

2007 SIGNIFICANT BALLPARK EVENTS AND MILESTONES

January

A Stadium Access Advisory Committee is formed to help enhance the ballpark design and functionality.

In response to input from the City-County Implementation Committee, HOK tapers the ballpark design along 5th Street to increase the sidewalk width near the future Hiawatha LRT platform.

The Minnesota Ballpark Authority (MBA) recommends shifting Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) active rail line on to a new track closer to the HERC waste to energy facility; this change would create a corridor for the Cedar Lake Bike Trail to pass through the ballpark site.

Moving the track requires BNSF sign-off, demolition and reconstruction of the 5th Street bridge abutment, and relocation of several fiber-optic utilities. All of these modifications need to be complete by November to maintain the ballpark's construction schedule.

February

Schematic Design unveiling delayed over uncertainty on the site acquisition process.

The MBA retains Metropolitan Economic Development Agency (MEDA) to assist in enhancing participation of women and minority business enterprises in the project.

The project's Construction Manager, M.A. Mortenson, reports that pile driving for the ballpark foundation needs to start in August to stay on schedule for an April 2010 opening.

March

The MBA, the Minnesota Twins and Hennepin County negotiate the final details of the Development Agreement, the Lease and Use Agreement and the Grant Agreement for the ballpark.

April

The Hennepin County Board votes to proceed with condemnation of the ballpark site.

The Metropolitan Council declares the sanitary tunnel under 5th Street as an emergency repair project; this work has to be closely coordinated with the adjoining ballpark and Northstar projects.

Major Ballpark Agreements are executed; the MBA and the team also agree to term sheets for the Southwest Parking Facility and an option for future Air Rights development.

Schematic Design is unveiled to the public; plans are approved by the MBA and the Hennepin County Board, including the initial recommendations of the City-County Implementation Committee.

The MBA retains Summit Academy OIC to assist in meeting the project's workforce hiring goals.

Work commences on the demolition of the 5th Street bridge abutment to allow for the BNSF track relocation.

May

Minnesota Twins deposit \$45 million in the Ballpark Project Construction Trust.

Hennepin County deposits \$139 million in bond proceeds.

Final agreements are reached with Burlington Northern Sante Fe.

Mortenson is mobilized on site and begins clearing the land for construction.

June

Final Environmental Impact Statement is determined to be adequate by the Hennepin County Board.

The Stadium Access Advisory Committee expresses strong interest in seeing two elevators installed in the vertical circulation building to move people from the Northstar Commuter rail platform to street level near the left field corner of the ballpark.

July

Northstar Project begins demolition of the south half of the 5th Street bridge as part of the future Hiawatha LRT extension.

The City-County Implementation Committee expresses interest in creating more transparency at the pedestrian level of ballpark design.

August

The MBA executes an Air Rights Lease and Maintenance Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Pile driving begins on schedule.

The ballpark groundbreaking ceremony held.

September

The first tower crane goes up on the site.

Fiber-optic providers are switched over to new location.

BNSF track relocation work commences.

HOK presents the City-County Implementation Committee with new renderings that add transparency and animation to the ballpark design at street level.

October

A settlement is reached on the cost to acquire the ballpark site; The Twins additional contribution of \$15 million is also announced.

The City-County Implementation Committee forwards its recommendations to the Minneapolis Planning Commission and the City Council, as called for in the ballpark legislation.

Ballpark model and updated renderings are unveiled to the public.

The Northstar Project expresses interest in adding a second elevator in the vertical circulation building, to address the concerns that have been raised.

BNSF completes track relocation work.

November

Detailed construction plans are approved by the MBA and the Hennepin County Board.

A second tower crane goes up on the site.

Pile driving commences in the BNSF right-of-way.

Vertical column placement for the ballpark continues for the right field mezzanine.

The Northstar project completes placing new 5th Street bridge girders, and the first deck is poured.