



**Agenda**  
**Red Rock Corridor Commission**  
**Thursday October 25, 2012**  
**4:00 p.m.**

**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN MEETING LOCATION**

St Paul Park City Hall, Council Chambers  
600 Portland Avenue  
St. Paul Park MN 55071

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	<u>Action Requested</u>
1. Consent Items*	Approval
a. Minutes of the August 30, 2012 Meeting	
b. Checks and Claims	
2. 2013 Draft Work Plan and Budget Review* - WCRRA	Information
3. AAU Consultant Selection Update* - WCRRA	Information
4. Legislative Update – RCRRA	Information
a. State	
b. Federal*	
5. Other	Information
a. Met Council Highway transitway Study Overview*	
b. Next Meeting – Thursday, November 29, 2012	

\* *Enclosures*



## Draft Meeting Minutes

August 30, 2012

Cottage Grove City Hall

4:00 p.m.

Commission Members	Agency	Present
Joe Harris, Chair	Dakota County RRA	X
Autumn Lehrke	Washington County RRA	X
Janice Rettman	Ramsey County RRA	X
Jan Callison	Hennepin County RRA	X
Barb Hollenbeck	City of Hastings	X
Jen Peterson, Vice-Chair	City of Cottage Grove	X
Keith Franke	City of St. Paul Park	
Steve Gallagher	City of Newport	
Kathy Higgins	Denmark Township	
Cam Gordon	City of Minneapolis	
Amy Brendmoen	City of St. Paul	

Alternate Commission Member	Agency	Present

Ex-Officio Members	Agency	
Ron Allen	Goodhue County	
Bob Kastner	City of Red Wing	
Marc Mogan	Prairie Island Indian Community	
Ken Bjornstad	Goodhue County	

Staff	Agency	Present
Andy Gitzlaff	Washington County RRA	X
Mike Rogers	Ramsey County RRA	X
Lyssa Leitner	Washington County RRA	X
Adele Hall	Hennepin County RRA	X

Others	Agency	
Carl Jensen	MNDot	
Tom Dobbs	Hay Dobbs	

The meeting was video recorded and can be viewed online at:  
[http://swctc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=2&clip\\_id=3838](http://swctc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=3838)

Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

### **Agenda Item #1: Consent Items**

- a. **Minutes of the June 28, 2012 Meeting**
- b. **Checks and Claims**

Commission Member Callison had multiple corrections to the June 28 meeting minutes. Corrections were recorded and are reflected in the approved minutes document.

The Checks and Claim items as presented in the packet, no additions or changes were made.

Motion made by Callison to approve the consent items. Second by Rettman. **All in favor.** Motion carried.

### **Agenda Item #2: Insurance Approval - WCRRA**

Gitzlaff provided information about the Red Rock Corridor Commission's insurance policy with the League of Minnesota Cities. He noted that the policy is up for renewal in September 2012 which covers open meeting, municipal liability, auto and crime. The premium last year was \$927.00 and was paid by the Commission.

Gitzlaff stated that the League of Minnesota Cities would like confirmation from the Red Rock Corridor Commission if they would like to waive the statutory tort liability limits. The Commission chose not to waive such limits in the past. Waiving the limits would limit a claimant to recover no more than \$300,000. If the limits were waived a claimant could recover up to \$1 million.

Rettman asked for Gitzlaff to confirm the recovery limit for a claimant if the Commission chose not to waive. Gitzlaff stated that the recovery limit would be \$300,000.

Motion made by Rettman to continue the insurance coverage with the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust for 2012/2013 and that the statutory tort liability limits not be waived. Seconded by Lehrke. **All in favor.** Motion carried.

### **Agenda Item #3: Red Rock Corridor Alternatives Analysis Update Consultant Selection Process - WCRRA**

Leitner provided information about the background of the Alternatives Analysis Update (AAU) RFP, including the approval of the release of the RFP at the June Red Rock Corridor meeting, that there is \$250,000 allocated to the study and it will take approximately nine months to complete.

She also stated that the RFP will be released the week of September 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be posted on the Washington County website and in the Lillie Suburban. She also explained the

consultation selection process. The selection committee will have representatives from county, city and agency staff.

Leitner also said that after while the RFP is posted, there will be a pre-proposal meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup> and the proposals will be due on October 11<sup>th</sup> (note: since the meeting, this date has been changed to October 12<sup>th</sup>). Oral interviews will be preformed, if needed, the week of November 11<sup>th</sup> and the Commission will be approving the consultant for the study at the November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Rettman asked if there has been approval from the FTA. Leitner responded that they have seen the RFP and staff spoke to them in person about it earlier this summer. Commission member Rettman also asked if the Metropolitan Council has signed the necessary documents in order to release the RFP. Leitner said that she spoke with staff at the Council earlier in the day and they will have everything finalized by September 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Agenda Item #4: East Metro Rail Capacity Study Results - RCRRA**

Rogers gave the Commission a presentation with the study results of the East Metro Rail Capacity Study.

Lehrke asked what effect the costs outlined in the results of this study would have on Red Rock Corridor. Rogers said that it was still too early to give a concrete answer. Some of the cost allocation will come down to what service is built first, Red Rock or High Speed Rail. If things are incrementally implemented than some of the improvement costs will be taken care of over time. Lehrke asked if the costs of this study would be in addition to the \$350 million already estimated for Red Rock Corridor. Rogers responded that the track improvement numbers from the East Metro Study are the most accurate but there would also be costs to build stations and purchase train vehicles. Gitzlaff noted that the AAU will take into account all the cost estimates from the East Metro Study in order to estimate an accurate capital cost number for Red Rock Corridor alternatives.

Rettman noted that there was an article in the Pioneer Press today that quoted a Minneapolis Chamber member that discusses that if the Minneapolis-St. Paul region doesn't invest in transportation now, we will be leap frogged by other regions in the nation. She also stated that it was interesting that this study showed that there are more bottlenecks in the East Metro and that it highlighted what the value added will be for the freights and provides the ability to leverage funds for the passenger rail. Rogers responded that the freights were surprised by the amount of issues in the system but they told them that it is a much larger issue than the East Metro but a statewide issue of how to be competitive.

Callison asked when the freights expect to reach the 36 percent growth that was assumed in the study. Rogers responded that there is not a set timeframe for that amount of growth; it was a realistic assumption that the freights agreed would happen in the near future. It will probably be in the 10-15 year range, the passenger trains will be the trigger for some of the larger investments. Callison also asked if we would expect the railroads to commit much money. Rogers answered that on some projects they would not contribute much but CP did commit money to a grant application project even when 90 percent of the benefit would go toward the public.

Lehrke asked if the projection of the growth rate was on top of the pre-recession numbers or recession numbers. Rogers answered that the freights did not want to use recession numbers since that was an artificial low. It was decided to use the pre-recession numbers because the freights were confident that they would get back to those numbers.

### **Agenda Item #5 Legislative Update – RCRRA**

Rogers summarized new activity to date from what was provided with the meeting packet.

#### **a. State**

Rogers said that there is not a lot to report on the State side besides the special session that convened to discuss flood relief in northern Minnesota.

#### **b. Federal**

Rogers provided information about the new transportation bill, MAP-21. It is a two year bill that was signed into law but money has not actually been appropriated for the \$120 billion bill. Overall MAP-21 keeps funding levels fairly similar (with small increases for inflation) to the past bill, there is not a lot of increase in funds for any program. One of the additional pieces to the New Starts program is that core capacity projects can now be funded in order to keep older systems in proper working order. Bus Rapid Transit was also more clearly defined in the bill.

Commissioner Lehrke asked that Gitzlaff speak about the Metropolitan Council's highway BRT study so the Commission can be informed. Gitzlaff said that the Council is studying highway BRT on multiple corridors throughout the metro. Washington and Ramsey County staff is meeting with Metropolitan Council staff in order to find out more details. Rettman asked if they could be informed of the list of corridors once it is established.

### **Agenda Item #7 Other**

#### **a. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 27, 2012

Motion by Lehrke to adjourn. Seconded by Peterson. **All in favor.** Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:01p.m.



**DATE:** October 22, 2012  
**TO:** Red Rock Corridor Commission  
**FROM:** Staff  
**RE:** Checks and Claims

Attached is the

Hay Dobbs Website & Communication Services Invoice #3 (September)	\$ 1,827.78
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,827.78</b>

*Detailed invoices can be made available upon request.*

**Action Requested:** Approval

# Red Rock Corridor Commission

## 2013 Work Plan and Budget

*Status: DRAFT for review at October 25, 2012 Meeting*

### 1. General Activities

The Red Rock Corridor Commission (RRCC) will work with corridor municipalities, the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB), the Metropolitan Council (Met Council), Metro Transit, and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) to continue the advancement of the Red Rock Corridor. To accomplish this, the RRCC will do the following:

1. Offer guidance on corridor studies
2. Coordinate corridor studies with Mn/DOT, Met Council, Metro Transit, the host railroads and other interested parties
3. Monitor progress on corridor studies
4. Offer formal comments as needed;

### 2. Advocacy and Legislative Coordination

The Commission will continue to develop policy positions and advocate for improved transit to serve the Corridor and the Twin Cities region.

Commission activities include:

1. Informing area legislators and legislative leadership of the need for a transitway improvement in the Red Rock Corridor.
2. Advocating for increased funding at the state and federal level to advance the development of the Red Rock Corridor.
3. Coordinating legislative initiatives with the CTIB and other transitway corridors.
4. Coordinating legislative initiatives with impacted freight railroads.
5. Establishing positions on legislative initiatives that affect the Red Rock Corridor.
6. Strengthen partnerships with the business communities and partner communities to the south (Goodhue County, Red Wing and the Prairie Island Community).

### 3. Public Involvement

The Commission's public involvement activities will be separate from, but closely coordinated with the Station Area and Site Master Planning study.

The Commission's activities will include:

1. Reopen membership and continue role of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) formed as part of the Station Area Planning study to ask as liaisons engaging local stakeholders, business members and citizens in the planning process enabling two-way communication between the project and the community.
2. Presentations to civic and community groups throughout the Corridor.

3. Distribution of newsletters and project updates at various public events including fairs and community festivals.
4. Media recognition of Commission meetings and events through print, radio, and public access television.
5. Coordination of updates to the project website to coincide with the multiple studies being undertaken.
6. Host a website and manage content and consider the use of social media.

#### **4. Management, Policy and Administrative Activities**

Commission activities will include:

1. Prepare and adopt the annual Work Plan and Budget
2. Prepare the annual financial report
3. Review insurance needs and procure appropriate insurance
4. Provide Commission and staff administration
5. Manage Commission expenses
6. Manage the consultant selected for each of the various work tasks undertaken by the commission
7. Attend regional/national conferences to educate members on transit alternatives and their impact on the built environment.

#### **5. Advanced Alternatives Analysis**

In 2007, the Commission completed an Alternatives Analysis (AA) that identified commuter rail as the long-term transit investment for the corridor. The study revealed that expanding bus service, increasing bus frequency, and providing more park and ride facilities are the first steps toward building a stronger transit base in the Corridor.

Conditions in the corridor and region have changed since the AA was completed and there is additional technical data available which may have an influence on the long term vision of the Red Rock Corridor. The goal of updating the Alternatives Analysis is to position the Red Rock Corridor Commission to make decisions on how to create short and long term transit improvements in the corridor, including informing a locally preferred alternative (LPA) decision. Previously completed studies and new census and ridership data will be the basis for this study.

The Red Rock Corridor Alternatives Analysis Update (AAU) contract will be administrated by the Washington County Regional Railroad Authority (WCRRA) on behalf of the Red Rock Corridor Commission.



### 2013 Operating Revenue

Revenue Source	Percentage Due	Amount Due	Fund Balance <sup>(1)</sup>	Dues
Regional Railroad Authority				
- Ramsey County	37.5%	\$ 15,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500
- Washington County	35%	\$ 14,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000
- Hennepin County	17.5%	\$ 7,000	\$3,500	\$ 3,500
- Dakota County	10%	4,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>	<b>\$20,000<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 20,000</b>

### 2013 Operating Expenditures

Expenditure Category	Amount
Corridor Administration / General Activities <sup>(3)</sup>	
- Corridor Insurance	\$ 3,000
- Meeting Supplies / Postage	\$ 2,000
- Publishing / Printing / Advertising	\$ 5,000
- Travel to a National Transit Conference <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 0
- Travel to learn about another transit System <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 0
Subtotal	\$10,000
Advocacy and Legislative Coordination	
- Travel to Washington D.C. <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 0
- Federal/State Advocacy	\$ 0
Subtotal	\$ 0
Public Involvement	
- Website Hosting / Content Management	\$ 5,000
- Communication Services	\$ 20,000
Subtotal	\$ 25,000
Contingency	\$ 5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>

Operating Budget Notes:

1. \$10,000 of the Commission’s projected \$30,000 end of year fund balance will be used to offset the 2012 budget contribution and the remaining \$20,000 will be held in reserve.
2. This is only an estimate of expected end of year fund balance based on projected revenues and expenses. The fund balance total is subject to change based on actual revenues and expenses incurred.
3. The county regional railroad authorities are conducting administrative functions, including mailings. Such items are eligible for reimbursement as approved by the Commission.
4. Out of state travel costs to transit conferences, to learn about another transit system, or advocacy trip to Washington D.C. will be the responsibility of each individual member the unless the Commission’s Financial Members unanimously approve the use of contingency funds to pay for travel.

**2013 Capital Revenue**

<b>Revenue Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Remaining Federal 5339 funds (2006 & 2007)	\$ 1,200,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,200,000</b>

**2013 Capital Expenditures**

Advanced Alternative Analysis

There are approximately \$1.2 million in remaining 5339 federal funds designated for analysis of the Red Rock and Rush Line corridors. A total of \$200,000 of those funds have been secured for the Alternatives Analysis Update (AAU). The Commission has provided the required 20% local match totaling \$50,000 through its 2012 budget contribution.

Revenue sources for this work are listed below:

<b>Revenue Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Federal Appropriations (2006 & 2007)	\$ 200,000
RRCC Local Match (2012 Budget Contribution)	\$ 50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,500,000</b>



**DATE:** October 22, 2012  
**TO:** Red Rock Corridor Commission  
**FROM:** Staff  
**RE:** Red Rock Corridor Alternatives Analysis Update Consultant Selection Process

At its June meeting, the Commission approved the Alternatives Analysis Update (AAU) scope of work and the release of the RFP to occur once FTA approval is received and the federal grant funds have been secured. The total budget for the AAU is \$250,000 and is expected to take 9 months to complete. The RFP was released on September 5<sup>th</sup> 2012 after RFP approval was received.

#### **Consultant Selection Process**

A complete copy of the RFP was posted on the Washington County website as well as in the Minnesota State Register. In addition, the Red Rock e-newsletter sent out on September 5<sup>th</sup> included an announcement that the RFP has been released.

All proposals are being evaluated using FTA's Qualification-Based Procurement Procedures contained in the "Brooks Act. A proposal evaluation committee has been formed to review the proposals, interview candidates (if necessary) and make a recommendation to the Commission on who to select. The PEC consists of a mix of County, City and Agency staff consistent with past Commission solicitations.

Proposals were due on October 11<sup>th</sup>. A total of 2 proposals were received. The PEC is in the process of reviewing the proposals and will make a recommendation to the Commission on who to select for consideration at their November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **Timeline**

Below is the timeline for the overall consultant selection process.

<u>September 4, 2012:</u>	RFP Released
<u>September 18, 2012:</u>	Pre-Proposal Conference
<u>October 11, 2012</u>	Proposals Due
<u>Week of November 12</u>	Oral Interviews
<u>November 29, 2012</u>	RRCC Approves Consultant Selection

December 12, 2012:

WCRRA Awards Contract and Issues Notice to Proceed

**Action**  
Information



**DATE:** October 22, 2012  
**TO:** Red Rock Corridor Commission  
**FROM:** Staff  
**RE:** Federal Legislative Update

**Action**  
Information

Attached is a federal update prepared by Lockridge Grindal Nauen for the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB).

**Federal Update - What's Left**

As many Members of Congress are back in their home districts campaigning for themselves or fellow members of their party, a lot of legislative action will be left to be decided until the post-election "lame-duck" session. How Congress acts will be heavily dependent on the outcome of the election. Below is an article by *Congressional Quarterly* which outlines what Congress needs to address before the end of the year.

CQ WEEKLY - WEEKLY REPORT  
Oct. 1, 2012 - Page 1981  
What's Left for the Lame Duck  
By CQ Staff

With legislators out on the campaign trail, Congress is idle for the next month. But backroom talks are ongoing on a number of issues that lawmakers are likely to take up in the post-election legislative period that starts Nov. 13. Among the nearly certain topics are whether and how to stop the automatic budget sequester and whether and how much to extend the expiring George W. Bush-era tax cuts (PL 107-16, PL 108-27). Action is also likely on farm policy and several defense and national security issues.

**BUDGET**

■ **Sequester:** If Congress does nothing, automatic across-the-board cuts would reduce spending by nearly \$1.2 trillion over the next 10 years. The cuts were set in motion by last year's debt limit law (PL 112-25), which mandated that if Congress could not agree on specific cuts to reach that goal, then defense and domestic programs would be forced to absorb the cuts. The first \$109 billion in cuts are set to take effect in January. Many lawmakers say the cuts

threaten national defense, while others have stressed the negative effect of trims to domestic discretionary programs.

## **TAXES**

■ **Bush tax cut expiration:** Under current law, marginal income tax rates will be restored to the higher levels that existed before the cuts enacted in 2001 and 2003. Democrats by and large want to extend them for all but the highest brackets; Republicans are generally against any raise in marginal rates.

■ **Wind power tax credits:** Supporters were heartened by the Senate Finance Committee's support for extending the 2.2-cents-per-kilowatt-hour credit, which otherwise expires at the end of December. But critics, including anti-tax groups and limited-government activists, have lobbied against the extension.

## **DOMESTIC POLICY**

■ **Farm policy:** With House leaders unable to pass a long-term farm bill that could lead to negotiations with the Senate, the 2008 farm law (PL 110-246) expired Sept. 30. The Senate passed its version (S 3240) in June, but a disagreement among House GOP rank-and-file members over food stamp cuts has kept the bill off the floor. If nothing is done before January, price supports for dairy and commodity crops will rise significantly. A one-year extension of current law is likely.

## **HEALTH**

■ **"Doc fix":** Lawmakers will look at addressing the approaching 27 percent cut in payment rates to physicians with Medicare patients. A current one-year patch expires Jan. 1. A new one-year patch would require offsets of \$18.5 billion over 10 years.

■ **Medical loss ratio:** The House is likely to take up a bill that would modify a consumer protection provision in the 2010 health care law. The measure (HR 1206) would exclude payments to insurance agents and brokers from being calculated in the medical loss ratio, which dictates how much of premiums insurers must spend on actual care. The bill would easily pass in the House, but its Senate fate is uncertain.

## **DEFENSE AND NATIONAL SECURITY**

■ **Defense authorization:** Senate Armed Services Chairman Carl Levin wants floor debate on a fiscal 2013 authorization (S 3254) but recognizes that debate would need to be pared down because of time constraints. The Michigan Democrat, whose panel marked up the bill in May, is working behind the scenes to limit the number of amendments. The House approved its version (HR 4310) that same month. One possibility: a significantly slimmed-down authorization bill that contains only essential provisions, such as a planned 1.7 percent pay raise for military personnel.

■ **Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act:** The House has passed a renewal of the intelligence community's authority to conduct warrantless wiretaps of certain communications, but Senate prospects are murky. The legislation would extend through 2017 the expiring provisions of a law that allows agencies to surveil foreigners communicating with people in the United States

without obtaining individual court orders. The White House backs renewal, but civil liberties groups have fought its extension.

■ **Intelligence authorization:** The Senate has yet to act on a committee-approved bill that would authorize classified funding for 16 intelligence agencies and intelligence-related activities for fiscal 2013. Opponents object to language that would try to stop leaks of classified information. The House passed its version (HR 5743) in May.



**DATE:** October 22, 2012  
**TO:** Red Rock Corridor Commission  
**FROM:** Staff  
**RE:** Metropolitan Council Highway Transitway Corridor Study Overview

The Metropolitan Council is soliciting proposals for the Highway Transitway Corridor Study project. This study will look at transit opportunities in highway corridors. The level of detail in this study falls into the "feasibility" stage of analysis. The corridors being considered for the study fall into 1 of the 2 Categories below:

**Category 1: Corridors for full concept plan development**

- Interstate 94 (west metro)
- Trunk Highway 65 (north metro)
- Trunk Highway 36 (east metro)
- Interstate 35E (north metro)
- Interstate 35E (south metro)
- Interstate 394 (west metro)
- Trunk Highway 169 (southwest metro)

**Category 2: Corridors for coordination with outside studies**

- Trunk Highway 61 (southeast metro)
- Trunk Highway 52
- Trunk Highway 55/ Hwy 110
- Interstate 35W (north metro)
- Interstate 94 (east metro)

Staff will continue to monitor the development of this study, particularly as it relates to the Trunk Highway 61 (Red Rock Corridor).

**Action**  
Information



**METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**  
**Notice of Request for Proposals (RFP) for**  
**Highway Transitway Corridor Study**  
**Contract Number 12P201**

The Metropolitan Council is soliciting proposals for the Highway Transitway Corridor Study project. This study will look at transit opportunities in highway corridors. The anticipated schedule for this procurement is as follows:

<u>Project Milestone</u>	<u>Tentative Completion Date</u>
Issue Date	October 01, 2012
Pre-Proposal Meeting	October 11, 2012 at 9:00 AM local time
Questions Due	October 24, 2012 at 5:00 PM local time
Proposal Due Date	November 06, 2012 at 5:00 PM local time
Award Date	December 2012

[Click Here](#) to view and download the RFP documents for a non-refundable cost of \$10.00. Input QuestCDN eBidDoc™ Number 2287260 on the website's Project Search page. Contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or [info@questcdn.com](mailto:info@questcdn.com) for assistance in downloading and working with the digital documents.

Questions concerning the content of the RFP documents may be directed to:

Laron Weddington  
RFP Administrator  
Metropolitan Council  
390 N Robert St  
St Paul, MN 55101  
Phone: (651) 602-1032

[laron.weddington@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:laron.weddington@metc.state.mn.us)