MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 5, 2015

TO: EDA Commissioners

FROM: Emily Carr, Development Project Coordinator

CC: Kim Berggren, Director of Community Development
    Erik Hansen, Economic Development and Housing Director

SUBJECT: METRO Blue Line (Bottineau LRT) Update

Station Area Planning Update

- On February 17, the City Council appointed 10 community members to a Community Working Group (CWG) for the Brooklyn Boulevard station area. CWGs are small, community-based advisory groups that focus on station area planning on a particular station for the proposed METRO Blue Line Extension (Bottineau LRT) project. The first meeting for the Brooklyn Boulevard CWG will be held March 18, 6:00-8:00pm at Brooklyn Park City Hall (room to be determined). The next two meetings are tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 22 and Wednesday, May 20. Two additional CWGs will be established later in the spring. A group will be formed at the 85th Avenue station area and another group will be formed to work on both the 93rd Avenue and Oak Grove Parkway station areas.

- Todd Larson, Senior Planner and Emily Carr, Development Project Coordinator, attended the Project Management Team meeting for station area planning on February 3. Agenda items included an update of the preliminary engineering, review of the 63rd Avenue Transit-Oriented Development Plan created in 2011, and review of the Station Area Planning Community Engagement Plan.

LRT Preliminary Design Update

- The Met Council’s Bottineau Light Rail Transit (BLRT) Project Office staff and Hennepin County Bottineau Community Works staff gave presentations at the City Council meeting on February 17. Hennepin County staff gave an overview presentation of the Hennepin County Bottineau Works program goals, outcomes and phases. BLRT Project Office staff provided an update on the West Broadway roadway reconstruction public engagement plan.

- Several West Broadway roadway community meetings are scheduled in March. Please see the attached meeting notices for additional details. Property acquisition resources will be available at all upcoming community meetings.
- **Maplebrook Neighborhood Meeting:**
  Wednesday, March 4 from 6:00-7:30pm
  Maplebrook Community Center
  8644 Maplebrook Parkway
  Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

- **West Broadway Roadway Meeting 1:**
  Thursday, March 5 from 6:00-7:30pm
  North Hennepin Community College
  Center for Business Technology (CBT)
  Room 195/Grand Hall
  7411 - 85th Avenue North
  Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

- **West Broadway Roadway Meeting 2:**
  Thursday, March 19 from 6:00-7:30pm
  North Hennepin Community College
  Center for Business Technology (CBT)
  Room 195/Grand Hall
  7411 - 85th Avenue North
  Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

- BLRT Project Office staff plan to provide West Broadway Roadway project updates at the following City Council meetings:
  - March 16, City Council Meeting
  - April 6, City Council Work Session
  - April 27, City Council Meeting

- The City recently solicited applications for community members and stakeholders to serve on two METRO Blue Line Extension LRT Advisory Committees. The Met Council is requesting the City appoint three members to the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and two members to the Business Advisory Committee (BAC). Ten applications were received. Staff has provided all application materials along with voting forms to the City Council. It is anticipated the City Council appoint community members to these two Advisory Committees at the March 16 City Council meeting.

- A Corridor Management Committee (CMC) meeting was held on February 19. Agenda items included updates on the Golden Valley Road and Plymouth Avenue Stations, West Broadway roadway reconstruction, and freight rail. The next CMC meeting is scheduled Thursday, March 12, 1:00pm-2:30pm. The meeting location is still to be determined. CMC meeting agendas, minutes, and presentations can be found at: [http://www.metrocouncil.org/Transportation/Projects/Current-Projects/METRO-Blue-Line-Extension/Committees.aspx](http://www.metrocouncil.org/Transportation/Projects/Current-Projects/METRO-Blue-Line-Extension/Committees.aspx)
Several staff members attended two Issue Resolution Team (IRT) meetings along with representatives from Met Council, Metro Transit, Hennepin County, MNDOT, and Kimley-Horn and Associates.

Field Activity Update

- Current field activities:
  - Survey work is being conducted by Rani Engineering along West Broadway Avenue from 93rd Avenue to 101st Avenue. Rani Surveyors are currently in these areas and will be working over the next several weeks, performing survey work at the TH 610 bridge and searching for right of way (ROW) monuments.
  - Sambatek is conducting gravity sewer field surveys of the public property along the BNSF railroad corridor from 73rd Avenue to Olson Memorial Highway.
  - Cardno TBE is conducting subsurface utility engineering locates and mapping on West Broadway Avenue from 73rd Avenue to 76th Avenue.
  - Braun is conducting soil boring testing along West Broadway Avenue from 93rd Avenue to 101st Avenue and from 73rd Avenue to 76th Avenue.

Important Resources

- Staff established an lrt@brooklynpark.org email address that is also on the City website. Community members who would like updates on the LRT project can email their contact information here to get on the distribution list. To date, over 100 people have been added to the information distribution list. To receive updates directly from Hennepin County, community members can sign up for project updates on the Bottineau LRT community works website.

- Hennepin County Bottineau Corridor Community Works website — has information related to station area planning and how to be involved.

- Hennepin County West Broadway Road Reconstruction website

- Met Council - Metro Blue Line Extension website — is focused on LRT design and includes the project documents.

- Metro Blue Line Extension Twitter feed

- Virtual Tour of the Metro Blue Line Extension — provides detailed information on the route.

- Bottineau Transitway website — please note this site includes older project information including the DEIS reports. New information will be on the Met Council’s web site and project information will no longer be added to this site.

Attachments
7.4A MAPLEBROOK NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING NOTICE
7.4B WEST BROADWAY ROADWAY COMMUNITY MEETING NOTICE