Resolution No. 2014-068

Resolution approving the physical design component of the preliminary design plans for the Southwest Light Rail Project within the city of Minnetonka

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota as follows:

Section 1. Background.

1.01. The Governor designated the Metropolitan Council ("Council") as the responsible authority for the Southwest Light Rail Transit Project ("Project"), which makes it responsible for planning, designing, acquiring, constructing and equipping the Project.

1.02. The Project is now in the preliminary design phase.

1.03. The design at this phase is approximately 15 percent complete.

1.04. Minnesota Statutes section 473.3994 allows cities and counties along a proposed light rail route to provide input to the council on the physical design component of the preliminary design plans.

1.05. On April 22, 2014, the council submitted the physical design component of the preliminary design plans ("Plans") to the governing body of each statutory and home rule charter city, county, and town in which the route is proposed to be located.

1.06. Public hearings are then required, which the city of Minnetonka ("City") held on June 2, 2014.

1.07. Within 45 days of a joint hearing held by the council and the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority ("HCRRA"), which was held on May 29, 2014, the city must review and approve or disapprove the Plans for the route to be located in the city.

1.08. Minnesota Statutes section 473.3994 provides that “a local unit of government that disapproves the Plans shall describe specific amendments to the Plans that, if adopted, would cause the local unit to withdraw its disapproval.”

1.09. Approval or disapproval by the city is part of the statutory preliminary design process.
1.10. City staff has reviewed the Plans and developed a report pertaining to these Plans and has made its recommendations.

1.11. The city supports the implementation of the Project and is doing everything possible to support its successful implementation by 2019.

1.12. The city is committed to work with the council throughout the design and construction process.

1.13. The city desires that the council and its staff continue to work with city staff to evaluate the extension of 17th Avenue from Shady Oak Station south to K-Tel Drive, including necessary utility connections, as a Locally Requested Capital Investment ("LRCI"), recognizing that the implementation of this investment will require the identification of funding during the advanced design of the Project.

1.14. The city desires that the council and its staff continue to work with city staff to evaluate, as a LRCI, construction that accommodates a future station near Smetana Road, if the LRT is constructed within a tunnel under Smetana Road, recognizing that the implementation of this station-ready investment will require the identification of funding during the advanced design of the Project.

1.15. The city desires that the council and its staff continue to work with city staff to evaluate the construction of a 10-foot wide trail/sidewalk between Smetana Road and K-Tel Drive as a LRCI, recognizing that the implementation of this investment will require the identification of funding during the advanced design of the Project.

1.16. The city desires that the council and its staff continue to work with city staff in consideration of other LRCIs recognizing that the implementation of these investments will require the identification of funding during the advanced design of the Project.

Section 2. Council Action.

2.01. The city of Minnetonka provides its municipal approval of the Plans pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 473.3994 consistent with the above.

2.02. City staff are directed to submit the city's approval to the Metropolitan Council.
Adopted by the City Council of the city of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on June 23, 2014.

Terry Schneider, Mayor

Attest:

David E. Maeda, City Clerk

**Action on this resolution:**

Motion for adoption: Wagner
Seconded by: Acomb
Voted in favor of: Wagner, Ellingson, Allendorf, Acomb, Wiersum, Bergstedt, Schneider
Voted against:
Abstained:
Absent:
Resolution adopted.
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, at a meeting held on June 23, 2014.

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David E. Maeda, City Clerk