

# Minutes – B-CAC Meeting #3

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Newport City Hall

## ATTENDANCE

- Chris Koop, Hastings Family Services
- Betsy Leach, St. Paul District 1
- Mary Ann Newman, Newport Housing Preservation Commission
- Will Schroeer, East Metro Strong
- Lori Louder, St. Paul Port Authority

## MINUTES

- Implementation Plan Update
  - Brian gave an overview of the implementation plan goals and where we are in the process
- Service Plan
  - Brian gave an overview of the service characteristics and attributes for each of the alternatives analyzed
- Ridership Modeling Results
  - Brian presented the overall corridor ridership and ridership by station
- Alternatives Evaluation
  - Chelsey presented the evaluation based on AAU criteria and explained why refinement to the criteria was necessary
  - Brian shared the additional evaluation measures that were created and how the two alternatives compare
- Discussion
  - Betsy Leach was concerned about the walk access at Lower Afton
    - There is a great trail on the north side of Lower Afton and it is unlikely that a second one will be added on the south side.
  - Will Schroeer asked about the 2A and 2B differences
    - Brian explained that the differences between them are minimal, so we are focusing on the decision between Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 for now and will look at 2A and 2B more during the station area planning process
  - Lori Louder commented on the difference in wages between retail and industrial jobs
  - Will asked about connecting bus service
    - Lyssa responded that connecting bus service is possible, but we don't want to promise it because local bus service has failed in this corridor previously
  - Will asked about a comparison to Red Line or other BRT comparisons
    - Brian explained that the most recent data from National Transit Database is from 2013, which is the year that Red Line first started operating
  - Mary Ann Newman commented that we need to make sure to make acronyms clear to the public at the open house
  - Betsy stated that she thinks there is a discrepancy between the number of walk-ups and the number of zero-vehicle households at Lower Afton
  - Will asked if the ridership model included Gateway connections
    - Brian responded that it did

- She also commented that she thinks Alternative 2 has more opportunities for people on the east side of St. Paul
  - Lori Louder suggested that we talk to Districts 4 and 5 in St. Paul and the East Side Area Business Association
  - Will agreed that there are more opportunities for those on the east side of St. Paul with Alternative 2. He also mentioned that he would like more information on the capital cost difference between the two alternatives.
  - Betsy commented that it would be helpful to have the district councils meet together for a unified discussion
  - Mary Ann said that Alternative 2 is better because it would provide access to jobs in both directions for people living in Newport
  - Chris Koop commented that it is important that service goes beyond the Hastings Depot because many of those without vehicles can't walk to the depot
  - Will asked if there was a way to not have to choose between Alternative 2A and 2B
    - There was then group discussion about how the industrial companies have different job shifts, and they have tried to coordinate previously
  - Lori discussed the jobs-housing mismatch that currently exists with industrial jobs in the Twin Cities
  - Betsy brought up that Ramsey County will make a decision about the boys' facility (Boys Totem Town) near Lower Afton at the end of December and District 1 will have a meeting with Ramsey County in January which would be a good time to talk about Red Rock
  - Chris will coordinate with Lyssa on a newsletter or surveying the food shelf customers
    - She also suggested meeting with the Hastings Downtown Business Association
- Next Steps
  - Open House: Wednesday, January 13
  - RRCC: Thursday, January 28