

## Meeting Minutes: Community and Business Advisory Committee

**Date:** 06/21/2023  
**Location:** Microsoft Teams

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### Attendance

- John Slade
  - Joan Ballanger
  - Darrell Paulsen
  - Craig Lamothe
  - Stephen Smith
  - Sara Pflaum
  - Colin Owens
  - Liz Jones
  - Beth Bartz
  - Galen Ryan
  - Zachary Mensinger
  - Ian R. Buck
  - Dale Grambush
  - Rebecca Nelson
  - Laurie Malone
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### Meeting Notes

Colin presented the meeting agenda and led introductions.

#### Project Update

Craig presented updates on RMS Phase II introduced at last month's meeting. We're setting the foundation for the RMS Phase II evaluation to begin in July. We will evaluate several technical considerations to determine if the White Bear Avenue alternative is a viable project (e.g., lane re-purposing, traffic and property impacts, guideway, station locations, pedestrian and bicycle facilities).

Craig presented the anticipate schedule of RMS Phase II work. We're working over the summer to determine station locations and guideway concepts, an effort that will include public engagement. The guideway concepts will be evaluated in the fall through the winter. In 2024, we'll determine a preferred concept for White Bear Avenue and then compare it to the Bruce Vento Trail alternative.

Craig presented the coordination activities with stakeholders along the project corridor and the needed input of the upcoming evaluation. Primary inputs include a traffic study, capital/operating costs, a ridership analysis, and a FTA project rating evaluation.

Craig reviewed the composition of project committees that will provide feedback on the RMS Phase II throughout the evaluation period.

#### Outreach and Engagement Events

Colin provided an update of recent outreach and engagement activities and recapped the themes we are hearing from these activities (shown in the meeting slides).

Collin presented the sequencing of engagement activities.

Committee members raised several considerations for ongoing engagement activities:

- Materials linked through QR Codes should be translated
- There should be focused canvassing efforts along the corridor to engage underrepresented groups, including foreign-born residents.
- There should be pop-up events next to bus stops along the corridor to engage bus users.
- The Project should engage the District 2 Council
- The Project should develop a public service announcement or similar address that can be presented at community meetings where project staff are not present.
- Committee members provided suggestions for several engagement opportunities at community events, including a Hmong-centric festival at McMurray fields, the White Bear Parade, the Unison Center, Cups and Cheers.
- The Committee discussed several opportunities to build connections between project staff and community groups or businesses along the corridor.

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## Action Items

- The next CBAC meeting will be in August to discuss the proposed station locations