



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Melvin Carter, Mayor

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Telephone: 651-266-6565

DATE: January 19, 2018
TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Transportation Committee
RE: Riverview Corridor Locally Preferred Alternative

ISSUE

The City of Saint Paul is requested to take action to support the Riverview Corridor Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA).

BACKGROUND

The Riverview Corridor is defined by the Mississippi River on the south, Interstate 35E and Ford Parkway on the north, Lowertown and Union Depot on the east, and Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP Airport) and Mall of America on the west.

The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority has led a transit study to research, analyze and identify opportunities to improve transit within the Riverview Corridor. The formal name for this work is a Pre-Project Development Study. The study assessed the viability of transit modes, transit route location, engineering and environmental issues, identified community needs and preferences, and estimated costs. Selecting and approving the LPA is the final step of the Pre-Project Development Study. The LPA has been approved by resolution by the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) of the Riverview Corridor project.

The PAC also approved two supporting resolutions; one related to continued study related to the improving transit connections between the Riverview Corridor, the Blue Line, and the Ford Site, or the “Ford Corridor,” and one recognizing the local business and multimodal priorities identified through public outreach. These issues were all identified as important to the residents, businesses, and policymakers through the Riverview planning process. For clarity, the three PAC resolutions were combined into two for consideration by the Transportation Committee: one for the LPA and one for the Ford Corridor.

Each local government impacted by the project is requested to pass a resolution supporting the LPA. The LPA will then be sent on the Metropolitan Council to be considered for inclusion in the regional 2040 Transportation Policy Plan. The LPA is a preliminary indication of local government preferences. Final municipal consent by each city is required later in the process, closer to the construction stage.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

On January 8, 2018 the Transportation Committee unanimously recommended that the Planning Commission adopt the attached resolutions recommending the City Council support the LPA, modern street car along Alignment 4b, as well as further study of the Ford Corridor.

Attachments

1. Draft Planning Commission LPA Resolution
2. Map of LPA
3. Draft Planning Commission Ford Corridor Resolution
4. Map of Ford Corridor
5. Riverview Corridor LPA Flyer from Ramey County Regional Rail Authority