The Midtown Community Works Partnership

Gail Dorfman
Commissioner, Hennepin County Board
Chair, Midtown Community Works Partnership

Railvolution 2013
Midtown Community Works Partnership

Members

• Public
  o City of Minneapolis
  o Hennepin County
  o Metropolitan Council

• Private
  o Allina Hospitals & Clinics
  o Wells Fargo
  o Target Corporation

• Nonprofit
  o Midtown Greenway Coalition
  o Lake Street Council
Midtown Community Works Partnership

The Partnership Strategy: Unify public policy around a common vision for the Midtown Greenway-Lake Street Corridor and mobilize the public and private investments necessary to implement this vision.
The Midtown Rail Corridor
The Midtown Greenway Today
The Lake Street Midtown Greenway Framework Plan (1999)

Placemaking and...

Placemaking is about creating places that are unique, identifiable and memorable - places that are worthy of our affection - encouraging a strong sense of community, a pride of ownership and responsibility to be carried forward for future generations.

Connections

Creating a network of connecting links including:
- Infrastructure Connections - network of streets and bridges.
- Transit Connections - bus, future LRT, trolley and other ‘people movers.’
- Parks, Trails and Open Space Connections - unique mix of existing and new public green space.
Lake Street Midtown Greenway Framework Plan (1999)

“The Midtown Greenway and Lake Street are interdependent corridors...”
The Midtown Greenway Vision

- New Development
- Facing Greenway
- 29th Street Improvements
- Pedestrian Promenade
- Neighborhood Overlook
- Transit Corridor
- Ped. Trail
- Greenway Bike Trail
- Ramp to Trail
- Pedestrian Promenade
- Landscape Gallery
- New Development

Landscape Gallery

Pedestrian Promenade

Neighborhood Overlook

29th Street Improvements

Facing Greenway

New Development
The Midtown Greenway

- Voted #1 Bike Path in America
  - Active Times / USA Today

- 5.5-miles
- 4,000-5,000 users per day
- 1.5 million users per year
- Plowed in winter
The Sabo Bridge
Midtown Corridor Development

• Development completed or under construction (1999-2013)
  o Residential Units: 2,780
  o Commercial SF: 844,000

• Proposed:
  o Residential Units: 1,050
  o Commercial SF: 50,000+

Focus Area 7

Chicago Avenue & Lake Street: Revitalizing the Commercial Core

Illustrations courtesy of Ray Harris and IICE
Midtown Exchange
Midtown Exchange

• $192 million Development

• Commercial:
  o Allina Health Systems headquarters
  o Hennepin County Service Center
  o Sheraton Hotel
  o Midtown Global Market - 62 businesses operated by local entrepreneurs

• Residential Units:
  o 87 condominiums
  o 219 apartments
  o 56 townhomes
Midtown Exchange
Greenway, Freewheel Bike Center, CEPRO Community Space
Then: The Urban Village Site in 1999
Urban Village Concept Plan 1999

Concept plan of proposed housing mix
Now: Current & Future Development

Hennepin to Lyndale: Development along the Midtown Greenway
2003-2013: Midtown Lofts, City Apartments, Blue, Lumen on Lagoon, & more...
Under Construction: Elan of Uptown, Track 29, The Walkway, Lime & more..
Green Space in the Midtown Greenway

**MCW Arbor Day Volunteers**

**Vera’s Garden**

**Soo Line Community Garden**
Midtown Transit Studies

• 2000 & 2001: Feasibility Studies
• 2007: Minneapolis Streetcar Plan
• 2012-2014: Midtown Alternatives Analysis

Conceptual Rendering of the Midtown Greenway Streetcar. Source: Midtown Greenway Coalition
Midtown Alternatives Analysis
Midtown Alternatives Analysis

Three Options:
1. Midtown Greenway Streetcar
   - Estimated at $40 million per mile
   - 13 minutes (current bus service is 42 minutes)
2. Lake Street Enhanced Bus
   - Estimated at $2 million per mile
   - 32 minutes (current bus service is 44 minutes)
3. Combination: Streetcar + Enhanced Bus

LPA Decision: February 2014
See you in Minneapolis in 2014