

**Gateway Corridor Commission
December 8, 2011 Meeting Summary
Woodbury City Hall, Birch Room**

| Members | Agency | Present |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Rafael Ortega | Ramsey County | |
| Lisa Weik | Washington County | X |
| Kathy Lantry | St Paul | |
| Will Rossbach | Maplewood | X |
| Paul Reinke | Oakdale | |
| Mary Giuliani Stephens | Woodbury | X |
| Dean Johnston | Lake Elmo | X |
| Randy Nelson | Afton | X |
| Dan Kylo | West Lakeland | X |
| Brian Zeller | Lakeland | X |
| Victoria Reinhardt, Alternate | Ramsey County | X |
| Gary Kriesel, Alternate | Washington County | |
| Paul Rebholz, Alternate | Woodbury | |
| Brett Emmons, Alternate | Lake Elmo | |
| Pat Snyder, Alternate | Afton | |
| Dave Schultz, Alternate | West Lakeland | X |
| Peg Larson, Alternate | Lakeland | |

| Ex-Officio Members | Agency | Present |
|---------------------------|---|----------------|
| Mike Amundson | Baytown Township | X |
| Greg Watson | Woodbury Chamber of Commerce | X |
| Richard McNamara | Oakdale Business and Professional Association | |
| Doug Stang | 3M | |
| Tim Ramberg | St. Croix County | X |
| Zach Schwartz | St Paul Chamber of Commerce | |

| Others | Agency |
|-----------------|---|
| Mike Rogers | Ramsey County RRA |
| Ted Schoenecker | Washington County |
| Lyssa Leitner | Washington County |
| John Kaul | Washington County |
| Pat Thompson | St. Croix County |
| Josh Straka | U.S. Representative Betty McCollum's Office |
| Allen Lovejoy | City of St. Paul |
| David Jessup | City of Woodbury |
| Andy Parrish | U.S. Representative Bachmann's Office |
| Linda Jungwirth | Assistant to Ramsey County Commissioner Rettman |
| Sally Eral | City of Landfall Village |

The Gateway Corridor Commission convened at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Weik.

Agenda Item #1. Introductions

Introductions were made by those present.

Agenda Item #2. Approval of Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda. Motion made by Johnston to approve the agenda. Seconded by Rossbach. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #3. Summary Previous Meetings

Item 3a. Summary October 13, 2011 Meeting

No changes were made to the October 13, 2011 meeting summary. Motion made by Reinhardt to approve the October 13, 2011 meeting summary. Seconded by Johnston. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Item 3b. Summary November 10, 2011 Meeting

No changes were made to the November 10, 2011 meeting summary. Motion made by Reinhardt to approve the November 10, 2011 meeting summary. Seconded by Johnston. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #4. Consent Items

Item 4a. Checks and claims: Motion made by Johnston to approve checks and claims. Seconded by Reinhardt. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5. Gateway Corridor AA Update

Item 5a. Update on Study

Schoenecker said the eight alternatives identified are now being looked at in greater detail for engineering and ridership analysis.

Item 5b. Outreach Activities

Schoenecker referred to the packet showing previous and future meetings regarding the AA. Meetings are continually being added in anticipation of the numbers from the AA in January. We will be going back to previous entities to present the information directly. If your community is interested in a presentation on the AA, contact Schoenecker to schedule one.

Agenda Item #6. Final 2012 Work Plan and Budget

Schoenecker referred to the memo in the packet detailing the activities that occurred in 2011 and the associated budget items. The activities for the AA were not included in that memo. We are anticipating approximately \$34,000 of the 2011 budget to be unused, and there was approximately \$16,000 in reserves at the end of 2010 creating a total of \$50,000 in reserves. Schoenecker discussed the four main items of the 2012 budget as outlined in the memo. Tunheim recommended three additional items for the Commission to consider, either now or sometime in the future:

- Corridor Advocacy Video \$16,000
- Corridor Launch Event – Media \$ 3,000
- Corridor Launch Event – Business \$ 6,000
 \$25,000

Zeller asked if the 2012 budget includes the \$3 million for the DEIS. Schoenecker said yes. Zeller asked when we would know if the CTIB grant is granted and where the rest of the DEIS money would come

from. Weik said CTIB reviews the information in December, and Ramsey and Washington Counties are our funding partners.

Motion made by Zeller to approve the assignment of approximately \$50,000 to a reserve fund. Seconded by Johnston. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Reinhardt asked if approval of the Work Scope and Budget moves the communication contract forward as well. Schoenecker said no; we would need a separate action to enter into that contract.

Motion made by Reinhardt to approve the 2012 Work Scope and Budget. Seconded by Johnston. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Giuliani Stephens asked if the approval of an agreement with Tunheim Partners included the video or the launch items. Schoenecker said no, this is for their base scope of work.

Motion made by Weik to approve the WCRRA, acting as the Gateway Corridor's Fiscal Agent, to enter into an agreement with Tunheim Partners for communications consulting activities for the year 2012. Seconded by Rossbach. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #7 Communications

Item 7a. Google Analytics Update – October

Schoenecker referred to the update in the packet. He anticipates it will remain fairly consistent until the AA presentations are made and the third round of open houses begins.

Agenda Item #8. Legislative Update

Item 8a. State

John Kaul said there is talk about a short session, and the leadership seems serious about getting out in ten weeks. On the agenda would be an attempt to work on the homestead credit issue, which is a cost of about \$400 million. The bonding bill may or may not come into play. Weik said the Association of MN Counties just had their three-day conference and Representative Mike Beard did attend a portion of the Transportation Policy Hearing and concurred they are looking for a short session. They would basically have ten committee hearings to get things done. They would focus on regulatory reform, there would be a bonding bill of some kind, and they would try to determine how they could redo the Met Council. Kaul reiterated that the short sessions have tremendous compression and the bills need to be ready to go at the beginning of the session. Kaul commented that the State budget surplus is a good thing; however the long-term projections still show a serious problem going into the next biennium. He added that redistricting will make things chaotic; people won't know what their district is until February.

Item 8b. Federal

Rogers referred to the information in the packet and said the deficit super committee did not come up with a plan. Other items include appropriations that are trying to move forward in smaller bills, the Transportation Authorization will keep the existing funding level, jobs legislation, and payroll tax legislation. On the Senate side, the reauthorization of the transportation bill has a new acronym; Map21 or Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century. Map21 reauthorizes transportation at existing funding levels plus inflation for two years; it consolidates the Federal transportation programs from 90 down to 30, it eliminates earmarks and smaller MPO's, and gives State DOT more control over funding to local governments. Rogers will email more detailed information on activities at the Federal level to

Schoenecker to forward to Commission members.

Weik commented that Ramsey County has interesting news; part of the Head House of the Union Depot is open. Reinhart said the reconstruction of the Depot is very intricate and we are being very careful about keeping the historic value. Christos' Greek Restaurant has reopened and we have been able to expedite this so we are ready for Amtrak, Jefferson Lines, and Greyhound to come in. They have also put out RFPs for the bicycle facility and for a manager of the building. The building manager would have the expertise to manage this large facility, bring in retail, make sure we get the right mix of things in place for long-term sustainability, and make it the vibrant place we know it will be.

Agenda Item #9. Other

Item 9a. Meeting Dates Summary

Schoenecker referred to the future TAC, PAC, and Gateway Corridor meetings listed in the packet. He highlighted the recommendation to change the date of the March Gateway Corridor meeting to align it better with PAC/TAC meetings and provide the information from the AA to the Commission in a timely manner. The PAC will not be meeting in December.

Item 9b. 2012 Meeting Dates and Times

Schoenecker said the meeting dates are on the second Thursday of every month at 3:30 with the exception of March. The March meeting would be either March 15 or March 22; however the Rush Line meeting is being held on March 15.

Motion made by Reinhardt to approve the 2012 meeting schedule. Seconded by Amundson. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Zeller stated he has conflicts in January, February, and March; therefore, he will ask his alternate to attend.

Weik asked if the PAC/TAC groups are related to the AA or if they continue through to the next steps. Schoenecker said it is flexible in who is participating; it will possibly change because the stakeholders could change.

Ramberg said the WI Gateway Corridor meeting for this Friday, December 9th has been cancelled.

Schoenecker informed the Commission that the January meeting will be identified as the annual organizational meeting when elections of officers occur. He added that Doug Bondeson from the South Washington County Telecommunications Commission is here and is interested in interviewing a couple of Commissioners today.

Weik thanked the members of the Gateway Commission for their dedication and engagement in the Commission. It's been an exciting year and we've done a lot that we should be proud of, especially with the Alternative Analysis.

Agenda Item #10. Adjourn

Motion made by Rossbach to adjourn. Seconded by Kylo. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.