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Memorandum

To: Mayor Hutchinson and City Council Members

From: Economic Advisory Commission

CC: Darin Atteberry, City Manager
Mike Freeman, Chief Financial Officer

Date: August 18, 2009

Subject: Recommendation on the Transit Strategic Plan

The Economic Advisory Commission was presented the Transit Strategic Plan (TSP) and TSP Financial Advisory Committee Recommendation. The first recommendation to Mayor and Council was June 8, 2009. The EAC wants to re-affirm their previous recommendation with the following recommendation to Mayor and Council made on August 5, 2009:

The Economic Advisory Commission (EAC) has actively reviewed the Transit Strategic Plan (TSP) during the course of two plan reviews at EAC meetings. The EAC believes that an effective mass transit system as proposed by the TSP can be an investment for the future of the City and its economic vitality if it is incorporated into a broader vision and plan for the City. In particular, the EAC supports the plan's inclusion of a downtown circulator.

The EAC strongly believes that planning for an effective transportation system, with a quality transit system as part of the plan, can positively affect a vibrant and sustainable economy in a number of key ways including but not limited to:

- Enhancing economic opportunities and real-estate values, particularly along transit corridors
- Enhancing the competitiveness and high quality living environment of the City by providing legitimate transit options for residents as part of the City's Master Plan.
- Providing City residences options for minimizing their personal transit expenditures (cost of living)
- Generating direct and indirect economic drivers based on capital and on-going expenditures

The EAC recommends that the cost and benefits of the Transit Master Plan should continue to be analyzed, and that the funding for the plan should be considered in context with the City's



transportation plan, the City's budget, and the City's Master Plan. The EAC would like to remain actively engaged in reviewing the economics and cost/benefit analysis component of the plan as it proceeds.

Thank you for considering this recommendation