Twin Cities Metro

- >3 million people in seven county metro area
- ~60% of state population
- Substantial growth expected
- Emerging markets, immigrants, aging population & millennials
From Hiawatha to a System
Evolution of Linkage

- **Transit**
  - Transportation > Transportation & Development > Transportation > Transportation & Development

- **Rich Environment of Institutions & Funds**
  - Affordable housing
  - TOD
  - Cleanup funds

- **History of Regionalism**
  - Shifting definition
  - Success of Counties Transit Improvement Board
Evolving Approaches: Transportation + Land Use

- Hiawatha: Catching up
- Central: Just in time
- Southwest & future corridors: Ahead of the curve
Hiawatha LRT

- Opened in 2004
- Great success for ridership
- Station Area Plans after line was operational
- Zoning overlay slow in coming

Minnehaha-Hiawatha Community Works

- December 2006
- >> Corridor Vision & Implementation Plan
New Collaboration & Strategies on Central Corridor

- Investing Beyond the Rail
  Philanthropic organizations (McKnight, St. Paul & others) unite to support Central Corridor

- Central Corridor Investment Framework
  Multiple planning efforts combined in investment master plan matching resources to opportunities
Key Elements

• Local philanthropic leadership
  • Pushing for bigger vision
  • Aligning with federal & national philanthropic opportunities
  • Investing
• Two-county, two-city, state & metro & philanthropic alliance
• Explicit commitment to equity
  • Affordable housing
  • Business mitigation
  • Stations in low-income areas
• Strong, explicit linkage to land use
• Recognition of local plans >>> template
• Set stage for Sustainable Communities application
• Explicit goal of eliciting private investment
• Proved we could work together
National Collaborations Emerge

Living Cities Integration Initiative
22 Nationally-renowned Philanthropic and Financial Institutions
Resources: $80 million in 2010

Partnership for Sustainable Communities
- Housing & Urban Development
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Department of Transportation
Living Cities Grant Programs

Hiawatha, Central and Southwest Corridors
• $14.3m Affordable Housing/TOD, Preservation & New Construction (loans)

ULI-Minnesota for Southwest LRT Community Works
• $255,000 for Corridor Development Assessment and Investment Framework
CoO Policy Board Participants

**Area Foundations**
- McKnight Foundation, St. Paul Foundation, et al.

**Authorities & Municipalities**

**Housing Agencies & Organizations**
- Minnesota Housing, Family Housing Fund, et al.

**Regional Business Development**
- Regional Council of Mayors, Itasca Project, et al.

**Community Development Organizations**
- Twin Cities LISC, Neighborhood Development Center, et al.

**Community Engagement Organizations**
- Alliance for Metropolitan Stability, Minnesota Center for Neighborhood Organizing, Nexus Community Partners

**Institutional Research & Evaluation**
- U of M-CURA/-CTS, Wilder Research, et al.
Corridors of Opportunity

Goals
• Align transit planning with land use, affordable housing, workforce, and economic development
• Engage historically under-represented communities
• Expand access to jobs and affordable housing
• Enhance the region’s ability to compete in the global economy
• Align public & philanthropic resources, leverage robust private investment
• Accelerate expansion of the transit system
• Create a regional plan for sustainable development

Principles
• Equity
• Economic Competitiveness
• Transparency
• Sustainability
• Collaboration
• Innovation
Challenge: Embedding Elements into an Ongoing Regional Approach

- Embracing vision of federal Sustainable Communities Principles
- Beyond muddling through!
Southwest LRT
Community Works
$800,000/2011-2013

- Vision & Goals
- Joint Communications & Engagement Plan
- Transitional Station Area Action Plans
- Storm Water Options
- Market Strategy
- Corridor Investment Framework
- Community Works Planner in LRT Project Office
Corridors of Opportunity

- Hiawatha
- Northstar
- Central
- Southwest
- Bottineau
- Cedar Ave BRT
- Gateway/I-94 East
Community Engagement

- New voices at the table
- Beyond just participation
- Results for the community
- Funded activity - $720,000

Local Implementation Capacity Grants

- Predevelopment funds: 2-3 catalytic projects & development tools along Corridors of Opportunity
- Affordable housing, local entrepreneurs (not just Subways), jobs . . . for better communities
- $953,000

Program of Projects
Bending Investment Curves

Existing funding streams harnessed to a new model of regional development

- TOD
- AHIF
- ERF
- MHFA
- Active Living
- CDBG
- Bikes
- Livable Communities
- Public Works
- Others

Bloomington Central Station

Hiawatha Commons – workforce housing near Lake Street/Midtown Station
Accomplishments to Date

- Broader base of participation
- Explicit commitments to equity issues
- Addition of 3 stations serving low-income areas
- List of priority supportive investments
- Inclusion of Corridors of Opportunity principles in Met Council’s transit guidelines
- $34m Met Council TOD fund
- Workforce, job access & small entrepreneur goals
- Federal Preferred Sustainability Status
- Regional consensus
Lessons

- Relationships
- Shared vision
- Evolution of regional sensibilities
- Pragmatism
Testing the Limits of Intentionality

- Riding with societal trends
  - Demographics
  - Energy costs

- 21st Century Alternative to Levittown
  - Inclusive not Exclusive
    - Jobs, housing, economic development
  - Sustainable not Profligate
Thank You!

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- www.mnrides.org
- www.metrocouncil.org/planning/COO/index.htm
- www.funderscollaborative.org