
APPENDIX 2

Transit For Livable Communities Notice of Public Hearings



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Coulson, Art

From: Transit for Livable Communities [TLC@tlcminnesota.org]

Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2006 11:34 AM

To: Coulson, Art

Subject: Testify at the Last Central Corridor Public Hearing

 **Forward to a friend**

TRANSIT
for Livable Communities



Testify Tonight **at the Final Central Corridor Public Hearing**

Dear Art,

The final public hearing on the Central Corridor Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is tonight. TLC encourages transit advocates to testify at this hearing and get your voice heard.

TLC endorses light rail transit as the best alternative on the corridor, and we urge you to support this position strongly in your comments. However, we agree there are many additional issues that must be addressed by the counties and cities over the next two years. We suggest that you identify them in your comments as well.

For more information, please see the resources below that explain TLC's support for LRT and present other key issues that need to be addressed for the corridor's success. (The links will take you to our website.)

[TLC's Position Statement on Central Corridor](#)

[TLC's Tips on How to Testify](#)

[TLC's Talking Points For LRT on Central Corridor](#)

[Other Resources \(Maps, FAQ's, and more\)](#)

Background on the Central Corridor DEIS Process

The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority is required to complete a Central Corridor Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The statement provides a description of current transportation conditions in the corridor and describes three transit options for the corridor:

1. **Improvements to the current bus system**
2. **Bus Rapid Transit** - BRT has buses running on a separate, dedicated right of way or on city streets but separated from other traffic. BRT could run on University Avenue but would be mixed with traffic at the University of Minnesota and in the downtowns of Minneapolis and St. Paul.
3. **Light Rail Transit** - LRT features electric trains running on tracks, located either on city streets or separate from streets and traffic. The trains can be relatively short, with two or three cars. LRT could run on University Avenue.

The DEIS document is available on the Central Corridor website www.centralcorridor.org and at local libraries in print form. The DEIS answers five key questions:

1. What do Central Corridor stakeholders say they need from a transit system?
2. How does each option enhance mobility and accessibility for area residents and visitors?
3. What is the effect on economic development?
4. What is the impact on nearby communities and the environment?
5. What is the cost to build each option?

How can the public get involved?

It is important for this planning effort to reflect the community's views about this issue. The final public hearing for the Central Corridor Draft Environmental Impact Statement is tonight:

- **Wednesday, May 24, 6:30 PM**, Central High School, 275 North Lexington Parkway, St. Paul. An open house for questions and answers will precede the hearing from 3:30 to 6:30 PM.

How to Comment on the DEIS:

You can submit your comments during the 45-day comment period, which ends on June 5, 2006. Comments can be submitted in the following ways:

By Testifying: At the final public hearing tonight. TLC urges supporters to testify in support of light rail transit. For talking points, click on the links below.

TLC's Tips on How to Testify

TLC's Talking Points For LRT on Central Corridor

By E-mail: DEIScomments@co.ramsey.mn.us

By Mail: c/o Central Corridor DEIS, 50 West Kellogg Blvd., Suite 665,
St. Paul, MN 55102.

By Phone: (651) 266-2776 Comments left during the 45-day comment period will be transcribed and will become part of the official record.

What happens next?:

After this comment period, and in consideration of comments received, the Central Corridor Coordinating Committee will make a recommendation on a preferred alternative to the Metropolitan Council in June. The Metropolitan Council will select the locally preferred alternative. The Preliminary Engineering phase, once federal approvals are received, can then begin on the selected alternative--this process is expected to take 2 years.

You are receiving this e-mail because you are a member of TLC's Transportation Choices Network – a group of people willing to do more to promote transit, walking, biking and transit-oriented development in Minnesota. Visit TLC's website at www.tlcminnesota.org for more information on our efforts. Thank you!

Transit for Livable Communities - www.tlcminnesota.org
626 Selby Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104 - phone: 651-767-0298 - fax: 651-221-9831

Transit for Livable Communities is a non-profit organization advocating for greater transportation choices. We work to improve the quality of life in Minnesota communities through a balanced transportation system that increases the availability of transit, walking, biking, and transit-oriented development.

To request the text version or to unsubscribe, [click here](#).

