

Orange Line Update and Service Launch

Metropolitan Council Committee of the Whole

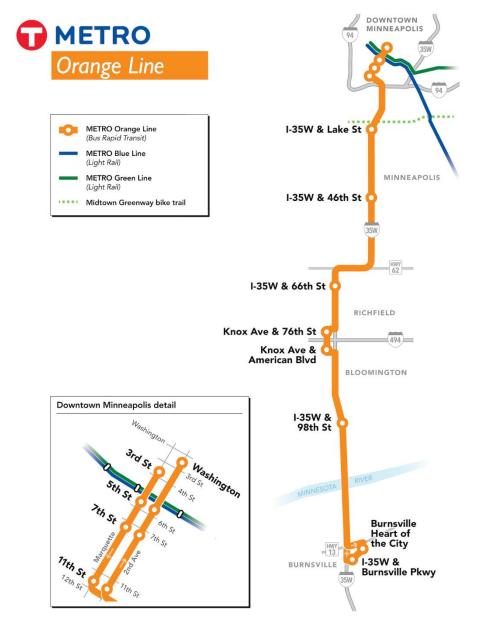
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December 1, 2021



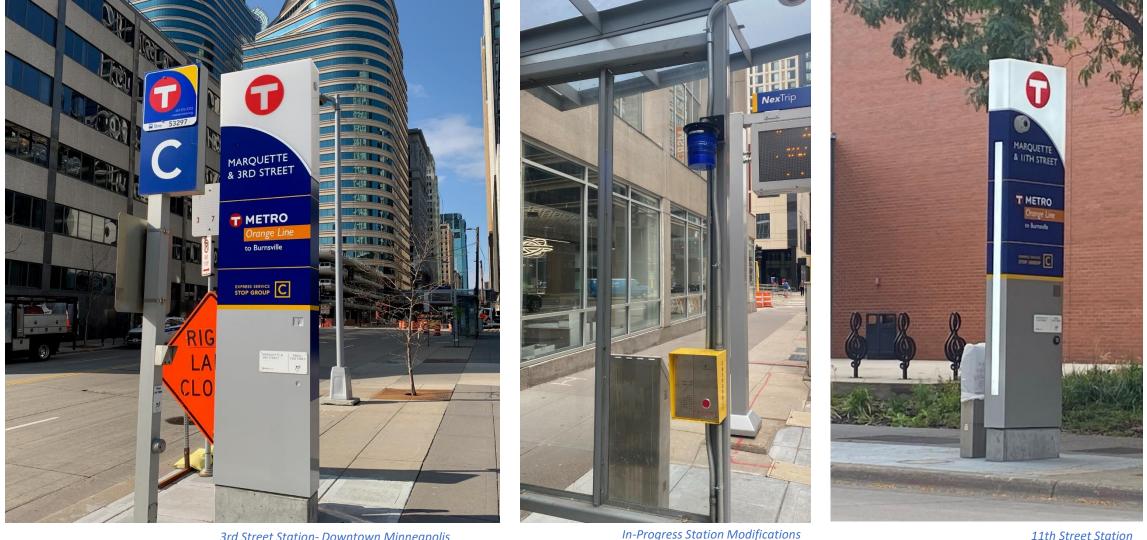
Project Overview

- 17-mile Bus Rapid Transit Line from Downtown Minneapolis to Burnsville
- Builds on decades of highway and transit investment along I-35W/I-35
- All-day, bi-directional service to destinations along the corridor
- Opening for service on December 4, 2021
- \$150.7 million project budget
 - 60% FTA Small Starts/federal funds
 - Additional \$11.36M federal ARPA appropriation summer 2021, reduces local funding shares
 - 30% Counties funding
 - 10% State funding





Virtual Tour- Downtown Minneapolis



3rd Street Station- Downtown Minneapolis

11th Street Station



Downtown Minneapolis



11th Street Station- Downtown Minneapolis

12th Street Bus-Only Ramp into Downtown Minneapolis



I-35W & Lake St Station- Before



Previous Bus Stop Staircase

Previous Bus Stop on Freeway Shoulder



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I-35W & Lake St Station- After

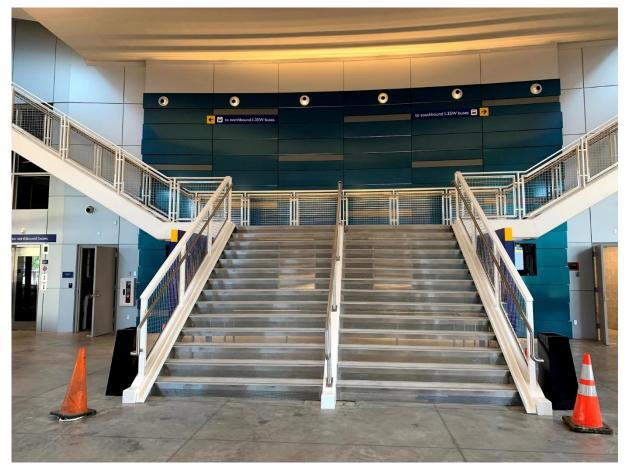


Transit Station and Bridge Exterior

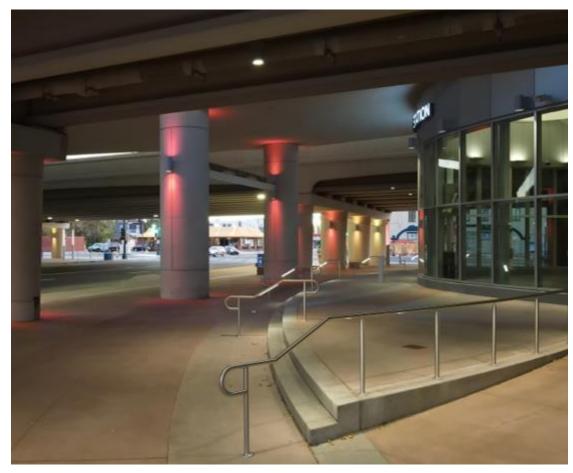
Station Aerial View



I-35W & Lake St Station- Lake Street Level







Station Plaza



I-35W & 46th St Station



I-35W & 46th Street Station

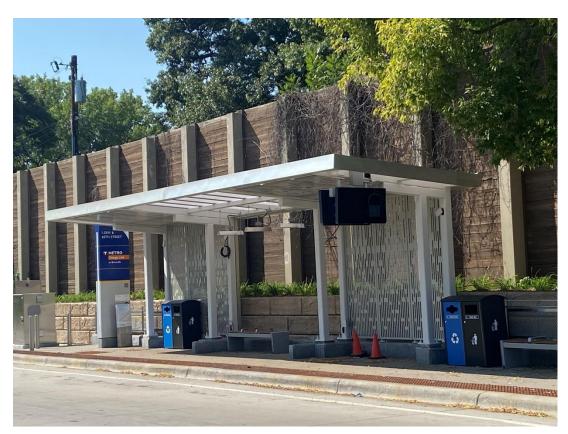
Station Interior



I-35W & 66th St Station



Northbound 66th Street Station



Southbound 66th Street Station



Knox Ave & 76th St Station







Knox Ave Tunnel



May 2020 Construction



July 2021 Construction



Tunnel Construction



Structure Construction May 2021

Guideway Construction Late 2021



Tunnel Completion- Late November



Tunnel Interior



Knox Ave & American Blvd Station





Top: Northbound Knox Ave & American Blvd Station Left: Southbound Station

Right: Southbound Station





I-35W & 98th Street Station



Southbound Station



Burnsville Heart of the City Station



Burnsville Heart of the City Station

Burnsville Parkway Station



Burnsville Parkway Station



Service Span and Frequency

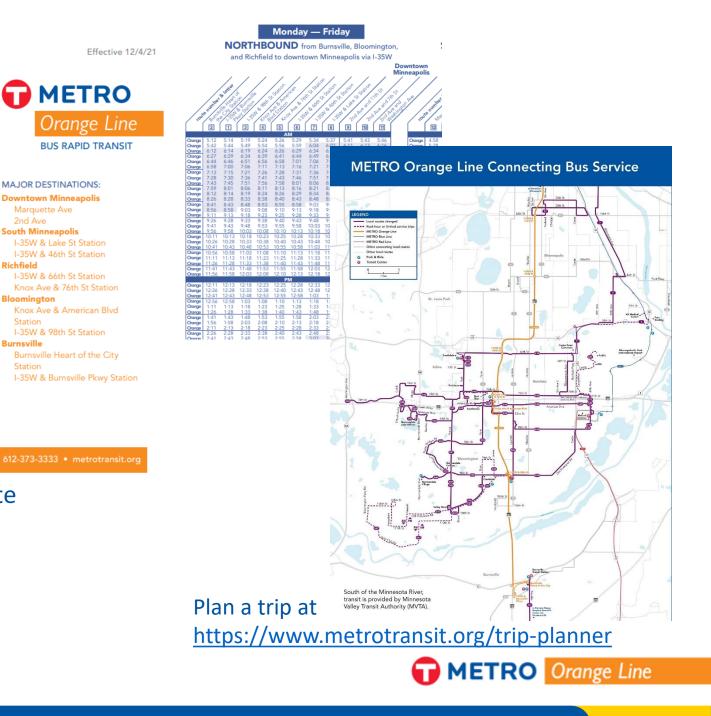
- Frequent all-day bi-directional service
- Weekdays- Every 15 minutes
- Weekends- Every 30 minutes
- Span of service
 - 5am to midnight weekdays
 - 6am to 11pm Saturday
 - 7am to 11pm Sunday
- Connecting Service including new routes
 - Increased Orange Line and Connecting Route frequency planned as operator availability increases

2nd Ave

Bloomington

Burnsville

Richfield



Orange Line Bus Fleet





60-foot Articulated Bus at Knox Ave Tunnel



METRO Orange Line

Bus Testing Underway at 98th St Station

I-35W & Lake Street Station- Advanced Opening October 21







SouthWest Transit Bus at I-35W & Lake St



Operational Readiness- Service Testing and Operator Training



Bus Testing in the Knox Avenue Tunnel

Metro Transit Operators



Grand Opening Events

- Orange Line service begins at 6am Saturday Dec 4
- Ribbon Cutting/Opening events on Dec 4
 - Remarks 1 p.m. at I-35W & Lake Street Station Plaza
 - Dignitary Ride on Orange Line to Burnsville
 - Welcome remarks at Burnsville Heart of the City Station
 - Partner info tables, entertainment, concessions (2-4 p.m.)
- Rides on Orange Line are free Dec 4-6
 - No fare required on Orange Line <u>only</u>
 - Staff ambassadors will ride Orange Line buses Dec 4-6
- Staff ambassadors assisting at stations Tuesday
 Dec 7 (first day fares are required on Orange Line)





Creative/Media Presence

- Transit fleet
- Digital billboards
- Banner ads
- Community newspaper ads
- Social media
- Metrotransit.org/orangeline







Questions/Discussion

