

T Transportation Committee
Metropolitan Council meeting: September 8, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date

Prepared: August 24, 2010

Subject: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit: Initiate Eminent Domain Proceedings for the Acquisition of Parcel 5B (Hellervik Parking Lot) for Civil East Construction

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the initiation of eminent domain proceedings for the acquisition of the property rights for Parcel 5B (Hellervik Parking Lot) in downtown St. Paul for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) Civil East Construction.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Mark Fuhrmann presented the item. A motion was made by Councilmember Leppik, seconded by Councilmember Hilker, and passed unanimously.

T Transportation Committee
Meeting date: August 23, 2010
Metropolitan Council Meeting: September 8, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION	
Date:	August 11, 2010
Subject:	Central Corridor Light Rail Transit: Initiate Eminent Domain Proceedings for the Acquisition of Parcel 5B (Hellervik Parking Lot) for Civil East Construction
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Minnesota Statutes Chapter 117 and M.S § 473.405 Met Council 3-3 Expenditures Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager, 651-349-7510 Mark Fuhrmann, Program Director, 651-602-1942 Rich Rovang, Project Director, CCLRT Project
Division/Department:	Metro Transit / Central Corridor Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the initiation of eminent domain proceedings for the acquisition of the property rights for Parcel 5B (Hellervik Parking Lot) in downtown St. Paul for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) Civil East Construction.

Background

Parcel 5B is appraised at \$1,900,000. Per 3-3 Expenditure Policy, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) concurred with the appraisal and review appraisal on July 7, 2010, and the Metropolitan Council Regional Administrator authorized the Minnesota Department of Transportation to make an initial offer on July 22, 2010. An offer was made to the property owner on July 22, 2010. If the parties cannot reach a settlement with respect to the acquisition within a reasonable amount of time, the Central Corridor Project Office (CCPO) needs the authority to initiate eminent domain proceedings.

Rationale

The property rights to Parcel 5B must be acquired in a timely manner to enable the construction contractor to begin work as specified in the construction documents. CCPO will continue to negotiate with the property owner, even after the initiation of eminent domain proceedings.

Funding

Subordinate Funding Agreement #4 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation makes funds available for the acquisition of right of way as part of the CCLRT Project.

Known Support / Opposition

FTA has approved the CCLRT Project's Real Estate Acquisition Management Plan and concurred with the appraisal documents for Parcel 5B.