

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 28, 2010

Metropolitan Council Meeting: July 14, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	June 18, 2010
Subject:	Initiate Eminent Domain Proceedings for the Acquisition of Parcel 5D (Former Bremer Building) for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Civil East Construction
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Minnesota Statutes Chapter 117 and M.S § 473.405
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager, 651-349-7510 Mark Fuhrmann, Deputy Gen Mgr, 651-602-1942 Rich Rovang, CCLRT Project Director, 651-602-1941
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 5D (Former Bremer Building) in downtown St. Paul for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) Civil East Construction.

Background

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) concurred with the appraisal and review appraisal on May 14, 2010. The Metropolitan Council Regional Administrator authorized the acquisition of the property rights for Parcel 5D on May 17, 2010. An offer was made to the property owner on May 27, 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 to have the authority to initiate eminent domain proceedings.

Rationale

The property rights to Parcel 5D 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 owners, even after the initiation of eminent domain proceedings.

Funding

The Metropolitan Council has 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 for Parcel 5D.