

Community Summit Resolution on the Central Corridor LRT Line

1. Whereas, residents and small business owners along the Central Corridor LRT line, as well as community advocates and friends, gathered on March 7 and 8, 2009, for the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Community Summit on the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project;
2. Whereas, the attendees at the Summit recognized the potential community benefits of the LRT and discussed ways to ensure those benefits are realized for residents and small businesses;
3. Whereas, attendees at the Summit discussed concerns and unresolved issues they have with the pending construction and operation of the Central Corridor LRT, and its potential impacts on local businesses, residents and neighborhoods;
4. Whereas, attendees acknowledged that several community-based and governmental initiatives are already underway to address community concerns and issues;
5. Whereas, attendees at the Summit discussed many ideas and solutions to address their concerns and issues;
6. Whereas, a working draft of the *Saint Paul and Minneapolis Community Statement on the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project* was created from the comments and ideas and solutions generated at the Summit and was released on April 28, 2009;
7. Whereas, this working draft was circulated widely in the community for discussion, feedback, comments and additional ideas and solutions;
8. Whereas, residents, small business owners, community advocates and friends were invited to attend the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Community Summit II on July 7, 2009, for the express purpose of affirming the process and work of Summit I and to adopt the following recommendations for action;
9. Whereas, the *Community Statement*, Community Summit Vision, and subsequent set of Community Principles and Recommendations for moving forward evolved out of Summit I and the process surrounding it;
10. Whereas, it is agreed that the process of developing these principles was inclusive and open to all community members and businesses; and
11. Whereas, it is agreed by the undersigned that the following Community Summit Vision reflects the spirit and the overarching conclusions of the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Community Summit I as to the definition of a successful Central Corridor LRT Project.

(see next page)

Therefore, we the undersigned hereby agree as follows:

Community Summit Vision

To be successful, the light rail line must not only improve mobility, but must also serve as a catalyst to strengthen and enhance existing and future neighborhoods, workforces and businesses along the line. Saint Paul and Minneapolis Community Summit, March 7 & 8, 2009

Community Principles and Recommendations

- **Engage in Central Corridor processes and projects as Community Stakeholders and Partners** by working with other stakeholders and partners to develop a written agreement(s) among governmental entities, community members, businesses and organizations that focuses on content, accountability, and coordination of implementation strategies and provides for the addition of related binding and enforceable agreements, and by reaching out to community members and organizations to participate in an inclusive and transparent way that values community expertise and wisdom.
- **Maintain and enhance the livability, diversity, and cohesion of neighborhoods** along the Central Corridor by engaging community members and businesses in creating high quality public spaces that promote people's health, happiness, and well being in each station area and throughout the corridor; leveraging unique cultural resources for maximum benefit; supporting robust streetscape and public realm initiatives, implementing a "Complete Streets" program; and employing strategies to manage traffic and parking pressures on neighborhood streets.
- **Ensure equitable development and redevelopment and provide a range of affordable housing opportunities** by being intentional about racial and economic equity in the corridor. We ensure this by reducing displacement, focusing on people and places, maintaining existing and expanding new affordable ownership and rental housing, maintaining and expanding ethnic businesses and diverse neighborhoods through initiatives such as the World Cultural Heritage District, and organizing and educating residents and businesses in the Central Corridor.
- **Provide transportation equity** by building LRT stations at Western Avenue, Victoria Street, and Hamline Avenue, maintaining high frequency bus service on University Avenue, and creating an integrated network of bus, bicycle, pedestrian, and light rail transit that serves all communities in the corridor and increases the overall use of transit.
- **Expand the number of persons from communities of color, including women and disabled persons in the workforce** by connecting community members to training and apprenticeship programs that will prepare them to work in skilled jobs associating with constructing and operating the Central Corridor LRT line and career positions, setting aggressive requirements for contracting with Disadvantaged Business Enterprises and minority and women workforce hiring, creating incentives for local hiring, and holding government and contractors accountable for achieving the goals.
- **Sustain and grow small, local businesses** by providing resources and technical assistance, including funds for parking improvements and to replace lost revenues during construction, so that businesses can survive through construction and thrive once the light rail is up and running.
- **Place sustainability at the core of equitable development in the Central Corridor** by taking advantage of energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities, integrating into the Central Corridor functional, resilient, beautiful green spaces, and creating green jobs for those who most need them.