

# **The Edward V. Lofstrom Collection**

## **M/A 1994.29.01-02**

**Finding aid prepared by Benjamin C. Skinner**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library

March 2, 2013

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library
<b>Creator</b>	Lofstrom, Edward V., 1913-2002
<b>Title</b>	Edward V. Lofstrom Collection
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1966-1992
<b>Extent</b>	2.0 boxes
<b>Language</b>	English

## Biography

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Edward Victor Lofstrom was born March 13, 1913 in Litchfield Minnesota. He attended the University of Minnesota where he graduated Summa Cum Laude in Architecture in 1935. After receiving his degree he designed both residential and civic buildings in a number of locations. These included numerous cities around Minnesota as well as New York City, and as far away as Ankara, Turkey.

In addition to his work as an architect he was a proponent of alternative modes of urban transportation. He was especially interested in promoting the implementation of a light rail system to serve the Twin Cities and the surrounding area. To this end he became involved in a number of groups that advocated mass transit. These included H.E.L.P (Highways Eliminate Lakes and Parks), the Advisory Commission, and the Advisory Committee on Transit.

With these groups he wrote letters and reports to newspapers and politicians describing issues with the existing transit system. Chief among these was the proliferation of the private automobile. He believed that the continued growth use of automobiles and busses lead to the creation of urban sprawl. Therefore, he believed that the best way to avoid this was the creation of a light rail system.

From the 1960s through the 1990s he worked with transportation groups in an effort to implement a light rail system. With these groups he advocated the cost effectiveness of this system, as well as its lessened effects on the environment. In addition, he continued to write to various people and media outlets describing the advantage of this system as a clean, quiet, and safe alternative to private transportation. Furthermore, he became active in the battle over highway 55, and the Hiawatha Corridor Light Rail project.

In addition to his civic work, he was also involved with the Minnesota Transit Museum. In 1979 he designed a car barn for their Lake Harriet location which is now the Minnesota Street Car Museum. In addition he was asked to engineer a retaining wall for the museum, and sign off on the prefabricated portions of the building.

Lofstrom died on January 15, 2002 in Edina Minnesota. He was 89 years old.

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## Description of Collection

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The Edward V. Loffstrom Collection consists of two boxes of materials including: newspaper clippings, correspondence, design prints, and a large collection of reports from the 1960s-1990s concerning transit matters in the Twin Cities.

## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library March 2, 2013

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Corporate Name(s)**

- Minnesota Transit Museum (Minneapolis, Minn.).

### **Subject(s)**

- Local transit -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis
- Railroads, Local and light -- Minnesota -- Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.
- Street-railroads -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis Metropolitan Area
- Transportation.

## Collection Inventory

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Biographical	1	1
Advisory Committee on Transit 1972-1973	1	2
Advisory Committee on Transit 1974	1	3
Advisory Committee on Transit 1975	1	4
Advisory Committee on Transit 1990s	1	5
Citizens Advisory Committee 1960	1	6
Citizens League 1990s	1	7
Citizens of Light Rail Transit 1990s	1	8
Clippings 1960s-1970s	1	9
Clippings 1980s	1	10
Clippings 1990s	1	11
Correspondence 1960s-1970s	1	12

Correspondence 1980s	1	13
Correspondence 1990s	1	14
H.E.L.P. Clippings 1960s-1980s	1	15
H.E.L.P. Correspondence 1969-1972	1	16
H.E.L.P. Minutes & Reports 1968-1972	1	17
Hiawatha Corridor, LRT 1976	1	18
Maps, Misc	1	19
Metropolitan Council on LRT 1980s	1	20
MTM Lake Harriet Car barn 1979	1	21
Small Vehicle Study 1970s	1	22
State Legislature, LRT March, 1981	1	23
Brochures, Booklet, Flyer, Newsletter	1	24
Reports	1	25
Reports	1	26

Alternatives for Development of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area April, 1966

CUE Annual Report 1972

The Real Greater Metropolitan Car Pool: An Alternative Approach to Twin Cities Transit Development November 20, 1973

Transit Revenue Alternatives: A Special report to the 1975 Minnesota Legislature by the Metropolitan Transit Commission. December, 1974

Bus Service Expansion Program: Progress Report. February, 1975

The Optimum Fixed Guideway Plan for the Twin Cities Area: A report to the 1975 Minnesota Legislature and the Metropolitan Council.

Advisory Committee on Transit: Low-Capital Fixed Guideway Study March, 1978

Automated Small Vehicle Fixed Guideway Systems Study

I-35W Change Plan: Economical Solution

Metropolitan Development Guide: Transportation Policy Plan, Program

**Box**

Citizens League Report - Transit: The Key Thing to Build is Usage 1971

2

Transit Development Program 1973-1990: Policies Plans Programs 1972



Citizens League Report: Building Incentives for Drivers to Ride

Automated Small Vehicle Fixed Guideway System Study - Briefing Papers: Second Technology Conference November 12-13, 1974

Final Report: Hennepin County Route-Ridership Improvement Project January, 1974

Automated Small Vehicle Fixed Guideway Systems Study - Report No. 74-13, Working Paper No. 4, Screening of Small Vehicle Options 1974

Draft - The Optimum Fixed Guideway Plan for the Twin Cities Area: A Report to the 1975 Minnesota Legislature and the Metropolitan Council February, 1975

Reverse Flow Bus Lanes, Second and Marquette Avenues: Final Report. Minneapolis Public Works Department Traffic Engineering Division February 28, 1975

Automated Small Vehicle Fixed Guideway Systems Study. Report No. 75-03, Preliminary Draft Study Report, Chapters VII-XIII January 28, 1975

Transit for Minneapolis: Needs and Opportunities, A business Community Assessment February, 1983

Comprehensive LRT System Plan for Hennepin County June 21, 1988

Comprehensive LRT System Plan for Hennepin County (introduction only) June 21, 1988

Urban Transit: The Private Challenge to Public Transportation

**General note**

Book

The Accessible City

**General note**

Book

VHS: Light Rail Transit: A Metro Area Transit Option

**General note**

VHS Cassette