



## Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2015

Cedar Grove Station

4:45 p.m.

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

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

Staff	Agency	Present
Jan Lucke	Washington County RRA	X
Lyssa Leitner	Washington County RRA	X
Kevin Roggenbuck	Ramsey County RRA	X
Joe Morneau	Dakota County RRA	
Matt Parent	Dakota County	X
Hally Turner	Washington County	X
Laura Kearns	Washington County	
Joe Scala	Hennepin County	
Ray Hoover	Hennepin County	

Others	Agency	
Lynne Bly	MnDOT	
Will Schroeer	East Metro Strong	

Bruce Nordquist	City of Apple Valley
Deb Hill	City of Newport
Kevin White	Kimley Horn
Anna Potter	Kimley Horn
Kristine Elwood	Dakota County
Kathryn Paulson	Washington County HRA

**Agenda Item #1: Introductions**

Chair Bigham called the meeting to order at 4:43PM.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Slavik to approve the Agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Rahm. All in favor. Motion Carries.

**Agenda Item #3: Consent Items**

Motion was made by Commissioner Greene to approve the checks and claims from July and August and the minutes from the July 23<sup>rd</sup> Red Rock Corridor Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Slavik. All in favor, Motion Carries.

**Agenda Item # 4: Communications Update**

Ms. Leitner provided a brief update of the activity on the Red Rock Corridor website and Facebook page. There have been 1,622 website views in the past 30 days. The Facebook page is up to 295 “Likes.” Facebook ads have been helpful in driving up “Likes.” There have been no instances where comments needed to be removed from the site.

**Agenda Item #5: Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) Grant Resolution of Support**

Ms. Leitner gave an overview of the Red Rock Corridor Commission grant application for the 2016 CTIB grant solicitation. Washington County had 3% of funds guaranteed for use for planning studies in the county. A 10% local match must come from local contributions. In the past, the local match funds have come from the Commission. This year’s request from the Red Rock Corridor Commission is to supplement ongoing Implementation Plan activities. There are currently more stations than identified in the Alternatives Analysis Update completed in 2014. These grant funds, if awarded, will also allow for staff to support cities as they go forward with their comprehensive plan updates. The Metropolitan Council will soon release system statements with targets for each community. All Red Rock Corridor cities with a station will have specific targets they will need to hit when planning around a transitway station. These funds will help ensure the cities have the information they will need.

This grant will also provide some funds for modeling. There will potentially be an application for the regional solicitation process for a demonstration project. Funds will be available for ridership modeling for that project.

The funds from the CTIB grant would supplement the Kimley Horn contract. The local match of \$15,000 would be from the Red Rock Corridor Commission dues. The current operating budget excluding studies is typically around \$50,000. Next year’s budget may be lower due

to an anticipated decreased in communications expenditures. There is an attempt to keep each county's contribution the same as last year. The budget information provided is an introduction for a more robust budget conversation to happen at the October commission meeting.

Chair Bigham clarified that the request was for the Commission to approve a resolution of support for the CTIB grant application.

Commissioner Greene asked if the commission would be voting or if this was a preview of a discussion on the budget in October. Ms. Leitner confirmed the commission would vote on the resolution of support and a local match of \$15,000.

Commissioner Slavik clarified that voting yes would be in support of contributing \$15,000 from the Red Rock Corridor Commission as the local match.

Motion was made by Councilmember Finney to approve the resolution of support and contribution of local match. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Greene. All in favor. Motion Carries.

#### **Agenda Item #6: Implementation Plan Update**

Ms. Leitner stated that the Kimley Horn team is currently working on technical information. After information is available in October, staff will host TAC and BCAC meetings to discuss the alternatives. The technical information would then be released to the public by the Commission at the October meeting. Engagement would follow the release of the information and will include an open house in early November in St. Paul Park. The November and December Commission meetings will be rescheduled due to holidays. We will likely hold one commission meeting in early December. At that meeting, the technical information and public input will be presented and the Commission can possibly act on approving one alternative or the other.

In the meantime, we are looking for feedback from the public on the two proposed alternatives. Comment boxes have been changed on the Contact Us page on website to ask four questions about the alternatives. This information was included in the last newsletter. Ms. Leitner encouraged people to share the page to promote receiving more feedback.

Chair Bigham asked if the questions have been provided to the cities. Ms. Leitner explained that the link will be sent to TAC members with instructions for them to share the information.

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

Chair Bigham announced that the Gateway Corridor has been named a recipient of a \$1 million dollar grant from the FTA to support transit-oriented development.

Chair Bigham reported that she continues to engage stakeholders along the Red Rock Corridor.

Commissioner Slavik announced that the Dakota County Development Agency provided a tax credit for a 37 unit development in downtown Hastings. The units will be 1-3 bedrooms

and will include studio space for artists. The project will be located across from the depot and will break ground next year.

Chair Bigham reported that the DOT Regional Director attended a CTIB meeting and received 2 minute updates on all of the corridors in the region.

Commissioner Greene stated that the Green Line continues to outperform expectations. Ms. Leitner stated that on one day 69,000 individuals rode the Green Line due in part to sporting events. Commissioner Greene reiterated that rides have gone up for visitors and commuters alike.

Chair Bigham stated the next Commission meeting will be on October 22<sup>nd</sup> starting at 4:30PM at Newport City Hall.

Ms. Leitner explained that Denmark Township is interested in leaving the Commission. There is no station proposed for the community. Denmark Township will need to provide a resolution from their board to the Red Rock Corridor Commission. The Commission will not need to act.

Motion was made by Councilmember Peterson to adjourn. Commissioner Slavik seconded. All in favor, Motion Carries.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58PM.