

## Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting Summary – December 14, 2017

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### Participants

See sign-in sheet at the end of this document for a list of attendees.

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### Handouts

- Agenda
  - October 12, 2017 PAC meeting summary
  - Presentation
  - Draft PAC Riverview LPA resolution
  - Draft PAC Ford resolution
  - Public Engagement Summary Report #5
  - Public comments received October 1-December 6, 2017
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### Action Items

- Complete discussed revisions to R. Noecker's resolution.
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#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Ortega convened the meeting at 9:03 a.m. and led introductions.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

Action: PAC unanimously approved (J. Commers motion; J. Regal second).

#### 3. Approval of the October 12, 2017 Meeting Summary

Action: PAC unanimously approved (R. Noecker motion; P. Mancini second).

#### 4. Meeting Summary

- Meeting purpose: Approve Riverview LPA and Ford Site recommendations.
- November TAC meeting: Consensus on recommendations to PAC – LPA and Ford Corridor.

#### 5. Public Comments on Draft LPA

- Support LPA: Improve access to persons with disabilities, economic competitiveness, pedestrian and bicycle environment.
- Do not support LPA: Concerns about potential tax increases; loss of small businesses and homes; increased noise; traffic impacts; safety and security; gentrification.

#### 6. LPA Update

- Inflated capital cost assumes a new bridge near Hwy 5 for streetcar, pedestrians and bikes; tunnel under Historic Fort Snelling; elevated Riverview station at the Mall of America.
- No change to the overall preliminary FTA project justification rating (medium).

#### 7. Public Comment

- Jason Craig, Minneapolis resident: His remaining concerns are the lack of a Minneapolis elected official on the PAC; no data provided that compared safety of modes.
- Jim Schoettler, Saint Paul resident: Issues with the Hwy 5 and Ford Parkway river crossings. Consider a new southwest crossing that could save \$200 million.

- Sam Wils, Sustain Ward 3 member and Saint Paul resident: Draft LPA best meets the needs of the corridor. Begin studying transit improvements near the Ford Site as soon as possible.

## 8. TAC Recommendations

- R. Noecker introduced a third additional resolution, which PAC then discussed first (attached).

### A. R. Noecker's Proposed Resolution

- Separate from the Riverview LPA, this new resolution addresses issues such as streetscape improvements, pedestrian safety, multimodal transit, special purpose and unique character of W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, construction mitigation, and federal funding.
- Commissioner Ortega: Address issues during environmental review and engineering, e.g. agency roles and responsibilities with respect to design, construction, and maintenance of streetscape improvements on W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, and independent of Riverview LPA.
- S. McBride: MnDOT are not investing in minor arterials such as W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street.
- J. Commers: Staff articulate changes to the new resolution before the PAC votes.

Action: Carry forward R. Noecker resolution (S. McBride motion; P. Wagenius second).

### Roll Call – R. Noecker Resolution

PAC Member	Representing	Aye	Nay
Chris Tolbert	City of Saint Paul – Ward 3	X	
Rebecca Noecker	City of Saint Paul – Ward 2	X	
Pat Mancini	Riverview Corridor Business Representative	X	
Nancy Homans	City of Saint Paul	X	
Joe Gladke	Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority	X	
Rafael Ortega	Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority	X	
Peter Wagenius	City of Minneapolis	X	
Pat Mosites	Metropolitan Airports Commission	X	
Laurel Severson	Riverview Corridor Citizen Representative	X	
Scott McBride	Minnesota Department of Transportation	X	
Jon Commers	Metropolitan Council	X	
Tim Busse	City of Bloomington	X	
John Regal	Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce	X	

### B. Riverview LPA Resolution

- P. Mosites: Encouraged by Metro Transit's partnership to continue to improve existing transit service. The airport operates 24/7 and their employees need faster, more reliable transit service.
- P. Mancini: Appreciated hearing millennials' support of the draft LPA at the public hearing. He is also concerned about businesses impacts during construction. How do we accommodate both?
- R. Noecker: Senior citizens needs need level-boarding on modern streetcar.

Action: PAC approved (C. Tolbert motion; J. Regal second).

### Roll Call – Riverview LPA Resolution

PAC Member	Representing	Aye	Nay
Chris Tolbert	City of Saint Paul – Ward 3	X	
Rebecca Noecker	City of Saint Paul – Ward 2	X	
Pat Mancini	Riverview Corridor Business Representative		X
Nancy Homans	City of Saint Paul	X	
Joe Gladke	Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority	X	

PAC Member	Representing	Aye	Nay
Rafael Ortega	Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority	X	
Peter Wagenius	City of Minneapolis	X	
Pat Mosite	Metropolitan Airports Commission	X	
Laurel Severson	Riverview Corridor Citizen Representative		X
Scott McBride	Minnesota Department of Transportation	X	
Jon Commers	Metropolitan Council	X	
Tim Busse	City of Bloomington	X	
John Regal	Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce	X	

### C. Ford Corridor Resolution

*Action:* PAC unanimously approved the (J. Commers motion; C. Tolbert second).

### Roll Call – Riverview LPA Resolution

PAC Member	Representing	Aye	Nay
Chris Tolbert	City of Saint Paul – Ward 3	X	
Rebecca Noecker	City of Saint Paul – Ward 2	X	
Pat Mancini	Riverview Corridor Business Representative	X	
Nancy Homans	City of Saint Paul	X	
Joe Gladke	Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority	X	
Rafael Ortega	Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority	X	
Peter Wagenius	City of Minneapolis	X	
Pat Mosites	Metropolitan Airports Commission	X	
Laurel Severson	Riverview Corridor Citizen Representative	X	
Scott McBride	Minnesota Department of Transportation	X	
Jon Commers	Metropolitan Council	X	
Tim Busse	City of Bloomington	X	
John Regal	Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce	X	

## 9. What to expect in the next two years

- LPA resolutions of support – Send to cities and counties along the corridor, then to the Met Council for adoption into the Transportation Policy Plan.
- Environmental review and engineering of the LPA – Define issues and potential solutions to topics such as on-street parking, Green and Blue Line connections, and business impacts. Continue public and stakeholder engagement.

## 10. Adjourn

Chair Ortega adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.



<b>Policy Advisory Committee Meeting – December 14, 2017</b>				
<b>Riverview Corridor Pre-Project Development Study</b>				
<b>PAC Attendance Sheet</b>				
	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Representing</b>
	Kristin	Beckmann	Deputy Mayor	City of Saint Paul
<b>X</b>	Tim	Busse	Councilmember	City of Bloomington
<b>X</b>	Jon	Commers	Councilmember	Metropolitan Council
<b>X</b>	Joe	Gladke	Manager, Engineering & Transit Planning	Hennepin County (Alternate)
	Pat	Harris	Commissioner	Metropolitan Airports Commission
<b>X</b>	Nancy	Homans	Policy Director	City of Saint Paul (Alternate)
<b>X</b>	Pat	Mancini	Owner, Mancini's Char House	Riverview Corridor Business Representative
<b>X</b>	Scott	McBride	Metro District Engineer	Minnesota Department of Transportation
	Peter	McLaughlin	Commissioner	Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority
<b>X</b>	Pat	Mosites	Airside Project Manager	Metropolitan Airports Commission (Alternate)
<b>X</b>	Rebecca	Noecker	Councilmember - Ward 2	City of Saint Paul
<b>X</b>	Rafael	Ortega	Commissioner	Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority
<b>X</b>	John	Regal	Board Member	Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce
<b>X</b>	Laurel	Severson	Citizen	Riverview Corridor Citizen Representative
<b>X</b>	Chris	Tolbert	Councilmember - Ward 3	City of Saint Paul
<b>X</b>	Peter	Wagenius	Policy Director	City of Minneapolis
<b>Staff and Consultants</b>				
<b>X</b>	Joanna	Berg	Acting Director	Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority
<b>X</b>	Mike	Rogers	Project Manager	Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority
<b>X</b>	Kevin	Roggenbuck	Deputy Project Manager	Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority
<b>X</b>	Tim	Mayasich	Staff	Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority
<b>X</b>	April	Manlapaz	Project Manager	AECOM Team
<b>X</b>	Nancy	Stavish	Technical Staff	AECOM Team
<b>X</b>	Joy	Miciano	Public Engagement	AECOM Team
<b>X</b>	Rebecca	Lieser	Pubic Engagement	AECOM Team
<b>X</b>	Ted	Davis	Strategic Communications	Davis Team
<b>X</b>	Mike	Zipko	Strategic Communications	Davis Team

**Policy Advisory Committee Meeting – December 14, 2017**  
**Riverview Corridor Pre-Project Development Study**

<i>Other Attendees</i>		
<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Peter	Callaghan	MinnPost
Doug	Carnival	McGrann Shea
Jason	Craig	Resident
Rachel	Dammel	Kimley-Horn
Jeremy	Edwards	National Park Service
James	Garret Jr.	4RM+ULA
Ken	Iosso	Ramsey County
Anton	Jerve	City of Saint Paul
Wade	Johnson	Minneapolis Resident
Jerry	Johnson	Resident
Craig	Lamothe	Metro Transit
Jane	McClure	Villager
Kristin	McHenry	Allina Health
Edie	Meissner	Resident
Gina	Mitteco	MnDOT
Janet	Moore	Star Tribune
Zoe	Mullendore	Met Council
Lee	Nichols	WSB
Luke	Olson	HDR
Emma	Pachuta	Transit for Livable Communities
Kent	Petterson	W7BA
Matt	Privratsky	Resident
Joseph	Scala	Hennepin County
Jay	Severance	All Aboard MN
Heidi	Schallberg	Met Council
Jim	Schoettler	Self
Alicia	Uzarek	Friends of Mississippi River
Sam	Wils	Resident

## **Riverview Corridor Resolution**

### **PAC Meeting, Dec. 14, 2017**

WHEREAS planning for the Riverview Corridor affords an opportunity to reimagine West 7th Street so as to better serve all those who use it today and those who will do so in generations to come; and

WHEREAS planning and design of the Riverview Corridor must occur on a reasonable but aggressive timeline that reflects a sense of urgency to make the project a reality; and

WHEREAS a robust transit network for the corridor will result not only from a strong central line but from multiple, convenient and frequent transit connections to that line; and

WHEREAS the Riverview Corridor study has generated broader questions about the safety, livability and special purpose of West 7<sup>th</sup> Street in its current design that must be addressed regardless of the final mode and alignment selected; and

WHEREAS there is serious concern about the safety of West 7th Street as it is currently designed for both pedestrians and bicyclists, especially senior citizens, individuals with disabilities, and families with small children; and pedestrian safety must be a prime concern of current and future car, bus or train usage on the street; and

WHEREAS the City of Saint Paul is currently revising its Comprehensive Plan and the draft Transportation Chapter of that plan calls for bicycle, pedestrian and transit infrastructure to be prioritized over motor vehicle transportation; and

WHEREAS the businesses that line West 7th Street are the lifeblood of our community, providing critical services, retail, entertainment, hospitality and more, and planning and budgeting for modern streetcar must prioritize the survival and vitality of businesses of all sizes before, during and after construction; and

WHEREAS the character and layout of West 7<sup>th</sup> Street varies from segment to segment and the design process for both the street and the modern streetcar should recognize and evaluate these differences;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the next phase of study for the Riverview Corridor must include

- A design that prioritizes pedestrian and bicyclist safety along the entirety of West 7<sup>th</sup> Street and meets the Saint Paul Complete Streets goals and the priorities of the updated Comprehensive Plan.
- A plan for accommodating or relocating the bicycle infrastructure currently along West 7<sup>th</sup> Street.
- A community process to evaluate layout and plan streetscape improvements along West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, co-convened by the Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority, MnDOT and the City of

Saint Paul. These improvements will be implemented concurrently with the Riverview Corridor design and construction process, regardless of the final mode and alignment chosen.

- A detailed plan and budget for construction mitigation based on lessons learned from other transit projects in the region and best practices from around the country and developed in conjunction with small business owners along the corridor.
- A seamless connection between the West 7th Street portion of the Riverview Corridor with the branch that will serve the Ford site.
- A design that evaluates the variations between different segments of West 7<sup>th</sup> Street in light of the goals described in this resolution.
- A plan for phasing in construction of the project so as to make it maximally competitive for federal funds in a shorter time frame.
- A plan for increased local bus service to feed the Riverview Corridor at critical connection points downtown and along West 7<sup>th</sup> Street; and
- An evaluation of the special purpose of West 7<sup>th</sup> St, including its relationship to neighboring transit corridors such as Shepard Road and 35E, and how that purpose should be reflected in traffic patterns, speed limits and more.
- A discussion among MnDOT, Ramsey County and the City of Saint Paul about the best arrangement for ownership and maintenance of West 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that

- In December 2020, the PAC will reconvene to evaluate the technical and financial outlook for the Riverview Corridor project, to determine whether the chosen LPA is likely to become a reality by 2025 and make alternate plans if necessary.