



GATEWAY CORRIDOR



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Greetings!

Work on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is picking up steam. The latest news is here. Watch for updates this fall on public meetings and more opportunities to get involved.



Community Advisory Committee to Meet Aug. 26

The Gateway Corridor Commission welcomes 22 people to the new Community Advisory Committee.



The CAC will advise policy makers on several aspects: how to best inform the public about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, meaning, and conclusions; identifying potential issues in the corridor that will need to be addressed in the Draft EIS; providing information related to potential social, economic, or community issues as a result of the transitway; and finally, providing input to the Commission

on key project decisions.

The first CAC meeting is set for Aug. 26, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Conway Recreation Center, 2090 Conway Ave., St. Paul. The next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 10, 2014. These meetings are open to the public.

See the list of members and the diverse interests they represent, plus learn more about the CAC [here](#). Meeting dates, agendas and summary notes will be located [here](#).

DEIS Process Reviews Choices, Investigates Issues

The Gateway Corridor Draft Environmental Impact Statement is a document that will provide a full discussion of the environmental impacts of constructing and operating the transit alternatives under consideration, bus rapid transit and light rail transit.



It is normal during this phase to explore changes to the project based on more thorough review and community feedback. As an example, the Federal Transit Administration has asked the Gateway Corridor Commission to spend more time evaluating the 7th Street/White Bear Avenue alignment. And, based on community feedback, the Commission will consider relocating the Oakdale station site. A map detailing alignments that have been considered is available on the Transit Study page under [Study Materials](#).

The East 7th Street/White Bear Avenue option had been dismissed during the Alternatives Analysis phase because it did not perform as well as other alternatives in terms of cost, and had comparatively greater property and roadway impacts.

During the scoping phase, the East 7th / White Bear Avenue alignment will be evaluated based on its feasibility, costs, benefits, and potential impacts. This alternative could be dismissed in scoping based on those

findings, or if it is inconsistent with the purpose and need of the project.

Learn more about the DEIS scoping process with the scoping handout available on our [Transit Study page](#) under Study Materials.

Watch for additional opportunities for public input in future e-newsletters.

About the Gateway Corridor Commission: The Commission was created in 2009 to study and plan alternative transportation options for the area along Interstate 94 in the eastern metro of the Minneapolis-St. Paul region. The Commission is comprised of local elected officials and business leaders. The Commission recently identified a preferred route for a fixed-guideway alternative in the Gateway Corridor. The project seeks to improve transit service from the Union Depot in St. Paul to the eastern metro, while providing a focal point for more concentrated development as the region grows.