



INFORMATION - COMMUNIQUÉ

For Immediate Release
Thursday, December 22, 2016

RAPID TRANSIT CONTINUES MOVING FORWARD

Preferred bidder selected to undertake functional study for second rapid transit corridor

Winnipeg, MB – Expansion of the City’s rapid transit network continued today with the naming of MMM Group Limited as the preferred bidder to undertake a functional study to examine possible routes for a rapid transit corridor connecting east Winnipeg with the downtown.

Following a Request For Proposal (RFP) process which concluded in August 2016, WSP | MMM was selected as the preferred bidder by achieving the highest score for its combined technical and financial submission for the project.

A functional study sets out the conceptual design, identifies associated transportation improvements as well as the broad implementation strategy for the Eastern Transitway. It represents the next step toward the further implementation of rapid transit in Winnipeg.

This project will also include a review of road network improvements including functional designs for both an extension to Stadacona Avenue, and upgrades/modifications to the existing Red River crossing (Louise Bridge). The project also includes a functional study for a new transit garage.

Significant public engagement will be a cornerstone of this project, setting a new standard for thoroughness and making extensive use of best practices, all under the purview of the City’s Office of Public Engagement.

Work on the study will be undertaken throughout the next year, with an anticipated completion date of Spring 2018.

Visit Winnipegtransit.com for more information.

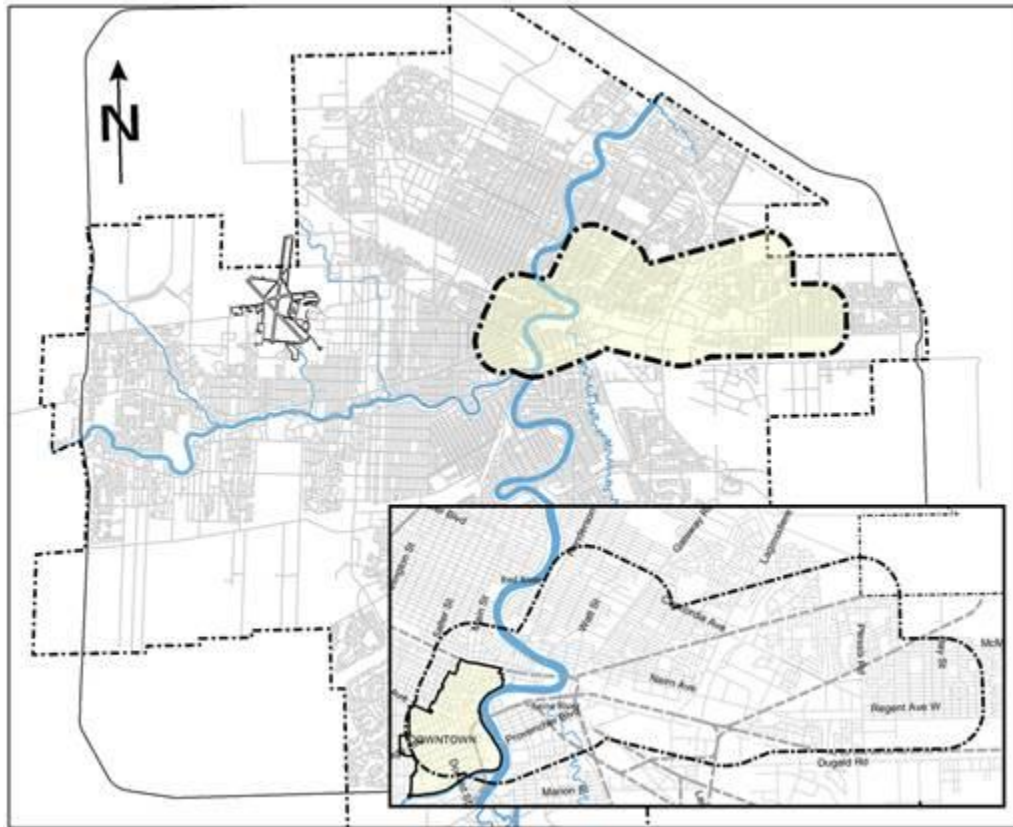
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BACKGROUND – RAPID TRANSIT

- The City of Winnipeg's official development plan, OurWinnipeg, as well as the associated Transportation Master Plan, call for the development of a city-wide rapid transit system.
- A strong transit system composed of both rapid transit and the base transit network provides multiple benefits to the City. It will encourage a shift to transit, reduce emissions in heavily travelled corridors, provide opportunities for transit oriented development, and support the revitalization of downtown.
- A rapid transit corridor to the east could use one of two potential alignments between downtown and Nairn Avenue – either South Point Douglas or North St. Boniface.
- The Eastern Transitway study is a priority because of a need to address the aging Louise Bridge as well as the lengthy transit travel times between Elmwood/Transcona and downtown Winnipeg due to recurring and non-recurring congestion on major corridors in the area.
- The Eastern Transitway Study will examine and set out the conceptual design, identify associated transportation improvements as well as the broad implementation strategy for the Eastern Transitway



- The study offers the ability to coordinate planning and construction with other major projects and initiatives such as the Louise Bridge replacement and the redevelopment of South Point Douglas.
- There are high levels of ridership to and from eastern Winnipeg, including Elmwood and Transcona, with significant activity at nodes along the proposed route (including the Nairn/Regent mixed-use corridor, Kildonan Place Shopping Centre, and Crossroads Station).
- There is also significant expected growth in ridership due to residential and commercial growth in East/North Kildonan and Transcona.