



B Line, Gold Line and Purple Line Project Updates

Saint Paul City Council Organizational Committee

August 9, 2023



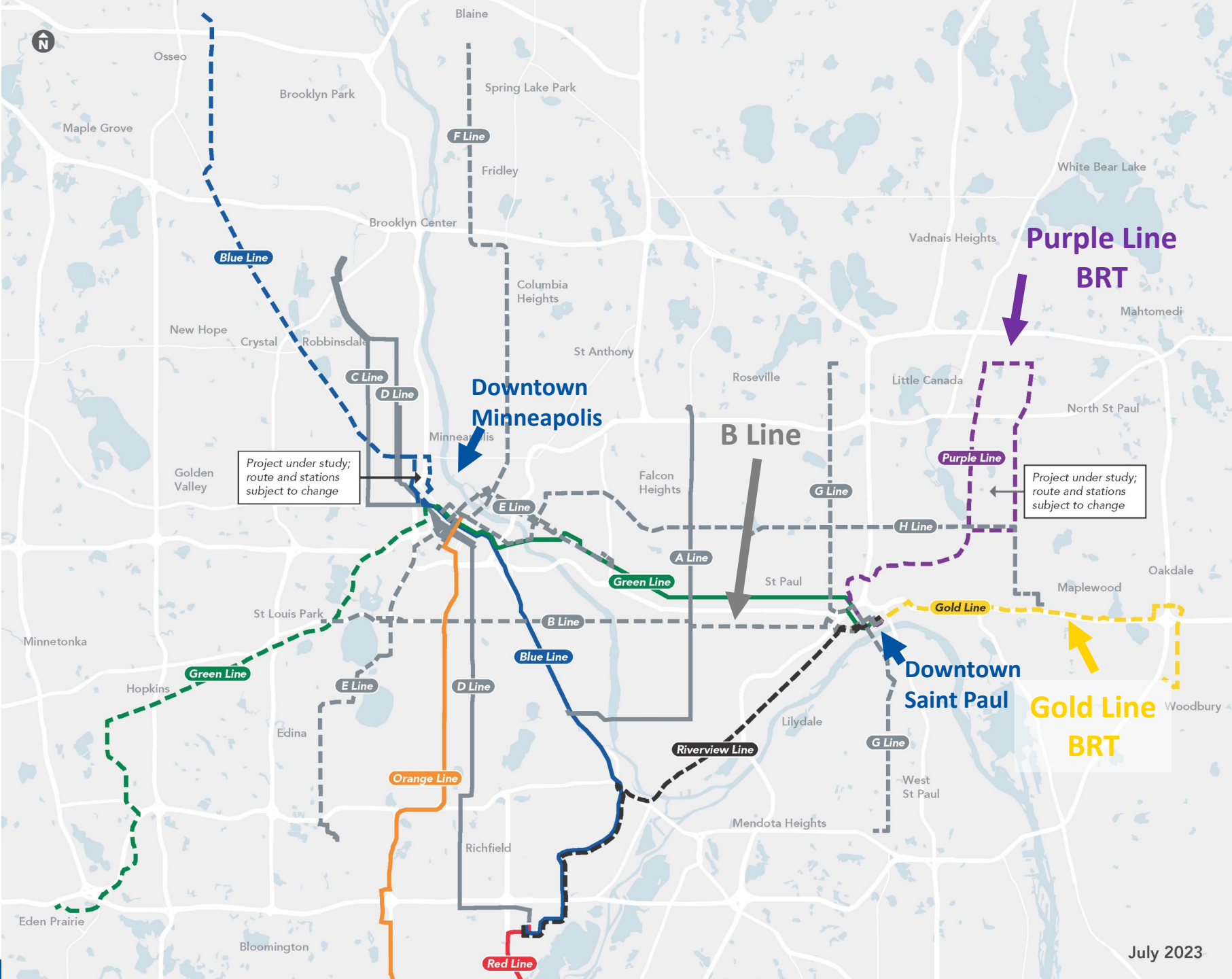
Future Transit

Current METRO network

- A Line
- C Line
- D Line
- Blue Line
- Green Line
- Orange Line
- Red Line

Planned METRO network

- Planned BRT
- Gold Line
- Purple Line
Project under study; route and stations subject to change.
- Green Line Extension
- Blue Line Extension
Project under study; route and stations subject to change.
- Riverview Line



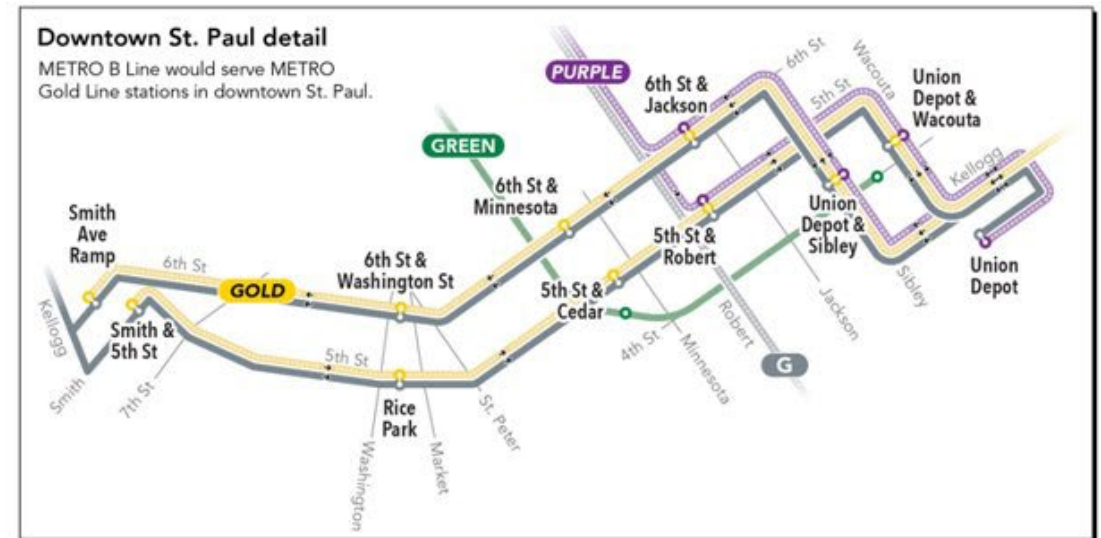
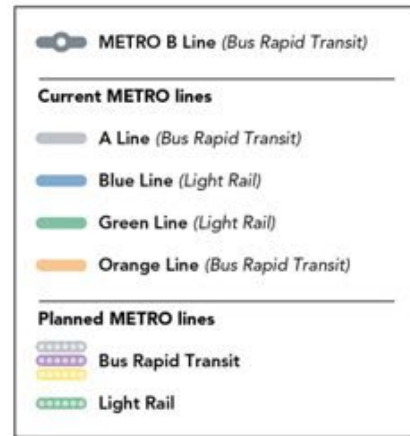


B Line Project Update

Frank Alarcon | B Line Project Manager

METRO B Line Overview

- Substantial replacement of Route 21, second-highest ridership route
- 106,000 people live within a 10-minute walk or roll of the B Line, of whom 42% are BIPOC
- \$65 million project fully funded as of October 2020
- Schedule
 - 2019-2021 planning
 - 2021-2023 engineering
 - 2023-2024 construction
 - Planned opening late 2024



Designed to be faster, more reliable, and easy to use

2-3 stations per mile, designed for faster stops

High-tech, high-amenity, secure stations

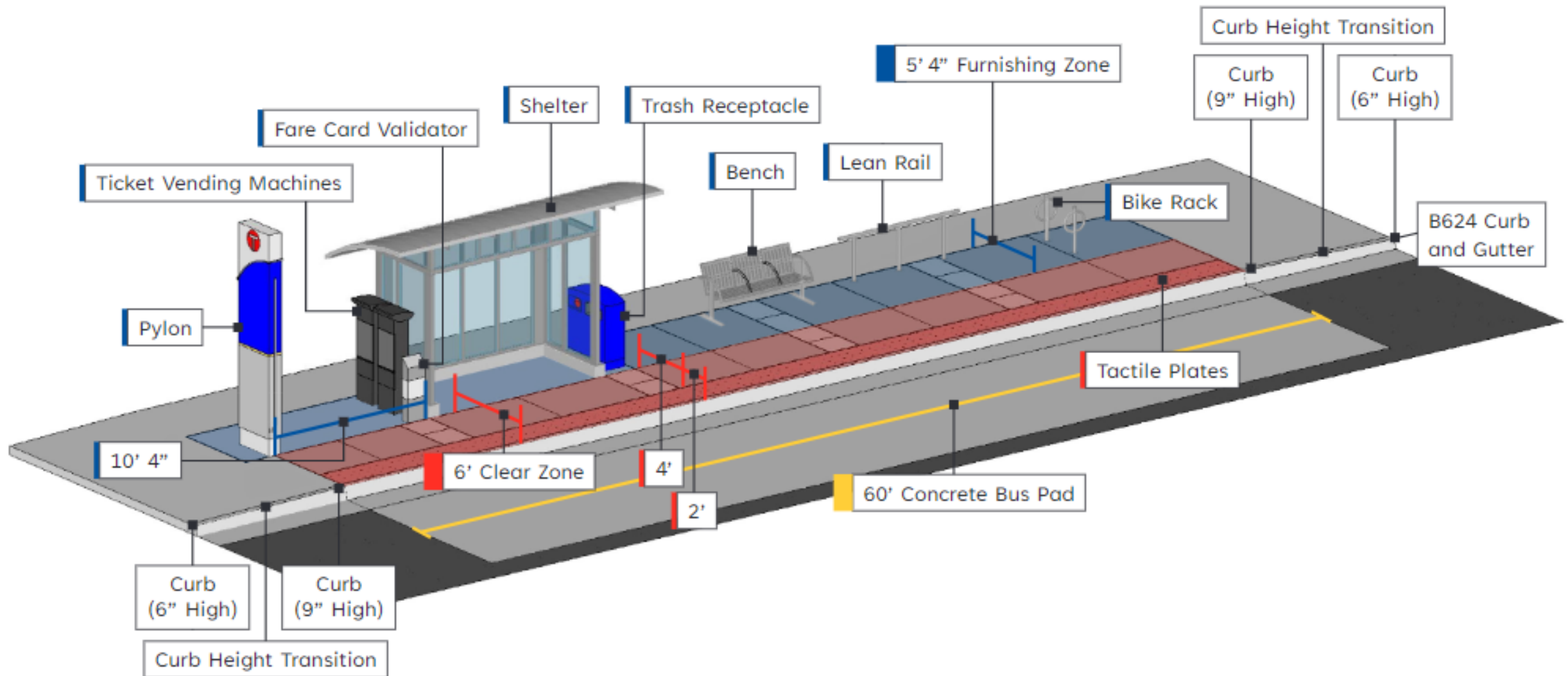
Pre-boarding fare payment for faster stops

Higher-capacity buses & boarding through all doors

Bus priority signals & lanes

Faster, frequent, all-day service





Standard arterial BRT station design

Engagement approach

- Goals:
 - Develop ongoing, working relationships with project neighbors, riders, and community
 - Engage early and often, developing projects with community
 - Hear diverse perspectives and adjust outreach strategies to meet needs
 - Clearly communicate construction details and timelines
 - Provide a clear point of contact for questions, comments, and concerns related to construction

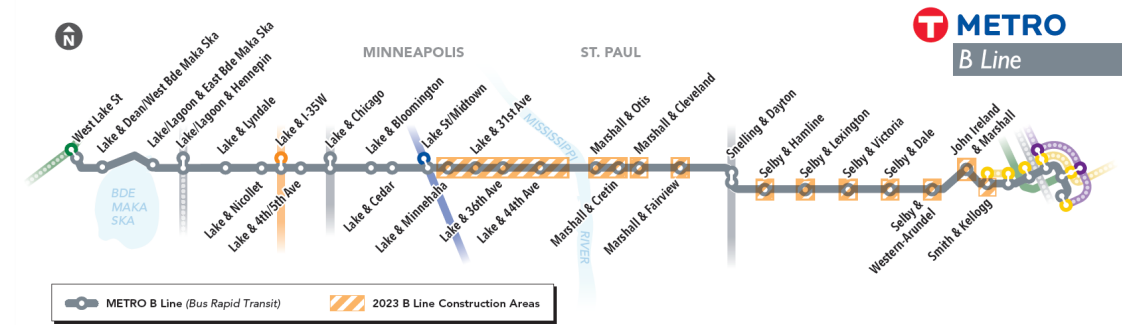


Construction of the METRO B Line begins soon!



Scan for more info and translated material!

Construction in 2023 will generally be east of Hiawatha Ave. and construction in 2024 will generally be west of Hiawatha Ave.



Engagement approach

- Engagement activities:
 - Pre-construction postcard mailing
 - Door knocking adjacent properties before and during construction
 - Signage
 - Weekly drop-in office hours at Golden Thyme Coffee & Café
 - Weekly email newsletter updates
 - Construction hotline and email address
 - Partnerships with community organizations
 - Social media posts
 - Physical and digital rider alerts to Route 21 riders

B Line Walking Tour

THURSDAY JUNE 22 | 6 PM - 7:30 PM

Walk the future B Line Route
between Snelling and Cleveland
with Metro Transit Staff

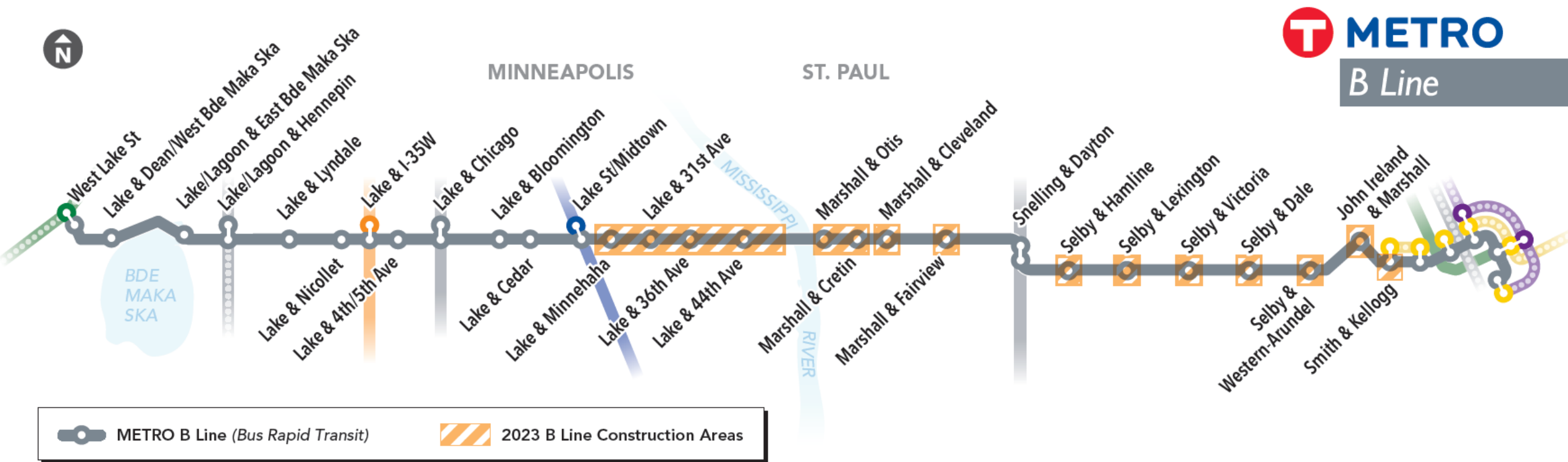
meet at 6PM at the A Line stop at
Snelling & Dayton

end at Marshall & Cleveland

2 miles round trip



2023 construction began May 15





Marshall & Cleveland, June 26



Marshall & Fairview, July 3



Selby & Hamline, June 16



Selby & Dale, July 31

Current construction status (St. Paul stations)

- Major construction complete:
 - Marshall & Cleveland
 - Marshall & Fairview
 - Selby & Hamline
 - Selby & Lexington
 - Selby & Victoria
 - John Ireland & Marshall
- Major construction underway or starting soon:
 - Marshall & Otis
 - Marshall & Cretin
 - Selby & Dale
 - Selby & Arundel
 - Smith & Kellogg



Major construction complete at John Ireland & Marshall;
installation of shelter, pylon and other station features to follow

Late 2023 activities

- Installation of station features
 - Shelters with light and heat
 - Pylons with real-time transit information
- Stations to open for Route 21 customers before the official launch of B Line service



Thank You!

B Line BRT Construction Contacts

Construction Hotline:

651-356-6995

bline@metrotransit.org





Gold Line Project Update

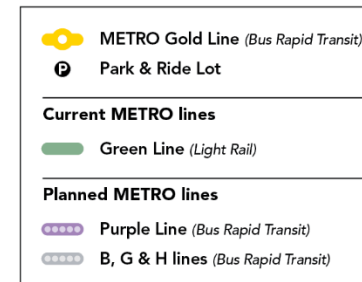
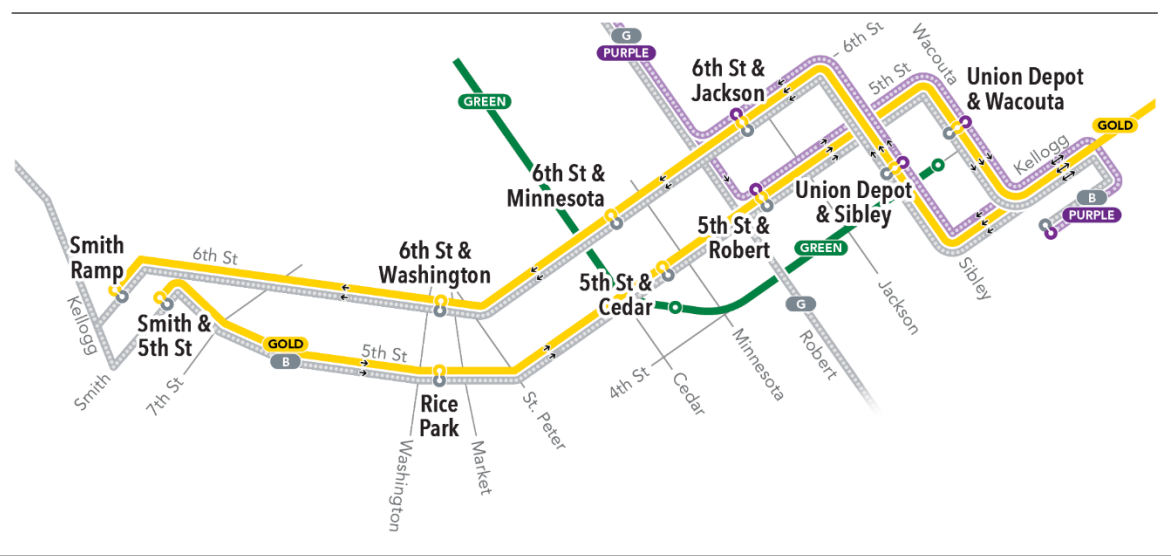
Alicia Vap | Gold Line Project Manager

Gold Line Overview:

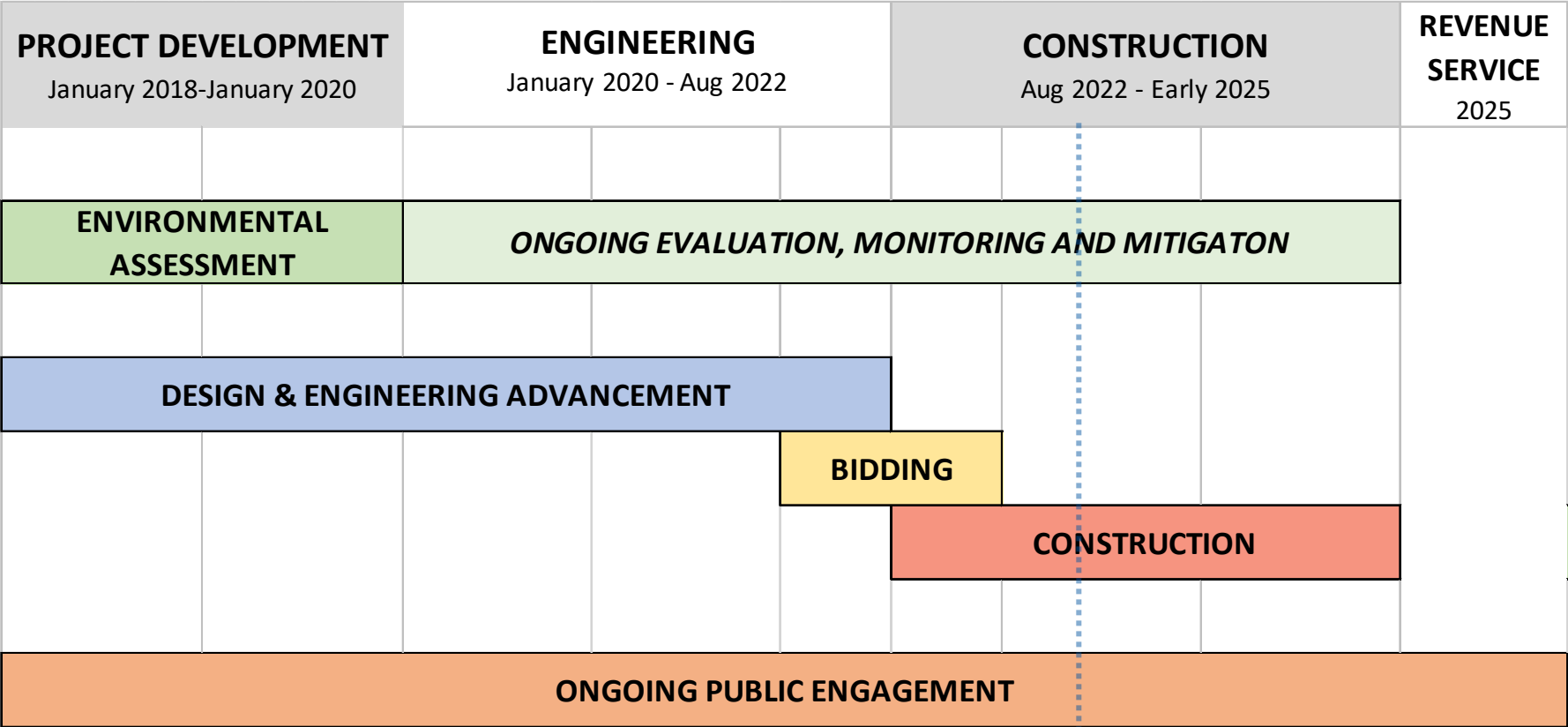
- Frequent, all-day service operating primarily in bus-only lanes
- Budget: \$505.3 million
- 10-miles & 16 new stations
- 17 BRT-branded 60' buses (12 diesel, 5 electric)
- BRT upgrades to existing East Metro Garage in St. Paul
- 3 surface park-and-rides and 1 parking structure
- 8 grade-separated BRT crossings



Downtown St. Paul



Overall Project Schedule



August
2023

Downtown Saint Paul 2023 Work Zones Map

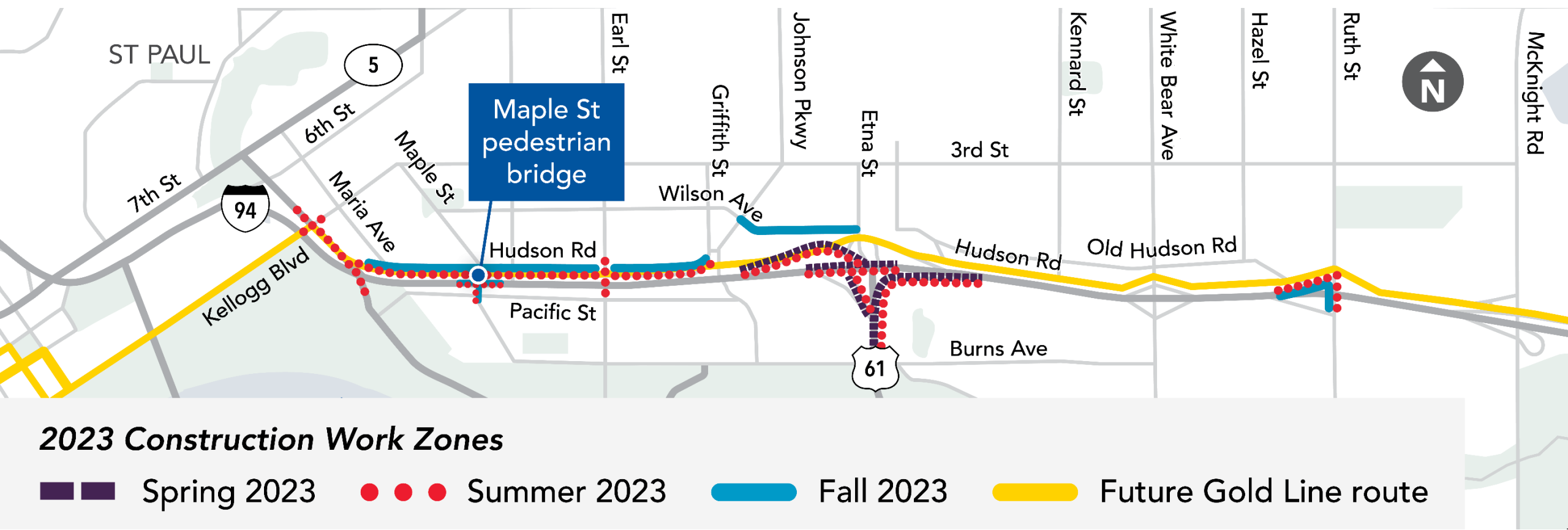
- Construction of downtown stations
- Construction of platforms: Rice Park, 6th St. & Minnesota, 5th St. & Cedar, 5th St. & Robert, Union Depot & Wacouta
- Lane and sidewalk closures around station areas
- Utility work near station areas



2023 Construction Work Zones

● Summer 2023 ● Fall 2023 — Future Gold Line route

Saint Paul Work 2023 Zones Map



Stay Connected! Construction Communications

- Resident meetings
- Open houses
- Business outreach
- Mailers
- Local flyering/door-knocking
- Twitter @GoldLineBRT
- Weekly Construction updates-email or postal
- Website and interactive map
 - metrotransit.org/gold-line-construction
 - zan.mysocialpinpoint.com/goldlinebrt
- Construction Hotline
 - goldline@metrotransit.org
 - 651-602-1919



If you need this information in an alternative format or language, contact:

- Si necesita esta información en un formato o idioma alternativo, póngase en contacto con:
- Yog koj xav tau cov lus no txhais uas lus hmoob lossis xav tau ib tus neeg pab txhais cov lus no rau koj, tiv tauj:
- Haddii aad dooneyso in aad macluumaadkan ku hesho siyaabo kale ama afaf kale, la xiriir:
- နမူနာသုံးအိတ်: နှိုင်းဘဉ်တင်စွဲတင်ကျိတဖဉ်အံလၢတၢ်ခံမံအကျါလၢတၢ်ကယုထၢတမံအံလၢအစီမံတမံကျိၣ်, ဆဲးကျါ

Gold Line Project Office | 651-602-1955 • goldline@metrotransit.org

Weekly Construction Updates

Sign up for weekly construction updates!

- Electronic (email)
 - metrotransit.org/gold-line
 - “Construction”
- Print (mail)
 - Contact:
goldline@metrotransit.org

The screenshot shows the Metro Transit website's Gold Line Project page. The top navigation bar includes the Metro Transit logo and links for Trip Tools, Schedules & Maps, Fares, More, and Help. A secondary navigation bar lists various project-related links, with 'Construction' highlighted in a yellow box. Below this, the 'Construction' section features a 'Construction Hotline: 651-602-1919' and a link to an interactive map. Another yellow box highlights the 'Subscribe to the Gold Line Project Update' link. Below this, there is a text prompt to watch a timelapse video. At the bottom of the page, a blue-bordered box contains the 'Email Updates' sign-up form, which includes a header with the Metropolitan Council logo, a sign-up instruction, an email address input field with a red asterisk, and 'Submit' and 'Cancel' buttons.

Gold Line Project

Gold Line Project | Project Facts | Public Engagement | News and Updates | Committees | Design and Engineering

Environmental Process | Fieldwork | Project Partners | **Construction**

Construction

Construction Hotline: 651-602-1919
[View an interactive map of final station designs and construction updates](#)

Subscribe to the Gold Line Project Update for construction updates delivered to your inbox.

Watch timelapse video of Gold Line construction activities at the Etna Street Station area and the new Bielenberg Drive bridge area on our construction cams.

- Etna Street
- Bielenberg

Email Updates

To sign up for updates or to access your subscriber preferences, please enter your contact information below.

Email Address *

Public Involvement - Flyers, mailers, access maps

Hudson Road closes in late June

Join us for a neighborhood meeting

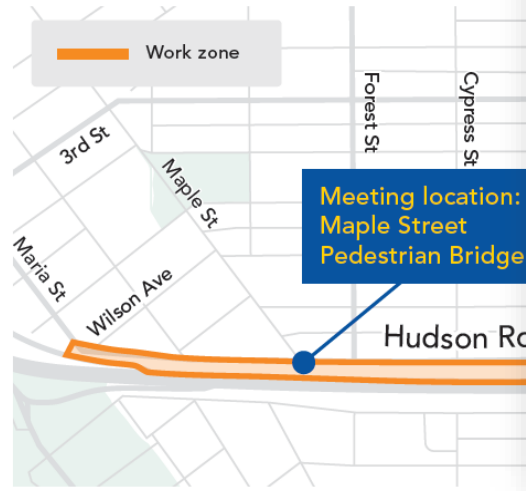
METRO Gold Line BRT crews will close Hudson Road between Maria Avenue and Griffith Street in June to:

- Replace underground utilities
- Reconstruct the road

Crews will work between Maria Street to Earl Street first and then between Earl Street and Griffith Street.

Attend a neighborhood meeting with project staff to learn more and ask questions.

When?	Thursday, June 8 or Tuesday, June 13 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Where?	Maple Street Pedestrian Bridge At the intersection of Hudson Road and Maple Street



Upcoming closure

Parkway Gardens access from east

Parkway Gardens Senior Apartments

Hudson Rd

Stay Informed

Learn more about construction activities, see an interactive map, sign up for email updates:
metrotransit.org/gold-line-construction

goldline@metrotransit.org

651-602-1

@GoldLine



Legend

Closed

Pedestrian access

Construction Updates – Civil Contract

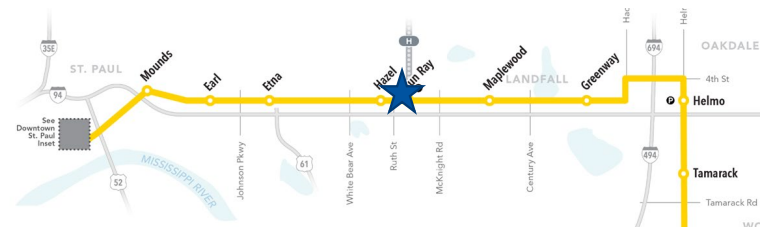
St Paul: Ruth Street and Hazel Street



Retaining walls construction – Ruth Street



Hazel Street station and guideway grading



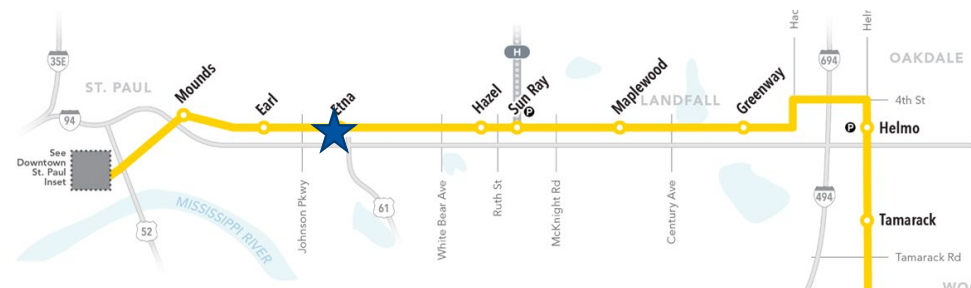
Construction Updates – Civil Contract

St Paul: Etna Bridge & Retaining Wall, Etna Station



New Etna Bus Rapid Transit bridge

Etna station construction



Construction Updates – Civil Contract

St Paul: Earl to Mounds - Grading, Utilities, Bridge, Retaining Walls



Mounds station



Hudson Road at Earl Street



Construction Updates – Civil Contract

Downtown St Paul: 6th/MN Station and 5th/Cedar Station



6th & Minnesota station construction



5th & Cedar station construction



Thank You!

Gold Line BRT Construction Contacts

Construction Hotline:

651-602-1919

goldline@metrotransit.org



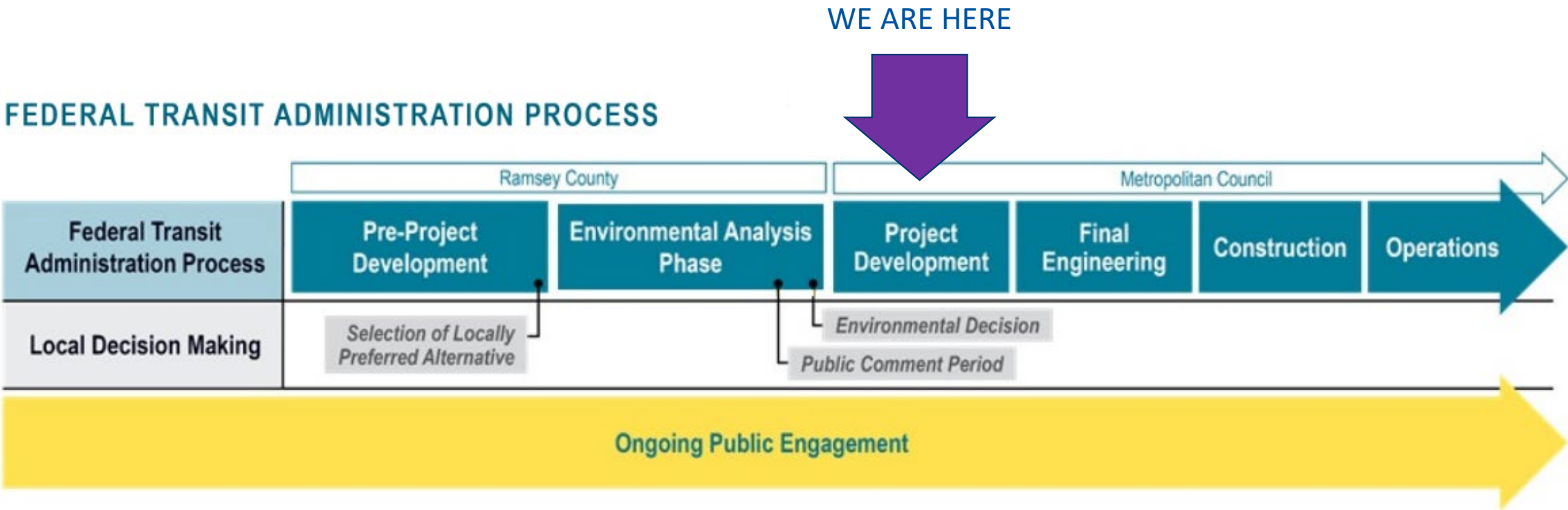


Purple Line Project Update

Craig Lamothe | Purple Line Project Manager

Overall Project Schedule and Phases

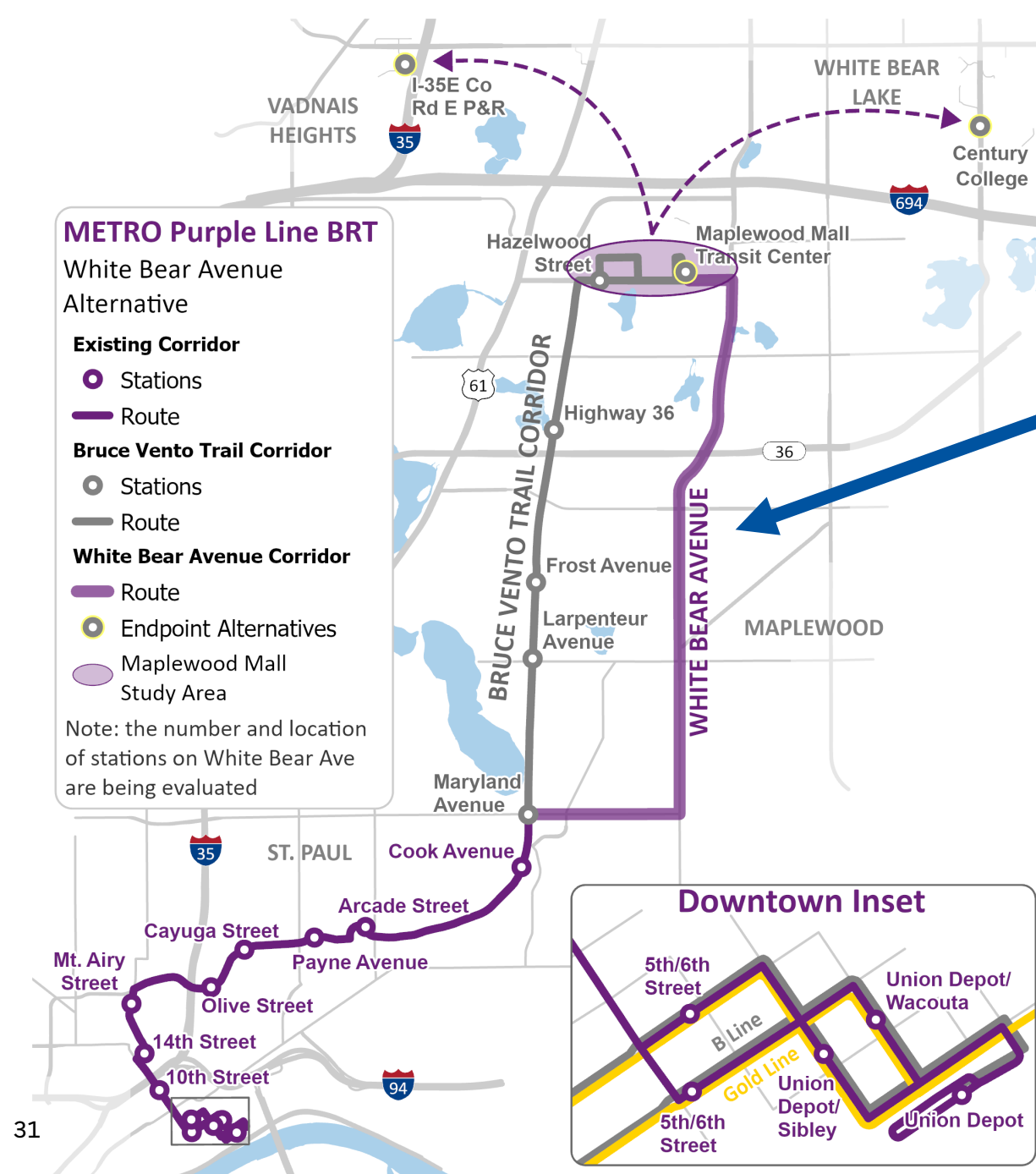
- Transition from Ramsey County (Rush Line) to the Metropolitan Council (Purple Line) ~ late 2021



Bus Rapid Transit Route Modification Study Phase II

- **Impetus:** In response to the March 2023 Ramsey County Letter to the City of Maplewood, the Purple Line Corridor Management Committee gave direction to study the feasibility of modifying the BRT route to operate on Maryland Avenue and White Bear Avenue in dedicated lanes with lane reconfiguration.
- **Goal:** To develop and evaluate the new routing alternative up to a level sufficient for comparison to the BRT line/regional trail colocation alternative to inform a recommendation on final alignment and northern terminus station (revised Locally Preferred Alternative)

RMS Phase II Study Area



- Study area is between Johnson Parkway/Phalen Boulevard and Maplewood Mall/St. John's Hospital
- Extensions to Vadnais Heights or Century College may be studied after the initial evaluation is complete
- Identify preferred alignment, guideway configurations and station locations

Maplewood and Corridor Management Committee (CMC) Concurrence

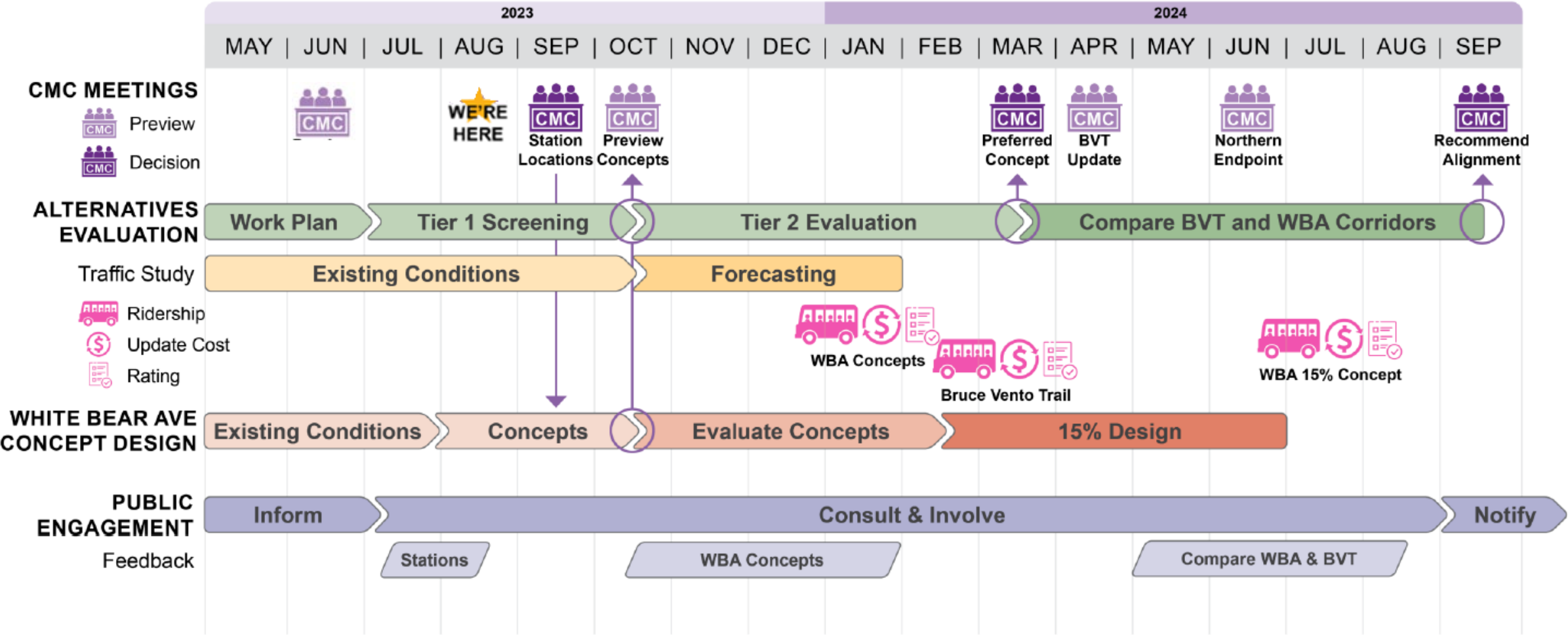
- On April 6, 2023, CMC concurred with the recommendation to evaluate Purple Line BRT on Maryland Avenue and White Bear Avenue

“The CMC concurs with Project Staff, working in collaboration with Project Partners, Stakeholders, and Interested Parties, moving forward with evaluating the feasibility and viability of a Purple Line BRT line operating in dedicated lanes on reconfigured White Bear Avenue, generally between Maryland Avenue in Saint Paul and Beam Avenue in Maplewood, consistent with the Ramsey County Letter (dated March 22, 2023) to the City of Maplewood.”

- On April 10, 2023, City of Maplewood passed a motion to accept the final report and advisory committee recommendation

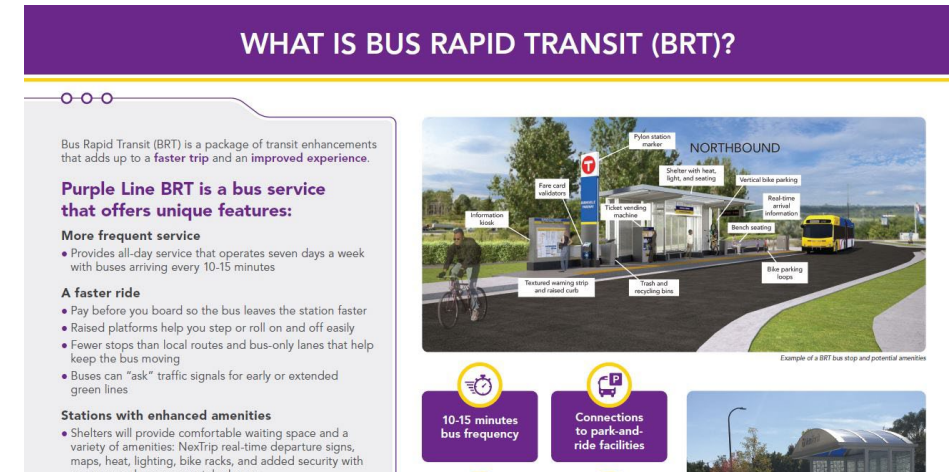
"The Purple Line Community Advisory Committee recommends that the Metropolitan Council perform a new route alternative analysis/study to focus on White Bear Avenue as an alternative route for the Purple Line; and any review and analysis must include robust public engagement with residents, community stakeholders, and staff from the Metropolitan Council, Ramsey County, and the City of Maplewood."

RMS Phase II Project Schedule



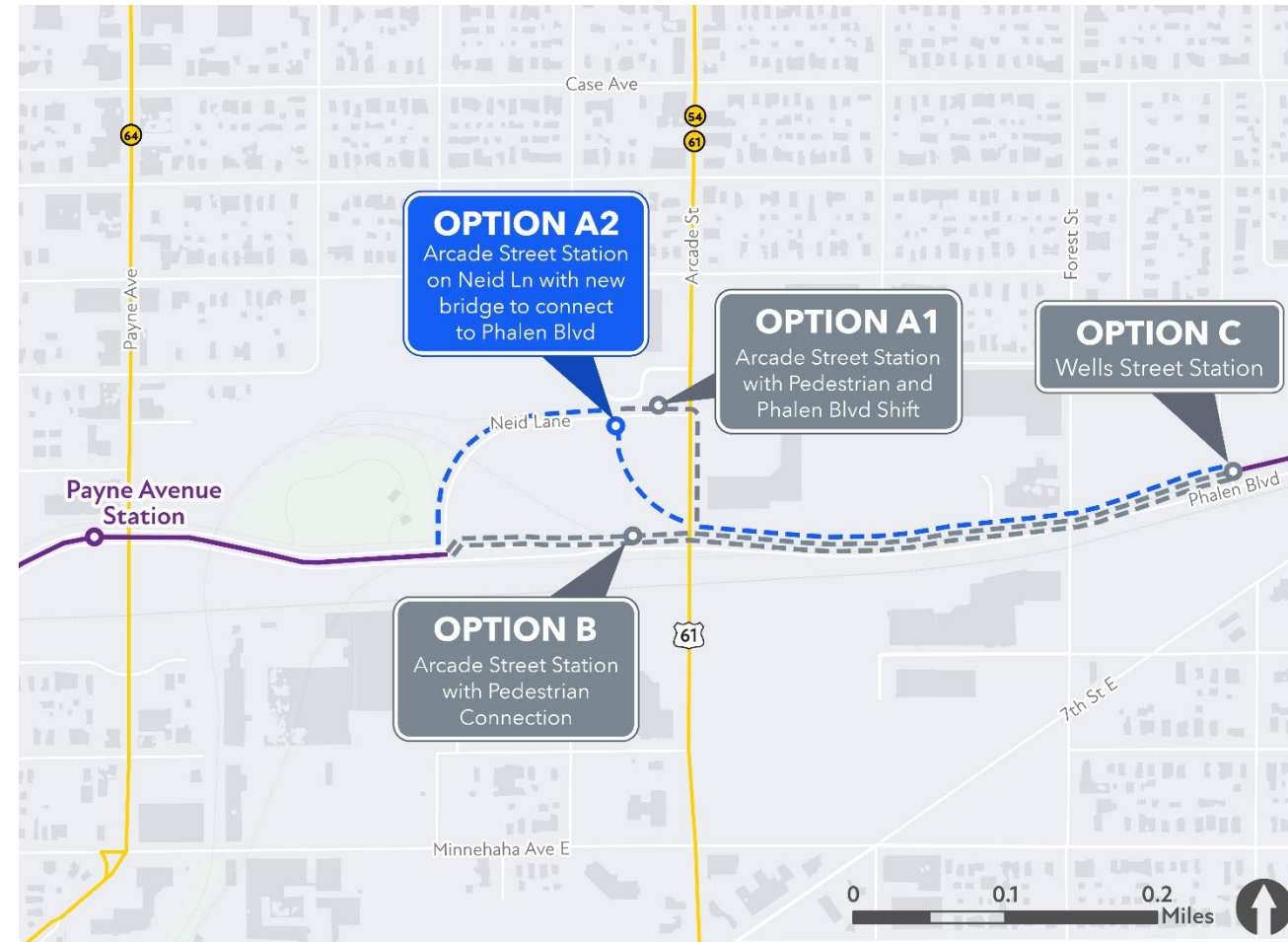
Engagement Activities (May-August)

- Pop-ups/ tabling at community events and locations where people gather (i.e., community centers, farmers markets)
- One-on-one meetings with stakeholders
- Presentations to community groups/stakeholders
- Newsletters / social media / website updates
- Canvassing on bus routes in corridor and business door knocking
- Community meetings
- Interactive feedback map and surveys



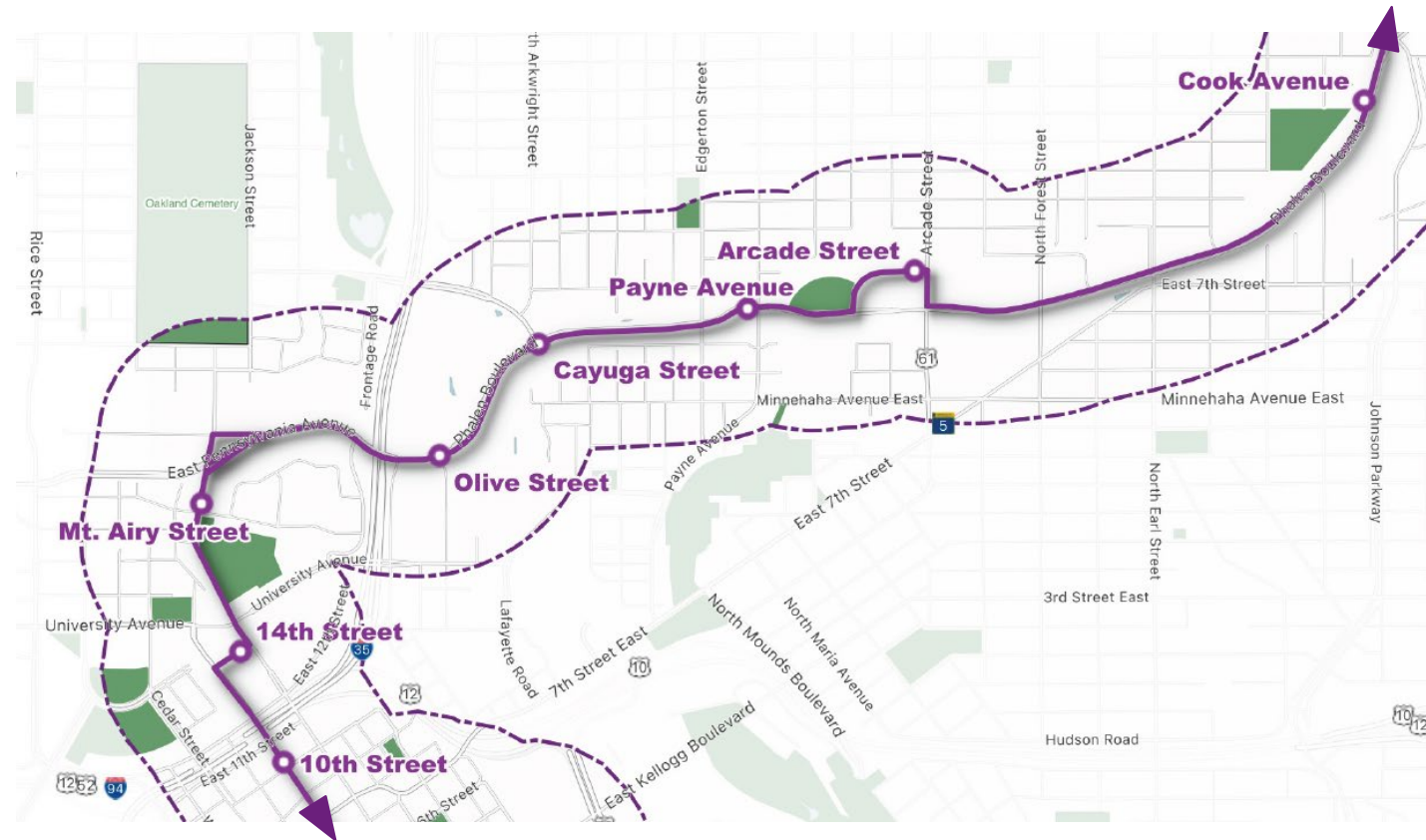
Arcade Station Evaluation Summary

- Arcade Options A and B performed satisfactory in all evaluation criteria
- Safety concerns were identified for Option B due to the elevation difference between Phalen and Arcade
- Arcade Option C did not perform satisfactory in the Supports Local Vision due to:
 - The majority of public input supported Options A or B.
 - Option C does not support the City of Saint Paul comprehensive plan.
- **Option A2 (Arcade St/Neid Ln)** was developed based on community preferences and supported by the Corridor Management Committee.



Station Area Planning (SAP)

- Saint Paul SAP focus
 - Recruiting participants for Station Area Working Groups (first meetings Sept. 2023)
 - Revising Mt. Airy Station Area Today chapter based on stakeholder feedback; will serve as model for other chapters
- Ramsey County Supplemental Community Engagement Partnership Program (SCEPP)
 - Identifying community-based organizations to lead engagement events in Spanish, Hmong, Somali, and Karen



Route segment for Station Area Working Group recruitment

Contact Us

For more information:

www.metrotransit.org/purple-line-project

[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) @PurpleLineBRT

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