

**Gateway Corridor Commission
May 12, 2011
Woodbury City Hall, Birch Room**

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

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

Others	Agency
Ted Schoenecker	Washington County
Mike Rogers	Ramsey County RRA
David Jessup	City of Woodbury
Josh Straka	Congresswoman McCollum's Office
Dave Schultz	West Lakeland Township
Roger Rebholz	St. Croix County
Paul Rebholz	City of Woodbury
Stephanie Eiler	CH2M Hill
Gordon Westberg	District 1 Community Council
Josh Collins	Ramsey County RRA

Pauline Nixon	District Council/St. Paul
Garneth Peterson	District 1 Community Council/St. Paul
Rachel Horn	Congresswoman Bachmann's Office
Stephen Ebner	West Lakeland Township
Katie Topinka	U.S. Senator Al Franken's Office

The Gateway Corridor Commission convened at 3:35p.m. by Chair Weik.

Agenda Item #1. Introductions

Introductions were made by those present.

Due to lack of quorum, the meeting continued with agenda item #7.

Agenda Item #7. Communications

Item 7a. Outreach Activities

Schoenecker said we highlighted some of the outreach activities going on as outlined in the packet. From the Alternative Analysis side, we have a meeting with 3M, towards the end of May, specifically to talk about alignment station options within their campus. Weik asked if there was a request from the Woodbury Rotary. Schoenecker said we haven't contacted them yet, but they are on the list. Weik said Globe College may also have some interest for formal outreach. Schoenecker said he will add them to the list.

Item 7b. Google Analytics Update: Schoenecker referred to the information provided in the packet stating the levels went down from February to March due to having a lower level of outreach with open houses. We are still having good hits on the web site, just not as much as the previous month. The April update will be included next month. Nelson asked if there are any upcoming events that would drive more traffic; any announcements or things we can share with membership. Schoenecker said the next round of open houses will be happening in mid-July. Specific to the Gateway Corridor Alternative Analysis, we will be sending a newsletter in the next week or so to our major distribution lists updating people on where we are at in the process. Reinke asked about using quick response codes, the ability to upload a picture from a smart phone to the web site, and if we could do that. Schoenecker will look into it.

Quorum was attained at 3:45.

Agenda Item #9. Other

Item 9a. Meeting Dates: Schoenecker referred the members to the calendar in the packet. Yesterday's TAC meeting had more detailed discussions about station locations, the evaluation criteria that will be used as we look at the eight alternatives, and the service planning component. The June PAC and TAC meetings will be combined due to identical agendas.

Agenda Item #2. Approval of Agenda

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

Agenda Item #3. Summary April 14, 2011 Meeting

No changes were made to the April 14, 2011 meeting summary. Motion by Ortega to approve the meeting summary. Seconded by Johnston. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #4. Consent Items

- a. Checks and claims: Motion by Ortega to approve the consent items. Seconded by Reinke. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5. Gateway Corridor AA Update

Item 5a. AA FAQ

Schoenecker said the FAQs are now on the web site. If there is specific information someone is looking for, hopefully it is now broad enough to give a high picture of what's going on in the Corridor. Weik said she would put a link to the website on her Facebook and Twitter, and encouraged others to do so as well.

Item5b. Update on Study and Approval of Alternatives

Stephanie Eiler, from CH2M Hill, distributed copies of her PowerPoint presentation to those present. The cycle of their approval process is first the material goes to the TAC; if they agree, then the material goes forward to the PAC, and if PAC agrees, it goes forward to this Commission. Today you are seeing what we did with the two advisory committees a month ago. She presented the recommended revisions to alternatives, community meetings and station locations, and the travel demand forecasting process.

Zeller said that there isn't a station planned for Highway 94 and County Road 18/Highway 95, and that's understandable if it crosses the river and goes into Hudson, but if it doesn't, things will change a lot. Eiler said the initial look at the grades on the hill going into Hudson is a concern. The maximum regional standards for LRT allow a 6% grade; we are below that, although there are little points within that hill where the grade jumps up. We think we can do it, and if it changes as things get refined, we'll certainly let you know. Also, if the river bridge cannot give up any space on the existing pair, and we're looking at either a new bridge or a cantilever, it would be an enormous cost impact, and we may need to rethink a terminal station on the MN side.

Johnston said it was presented that Woodbury and Lake Elmo indicated support for a location on the Hudson Road site and asked if that is intended for the same site or acknowledge interest for each community on different sides of I-94. Eiler said the latter; it's tied to the land use development plans. The closer we are to a freeway, the more single-loaded a corridor is; you don't really get a benefit from both sides of the corridor. By bringing it down to a frontage road where there is development on both sides, you increase your development opportunity and your potential for ridership.

Schoenecker referred to revisions one, two, three, and four, starting on page three of the presentation and suggested separating action taken on funding verses non-funding items.

Motion by Johnston to approve revisions one, three, and four to the Alternative Analysis. Seconded by Ortega. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Schoenecker referred to revision two and reviewed the discussion from the last meeting for the addition of an eighth alternative at a cost of \$99,917. The suggested funding was 20% from the Met Council, 40% from Ramsey County, and 40% from Washington County.

Ortega said he doesn't see any problems with this and will put it on the agenda for the next Ramsey County meeting. Rossbach noted that the resolution doesn't describe what the eighth alternative is and that it should be defined under the fifth WHEREAS as a managed lane alternative. Weik agreed.

Kriesel noted a typo in the resolution stating it should read "Ramsey" not "Ramey."

Motion made by Ortega to Approve the Resolution to include an eighth alternative in the Alternatives Analysis scope of work for an amount not to exceed \$99,917 pending the approval of the funding from the Metropolitan Council, Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority and the Washington County Regional Rail Authority. Seconded by Rossbach.

Zeller asked why the cost is so high now for the eighth alternative verses if it had been included in the initial budget. Schoenecker said when this was brought up through our public involvement process to add this alternative there was not a desire to take another alternative off the list. We are adding a new alternative of a managed lane, and it is very unique for the purposes of the Federal Transit Administration. Also, because it is a new alternative, it touches on almost every task in the scope of work process.

Reinke asked if it looks like we can get the funding. Ortega said, without speaking for his colleagues, he feels comfortable about funding from Ramsey County. Weik said she feels comfortable as well. Schoenecker stated Washington County has CTIB money available for this, and the Metropolitan Council has verbally agreed to their \$20,000.

Chair Weik called the question. All in favor. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #6. Insurance

Schoenecker said the Commission purchased insurance from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) for \$1,120 per year. Insurance through LMCIT for 2011 would cost of \$1,099.

Motion by Johnston to approve procurement of insurance from LMCIT as the insurance provider for the Commission for an amount of \$1,099. Seconded by Rossbach. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #8. Legislative Update

Item 8a. State

Rogers said not much has changed over the last month. Governor Dayton is still asking the House and Senate to come together on their very different bills on how to fund the State Government. The Governor would like it all on one bill, but the House and Senate haven't gotten together to implement that. There is good news that tax collections for April were up \$69 million over what was forecasted. It doesn't address the full deficit, but it's going in the right direction. Weik said Governor Dayton and the Met Council held a roundtable discussion on the proposed cuts to State Transit Programs and how that would impact riders. Weik said she spoke on behalf of the Woodbury District 5 area that the bus service could be better in this area and constituents are concerned about cuts to the east metro.

Item 8b. Federal

Rogers referred to the memo in the packet and discussed options regarding the debt limit and the Senate GOP job creation proposal. Rachel Horn commented that, at the Natural Resources Committee Hearing, Chairman Bishop was in support of the St. Croix River Bridge bill. At that hearing, Mayor Harycki commented that more has happened with this bill in the last two months than in the last 20 years, and we're very happy about that.

Agenda Item #10. Adjourn

Johnston moved to adjourn. Seconded by Rossbach. **Approved.** Motion carried. Weik called the meeting adjourned at 4:30p.m.