Central Corridor: Lessons Learned

Southwest Transit Corridor Collaborative Planning Workshop II
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Lucy Thompson, Principal City Planner
City of Saint Paul Department of Planning & Economic Development
TWO SEPARATE “TRACKS”

- LRT transit improvements (Metropolitan Council is the lead agency)
- Development planning (City of Saint Paul is the lead for the portion of the route in Saint Paul)
- Initiated by Mayor Coleman to take advantage of potential of LRT to attract new investment and transform the corridor
Creating a Central Corridor Development Strategy

- Two citizen task forces – University Avenue and Capitol/Downtown
- August 2006 – April 2007
- Recommendations were adopted by the Mayor and City Council as part of the City’s Comprehensive Plan in October 2007
- Creates a vision and strategy for how Central Corridor should grow and change over the next 20-25 years in response to the LRT investment.
University Avenue Task Force Key Issues

1. Gentrification
2. Minority and Small Business Development
3. Stations – number, development potential
4. Future Redevelopment Sites – appropriate scale, land uses
5. Mixed Income Housing
6. Parking and Traffic Management
7. Greening the Corridor
8. Pedestrian/Bicycle Access to Corridor
Downtown/Capitol Area Task Force Key Issues

1. Planning for key redevelopment sites
   - Athletic Club block
   - Union Depot/Diamond Products area
   - Sear site
   - League of Minnesota Cities block

2. Pedestrian connections to entertainment district and other parts of Downtown

3. Connectivity – between transportation modes, between street and skyway

4. Safety
Central Corridor LRT
7 STATION AREA PLANS

Westgate  Raymond  Fairview  Snelling  Lexington  Dale  Rice

City Of Saint Paul
Christopher Coleman, Mayor

URBAN STRATEGIES INC.

Adopted October 22, 2008
Lessons Learned

Collaboration

• Corridor-wide approach
• Timing of planning
• Community organizing
• More than a train
• Political clout
• Partnerships are critical
Lessons Learned

Land Use

- Diversity throughout the corridor
- Getting real TOD
- Paradigm shift
- Parking
- Delineating Areas of Change and Stability
Lessons Learned

Design

• Design matters
• Good design costs money
Lessons Learned

Citizen engagement

• Early, honest, meaningful
• Clarity
• Outreach by the CCPO
Lessons Learned

Other

• Working with small businesses
• Fitting in
• LRT is only the beginning