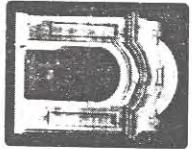


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Light Rail in KC?

The volunteer, citizen-led group presented its final report on light rail for Kansas City to the City Council last week. After a thorough and systematic study of routes, technologies, economic development potential and funding strategies, the group has prepared a transit option called the "Community Proposal" and is recommending an August election on a 25-year, half-cent sales tax for the proposed 24-mile light rail system. The line would run primarily north and south from Bruce R. Watkins Drive to Interstate 29 at North Oak Trafficway, generally along Bruce R. Watkins Drive, Mann, Troost and Burlington. The total cost of the project would be \$793 million in 2001 dollars; \$475.8 million would come from federal funds. The Northeast News will present more information in next week's issue.

This week, the City Council will debate the issue, keeping in mind that ordinance language would have to be approved by May 29 for placement on an August 7 ballot. Councilman-at-Large Troy Nash (3rd District) wants to hear his constituents' opinions on light rail in Kansas City. You may contact his office directly at 816-513-1605 with your feelings or to request a large-scale community meeting on the subject. All residents of Kansas City may contact him by phone or in writing to his office at City Hall, 24th Floor, 212 E. 12th St., Kansas City, MO 64106 or by e-mail: troy_nash@kcmo.org.