



Agenda

Gateway Corridor Commission

April 14, 2011 - 3:30 PM

Woodbury City Hall, Birch Room
 8301 Valley Creek Road
 Woodbury, MN 55125

<u>Item</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Action Requested</u>
1. Introductions		
2. Approval of Agenda		Approval
3. Summary March 10, 2011 Meeting*		Approval
4. Consent Items		Approval
a. Checks and Claims*		
5. Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) Presentation	Mary Richardson, CTIB Administrator	Information
6. Gateway Corridor AA Update*	Washington County	
a. AA FAQ		Information
b. Additional (Eighth) Alternative		Discussion
7. Resolution of Support – St Croix River Bridge Crossing*	Washington County	Approval
8. Communications	Washington County	
a. Social Media*		Discussion
b. Google Analytics Update*		Information
9. Legislative Update	Ramsey County	Information
a. State		
b. Federal*		
10. Other	Washington County	Information
a. Meeting Summary*		
b. Bus Tour Update		
c. Commission Meeting Time		
11. Adjourn		

*Attachments

Gateway Corridor Commission
March 10, 2011
Woodbury City Hall, Birch Room

Members	Agency	Present
Rafael Ortega	Ramsey County	x
Lisa Weik	Washington County	x
Kathy Lantry	St Paul	
Will Rossbach	Maplewood	
Paul Reinke	Oakdale	
Mary Giuliani Stephens	Woodbury	x
Dean Johnston	Lake Elmo	x
Dan Kylo	West Lakeland	x
Randy Nelson	Afton	x
Brian Zeller	Lakeland	x
Victoria Reinhardt, Alternate	Ramsey County	
Gary Kriesel, Alternate	Washington County	x
Paul Rebholz, Alternate	Woodbury	
Brett Emmons, Alternate	Lake Elmo	
Dave Schultz, Alternate	West Lakeland	
Pat Snyder, Alternate	Afton	
Peg Larson, Alternate	Lakeland	

Ex-Officio Members	Agency	Present
Greg Watson	Woodbury Chamber of Commerce	x
Mike Amundson	Baytown Township	
Doug Stang	3M	
Richard McNamara	Oakdale Business and Professional Association	
Tim Ramberg	St. Croix County	x
Zach Schwartz	St Paul Chamber of Commerce	x

Others	Agency
Ted Schoenecker	Washington County
Mike Rogers	Ramsey County RRA
David Jessup	City of Woodbury
Josh Straka	Congresswoman McCollum's Office
Dave Schultz	West Lakeland Township
Roger Rebholz	St. Croix County
Brian Isaacson	Mn/DOT
Bill Goff	Mn/DOT
Steve Elmer	Metropolitan Council
Joe Salmon	Resident
Chris Salmon	Resident
Steve Allen	Resident

Rachel Horn	Congresswoman Bachmann's Office
Mike Longaecker	Woodbury Bulletin
Allen Lovejoy	City of St. Paul
Andy Gitzlaff	Washington County

The Gateway Corridor Commission convened at 3:35 p.m. by Chair Weik.

Agenda Item #1. Introductions

Introductions were made by those present.

Agenda Item #2. Approval of Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda. Motion made by Johnston to approve agenda. Seconded by Kylo. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #3. Summary February 10, 2011 Meeting

No changes were made to the February 10, 2011 meeting summary. Motion by Zeller to approve the meeting summary. Seconded by Ortega. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #4. Consent Items

- a. Checks and claims: Motion by Johnston to approve the consent items. Seconded by Ortega. **Approved.** Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5. I-94 East Highway Study Presentation

Bill Goff from Mn/DOT gave a PowerPoint presentation on the year-long I-94 East Corridor Study. He distributed printed copies of the presentation to those present and stated it would be available on the internet in the next week or two. Kriesel asked about the congestion going into downtown St. Paul. Goff said the study forecasts into downtown; however, they only have graphics from Highway 120 to the St. Croix River. Ortega asked what happens going into St Paul. Brian Isaacson said the pattern shows the highest volume coming into St. Paul between 130,000 and 140,000. He added that St. Paul volumes don't have much room to grow because they are already maxed out; however, the volumes further east will grow. Ortega asked why it wouldn't grow. Isaacson said the road only holds a certain number of vehicles. As travel time gets longer, people choose other transit or routes. Schoenecker said the transit study will have trip-time information. Kriesel asked if there is a way to have animated modeling. Isaacson said this was a beginning step to give the Alternative Analysis a base, and a simulation would follow after that study is complete. Goff will send a link to Schoenecker when this report is posted on the web.

Agenda Item #6. Gateway Corridor AA Update

Schoenecker referred to the status update memo in the packet. We have completed the first round of open houses, and we are compiling all the comments received. We have started meeting with the staff of communities for potential station locations and we have been getting requests from various entities to give a presentation on the Gateway Corridor and AA. He stated there is an additional presentation scheduled for the St Paul District One Council meeting on March 28. Weik asked when the Initiation Package would be submitted to the FTA. Schoenecker said it would happen in the next couple of months. Zeller asked about communicating to area residents and if we can do a better job of highlighting the fact that we're gathering information right now and there is not a predetermined

outcome. Giuliani-Stephens said the key is to be consistent that this will be data driven. Weik said one of the options is no build, and the word 'station' can also apply to bus stations. Kriesel said there is some confusion out there in that everyone assumes light rail; but there are also several communities that are passing resolutions of support and making significant investments. Watson said he agrees with all the comments being made and the Woodbury Chamber is in discussion with Tunheim Partners regarding comments received so that we can get the facts out to the area businesses. Giuliani-Stephens commented that 'bus rapid transit' is a new term and we could do a better job explaining the transit options.

Agenda Item #7. Resolution of Support

Item 7a. New Stillwater Bridge: Schoenecker asked for discussion on the Gateway Corridor's position of the Stillwater Bridge. Weik commented that we should stay focused on our mission. Johnston said that based on the data just presented by Mn/DOT, there would be a major impact without the new bridge, and we would be overlooking our responsibility if we didn't take a position on the Stillwater Bridge. Kriesel said the timing is now; Congresswoman Bachmann needs our support and a resolution of support would be very meaningful in Washington. Giuliani-Stephens asked if we want to support it given that we don't know if it's moving forward. Kriesel commented that it is a regional issue and it will have a great impact if it isn't built. Nelson agreed with Kriesel and Johnston He said the numbers are based on the Stillwater Bridge existing, but if it needs to be shut down due its condition it would have a great impact. Weik said she met with Congresswoman Bachmann when she was in DC recently and offered her support. Ortega asked what the best strategy to position this commission is; if we write a resolution could it be more generic than specific to make sure that we get a crossing, whatever that crossing is. Ramberg suggested to not specify the type and size of crossing. Rachel Horn from Congresswoman Bachmann's office said the local concern is something that other people are looking at. We have support from both sides of the river. Her bill says that a four-lane bridge is acceptable, it doesn't remove the protected status of the river, and there isn't a dollar amount attached to it. She said that they are open to any kind of support of resolution whether it is specific to the bridge, her bill, or a new crossing.

Motion by Zeller to have a resolution drafted. Seconded by Nelson. **Approved.** Motion carried. Nelson suggested the resolution include some wording to help the Gateway Corridor as well. Zeller suggested including that we're focused on our corridor, but we recognize this is a regional issue.

Item 7b. County Involvement in CTIB: Weik said the County Board has been receiving letters of resolution in support from area communities. Zeller asked what are the consequences to staying in and pulling out. Schoenecker said we can prepare a refresher course for next month on what CTIB is. Ortega said he agrees and that he has a biased opinion that we should stay in. He said this is a region and we need to behave as a region moving forward in small steps to avoid a crisis in 20 years. Weik asked to include an overview of the funding. Kriesel added that we should invite our legislative delegation to the overview. We need Federal, State, and local support, and if it's not going to be supported, we need to know. Giuliani-Stephens suggested the report include the financial ramifications if we choose not to stay in CTIB. Weik said to forward any additional review items to Schoenecker.

Agenda Item #8. Communications

Item 8a. Consultant Contract Social Media: Schoenecker said the contract approved last month did not include a social media aspect. The anticipated cost for Tunheim to create and maintain a Facebook

page is \$8,000. He said if the Commission is interested in this, we can provide more information. Weik said there are a lot of benefits to being on Facebook, but it may not be necessary right now. Ortega said we should try it if staff suggests this and the price is \$8,000. More than the money, this is another vehicle to receive comments and it is strong vehicle to get our message out. Weik said earlier might be better to help delineate where we are in the study; the different options or alternatives that are still viable, and that we have subcommittees as a part of the study. She added that she would support a Facebook page sooner rather than later. Ramberg asked if there would be an exit strategy to a Facebook page after the study is complete. Schoenecker said it wouldn't be linked to the study, but to this Commission. Zeller said he's leaning towards supporting it, but he's concerned that if the information isn't fresh and changing, it would lose its effectiveness. Schoenecker said we would look to this group for updated information as to what is happening in your community; however, we do think we have enough content to have something fresh at a minimum of once a week.

Motion by Ortega to approve Tunheim Partners to include the social media component on the scope of work approved last month. Seconded by Giuliani-Stephens.

Kyllo asked if the \$8,000 is this above the budgeted amount. Schoenecker said this is in addition to the original budget of \$25,000 and the money would come from the \$10,000 contingency budget. Kriesel asked if we would encourage WI to run a Facebook page either with ours or parallel to ours. Schoenecker said it would be up to the WI Gateway Coalition to create one. They can participate in ours as individuals if they have a Facebook page. Kriesel questioned if we could share some costs with WI. Ortega agreed stating it could also keep the content fresh and active. He suggested a resolution to move forward and look into these other factors before voting. Schoenecker clarified that the resolution that was motioned is what we are going to do and that staff will follow up with these other items. Ortega said yes, he just wants to see if we can be more cost effective and more efficient. Schoenecker said the sooner we can take that step the better; the upfront creation is the most work and we anticipate costs to go down. Ramberg said the WI Gateway Corridor's next meeting is Tuesday, March 15th, and he would like to put it on the agenda and have Schoenecker attend to answer questions. Kriesel and Johnston will be attending that meeting. Schoenecker said he will follow up with Ann Schell, the WI administrator.

Chair Weik called the question. **Motion carried.** All in favor.

Item 8b. Google Analytics Update: Schoenecker referred to the information provided in the packet stating it is updated information about the web site usage. Ortega asked if we could use the web site to address the stations question. Schoenecker said we have a FAQs section, but it is not to that detail. Staff will work with Tunheim Partners to add a specific FAQ to the transit page so it stays isolated to the study.

Agenda Item #9. Legislative Update

Item 9a. State: Rogers said everything is revolving around the budget right now. Dayton has some revenue increases and cuts to cover the five billion dollar deficit; however there is no agreement between the two sides at this point.

Item 9b. Federal: Rogers said a two-week resolution was passed to keep the government operating through the 18th. He said it has been a tough process because the house side really wants big spending

cuts and the senate side seems to want to make sure we realize the impacts of those cuts. On the transportation side, the service transportation extension act passed the house on March 3rd, which would re-extend the act until 2011. Rogers said the hope on this is to give everyone a chance to negotiate a larger six-term extension of the transportation bill. Weik said John Mica, Chair of the House Transportation Infrastructure Committee, gave a detailed overview of that bill saying he is hopeful to get something passed before September. Schoenecker said the Federal and State partners are very important; of the three-legged stool of Federal, State, and local funding, programs cuts have eliminated two of them for the next phase.

Agenda Item #10. Other

Item 10a. NACo Rail Conference, April 27-29: Weik referred to the flyer in the packet. The conference is open to anyone who wishes to attend. Schoenecker said most of the activities occur on the 28th with a short session in the morning of the 29th. Weik said Dan Fedderly, the PAC Vice Chair in WI and member of the NACo Transportation Steering Committee, said the Gateway Corridor would be discussed and highlighted at this conference.

Item 10b. Bus Tour: Weik asked if there is interest in having a tour of what a bus rapid transit would entail. We could have a bus come here and drive one of the two different routes. Kriesel said we should check with WI to see if they are interested in that and share the cost. Ortega said he likes the idea of doing our corridor so everyone can visualize it. Kriesel said we could ask major stakeholders to participate in the tour and sponsor it.

Item 10c. Media Information: Schoenecker said the packet contains a summary of the media hits we have had, whether it is print, online, radio interviews, or television interview. He said there was a video on Channel 4 that highlights the congestion in the I-94 corridor specifically east of 694. He added that this would be something we would link on Facebook. Zeller asked if there has been any communication or regular updates to the Governor's Office about our work. Schoenecker said there has been no direct communication with the Governor and their office; it's been more through our state representation. Weik said there have been recent meetings with Senator Ted Lillie, Representative Kathy Lohmer, and House Transportation Chair Mike Beard. Senator Lillie and Beard expressed support for bus rapid transit on I-94.

Agenda Item #11. Adjourn

Ortega moved to adjourn. Seconded by Kylo. **Approved.** Motion carried. Weik called the meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.



Agenda Item #4

DATE: April 4, 2011
TO: Gateway Corridor Commission
FROM: Staff
RE: Checks and Claims

Included below is a summary of the invoices that have been received since the previous meeting:

Gateway Corridor Commission – Open Houses

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2/18/11	The UPS Store	Printing of Gateway Brochure (50)	\$113.56
2/23/11	Cub Foods	Open House Refreshments	\$21.69
2/23/11	Caribou Coffee	Open House Refreshments	\$37.49
3/2/11	Cub Foods	Open House Refreshments	\$5.79
3/17/11	Chippewa Valley TC	Open House Room Rental	<u>\$75.00</u>
Total			\$253.53

Communications Contract (Tunheim Partners)

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Amount</u>
January 1 – March 31, 2011	\$11,926.25

Alternatives Analysis Contract (CH2M Hill)

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Amount</u>
January 1, 2011 – January 28, 2011	\$36,821.27

Detailed invoices can be made available upon request.

Action Requested: Approval of Claims and Checks



Agenda Item #5

DATE: April 4, 2011
TO: Gateway Corridor Commission
FROM: Staff
RE: Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) Presentation

At its last meeting, the Commission discussed supporting the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) and the member counties' involvement in that Board. To gain a better understanding and insight into the activities of CTIB, the Commission requested that a presentation be provided at the next Commission meeting.

Mary Richardson, CTIB Administrator, will give the Commission a presentation on CTIB's vision and structure, funding and process and grants awarded to date.

Action Requested: Information



Agenda Item #6

DATE: April 4, 2011
TO: Gateway Corridor Commission
FROM: Staff
RE: Gateway Corridor Alternatives Analysis Update

Gateway Corridor Frequently Asked Questions

Staff is in the process of revamping the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) that are currently posted on the Gateway Corridor's webpage. The FAQ's will continue to be located in the same place on the website, but they will be broken down into different sections – General Information, Alternatives Analysis Information and Commission Information.

Action Requested: Information

Additional (Eighth) Alternative

In the approved scope of work from CH2M Hill, they identified up to seven (7) different alternatives would be analyzed. Their proposal and cost estimates were based on this identified number.

As the study has moved through the public involvement process to date, seven alternatives (1 No-Build, 1 TSM and 5 Build) have been brought forward to the public for review and comment. In talking with agencies, residents, businesses and other PAC and TAC representatives, an eighth alternative has been identified for possible inclusion in the study for analysis. This additional alternative would be a Build alternative that would include a 'managed lane' from St Paul east to Hudson.

If an eighth alternative were added to the alternatives to carry forward, CH2M Hill would be performing work outside of their approved scope of work. CH2M Hill has provided a scope of work and cost estimate of \$99,917 for this added alternative.

The adopted budget for CH2M Hill does include \$50,031 amount for contingency use. All or a portion of these funds could be used towards this additional alternative scope of work.

Action Requested: Discussion



Agenda Item #7

DATE: April 4, 2011
TO: Gateway Corridor Commission
FROM: Staff
RE: St Croix River Bridge Crossing Resolution of Support

At its previous meeting, the Commission discussed the St Croix River Crossing bridge in Stillwater and what role the Commission should take, if any, in this project. The Commission asked staff to prepare a resolution of support for the St Croix River Bridge project and bring it to the Commission at their April meeting.

Attached is the drafted resolution of support.

Action Requested: Approval of the resolution supporting a new St Croix River Crossing.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A NEW ST. CROIX RIVER CROSSING

WHEREAS, the Gateway Corridor Commission (Commission) was established in March of 2009 to address transportation needs in the Gateway (I-94) Corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Gateway Corridor is the principal east/west route for local, regional and interregional traffic through Ramsey, Washington, and St. Croix Counties connecting St. Paul-Minneapolis to the eastern metropolitan area and Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Gateway Corridor has, is currently and is expected to experience continued robust employment and population growth; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has initiated an Alternatives Analysis study that looks at alternatives for an enhanced and a more robust transitway along the I-94 corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) has recently completed a “state of the corridor” study (Highway Study) along I-94 within the Gateway Corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Study identified existing traffic congestion along the corridor and that those congestion levels and duration would be expected to increase based on 2030 traffic volumes; and

WHEREAS, transportation improvements in the east metropolitan area, including the St Croix River Crossing, are needed to continue to support mobility, connectivity and economic vitality within the region.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby supports the construction of a new St. Croix River Crossing that promotes mobility, supports the safe and efficient movement of people and goods and encourages economic vitality in the east metropolitan area and throughout the Twin Cities Region.

Approved:

Chair

Date Approved by Commission

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of the Resolution presented to and adopted by the Gateway Corridor Commission at a duly authorized meeting thereof held on the _____ day of _____, 2011 as shown by the minutes of said meeting in my possession.

YES NO ABSTAIN ABSENT

ORTEGA
WEIK
LANTRY
ROSSBACH
REINKE
GIULIANI-STEVENS
JOHNSTON
KYLLO
NELSON
ZELLER



Agenda Item #8a

DATE: April 4, 2011
TO: Gateway Corridor Commission
FROM: Staff
RE: Social Media

At the March meeting, the Commission discussed the inclusion of a Facebook page within the Communications Contract with Tunheim at a cost not to exceed \$8,000.

Some of the discussion from the commission included:

- Is the contract cost too high? Does it take too much of the contingency? Is the consultant paid hourly based on the work that they do?
- Can the overall scope of the work be reduced? Can there be fewer hours?
- Is this the right time to develop a Facebook page?

This item was asked to be brought back to the April meeting for further discussion. Staff has prepared a short presentation (attached) to help discussions on this topic.

Action Requested: Discussion on the use of Facebook and work addendum to the Communications Contract with Tunheim Partners for a cost not to exceed \$8,000.



The Gateway Corridor Use of Facebook

Gateway Corridor
Commission
April 14, 2011

Discussion



- Current Outreach Tools
- What is Social Media?
- Tunheim Scope of Work
- Next Steps

facebook

Current Outreach



- Face-to-Face / Phone
 - One-on-one
 - Impromptu / sometimes arranged
 - Stakeholder Presentations
 - Identified in Strategic Communication Plan
 - As requested
 - Printed Material
 - Newsletters / brochures / other
- Lake Elmo Rotary
 - Oakdale City Council
 - Woodbury Chamber
 - Woodbury Lions
 - River Falls Rotary
 - Metro State Univ.

Current Outreach



- E-mail
 - Distribution lists (Strategic Communication Plan)
 - Monthly or more
- Gateway Website
 - Main source of info
 - Update as needed
 - Contact us (included in stakeholders list)



Current Outreach



- E-Newsletter
 - Sent to stakeholders via e-mail
 - Every 2-3 months
- Media
 - Earned media / press releases
 - As needed
- Open Houses
 - Focus on AA study
 - 3-4 months apart



Social Media



- Social Media
 - Internet based
 - Allows for creation and exchange of information
- More frequent interaction
- Open to comments from others
- Personal / businesses / organizations



Tunheim Scope of Work Facebook Page



- Budget - \$8,000 maximum
- Create page and provide on-going maintenance support
 - Post content bi-weekly at minimum
 - Timely
 - Relevant
 - Pushes info to people
 - Gain followers
- Link to Gateway website and other websites

- Budget
 - \$500 in ads to promote “Likes” (1st month only)
 - Billed hourly
 - Extension of staff
 - Assume 8 hrs/mo

Next Steps



- Discussion on use of social media as a tool
- Role of Tunheim and existing staff

MEMORANDUM

To: Gateway Corridor Commission
From: Tunheim Partners
Date: March 11, 2011
Re: Gateway Corridor Website February Analytics

The attached document outlines all important statistical information regarding the Gateway Corridor's website from the period of February 1-28, 2011. Below is a guide for understanding the numbers and percentages:

Visits: This is the total number of unique visitors to the website. Over the past month, there were 2,058 visitors to the Gateway Corridor website. This number increased significantly compared to last month, which had 322 unique visitors to the website. This jump is due in large part to the unveiling of the seven proposed transit routes. The average monthly visitors to the website since it launched has also increased 503 visitors.

Pageviews: This is the total number of pages that were viewed by visitors. In other words, each visitor will view anywhere from 1-5 pages during a visit. Over the past month, there were 6,430 pageviews on the Gateway Corridor website. This number of pageviews is significantly more compared to January's pageviews at 885, and increases the monthly average to 1,633 pageviews.

Pages/Visit: This means that the average person visited 3.12 of the pages within the Gateway Corridor website. This number increased compared to January's pageviews at 2.75.

Percent Bounce Rate: The bounce rate represents the number of people who visit the Gateway Corridor website, view one page (generally the homepage) and leave the site completely. February's bounce rate was 29.35 percent. This number decreased when compared to January's percent bounce rate at 32.61 percent. A desired bounce rate that is less than 50 percent is ideal, and to see February's percent bounce rate decrease, is great.

Avg. Time on Site: The average person spent just over two and a half minutes (2:32) on www.thegatewaycorridor.com for February. Generally, the average person spends approximately one minute on a new website. February's number shows visitors are spending more time reading content, navigating the website, and learning more about the Gateway Corridor. This number increased from January, where the average time on the site was 2:23 minutes.

Percent New Visits: The percentage of new visits for the month of February for the Gateway Corridor website was 78.62 percent. February shows an increase of nearly 35 percent of new visits compared to January's 58.07 percent. The percent of new visits remains an enduring number since the Gateway Corridor's site-launch seven months ago. It shows there continues to be a desire to learn about the Gateway Corridor. Averages for percent of new visits since the

website's launch and for 2011 remain between 68-70 percent.

Traffic Sources Overview:

Search Engines, Referring Sites, and Direct Traffic make up the three descriptors and determine the source of where the visitor found the Gateway Corridor website link. Search engine tools are how 13.9 percent of February visitors found the Gateway Corridor website – this number results from people purposefully searching for the website, and most importantly, finding it. Referring sites, which in the past have made up the majority of website traffic, resulted in 59.82 percent; a significant increase compared to January's 33.23 percent. These are people who clicked a referral link (from an email, press release, etc.). Finally, direct traffic made up 26.29 percent, which represents the number of people who typed the link into their web browser.

Referring Sites:

The following sites have contributed to the most referring links that successfully directed traffic to the Gateway Corridor website in February:

- Star Tribune – 778 (article, *I-94 transit proposals narrowed to seven* 2.16.2011)
- Pioneer Press – 71 (February articles in 'Daily Briefing')
- City of Woodbury website – 64
- City of Eau Claire website – 31
- MinnPost.com – 28 (articles, *Input wanted on transit options for I-94 corridor to points east, Transit options listed for I-94 to and from parts east*)

The February numbers for referring sites were largely the result of earned media. Placements in the *Star Tribune* and *MinnPost.com* regarding the newly unveiled transit options, helped drive traffic to the website.

Content Overview:

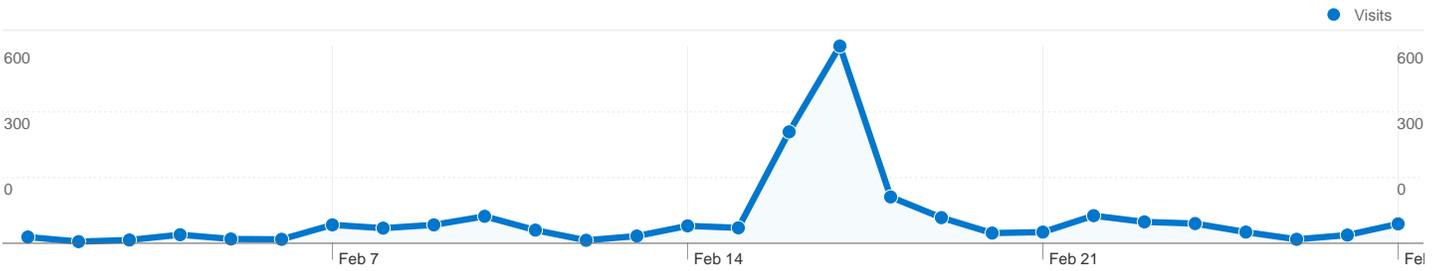
This section of the Google Analytics shows which pages within the Gateway Corridor website visitors go to most often. The following numbers show how many visitors clicked each page in February:

- Homepage- 2,219 (34.51 percent)
- Transit study page- 1,947 (30.28 percent)
- About the Gateway Corridor page- 606 (9.42 percent)
- Commission Members page- 364 (5.66 percent)
- Recent News page- 355 (5.52 percent)

E-mail Sign-ups:

The Gateway Corridor gained an additional 17 newsletter recipients through the month of February. A total of 207 subscribed contacts have signed-up for the newsletter.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the Gateway Corridor website, or any of the Google analytic terms.



Site Usage

2,058 Visits

29.35% Bounce Rate

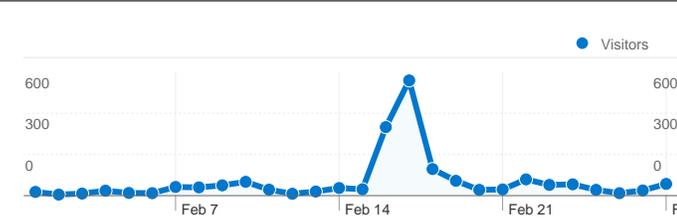
6,430 Pageviews

00:02:32 Avg. Time on Site

3.12 Pages/Visit

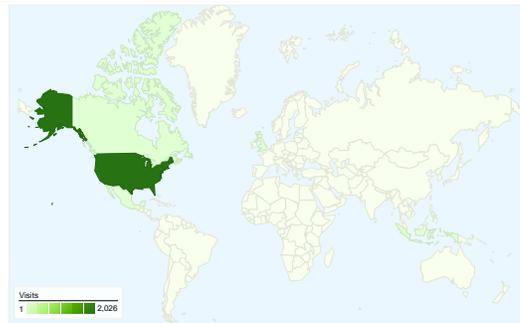
78.62% % New Visits

Visitors Overview



Visitors
1,690

Map Overlay



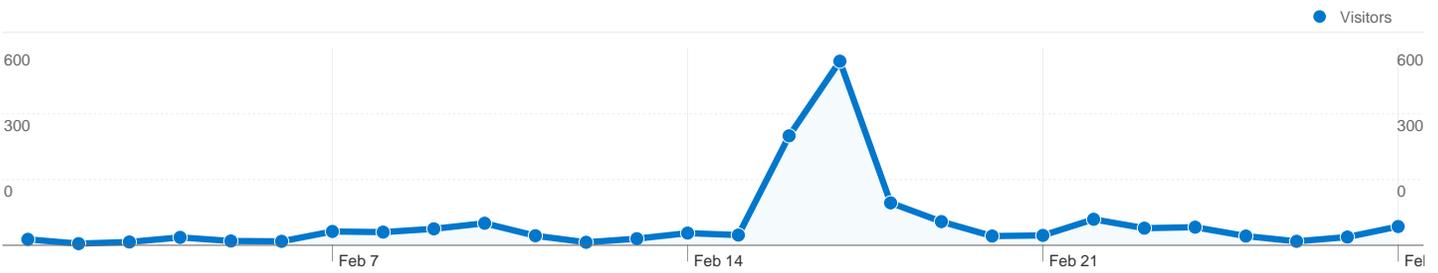
Traffic Sources Overview



- **Referring Sites**
1,231.00 (59.82%)
- **Direct Traffic**
541.00 (26.29%)
- **Search Engines**
286.00 (13.90%)

Content Overview

Pages	Pageviews	% Pageviews
/	2,219	34.51%
/html/transit-study-gateway-	1,947	30.28%
/html/about-gateway-	606	9.42%
/html/commission-	364	5.66%
/html/recent-news.php	355	5.52%



1,690 people visited this site

2,058 Visits

1,690 Absolute Unique Visitors

6,430 Pageviews

3.12 Average Pageviews

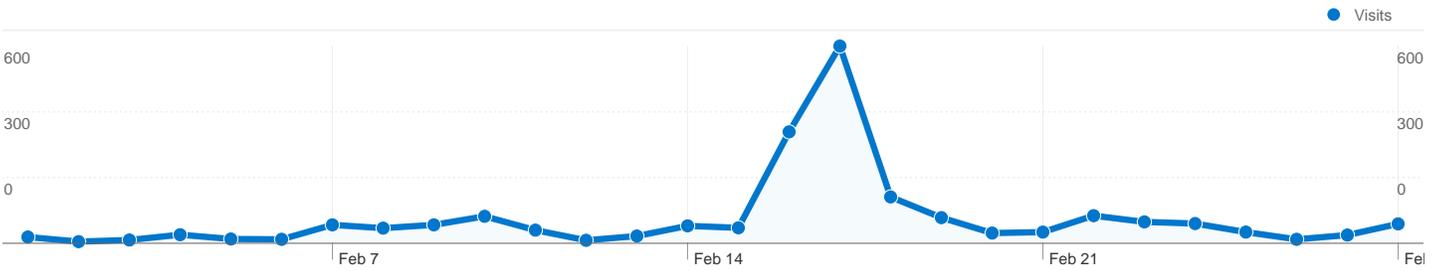
00:02:32 Time on Site

29.35% Bounce Rate

78.62% New Visits

Technical Profile

Browser	Visits	% visits	Connection Speed	Visits	% visits
Internet Explorer	1,048	50.92%	Cable	673	32.70%
Firefox	575	27.94%	Unknown	570	27.70%
Chrome	203	9.86%	T1	421	20.46%
Safari	200	9.72%	DSL	363	17.64%
Camino	11	0.53%	Dialup	31	1.51%



All traffic sources sent a total of 2,058 visits

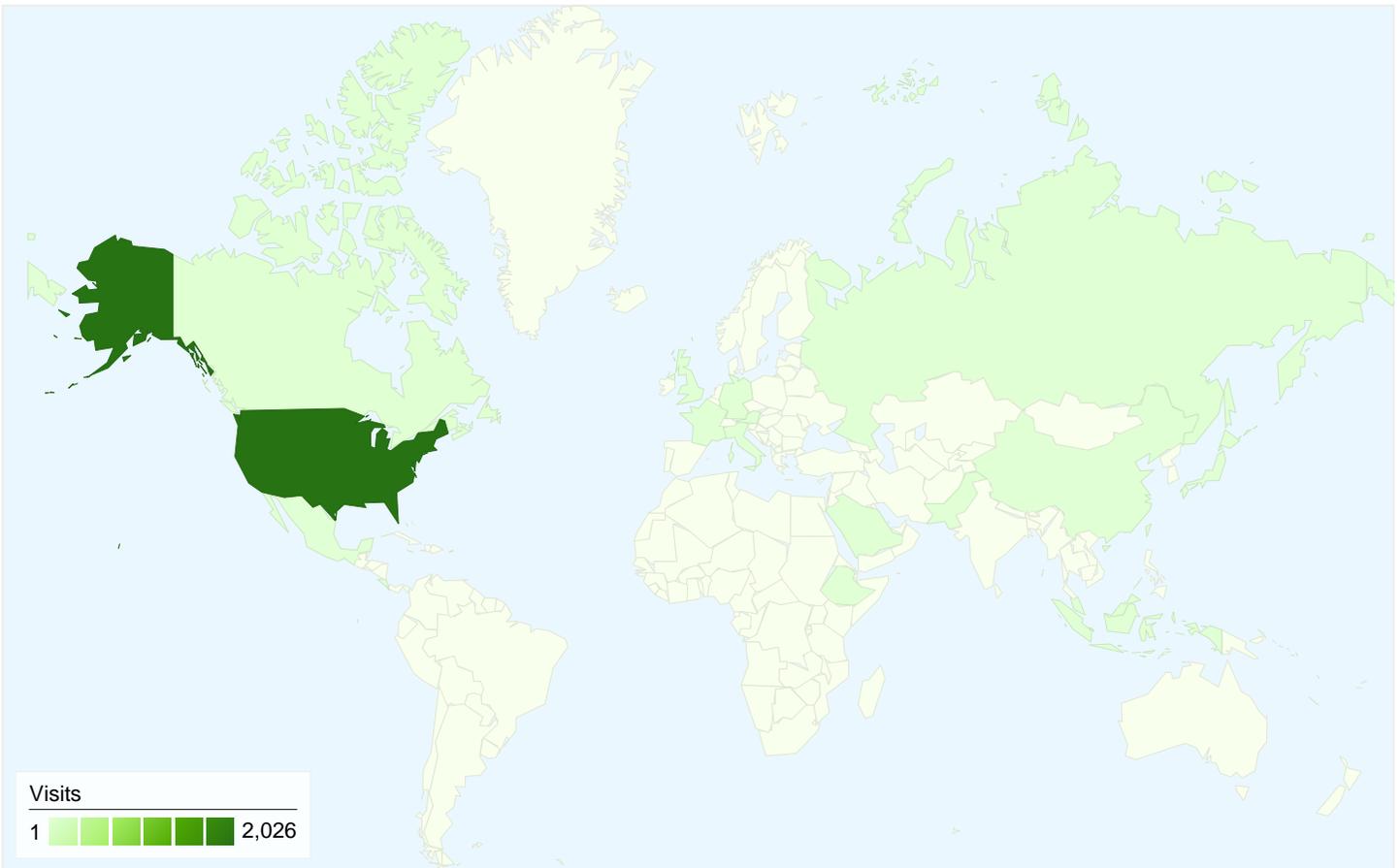
-  26.29% Direct Traffic
-  59.82% Referring Sites
-  13.90% Search Engines



- Referring Sites
1,231.00 (59.82%)
- Direct Traffic
541.00 (26.29%)
- Search Engines
286.00 (13.90%)

Top Traffic Sources

Sources	Visits	% visits	Keywords	Visits	% visits
startribune.com (referral)	772	37.51%	gateway corridor	120	41.96%
(direct) ((none))	541	26.29%	gateway corridor commission	15	5.24%
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Agenda Item #9b

DATE: April 8, 2011
TO: Gateway Corridor Commission
FROM: Staff
RE: Federal Update

Include below is the latest federal update from Lockridge Grindal Nauen.

Action Requested: Information

Federal Update – Week of March 28th, 2011

CONGRESS IN ACTION

Congress returned from a week-long recess to resume budget negotiations and take up other legislative initiatives. Congressional leaders have promised to avoid another short-term funding measure for fiscal 2011, but they are running out of time to complete spending negotiations and avoid a government shutdown by Friday April 8th. It's the third time this year that Congress has faced shutting down the government. The current continuing appropriations law expires on April 8. House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) rejected suggestions made by Democrats that the broad outlines of a deal had been agreed upon to cut \$33 billion in fiscal 2011 spending, but indicated that negotiations are continuing.

Fiscal Year 2011 Budget:

House Republicans and Senate Democrats have not been able to come to a quick resolution on fiscal 2011 appropriations, and House Leadership must now weigh their desire for big spending cuts against the risks of a government shutdown. Despite the emergence of a tentative plan to cut \$33 billion in spending, House Speaker John A. Boehner spent much of Thursday insisting that no deal was imminent. Still, Boehner did not take the \$33 billion figure off the table, nor did he move to hinder talks between congressional leaders and the White House. House Republican leaders may be trying to gauge support for a compromise, which is expected to fall short of Republican hopes for \$61.5 billion in cuts, even as they try to press for additional concessions from Democrats.

With one week before the current spending law expires both parties are wary of pulling the plug on negotiations, for fear of risking a government shutdown. Boehner appears to have strong support from many Republican freshmen, although it remains unclear how many of these newcomers would back a compromise measure that did not deliver GOP-preferred cuts and policy changes. Leaders in both Chambers have said they want the current stopgap funding law to be the last short-term continuing resolution this fiscal year. House Republicans may soon release a more comprehensive spending plan



that could take some of the pressure off the current appropriations debate for freshmen and other conservatives.

Transportation:

The House began debate Thursday, March 31st, on a four-year reauthorization of federal aviation programs. The bill is set to pass on Friday, April 1st. It will then need to be reconciled with the two-year FAA bill passed by the Senate earlier this month. Lawmakers worked through a host of amendments to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) bill, including several proposals that were potentially contentious. Before the House votes Friday to pass the bill, the Chamber is likely to vote on an amendment by Steven LaTourette, (R-OH) and Jerry Costello (D-IL) that would remove a provision in the bill regarding union elections. The House adopted several amendments on Thursday, including Chairman John Mica's (R-FL) broad manager's amendment. From fiscal 2011 through fiscal 2014, the underlying bill would authorize \$12.2 billion for airport planning and development and noise compatibility programs, \$10.5 billion for air navigation facilities and equipment, and \$36.9 billion for operations.

A handful of Republicans from rural states expressed their support of the Essential Air Service and voiced concern about a provision in the bill that would sunset the program on October 1, 2013, except for in Alaska and Hawaii. The Essential Air Service provides subsidies to airliners to fly to small, rural communities where service would otherwise not be profitable.

Also on Thursday, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX) withdrew her amendment that would require the 20 largest airports in the country to have at least three air traffic controllers working when the airfield is operating.

SPECIAL NEWS, NOTES, AND EVENTS

Special Event Honoring Congressman Chip Cravaack

Monday March 28th, 2011

The Minneapolis office of Lockridge Grindal Nauen hosted an event honoring the new 8th District Congressman Chip Cravaack. Congressman Cravaack is a Member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; Homeland Security Committee and the Science, Space and Technology Committee.

Aviation Rule Making Committee

Wednesday March 30th 2011

Lockridge Grindal Nauen Federal Relations Director Dennis McGrann participate in the latest meeting of the Federal Aviation Administration's Executive Committee of the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC). The committee discussed possible restructuring of the ARAC being considered in the pending FAA reauthorization bill. McGrann was appointed to the ARAC Executive Committee in 2009.

Staff Updates:

Jeremy Bratt, Legislative Director for Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)

Mr. Bratt was hired by the recently elected Connecticut Democrat to head up his legislative staff. Jeremy has a long history of working for Minnesota Members. He began working for Senator Mark Dayton as his Agriculture Legislative Aid before moving over to the Staff of Senator Byron Dorgan of North Dakota. When Congressman Tim Walz (D-MN01) was elected in 2006, Bratt joined his team as Legislative



Director. From there he transitioned to the senior staff of Then-Chairman Colin Peterson (D-MN07) of the House Agriculture Committee.

Paul Blocher, Legislative Director, Congressman Chip Cravaack (R-MN08).

Mr. Blocher transitioned to the staff of the recently elected Congressman after he was previously on the staff of Congresswoman Michele Bachmann (R-MN06) as her senior Legislative Assistant.



Agenda Item #10a

DATE: April 7, 2011
TO: Gateway Corridor Commission
FROM: Staff
RE: Summary of Meetings

Included below is a summary of the Commission and AA Study meetings through June

Month	Meeting	Date
February	Gateway Commission	February 10
	AA TAC	February 16
	AA Open House – Union Depot	February 23
	AA Open House – Woodbury City Hall	February 24
March	AA Open House – Eau Claire	March 1
	AA Open House - Hudson	March 2
	Gateway Commission	March 10
	AA TAC	March 23
April	AA TAC	April 13
	Gateway Commission	April 14
May	AA TAC	May 11
	Gateway Commission	May 12
	AA PAC	May 25
June	AA TAC	June 8
	Gateway Commission	June 9
	AA PAC	June 25

Action Requested: Information