

### Bottineau Community Works Steering Committee

April 6, 2021



# Agenda for approval

- 1. Welcome/Introductions
- 2. Adopt agenda
- 3. Committee overview role, direction & scope
- 4. Overview of past community engagement & outcomes
- 5. Draft BTIC 2021 workplan
- 6. Future agenda items & meeting times

# Steering Committee Overview

### Community Works program goals







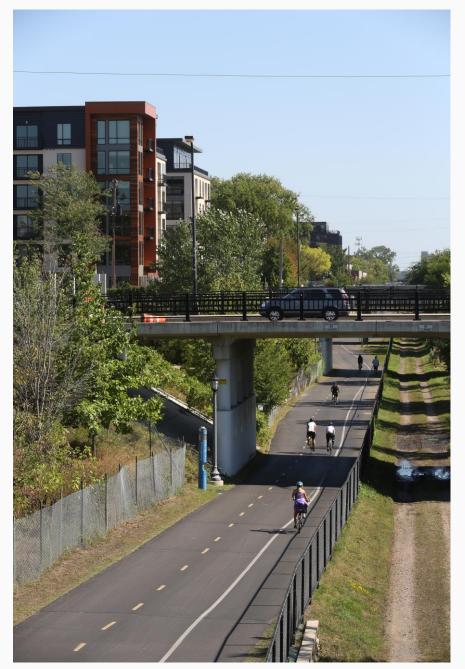
**SUSTAINABILITY** 



STRENGTHEN AND **CONNECT** PLACES AND PEOPLE



LEAD COLLABORATIVE **PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION** 





### Midtown Community Works

## Southwest Community Works - Hopkins





Southwest Community Works – Trail Improvements

 Trail improvements in St. Louis Park and Hopkins :

Beltline Boulevard (SLP)

Wooddale Avenue (SLP)

Blake Road (Hopkins)

 Partnership between HC, Three Rivers Park District, cities and Met Council

 Construction is happening as part of the LRT project



## **BCW** Steering Committee: role, direction, &

- maximize public benefits, improve economic equity, protect the natural environment, and strengthen communities
- ensure that community input and community and economic development priorities inform and influence all aspects of the transit project
- support development plans, and infrastructure investments of members
- leverage private sector investment, public funding and other grant dollars
- support infrastructure, development, and public space improvements in LRT station areas
- liaison with Blue Line LRT Extension Corridor Management Committee to ensure policy coordination

# Overview of past community engagement activities

#### Hennepin County's history of robust engagement in the corridor

#### Recognizing:

- Corridor assets in government, organizations, businesses, programs, and people.
- Existing partnerships can be leveraged to ensure representation of the corridor's diversity.
- The practical knowledge and experience of the families and people who live, work, learn, and travel in the corridor as an essential component for successful planning.





#### Two major bodies of work

- Station area planning
  - 2014 2016
  - Total of 4900 participants
  - A community working group per each station area
  - Health Equity Engagement Cohort

- Advanced planning
  - 2016 2020
  - Total of 6200 participants
  - Integrated throughout the FTA TOD tasks
  - Direct participation by community and cultural groups along with community-based artists.



#### Advanced planning engagement tactics examples

building from station area plans towards concepts and policies for implementation

- TOD zoning:
  - Developer & property owner interviews
  - Community workshops
- Infrastructure plans:
  - Wikimap
  - Pop-ups and focus groups
  - Open house

- Cultivate Bottineau:
  - Local artists
  - Community participation
- Community priorities:
  - Surveys
  - Feedback session



#### BCW Community Priorities

- Commercial and business nodes: make it easier to bike/walk to businesses; strengthen existing businesses; support creation of new businesses.
- Walk, bike and roll connections: connect sidewalks to improve walkability; improve connections to public transit for walking and biking; increase bike connections to local destinations.
- Housing: preserve existing housing (single family homes and rental); encourage new TOD near transit; create more walking/biking connections between affordable housing and public transit.

#### BCW Community Priorities

- Marketing and branding: attract investments; develop pride in the corridor and its cultural assets; create a shared vision.
- Innovative financing: identify strategies to minimize resident and business displacement; create a resource guide; provide technical assistance to encourage developers and new developers
- Community Engagement: having a community voice in the planning and implementation was identified as the top priority over all the strategies.

# Growing relationships over time and building community capacity



- Station area planning:
  - 19 community contracts
- Advanced planning:
  - 6 community contracts + 200 artists
- Route options engagement:
  - 14 community contracts



Draft Bottineau Technical Implementation Committee (BTIC) workplan

#### BTIC Workplan: Objectives

- Expand wealth-building opportunities for residents and business owners
- Create sustainable development that meets community goals and desires
- Increase access to, and skills readiness for, family-sustaining jobs
- Make our communities more walkable and bikeable
- Amplify the success and vibrancy of cultural and community assets

#### BTIC Workplan: Focus Areas

**TOD Development**: continue to assist cities in implementing zoning changes in station areas, explore commercial affordability tools, implement corridor marketing and branding.

- over \$17 million in investments in corridor development since 2014

**Small Business Support:** Continue supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs through outreach, technical assistance

- 353 grants totaling \$3,221,000 in COVID relief and recovery grants; \$250,000 in McKnight funding to support small businesses in station areas

**Workforce Connections:** restart work begun in 2020; connect job seekers to training and employment opportunities along the Bottineau Corridor

**Infrastructure Investments:** identify resources to implement priority infrastructure projects; station area planning for new stations as identified in alignment changes.

**Placemaking:** build on positive experiences of Cultivate Bottineau, support cultural and community assets

#### BTIC Workplan: Process



Build a shared understanding among public agencies and key stakeholders of priorities/issues, potential tools and strategies



Identify local expertise and/or momentum



Identify assets/strategies with the most potential, and most community support, to achieve the objectives above



Recommend strategies to move forward for collaborative implementation by BCW and community partners in 2022 and beyond

# Future agenda items + next meeting date

#### What topics would be of greatest interest to members?

- Zoning and development planning work + city examples of how it is being used
- Innovative Financing work (Met Council TOD office)
- Housing tools (Hennepin County Housing)
- Other suggestions?

#### Potential meeting date: 2:30 – 4:00 PM, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month

quarterly, every other month, monthly, as needed?

#### Questions

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