the contents of this letter and have indicated it could serve as a basis for future conversations regarding Community Works projects associated with the METRO Blue Line Extension.

The Sochacki Park Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) Partnership has been working closely with the Bottineau Project Office to arrive at a list of recommended actions to provide for mitigation and compensation for the use of Sochacki Park for construction staging as part of the light rail project. These actions are still being negotiated and a final determination will be considered at the Sochacki Park JPA Partnership Governance Board meeting on February 8 and will be used as a basis for broader policies regarding construction staging in Sochacki Park.

Attachments

- Transit Priorities Letter (2 pages)
- DRAFT Policies and Recommended Actions for Equitable Use of Sochacki Park (3 pages)

Recommended Actions

Motion to receive and file METRO Blue Line Extension Update.

Motion to approve the Transit Priorities Letter and to direct staff to submit the letter to officials at the Metropolitan Council, Metro Transit, MnDOT, and Hennepin County.

Motion to support the Sochacki Park JPA Partnership Governance Board’s proposed actions regarding Policies and Recommended Actions for Equitable Use of Sochacki Park.