

LANDMARKS COMMISSION MEETING REPORT

June 2, 2025



Agenda Item #: 4

Project Title: North-South Bus Rapid Transit - Section 106 Review (Districts 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18)

Legistar File ID #: 88465

Prepared By: Heather Bailey, Preservation Planner

Members: Present: Ald. John Duncan, Edna Ely-Ledesma, Molly Harris, Katie Kaliszewski, Jacob Morrison, and Maurice Taylor
Excused: Richard Arnesen

Summary

Mike Cechvala, registering neither in support nor in opposition and available to answer questions

Bailey provided background information on the project, noting that the historic districts and resources identified in the central area are the same as those previously reviewed for the East-West BRT corridor. Beyond that, there are no visual impacts on other historic resources on the North-South BRT route.

Mike Cechvala, Madison Metro, provided more details on the North-South BRT route.

Kaliszewski said that the report needs to include a picture of the shelters and a disclaimer that there may be potential minor changes to the stations, even if it won't affect how they appear visually. She recommended the report call out Park Street as a full reconstruct of the street because it changes the Area of Potential Effects.

Duncan agreed with staff's recommendation that this item did not need to return to the commission for an additional analysis of effects because the areas where there are historic districts and resources were already evaluated during the review of the East-West BRT corridor, and there are no additional properties impacted along other parts of the North-South corridor. Bailey confirmed that there are no stations right next to any historic resources.

Harris asked why the existing stop by the East Campus Mall can't be used for all of the buses. Cechvala said that when building the East-West BRT, they were looking at both sides for a station. If it were located west of East Campus Mall, they could have a shelter but the route B buses turning left onto Park Street would not have enough room to swing over three lanes to make the turn. If the shelter were located east of East Campus Mall, route B would be fine, but the university was opposed to having a station there at the time because it was in front of a space they'd programmed for art, but they have since changed that opinion. The solution was to build two stations, one on the west for routes A and F, and one on the east for route B so the bus can turn left. Splitting the routes into two stations has been working well, but the main shortcoming is that there is no shelter for the route B stop, so they are planning to install one.

Action

A motion was made by Harris, seconded by Duncan, that the commission has no comments at this time and agrees with a determination of No Adverse Effect, but wishes to remain a consulting party and be notified of any changes to the project. The motion passed by voice vote/other.