

# **Ken Fletcher Collection**

## **M/A 2012.20**

**Finding aid prepared by Nick Steffel**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library  
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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library
<b>Creator</b>	Fletcher, Kenneth P.
<b>Title</b>	Ken Fletcher Collection
<b>Date</b>	1976-1987
<b>Extent</b>	1.0 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English

## Biography

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Ken Fletcher is an amateur transit enthusiast and architectural model designer. In 1976, Fletcher prepared a proposal for the Hiawatha Avenue Citizens Advisory Committee suggesting a light rail line be developed between Downtown Minneapolis and Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport via Hiawatha Avenue. While his efforts and light rail advocacy were not immediately successful, 25 years later in 2001 work finally began on a light rail line running along Hiawatha Avenue. The Hiawatha Line, which opened in 2004, strongly resembles Fletcher's original plan in many respects.

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## Collection Description

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The collection consists of a binder containing two distinct sections. The first section contains a report prepared by Fletcher in 1976 (with a foreward later added in 1981) for the Hiawatha Avenue Citizens Advisory Committee advocating for a light rail line along Hiawatha Avenue in Minneapolis. Fletcher's proposal includes a suggested route map, mockups of stations and crossings, financial estimates and comparisons to light rail projects then underway in other cities. Fletcher's proposal also suggests that potential for light rail development exists along the University Avenue corridor and the Southwest Corridor.

The second section contains correspondence and clippings from between 1974 and 1987 regarding Fletcher's work advocating for light rail development in the Twin Cities. Included is a listing of the various groups, panels and programs Fletcher took part in during that time.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library

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## Related Materials

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## **Related Materials**

"Minneapolis in the Twentieth Century: The Growth of an American City" by Iric Nathanson (available in Special Collections and the circulating collection) **F614.M557 N38 2010** discusses Fletcher's plan as well as the history of Hiawatha Avenue and the various differing proposals for how to develop it.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Hiawatha Avenue (Minneapolis, Minn.)

### **Subject(s)**

- Local transit -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis
- Railroads, Local and light -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis
- Street-railroads -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis Metropolitan Area