

**Department of Community Planning and Economic Development - Planning Division**  
Vacation 1516

**Date:** August 27, 2007

**Applicant:** Metropolitan Council, Attn: Mark Leemon, 560 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55411-4398, (612) 349-7674

**Address of Property:** Not applicable, see attached map. All of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue North located between Lyndale Avenue North (I-94) and 7<sup>th</sup> Street North adjacent to 635 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue North.

**Contact Person and Phone:** Metropolitan Council, Attn: Mark Leemon, 560 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55411-4398, (612) 349-7674

**Planning Staff and Phone:** Becca Farrar, (612) 673-3594

**60-Day Review Decision Date:** Not Applicable

**Ward:** 5      **Neighborhood Organization:** North Loop Neighborhood Association

**Existing Zoning:** I2 (Medium Industrial) district

**Proposed Zoning:** Not applicable for this application.

**Zoning Plate Number:** 13

**Legal Description:** See attached legal description.

**Existing Use:** Vacant.

**Concurrent Review:** Not applicable for this application.

**Background:** The applicant intends to utilize the vacated areas for Metro Transit use; specifically for vehicular access as well as additional landscaping on the site. The area proposed to be vacated is currently paved.

**Development Plan:** The applicant is proposing to vacate the subject property in order to allow for vehicular access and green space.

**Responses from Utilities and Affected Property Owners:** Minneapolis Public Works has reviewed the vacation petition and recommends approval of the request subject to specific legal descriptions and easements. The letter has been attached for reference.

Xcel Energy has requested that an easement be reserved for existing electric distribution facilities within the area of the proposed vacation. The approximate locations of said facilities are indicated on the map

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included with the correspondence. Planning Staff would recommend that an easement be granted over the entire described areas to be vacated.

Centerpoint Energy has requested that an easement be reserved due to an existing gas main. The requested easement is as follows: “The north half of that part of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue North which lies east of the east right-of-way line of Lyndale Avenue North and which lies west of the west right-of-way line of 7<sup>th</sup> Street North.” The correspondence has been attached for reference. Staff would recommend that the applicant work directly with Centerpoint Energy to ensure that the easement as requested is provided.

**Findings:** The CPED Planning Division finds that the areas proposed for vacation are not needed for any public purpose, and are not part of a public transportation corridor, and that they can be vacated if any easements requested above are granted by the petitioner.

**Recommendation of the Department of Community Planning and Economic Development – Planning Division:**

The Department of Community Planning and Economic Development– Planning Division recommends that the City Planning Commission and the City Council accept the above findings and **approve** the vacation (Vacation File 1516) subject to the provisions of easements dedicated to the City of Minneapolis, Xcel Energy, and Centerpoint Energy over the entire described areas to be vacated.

**Attachments:**

1. Resolution
2. Public Work letter and utility correspondence
3. Maps