

**METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**  
**390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1634**  
**Phone (651) 602-1000 TDD (651) 291-0904 FAX (651) 602-1550 Metro Info (651)**  
**602-1888**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-11**

**RESOLUTION WITH RESPECT TO  
THE CENTRAL CORRIDOR LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT PROJECT**

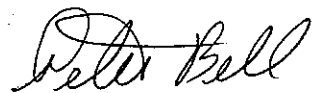
**WHEREAS:**

1. The Central Corridor Management Committee recommended and the Metropolitan Council on February 27, 2008 directed that the Central Corridor Project Office proceed with Preliminary Engineering and make a New Starts application to the Federal Transit Administration to move the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) Project into Final Design with, among other features, a University of Minnesota at-grade Transit Mall on Washington Avenue.
2. The University of Minnesota, the City of Minneapolis, and the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority have requested further definition and planning of a Washington Avenue at-grade Transit/Pedestrian Mall, with special emphasis on design and operation of the Mall, mitigation measures, and bus operations in the University Area, which includes the nearby neighborhoods.
3. The University of Minnesota has conducted a Feasibility Analysis of the Northern Alignment as a possible alternative to the Washington Avenue at-grade Transit/Pedestrian Alignment.
4. The results of the Northern Alignment Feasibility Analysis show a lower ridership and a higher estimated Cost Effectiveness Index (CEI).
5. A number of significant outstanding issues have been identified relating to environmental (including contaminated soils), design, construction, operations and maintenance, railroad-related matters and project schedule of the Northern Alignment, which create additional uncertainty and risks.
6. Great progress has been made in the definition of a mitigation package for the Washington Avenue at-grade alignment in the University Area by all affected parties.
7. The Central Corridor Management Committee, by resolution adopted on May 28, 2008, has made certain recommendations to the Metropolitan Council.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Metropolitan Council as follows:

1. The recommendations of the Central Corridor Management Committee embodied in that committee's resolution adopted on May 28, 2008 are hereby adopted by the Metropolitan Council.
2. The Metropolitan Council hereby reaffirms its action of February 27, 2008 and directs the Central Corridor Project Office to proceed with Preliminary Engineering and make application to the Federal Transit Administration to move the CCLRT Project into Final Design with, among other features, a University of Minnesota at-grade Transit/Pedestrian Mall on Washington Avenue with no vehicular traffic except emergency vehicles, light rail vehicles and buses.
3. The Metropolitan Council directs the Project Office to discontinue all work related to the Northern Alignment, effective immediately.
4. The Metropolitan Council expresses its intent to continue to work toward the development of (i) a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Minnesota, the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority, and City of Minneapolis, focused on mitigation measures in the University Area and (ii) a second MOU regarding design, construction, ownership, right-of-way, operational and maintenance issues, in the University area.
5. The Metropolitan Council expresses its intent to work cooperatively with the parties represented in the Central Corridor Management Committee in order to (i) submit a New Starts application in early September, 2008, (ii) advocate timely federal approval of the New Starts application, and (iii) take all the necessary actions with the FTA to maintain the project on its current schedule, with entrance into Final Design in Spring, 2009.

Adopted on May 28, 2008.



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Peter Bell  
Chair



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Pat Curtiss  
Recording Secretary