



Minutes
July 30, 2009
Cottage Grove City Hall
Council Chambers
3:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Myra Peterson, Washington County
Joe Harris, Dakota County
John Hunziker, City of St. Paul Park

Myron Bailey, City of Cottage Grove
Barb Hollenbeck, City of Hastings
Corbin Hopkins, City of Newport
Lee Helgen, City of St Paul

Others Present:

Mike Rogers, Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority
Andy Gitzlaff, Washington County Regional Railroad Authority
Katie Walker, Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority
John M. Burbank, Cottage Grove
Robert Vockrodt, MnDOT Metro District
Dan Meyers, URS
April Manlapaz, URS
Sam O'Connell, Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Bob Kastner, Red Wing
Marc Mogan, Prairie Island Indian Community
Ken Bjornstad, Goodhue County

Chair Peterson called the meeting to order at 3:39 p.m.

Agenda Item #1 Consent Items

Commission Member Bailey moved the approval of the Consent Items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Member Hunziker and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #2 SE Station Area and Site Master Planning RFP Update

Mr. Gitzlaff provided background that on June 30, 2009, Washington County Regional Railroad Authority (WCRRRA) on behalf of the Red Rock Corridor Commission (RRCC) released the request for proposal (RFP) for consultant services for the completion of Station Area and Site Master Planning and Environmental Analysis for the Southeast Stations of the Red Rock Corridor. These stations include Lower Afton Road (St. Paul), Newport, Cottage Grove, and Hastings. The deadline for prospective consultants to submit proposals is August 3, 2009. The project is expected to begin in September, 2009 and will take up to 18 months to complete. A complete copy of the RFP along with Addendum #1 has been posted on the Washington County website (www.co.washington.mn.us). The RFP has also been posted on the American Planning Association (APA) website, the Minnesota Chapter of the APA website, the MN State Register and the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) website and in the

next two issues of Passenger Transport. In addition, the RFP was distributed via email to a list of consultants that have shown interest in the project.

Mr. Gitzlaff then provided an overview of the proposed proposal evaluation process. Commission Chair Peterson added that staff representatives from each City should be included in the proposal evaluation committee

Agenda Item #3 Commuter Bus Feasibility Study Implementation Plan

Mr. Gitzlaff provided an overview of the Commuter Bus Feasibility Study which began in October 2008 to evaluate options for adding/expanding bus service and park-and-ride facilities along the Red Rock Corridor from Newport, Cottage Grove, Hastings, Prairie Island Indian Community and Red Wing to both St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Mr. Gitzlaff then introduced April Manlapaz from URS Corporation, who has been contracted to perform the study. Mrs. Manlapaz gave a presentation to the Red Rock Corridor Commission that focused on the Implementation Plan for the preferred service plan recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee. A brief discussion of the implementation plan followed and Commission Chair Myra Peterson stated that the study should also take into account the upcoming construction of the Lafayette Bridge.

Mr. Gitzlaff noted that staff will bring the Final Report back to the Commission at their August 27, 2009 meeting and will request that the Commission adopt the Final Report and endorse a preferred implementation option in order to move forward.

A discussed followed after the update regarding the bonding money for the Hasting park-and-ride. Commission Member Hollenbeck made a motion to send a letter to Metropolitan Council to request the allocation of \$500,000 of the bond proceeds from the *2009 Capital Investment* Bill for the design and construction of a park-and-ride facility in downtown Hastings and to prepare a similar resolution requesting these funds for approval at the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Bailey and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #4 Legislative Update

a. State

Andy Gitzlaff provided additional detail on how the bonding dollars are proposed to be allocated by the Met Council.

b. Federal

Andy Gitzlaff directed the Commission members to the Lockridge Grindal Nauen memorandum providing a federal update, which included the submittal of a request to reauthorize the Red Rock corridor as a high priority project (HPP) in the upcoming surface transportation bill.

Agenda Item #5 CTIB Update

Commission Chair Peterson notified the Commission that a joint meeting between GEARS would be taking place later in the evening and that CTIB continues to work with its financial consultant Springsted to update the financial model for the long-term transitway investment framework

Agenda Item #6 Other

Being there no further business Commission Member Hopkins moved a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Member Hollenbeck and passed unanimously.

The Commission adjourned at 4:40 p.m.