



## Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2015  
Newport City Hall  
4:30 p.m.

Commission Members	Agency	Present
Mike Slavik	Dakota County RRA	X
Marion Greene	Hennepin County RRA	
Janice Rettman	Ramsey County RRA	X
Jim McDonough	Ramsey County RRA	
Karla Bigham – Chair	Washington County RRA	X
Jen Peterson – Vice-Chair	City of Cottage Grove	X
Myron Bailey	City of Cottage Grove	
John Kummer	Denmark Township	
Mark Vaughn	City of Hastings	X
Cam Gordon	City of Minneapolis	
Tracy Rahm	City of Newport	
Keith Franke	City of St. Paul Park	

Ex-Officio Members	Agency	
Ron Allen	Goodhue County	
Jess Greenwood	Goodhue County	
Chuck Hubbard	Canadian Pacific Railway	
Marc Mogan	Prairie Island Indian Community	X

Staff	Agency	Present
Jan Lucke	Washington County RRA	X
Andy Gizlaff	Washington County RRA	
Lyssa Leitner	Washington County RRA	X
Josh Olson	Ramsey County RRA	X
Mike Rogers	Ramsey County RRA	
Joe Morneau	Dakota County RRA	X
Hally Turner	Washington County	
Laura Kearns	Washington County	X
Joe Scala	Hennepin County	
Ray Hoover	Hennepin County	
Joe Gladke	Hennepin County	X

<b>Others</b>	<b>Agency</b>
William Schroeer	East Metro Strong
Betsy Leach	District 1 Committee Council St. Paul
Brian Smalkoski	Kimley-Horn
William Reynolds	Kimley-Horn

**Agenda Item #1: Introductions**

Chair Bigham called the meeting to order at 4:35PM. Introductions were made by commission members, staff and others present.

**Agenda Item #2: Approval of Agenda**

No action was taken as there was no quorum.

**Agenda Item #3: Consent Items**

**a. Checks and Claims**

**b. Minutes from the February and March, 2015 Commission Meetings**

No action was taken as there was no quorum.

**Agenda Item # 4: Update Implementation Plan Update**

Ms. Leitner gave a brief review of the implementation plan. They are starting to move into the technical side of the plan; however public outreach is still ongoing. Ms. Leitner said there have been several questions from the public about the differences between Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), Express Buses, and Commuter Rail. From a communication stand point she would like to make sure staff and the commission are on the same page.

Brian Smalkoski with Kimley-Horn briefly talked about the two (2) other committees that will help shape the implementation plan; those committees are the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which is made up of individuals from MnDOT, Metropolitan Council, Metro Transit and Cities and Counties along the corridor also Business and Civic Advisory Committee (B-CAC) which is made up of staff from business and civic organizations along the corridor. Mr. Smalkoski gave an update on the open house that was held on April 27, 2015 at the Newport Station. There were approximately 60 attendees 20 of which participated in activities to provide feedback of what they were looking for in service and how can the right service be designed to develop an implementation plan. Mr. Smalkoski spoke about the results of the activities from the open house. Mr. Smalkoski said they have recommended four (4) in-person public engagement events. In June, 2 separate events, one at the Lower Afton park and ride and another at the Cottage Grove park and ride; in July at the Hastings farmers market and August at the St. Paul Park Heritage Days Business Expo.

Mr. Schroeer was able to meet with two (2) transportation experts, Dena Belzer with Strategic Economics and Roger Millar with Smart Growth America and talk with them a little bit about Red Rock Corridor. They were able to take a drive and see the cities which the corridor will be in. Mr. Schroeer gave a power point presentation of information that he

gathered from the conversation and information provided from Dena and Roger. Ms. Leitner said a copy of the power point will be emailed to the commission.

#### **Agenda Item #5: Communication Update**

Ms. Leitner spoke about utilizing the advertisement feature on Facebook. Out of 288 people who clicked on the advertisements, 256 lead to “actions”, meaning they like the page, commented on a post or like a post. This is a very high success rate. The Red Rock Facebook page is currently up to 282 likes. Ms. Leitner said there have been 1,769 website views in the last 30 days; the normal view is approximately 500 views per month.

Mr. Leitner said staff will be writing Business and Civic Advisory Committee (B-CAC) profiles each month in order to generate content for the Red Rock e-newsletters and to provide newsletter to stakeholders. The B-CAC members will be chosen based on their attendance at meeting, in-person meetings and events staff attends of theirs and to align with opportunities to announce activities and/or events.

Council Member Vaughn asked if anyone has put flyers up in local malls, grocery stores, etc. for people to notice when they are on their breaks from work and for the people who may not have internet access.

Ms. Leitner said they have posted a lot for open houses, however without approval from the management company of the malls or businesses to hang the flyers they get taken down.

Mr. Morneau said the Red Line does have print types of advertising. However, they are more aligned with service openings or piggy backed with another metro transit publication.

#### **Agenda Item #6: Other**

a. Commissioner Rettman gave the commission an update on high speed rail. There was some positive feedback for a second train for Amtrak. This will help increase ridership. Nothing has been released to the public about it at this time.

Commissioner Bigham said together Senator Schmidt, Senator Miller and Senator Sieben introduced legislation on high speed rail.

Commissioner Bigham said Red Rock did not receive their request for a \$1 million bonding proposal. The request for a park and ride from the Newport station to the state fair was not approved.

Marc Mogan said Prairie Island Community is in the process of submitting a request for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant. Mr. Mogan asked the commission for a letter of support for their request. Since there was no quorum, the commission was not able to approve a letter of support. Commissioner Bigham said she will work with staff and she will sign a letter of support for Prairie Island Community.

**b. The meeting for June 25, 2015 has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting will be on July 23, 2015 at 4:30PM at Newport City Hall.**

Motion was made by Council member Peterson to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Slavik. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 5:32PM.