



2010 National Achievements in Environmental Justice Awards



*Recognizing Successful Partnerships
Achieving Public Health and Environmental Justice Goals*

Transportation Equity/ Stops for Us Coalition St. Paul, Minnesota



Community residents rally for the three stations at Rondo Days Parade, 2007



St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman addressing a Stops for Us community meeting, November 2007.



Jim Erkel, MN Center for Environmental Advocacy explains a map to Central Corridor Residents.

EPA is pleased to recognize the **Transportation Equity/Stops for Us Coalition** for its efforts to form a broad-based partnership to secure the construction of three new light rail transit stations, which will provide access for the transit dependent communities of East University Avenue and connect residents to housing, jobs, education, and the many amenities located throughout the Twin Cities metropolitan region.

The Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project, a \$30 million investment connecting downtown St. Paul and downtown Minneapolis, will provide improved transit service through the heart of the region, particularly for residents living in environmental justice neighborhoods located along the planned route. Construction of the three light rail transit stations will directly benefit the 8,331 people who live within a quarter mile of the stations (81% minority; average median household income for homes near the three stations is \$32,000). The Coalition worked extensively to: influence public officials; research station spacing; map demographics; participate in and leverage to the fullest extent possible the National Environmental Policy Act process; draft state legislation; monitor public meetings; testify at public hearings; and implement a media strategy. Moreover, the Coalition has been able to establish a Central Corridor Community Agreements Coordinating Committee to ensure equitable community benefits from related development.

Partners

Alliance for Metropolitan Stability
Asian Economic Development Association
Aurora St. Anthony Neighborhood
Development Corporation
Community Stabilization Project
District Councils Collaborative of St. Paul
and Minneapolis

Got Voice, Got Power!
ISAIAH
Jewish Community Action
Minnesota Center for Environmental
Advocacy
Transit for Livable Communities
UFCW Local 789