

TRANSIT ORIENTED JUSTICE: NOT ABOUT US WITHOUT US

Asian Small Businesses in the Central Corridor (Green Line)

Presented by
Va-Megn Thoj
Asian Economic Development Association (AEDA)

U.S. EPA COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT TRAINING
The Next Generation of Community Involvement
Boston, July 30, 2013



Asian Economic Development Association

AEDA was co-founded by Asian small businesses on University Avenue

AEDA's mission: To cultivate vibrant, diverse communities by creating equitable economic development.

www.aeda-mn.org



AEDA staff & interns

Asian Businesses along University Avenue



- 300+ Asian small businesses in the Central Corridor in Saint Paul
- 70 in Little Mekong, www.LittleMekong.com



Engaging Asian Businesses on University Avenue



- Leave them alone (pre-2006, before CCLRT Alternatives Analysis):
- We want their support to build the LRT (2006-08 (Locally preferred alternative, DEIS, preliminary engineering)
- Asian businesses advocating for their interest (2009-11, Final Design and FEIS)
- Asian businesses DECIDING their best interest (post-2012)

LRT Impact Mitigation



- Prevent Business Closure
- Retain customer access
- Minimize loss of revenue



Impact Mitigation



- Learning

Impact Mitigation



Ảnh hưởng của hoạt động xe điện đối với lãnh vực kinh doanh của người Việt

Saint Paul có thể học hỏi gì từ Seattle để giúp ích cho sự kinh doanh được tồn tại với công trình xây dựng?

Kính mời quý vị đến tham dự buổi hội thảo với Trần Thảo để rút kinh nghiệm của cộng đồng người Việt ở Seattle với dự án xe điện

Ông Trần Thảo, giám đốc Cơ quan Phát triển Kinh tế và trợ lý kinh doanh Mỹ-Việt làm việc trực tiếp với các thương gia để giúp đỡ và hướng dẫn về việc xây dựng dự án xe điện.

WHEN:

Thứ Tư, ngày 15 tháng 4, 2009
2:00 – 4:00 PM

(Second Meeting:
6:00—8:00 PM)

WHERE:

Hoa Bien Restaurant
1105 University Avenue
Saint Paul

Tiếp đãi buổi ăn trưa.

Xin hồi đáp đến
Va-Megn Thoj
651-246-1022
va-megn@aeda-mn.org

Please RSVP by April 13, 2009 for
Hoa Bien. Seating is limited.

Asian Economic Development
Association
www.aeda-mn.org

So sánh và học hỏi giữa dự án Xe điện của Saint Paul và Seattle



MLK Jr. Way, Rainier Valley, Seattle

- Learning

velopment Association.
s Collaborative, the Central Corridor
ugh the Preserve and Benefit Historic

Impact Mitigation

Small Businesses & Light Rail Construction



What can Saint Paul learn from Seattle to help small businesses survive during light construction?

You are invited to a dinner and a special presentation by Thao Tran about the Rainier Valley's experience with light rail construction mitigation in Seattle.

The former executive director of the Vietnamese American Economic Development Association and a business assistance officer, Mr. Tran helped create a \$50 million mitigation fund during the Seattle Sound Transit Link light rail construction. CAN A MITIGATION FUND BE CREATED FOR CENTRAL CORRIDOR?

WHEN:

Wednesday, April 15, 2009
6:00 — 8:00 PM

WHERE:

Hoa Bien Restaurant
1105 University Avenue

Food will be provided.

If you cannot attend these meetings, you can also attend the meetings on
April 15 at 2:00 — 4:00 PM at Hoa Bien.

or on April 16, 7:45 AM at 849 University Ave.

Please RSVP by April 13, 2009 for Hoa Bien. Seating is limited.

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va-megn@aeda-mn.org
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Saint Paul vs. Seattle



MLK Jr. Way, Rainier Valley, Seattle

SAINT PAUL: Small businesses will be affected by light rail construction.
SEATTLE: Many small businesses were disrupted by light rail construction.

velopment Association.
rs Collaborative, the Central Corridor
ough the Preserve and Benefit Historic

- Learning

Impact Mitigation



- Organizing



Environmental Justice



- Advocacy

Lessons Learned

What made the difference:

- The voices of Asian businesses
- Their leadership
- Their stories



Successful Engagement Strategies

- Organizer who is from the community and understands the community
- Trust
- Creating direct access to decision makers for the underrepresented
- Creating opportunities for Leadership



THANK YOU!

