



## Minnesota Environmental Quality Board

**Publication Date: May 16, 2016**  
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**Next Publication (8:00 AM): May 23, 2016**  
Submittal Deadline (4:00 PM): May 16, 2016  
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### Environmental Assessment Worksheet

The following EAW has a comment deadline of June 15, 2016

## Project Title: City of Fridley Columbia Arena Area Redevelopment Project

**Project Description:** The City of Fridley (City) is proposing to redevelop approximately 33 acres (project site), within the city limits along University Avenue Northeast (MN State Highway 47). The project site includes the former Columbia Ice Arena site, the current City Public Works Garage site, and a portion of park property owned by the City. The proposed project includes a new municipal center with city offices, a public works storage facility/garage, and a variety of residential housing types. This mixed-use development project will include a central water feature and recreation trails connecting to the Rice Creek Regional Trail system in Locke County Park. The project will be constructed in several phases: demolition, site preparation and infrastructure, construction of municipal buildings, construction of commercial buildings, and construction of residential housing. Private development of the project is anticipated to take approximately three years, beginning in 2016 with full build out and project completion in 2019.

Due to the number of residential housing units associated with the Project, approximately 823 units, a mandatory Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) is required per Minnesota

Rules 4410.4300, subpart 19.

The City will accept written comments on the EAW during the public review and comment period, which concludes Wednesday, June 15th, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. Written comments should be submitted to Beth Kondrick, City of Fridley, 6431 University Avenue NE, Fridley, Minnesota 55432. Electronic/email comments may be submitted to [CAAREAW@fridleymn.gov](mailto:CAAREAW@fridleymn.gov) with Columbia Arena Area EAW in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, please include name and mailing address.

The EAW is available for public review at:

- City of Fridley City Hall, 6431 University Avenue NE, Fridley, Minnesota 55432

The EAW is posted on the City's website:

[www.fridleymn.gov/ColumbiaArenaAreaRedevelopment](http://www.fridleymn.gov/ColumbiaArenaAreaRedevelopment). Additional copies can be requested by calling the City at 763-572-3554. A public hearing is scheduled before the City Council meeting on May 23rd, 2016 at 7:00 pm, Council Chambers, Fridley City Hall, 6431 University Avenue NE, Fridley, Minnesota, 55432.

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** City of Fridley

**RGU Contact Person:**

Walter Wysopal  
City Manager  
6431 University Avenue NE  
Fridley, MN 55432  
763-572-3500  
[CAAREAW@fridleymn.gov](mailto:CAAREAW@fridleymn.gov)

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## Environmental Assessment Worksheet Need Decision

The noted responsible governmental unit has made a decision regarding the need for an EAW in response to a citizen's petition.

- City of East Bethel, CST Companies Project in East Bethel (Discretionary EAW prepared by the City of East Bethel)
- City of Minnetonka, Libbs Lake Neighborhood Street Reconstruction Project (Denied)

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## Environmental Assessment/Environmental Assessment Worksheet

# Project Title: Scott County (MN) Highway 83 Improvements

**Comment Deadline:** June 15, 2016

**Project Description:** The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Scott County have completed a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) in compliance with federal and state environmental review regulations. The combined EA/EAW addresses the effects of proposed improvements along County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 83, between CSAH 42 and CSAH 82 in Prior Lake, Minnesota. The proposed project involves

impacts on federal land held in trust by the BIA on behalf of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) and areas of non-federal land in the City of Prior Lake.

The project will address a gap in the Scott County highway system by expanding CSAH 83 from a two-lane roadway to a four-lane divided roadway. Project alternatives considered impacts to trust lands, SMSC members, and 5.5 acres of wetlands. Efforts to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts have been incorporated into the project and will include the development of a permanent wetland restoration area totaling approximately 22.9 acres. The Draft EA/EAW provides detailed information about project elements, issues and the approaches used to understand, manage, and permit for environmental impacts.

The EA and EAW can be viewed at the following locations:

- Project Web Site: <https://www.bolton-menk.com/clients/SMSC/CoHwy83>
- Hennepin County Library – Minneapolis Central, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 54401
- Prior Lake Public Library 16210 Eagle Creek Ave SE, Prior Lake, MN 55372
- Scott County Highway Department Office (see address below).

Written comments will be accepted through June 15, 2016 and should be addressed to the contact identified below.

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** Scott County

**RGU Contact Person:**

Tony Winiacki, P.E.  
County Engineer  
600 County Trail East  
Jordan, MN 55352  
952-496-8346  
[twiniacki@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:twiniacki@co.scott.mn.us)

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## Final Environmental Impact Statements

# Project Title: Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (LRT) (METRO Green Line Extension) Project

**Comment Deadline:** June 13, 2016

**Project Description:** The Metropolitan Council (Council) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued a Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS), Final Section 4(f) Evaluation, and Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement for the Southwest LRT Project (METRO Green Line Extension). The Southwest LRT Project is approximately 14.5 miles of new double-track proposed as an extension of the METRO Green Line (Central Corridor LRT). It will operate from downtown Minneapolis through the communities of St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka, and Eden Prairie, passing in close proximity to Edina. Based on findings from the Project's Alternatives Analysis and input received from the public and agencies, the Council identified the Project's Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) on May 26, 2010. The LPA was incorporated within two of the seven alternatives evaluated in the Draft EIS published on

October 12, 2012: LRT 3A (relocation) and LRT 3A-1 (co-location).

After publication of the Draft EIS, the Council undertook a process to develop and evaluate potential adjustments to LRT 3A and LRT 3A-1 based on comments received on the Draft EIS. FTA and the Council determined that some of the design adjustments in the cities of Eden Prairie, St. Louis Park, and Minneapolis; and the proposed operations and maintenance facility in Hopkins had the potential to result in new adverse impacts. Those design adjustments were evaluated in a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation Update, published on May 22, 2015.

The Final EIS documents the following:

- purpose and need for the Project;
- alternatives considered;
- anticipated impacts that will result from implementing the Project, including avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures;
- description of the Project's public involvement and agency coordination;
- Project's proposed finance plan;
- comments received during the Draft EIS, Supplemental Draft EIS, and Amended Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation public comment periods; and,
- responses to comments.

Comments on the adequacy of the Final EIS may be submitted in writing to Nani Jacobson (contact information below) through June 13, 2016. Following the review period and consideration of the comments received on the adequacy of the FEIS, a Federal Record of Decision and Minnesota State Adequacy Determination are anticipated. The Record of Decision and Adequacy Determination will document the Council's and FTA's final decision regarding the environmental phase of the Project.

**Document Availability:** The Final EIS; including the Section 4(f) Evaluation, Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement, and all appendices; is available online at [www.metrocouncil.org/swlrt/feis](http://www.metrocouncil.org/swlrt/feis).

The Final EIS is available at the locations listed below.

- **Eden Prairie City Hall:** 8080 Mitchell Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55344
- **Eden Prairie Public Library:** 565 Prairie Center Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55344
- **Minnetonka City Hall:** 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka, MN 55345
- **Minnetonka Public Library:** 17524 Excelsior Blvd., Minnetonka, MN 55345
- **Hopkins City Hall:** 1010 First Street South, Hopkins, MN 55343
- **Hopkins Public Library:** 22 Eleventh Avenue North, Hopkins, MN 55343
- **Edina City Hall:** 4801 West 50th Street, Edina, MN 55424
- **St. Louis Park City Hall:** 5005 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park, MN 55416
- **St. Louis Park Public Library:** 3240 Library Lane, St. Louis Park, MN 55426
- **Southwest LRT Project Office:** 6465 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 500, St. Louis Park, MN 55426
- **Minneapolis City Hall:** City Engineer's Office, 350 South Fifth Street, Room 203, Minneapolis, MN 55414
- **Minneapolis Central Library:** 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN
- **Walker Public Library:** 2880 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55408
- **Linden Hills Public Library:** 2900 West 43rd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55410
- **Sumner Public Library:** 611 Van White Memorial Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55411
- **Franklin Public Library:** 1314 East Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55404
- **Metropolitan Council Library:** 390 Robert Street North, St. Paul, MN 55101
- **Minnesota Department of Transportation Library:** 395 John Ireland Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155

- **Minnesota Legislative Reference Library:** 645 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155

To request special accommodations, contact Dan Pfeiffer, Southwest LRT Assistant Public Involvement Manager, at 612-373-3897 or [Daniel.pfeiffer@metrotransit.org](mailto:Daniel.pfeiffer@metrotransit.org) at least ten days prior to the end of the comment period.

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** Metropolitan Council

**RGU Contact Person:**

Ms. Nani Jacobson, Assistant Director, Environmental and Agreements  
Metro Transit - Southwest LRT Project Office  
6465 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 500  
St. Louis Park, MN 55426  
[SWLRT@metrotransit.org](mailto:SWLRT@metrotransit.org)

## **Project Title: Fargo-Moorhead Flood Risk Management Project**

**Comment Deadline:** May 31, 2016

**Project Description:** The proposed Project would create a 30-mile long diversion channel on the west side of the Fargo-Moorhead urban area. Two control structures (i.e., dams) with tieback embankments would span the Wild Rice River (North Dakota) and Red River (North Dakota and Minnesota). An upstream area would be used as a staging (or flood storage) area. During high flows, a portion of the flow from upstream rivers and streams would be routed through the diversion channel, reducing peak flows through Fargo-Moorhead. The two control structures would be operated when needed to store additional water in the staging area, thereby further reducing peak flows through the metro. Water in the staging would be released later, as flows decline.

The Project requires construction of a Class I dam, the Red River dam. The Red River is bordered by both North Dakota and Minnesota. In Minnesota, there is a Mandatory Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Class I Dams (MN Rules part 4410.4400, subpart 18). The rule designates the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) as the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) for environmental review (an EIS) of this Project.

The MDNR will accept written comments on the Final EIS during the public review and comment period, which begins on May 16, 2016 and will end May 31, 2016.

Written comments should be submitted to Jill Townley, Project Manager, Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Box 25, Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN, 55155-4025. Electronic or e-mail comments may be sent to [Environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:Environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us) with "Fargo-Moorhead Final EIS" in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, include name and mailing address. Written comments may also be sent by fax to (651) 296-1811.

A copy of the Final EIS is available for public review at:

- DNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
- DNR Northwest Region, 2115 Birchmont Beach Road NE, Bemidji, MN 56601
- Minneapolis Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401, Government Documents, 2nd Floor
- Moorhead Public Library, 118 5th St S, Moorhead, MN 56560
- Fergus Falls Public Library, 205 E. Hampden, Fergus Falls, MN 56537

- Fargo Public Library Downtown, 102 3rd Street North, Fargo, ND 58102

The Final EIS is also posted on the DNR's website at:

[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/fm\\_flood\\_risk/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/fm_flood_risk/index.html)

(Click on "Public Input", then select "Fargo-Moorhead Flood Risk Management Project" from the scroll-down list under "Environmental Review").

Additional copies may be requested by calling (651) 259-5168.

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

**RGU Contact Person:**

Jill Townley  
Project Manager  
Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Box 25  
Department of Natural Resources  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4052  
[Environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:Environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us)

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## Alternative Urban Areawide Review Update

# Project Title: Final Country Manor Senior Living Campus (Formerly Arcon St. Joseph AUAR)

**Comment Deadline:** May 27, 2016

**Project Description:** The updated plan for the site calls for a senior living residential development on 131 acres of the original 464-acre site. This portion of the site originally had 379 units proposed and in the updated AUAR has 354 units with an increase in open space from 30 acres to 64 acres.

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** City of St Joseph

**RGU Contact Person:**

Judy Weyrens  
City Administrator  
25 College Ave N  
St Joseph, MN 56374  
320-363-7201  
[jweyrens@cityofstjoseph.com](mailto:jweyrens@cityofstjoseph.com)

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## Notices

# Public Utilities Commission - Notice of Permit Decision in the Matter of the Combined Application of North Star Solar PV LLC for a Site Permit and Route Permit for the North Star Solar Electric Power Generating Plant and Associated 115 kV High-Voltage Transmission Line in Chisago County, Minnesota

Public Utilities Commission Docket No. IP-6943/GS-15-33

**NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN** that at a meeting on January 20, 2016, and in an order issued on February 16, 2016, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission: (i) found that the environmental assessment and the record created at the public hearing addressed the issues identified in the scoping decision, (ii) issued a site permit to North Star Solar PV LLC for the construction and operation of the 100 megawatt North Star Solar Project in Chisago County, and (iii) issued a route permit to North Star Solar PV LLC for the construction and operation of a one-mile 115 kilovolt transmission line associated with the North Star Solar Project in Chisago County.

Information about the project, including the site permit and route permit, can be found on the Public Utilities Commission's eDockets System at: [North Star Solar Project 15-33 eDockets](#)

Questions about this project may be directed to Commission staff member Scott Ek at [scott.ek@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.ek@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2255.

## Minnesota Department of Agriculture - Notification of Release of Genetically Engineered Organism

MDA Notification	Applicant	Crop	Project Category	County(s)
16-NO-037	University of Minnesota	Soybean	PQ – Feed Properties MG – Selectable Markers AP – Yield Increase	Dakota ( Up to 1.0 acres)

University of Minnesota, filed a Notification for Release of Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number 16-NO-037. Notification is for genetically modified soybean, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for the environmental release of transgenic soybean, referenced as Application Number 16-120-101n. For additional information contact Clifford Watrin, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531, [clifford.watrin@state.mn.us](mailto:clifford.watrin@state.mn.us)