

Attention Residents!

Robberies near LRT stations

January 8, 2007

Facts:

There have been two aggravated robberies of persons since Christmas near the Minnehaha Park Station (E. 50th St. and Hiawatha Ave.) and the Lake Street/Midtown Station (E. Lake St. and Hiawatha Ave.).

In the first instance, at about 6:45 p.m. on Dec. 28, the suspect grabbed at a bag a female was carrying as she walked westward on E. 50th St. after leaving the station. When she refused to let go of the bag, he showed a knife and threatened her. He ran away when she repeatedly screamed at him. In the second incident, at about 9 p.m. on Jan. 4, a female was awaiting a train at the station when a man approached her and asked for money. When she told him she did not have any, he pulled her purse off her shoulder and ran away. Suspect information is limited.

The Minneapolis Police Department has taken the following steps:

- The Robbery Unit has investigators assigned to these cases.
- Four juveniles and one adult have been arrested as a result of investigations into robberies in the areas near LRT stations.
- We have increased police patrols at and near LRT stations in the precinct.

Metro Transit Police have also increased presence at LRT platforms.

What you can do:

Practice good home security and crime prevention techniques:

- Be extra cautious about your surroundings. Be aware of strangers loitering in your area around the bus stop or LRT platform.
- **Carry only what you need.** Do not carry large amounts of cash or unnecessary personal items.
- **Call 911** if you see anything suspicious. If you do not speak English, call 911 and tell them which language you speak so that they can get a translator to help.
- If you are a victim of robbery, report it immediately by calling 911.
- For more information about personal safety and other crime prevention techniques, contact the crime prevention specialist for your sector (www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/safe-teams.asp).
- For crime prevention information in Somali or Spanish, contact the following cultural outreach representatives:

Somali: Ahmed Hassan at 612-673-3202

Spanish: CPS John Reed at 612-673-5579

