



NOKOMIS EAST STATION AREA PLAN PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY



Project Name: Nokomis East LRT Station Master Plan

Date: January 26th, 2006

Location: Keewaydin Community Center

Purpose of Meeting: Public Workshop #2

Start Time: 7:10pm

In Attendance: See sign-in sheet

End Time: 8:30pm

Items	Summary
<u>Welcome</u> Rita Ulrich, NENA Executive Director	Rita Ulrich welcomed participants and encouraged their participation in the planning process.
<u>Explanation or purpose of planning process; Introduce consulting team and their roles</u> Mike Larson, CPED Planning	Mike Larson explained that the plan will be a document that includes maps, illustrations and guidelines that represents a vision for the future. Among other things, it will be used to guide development review and public spending in the area. Mike emphasized the importance of having a broad vision in the midst of change. Mike thanked Hennepin County for funding the planning process, explained the role of the steering committee, and introduced members of the consulting team.
<u>Explanation of "Transit Oriented Development: or "TOD"</u> Tom Dobbs, Hay Dobbs	Tom Dobbs provided an overview of principles related to transit oriented development, which in general includes a concentration of uses, a mix of uses, and a pedestrian friendly character.
<u>Preliminary research findings and observations</u> Tom Dobbs, Hay Dobbs	Due to time constraints, this portion of the workshop was skipped.
<u>Explanation of break out sessions</u> Gary Hay, Hay Dobbs	Gary Hay explained the task of the small group work, which included the use of markers, stickers and photos to identify preferences for development types, potential locations for new development, improvements to public infrastructure, and other concerns, ideas and visions for the area. Each group was assigned a facilitator and a recorder.
<u>Break out sessions</u>	Participants met in groups for approximately 45 minutes.
<u>Reporting back from breakout sessions</u>	Each of the eight groups summarized the themes and content of their group work. (See below.)
<u>Closing comments and remarks</u>	

<p>Mike Larson, CPED Planning</p>	<p>Mike Larson summarized the reporting from the groups. He noted that there was recognition from the groups that change was occurring, but that that new development should feel part of the neighborhood. Attention was paid to the need for a choice of housing options for people, including existing neighborhood residents. Greater density was recognized as part of this future, but that scale and form of development mattered. Although Minnehaha Avenue was seen as the most appropriate location for taller buildings, Minnehaha Place was criticized in this regard, especially given its shallow setback. The immediate area around the 50th Street was seen as primarily a "neighborhood" or "park" station, not so much as a focal point of new development. A number of neighborhood gateways were envisioned, including that at 50th Street, at 52nd Street and Minnehaha, at 54th Street and Minnehaha, and at 54th Street and Hiawatha. Equally important were physical connections to Minnehaha Park and the issue of crossing Hiawatha on foot. The vacant property along Riverview Road was seen as an opportunity for change, but not appropriate for large scale development. Small scale commercial services were envisioned for 54th & Minnehaha, possibly extending north to 52nd Street.</p> <p>There was time for questions at the end. Discussion included the future of the Mn/DOT Riverview Road property. Introductions were made of developers who were present. The Council Member and NENA Board President made closing remarks.</p>
-----------------------------------	---

Writer: Mike Larson, CPED Planning

Cc: All in attendance

DRAFT