

Transit Projects Status Update

Metropolitan Council
March 27, 2019



Transit Projects Status Update

- METRO Blue Line Extension
- METRO Orange Line
- METRO Gold Line
- Locally-Led Projects: Rush Line and Riverview

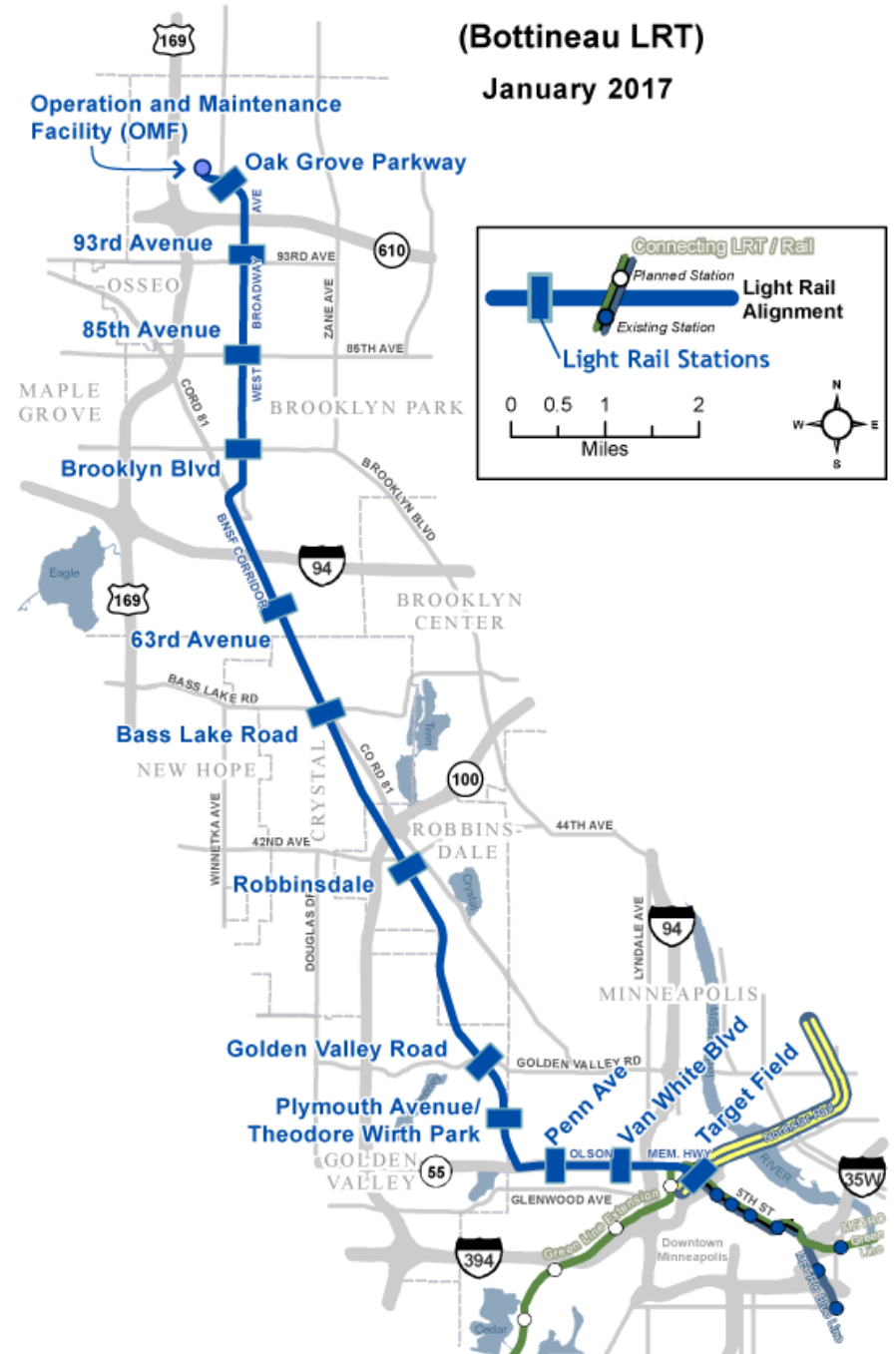
Project Overview

- 11 new LRT stations
- 13.5 miles of double track
- 27,000 est. rides by 2040
- Serving Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Robbinsdale, Golden Valley & Minneapolis
- One seat ride from Brooklyn Park to Bloomington

METRO Blue Line Extension

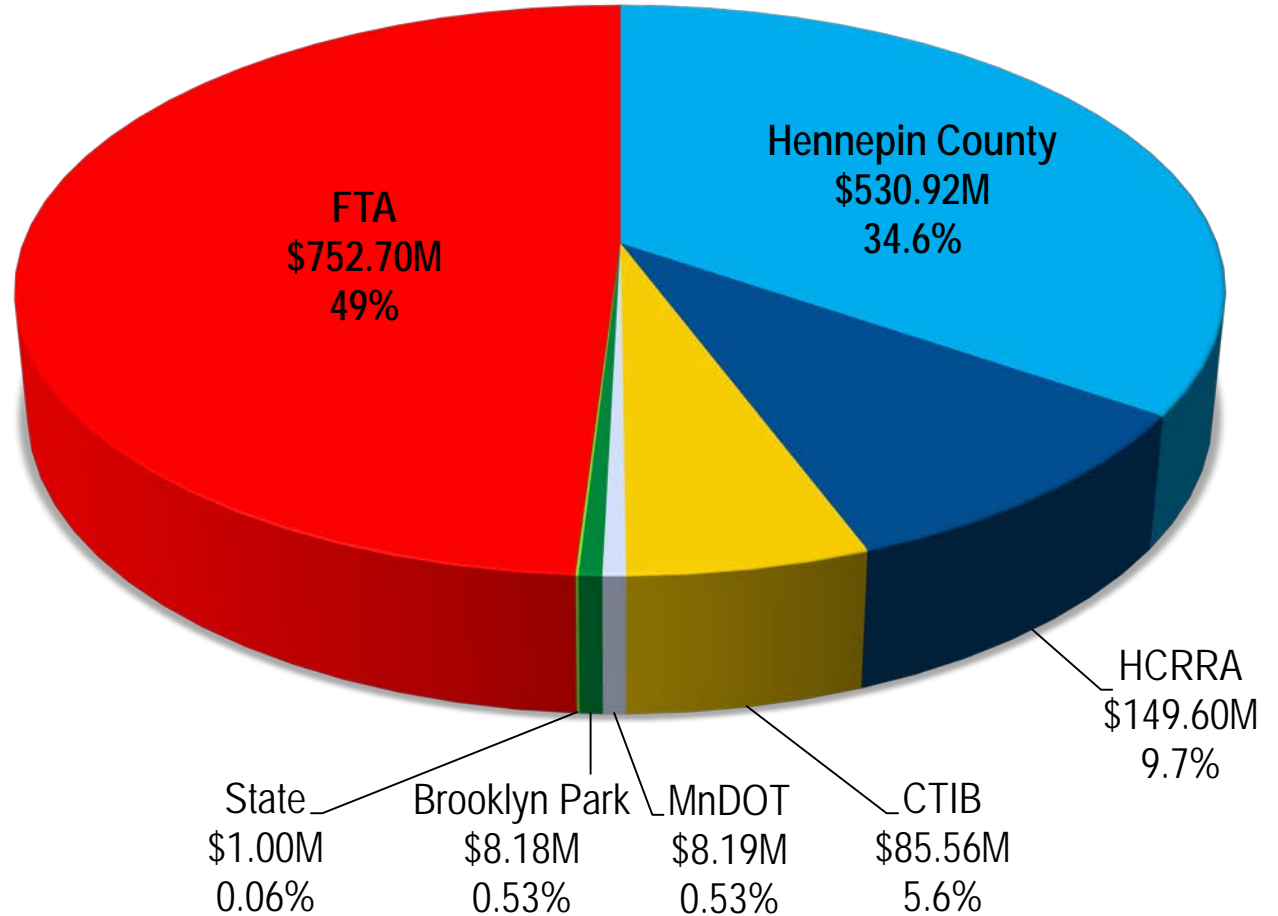
(Bottineau LRT)

January 2017



Funding Sources: \$1.536 Billion Budget

- Hennepin County
- Hennepin County RRA
- Counties Transit Improvement Board
- MnDOT
- Brooklyn Park
- State
- Federal Transit Administration



Project Milestones

- March 2014: Draft Environmental Impact Statement published
- Aug 2014: FTA approved project to enter Project Development phase of the New Starts process
- March 2016: Cities and Hennepin County approve preliminary design plans in the Municipal Consent Process
- July 2016: Final Environmental Impact Statement published
- Sept 2016: FTA issued Record of Decision
- Jan 2017: FTA approved project to enter Engineering phase of the New Starts process



2019 Activities

- Carry out Cultural Resources activities related to archeological survey and Floyd B Olson statue
- Support Southwest Project Office on Franklin Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Facility design
- Participate in quarterly meetings with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and prepare routine reports
- Allocate staff to other projects & Council Departments
- Meet with BNSF to discuss their technical comments



More Information

The screenshot shows the Metropolitan Council website with a navigation menu at the top including 'About Us', 'News & Events', 'Data & Maps', 'Publications', 'Doing Business', 'Council Meetings', 'Contact Us', and 'Employment'. Below the navigation is a logo for 'METROPOLITAN COUNCIL' and a menu with categories: 'COMMUNITIES', 'PARKS', 'TRANSPORTATION', 'WASTEWATER & WATER', 'HOUSING', and 'PLANNING'. The 'TRANSPORTATION' category is highlighted. Below the menu is a large photograph of a blue and yellow METRO bus at a station with passengers. Underneath the photo is a sidebar with a 'METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION' dropdown menu containing links for 'Route', 'Stations', 'Environmental', 'Timeline', and 'Project Partners'. The main content area features the title 'METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION' and subtitle 'Bottineau Transitway – Minneapolis & Northwestern Communities'. The text describes the LRT route from downtown Minneapolis through north Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal, and Brooklyn Park. It also includes a 'Latest News' section with the headline 'Feds: Met Council can begin designing METRO Blue Line Extension' and a 'Route' section with the text 'Click on the map below for more information'.

Website: BlueLineExt.org

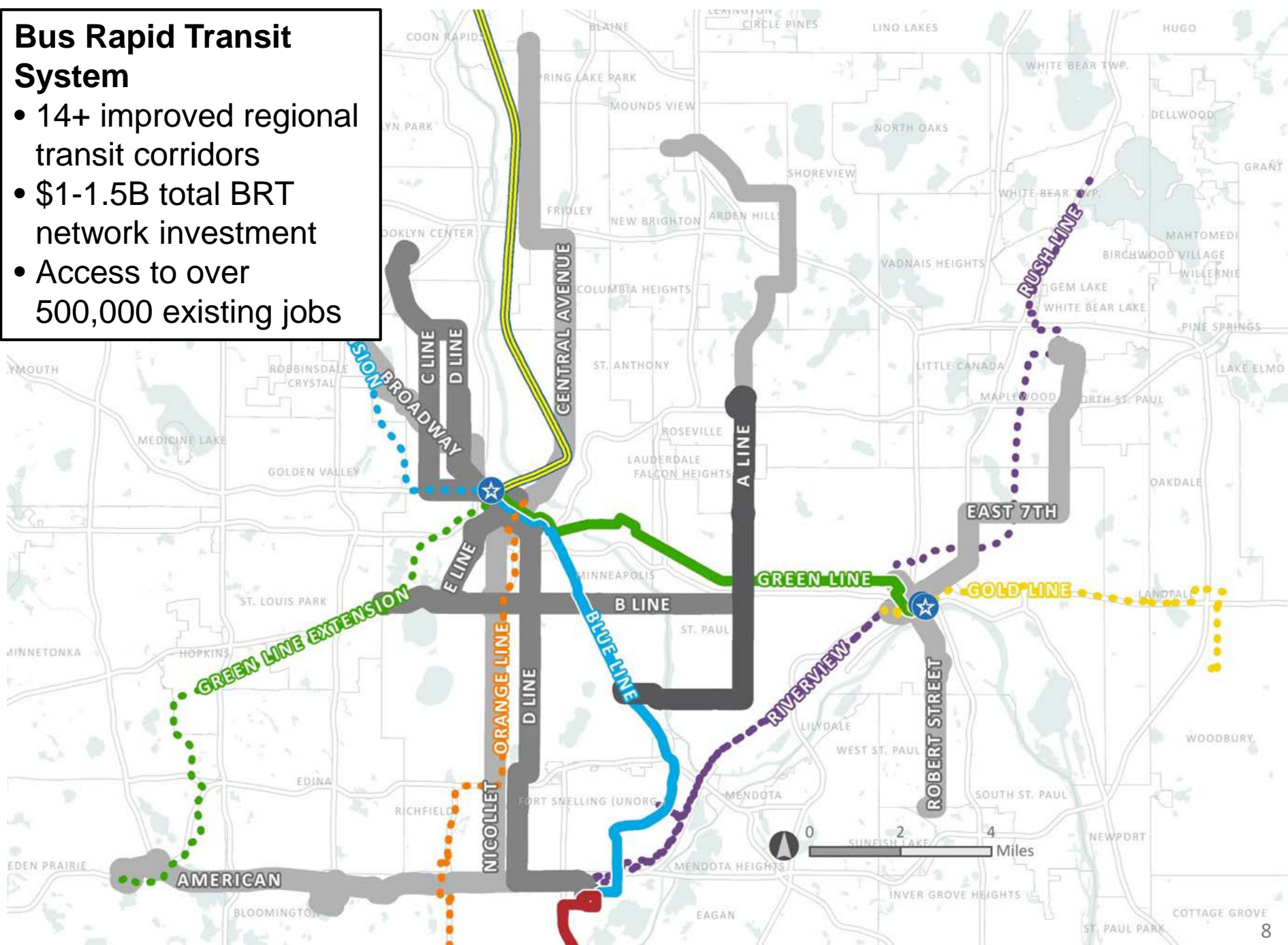
Email: BlueLineExt@metrotransit.org

Twitter: [@BlueLineExt](https://twitter.com/BlueLineExt)



Bus Rapid Transit System

- 14+ improved regional transit corridors
- \$1-1.5B total BRT network investment
- Access to over 500,000 existing jobs



Three types of BRT defined in Council Policy



Arterial BRT



Highway BRT



Dedicated BRT

In practice, BRT Projects share more similarities than differences

- A faster ride than local bus service
- Frequent service to more destinations
- Transit travel time advantages as possible
- Fare payment prior to boarding
- Stations with heating, lighting, real-time information, security features & regular maintenance
- Evaluation and use of electric buses

METRO Orange Line BRT

Most heavily-traveled express bus corridor

- 14,000 existing bus riders each weekday on 26 routes
- Over 26,000 rides by 2040 with the addition of BRT
- Builds on past express bus investments on 35W
- Includes new stations and strategic guideway investment for capacity, speed, and reliability

Who are Orange Line riders?

- Access to 56,000 jobs and 81,000 residents outside of downtown Minneapolis
- Better serves all-day, evening, weekend markets
- Better serves non-downtown trips, especially to the 494 corridor



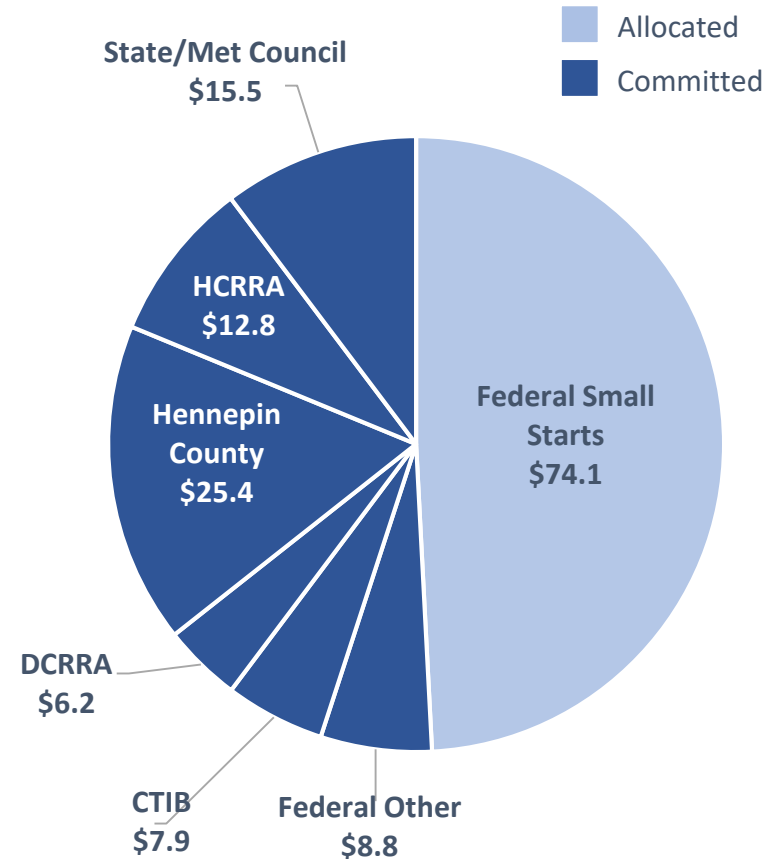
Orange Line Schedule

	2019 Q1/Q2	2019 Q3/Q4	2020 Q1/Q2	2020 Q3/Q4	2021 Q1/Q2	2021 Q3/Q4
Complete Engineering	Active					
Execute Small Starts Grant	Active					
35W@94 Construction	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active
Knox Avenue Construction		Active	Active	Active	Active	Active
Station Construction				Active	Active	Active
Testing & Startup					Active	Active
Revenue Service						Dec. 2021

Orange Line Budget

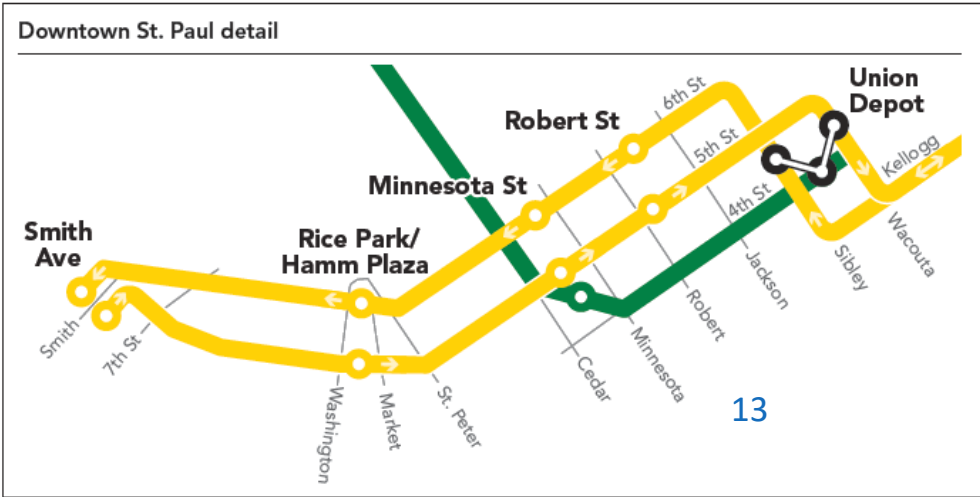
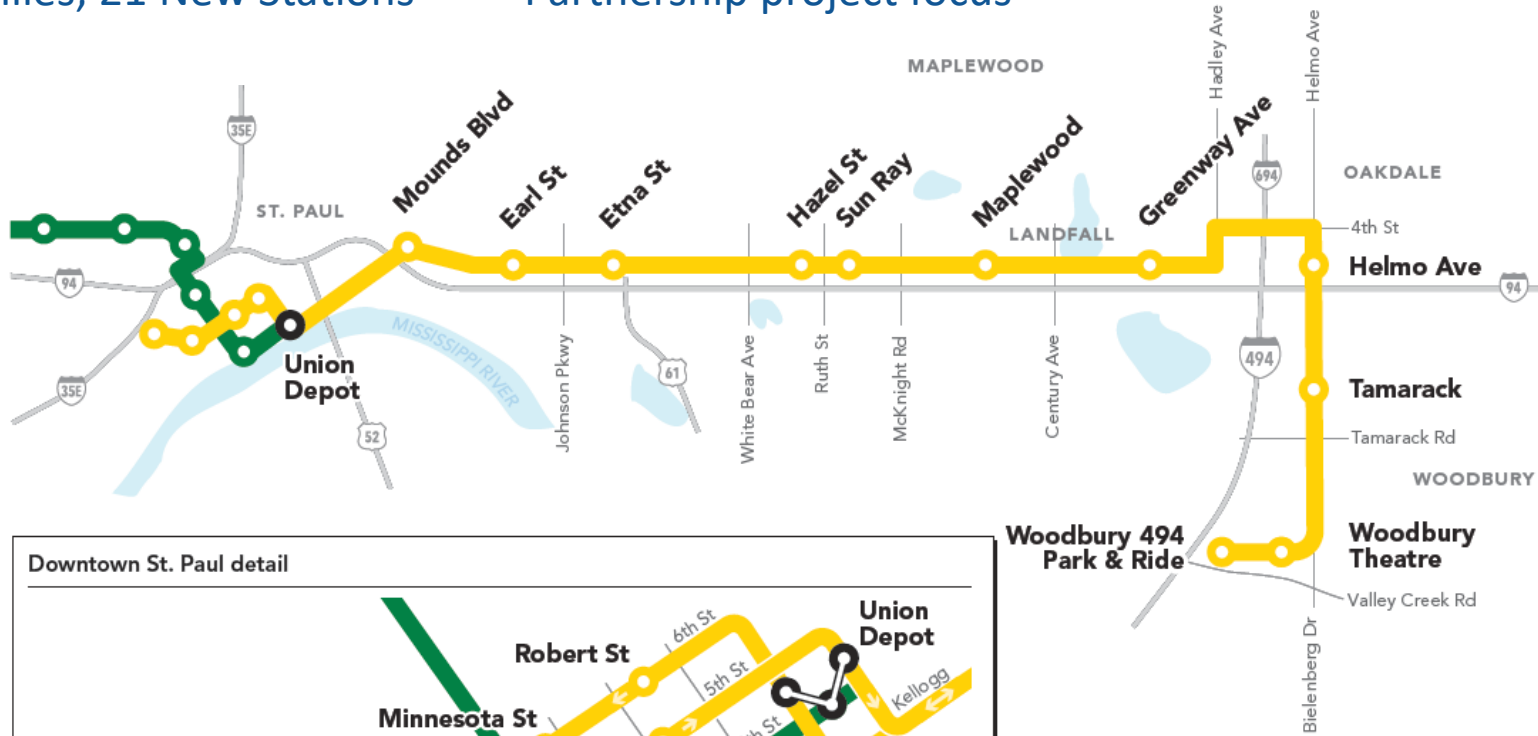
- All funds secured
- Federal allocation was made to the Orange Line in November 2018
- Execution of \$74.1 Small Starts grant underway
- Total capital cost stable at \$150.7M

Capital Sources, in Millions



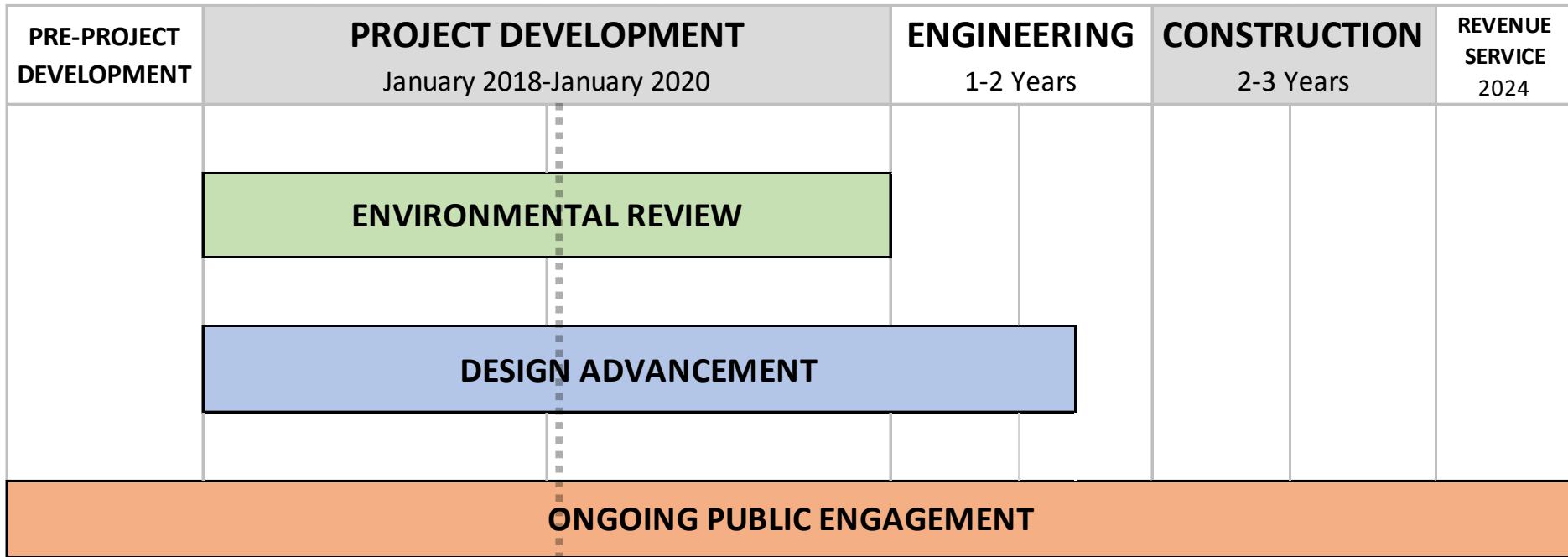
Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Project

- Dedicated guideway BRT
- Serves 5 cities, 2 counties
- FTA New Starts project
- 10 miles, 21 New Stations
- Partnership project focus



	METRO Gold Line (Bus Rapid Transit)
	METRO Green Line (Light Rail)
	Transfer Station

Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Project Timeline

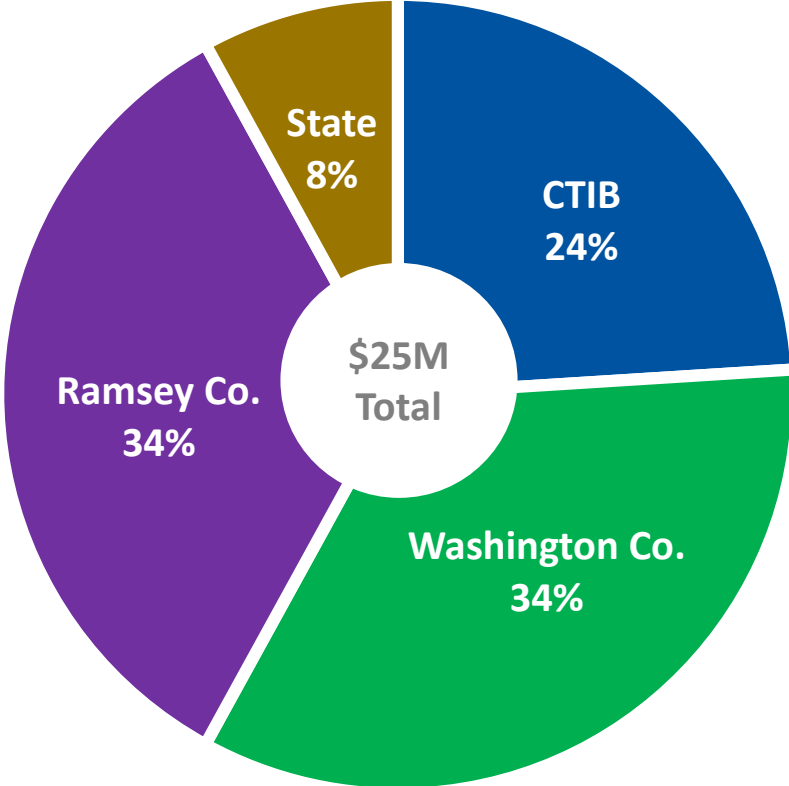


WE ARE
HERE

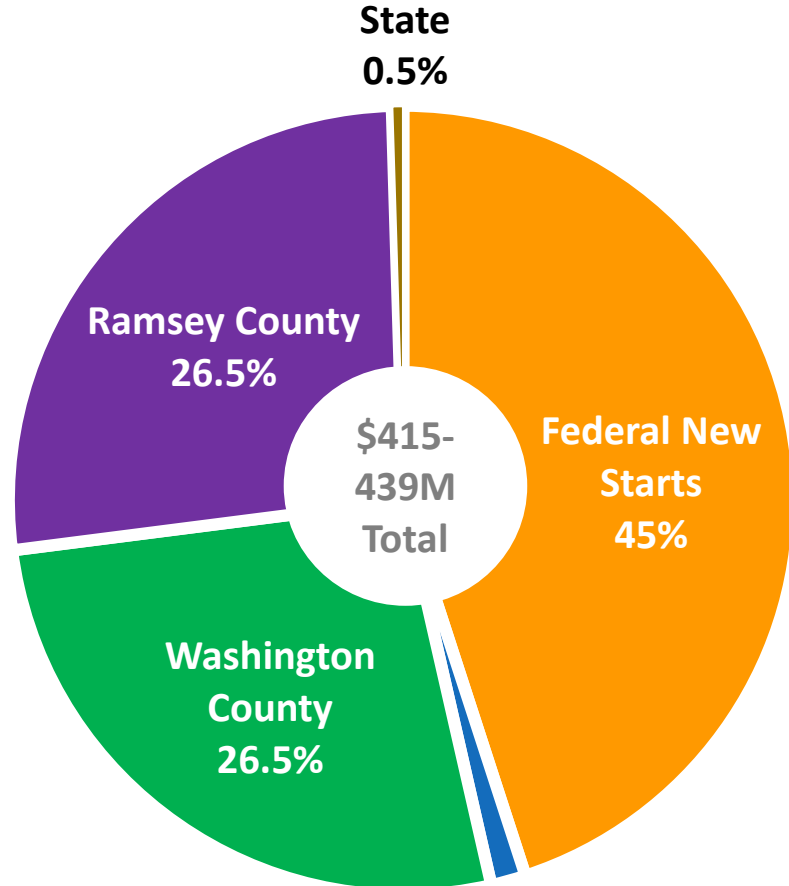
Funding



Project Development Funding (\$25M approved)



Overall Funding (\$415-439M, in progress)



Up to \$27M of requested project scope also under consideration

Arterial BRT Projects Preview

- A Line (Snelling Avenue) Open 2016
Ridership up about 40%
- C Line (Penn Avenue) Substantially constructed
Opening June 8, 2019
- **D Line (Chicago/Fremont)** **Preliminary engineering
underway**
- B Line (Lake/Marshall) Planning & engagement
beginning spring 2019
- E Line (Hennepin Avenue) Corridor study underway

- *2019-2020: Planning & engagement effort to identify next
planned arterial BRT lines*

Locally-Led Transit Projects

Rush Line BRT Project



B R T

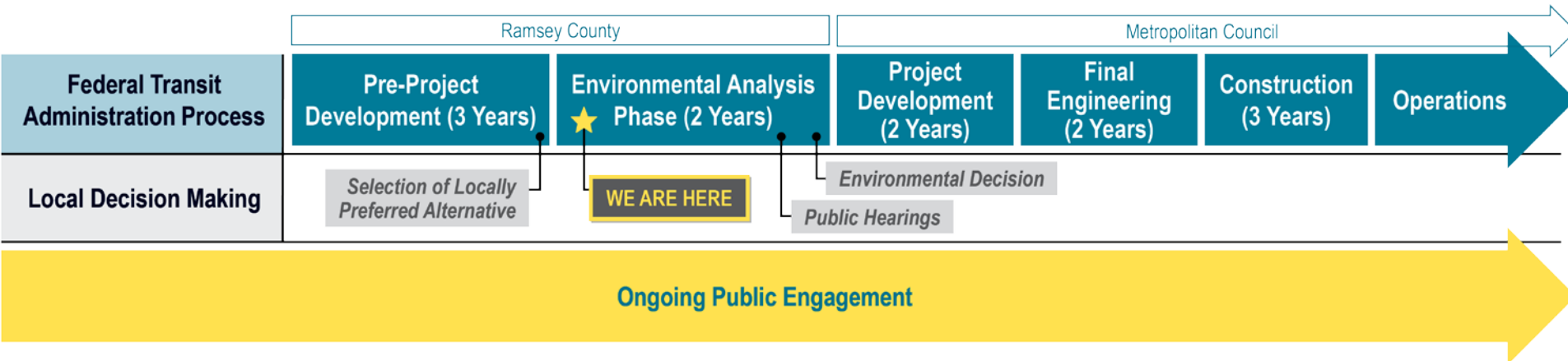
- Dedicated guideway BRT.
- Phalen Boulevard and Robert Street into downtown Saint Paul.
- Ramsey County rail right-of-way (shared with Bruce Vento Trail).
- Highway 61 north of I-694 into White Bear Lake.



Transitway Development Process



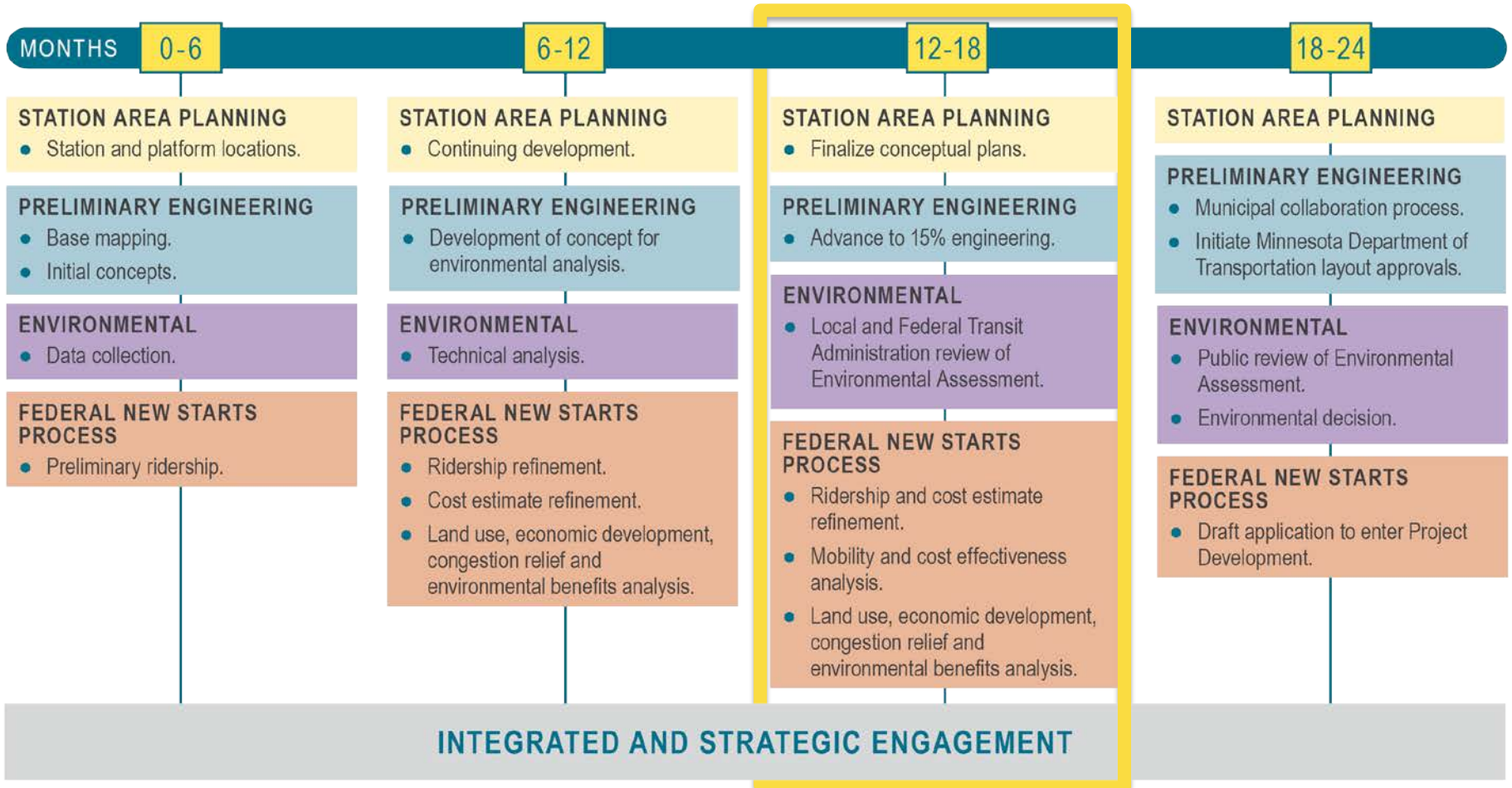
B R T



Environmental Analysis Phase Schedule



B R T

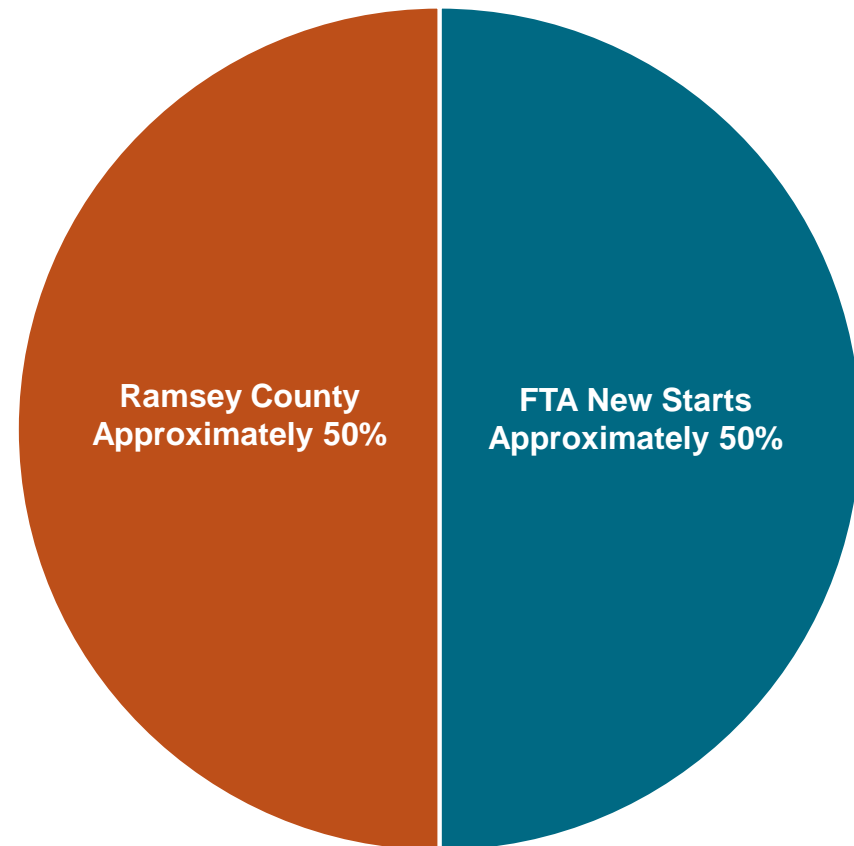


Anticipated Costs and Funding



- Previous phase cost estimate of \$420-475 million (2021\$).
- Scope refinements and updated cost estimates are underway as part of the environmental analysis phase.
- Metropolitan Council anticipates leading the project beginning with FTA New Starts Project Development.

Anticipated Project Funding Sources

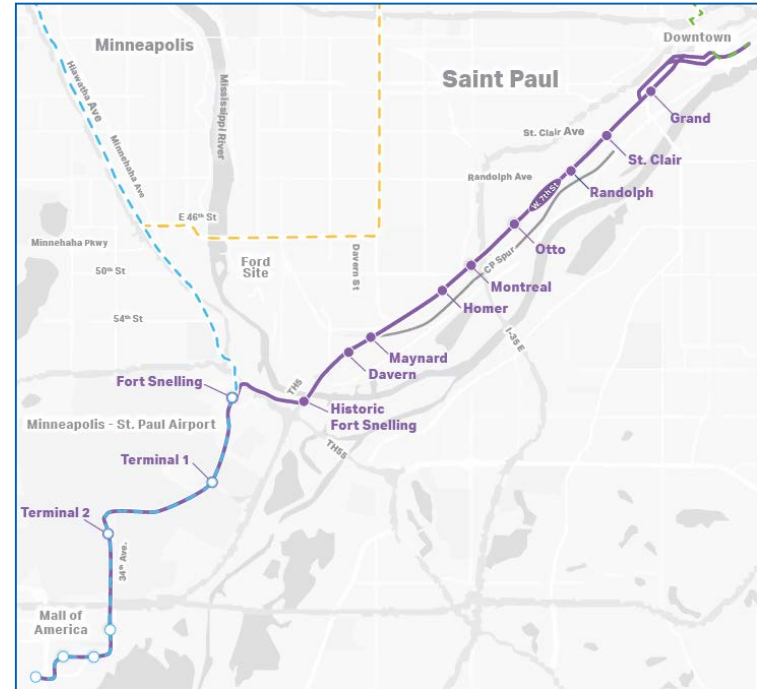


Riverview's Locally Preferred Alternative

Alternative
4b

Modern Streetcar: W. 7th – Hwy 5/Fort Snelling

- Union Depot to the Mall of America.
- Generally along W. 7th Street and crossing the river at Hwy 5.
- New Bridge across the Mississippi River.
- Tunnel under Fort Snelling.



What is Modern Streetcar?



Atlanta
Atlanta

Source: City of



Detroit
1 Rail

Source: Qline, M-



Seattle

Source: Seattle Department of Transportation



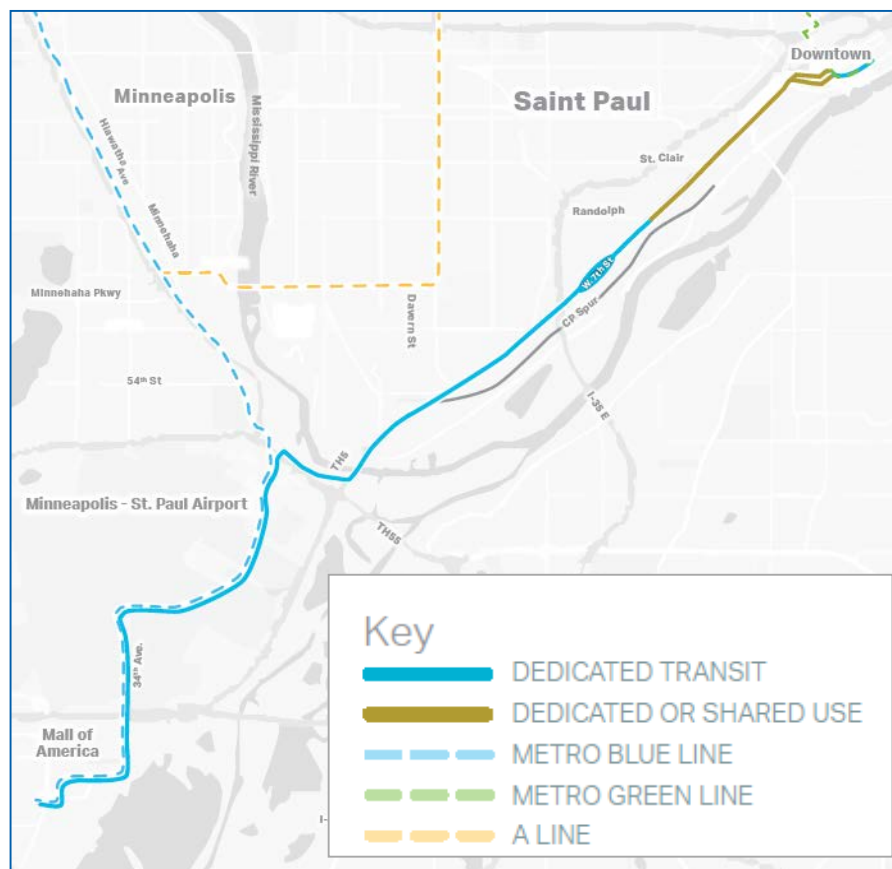
Portland

Source: TriMet

What is Modern Streetcar?

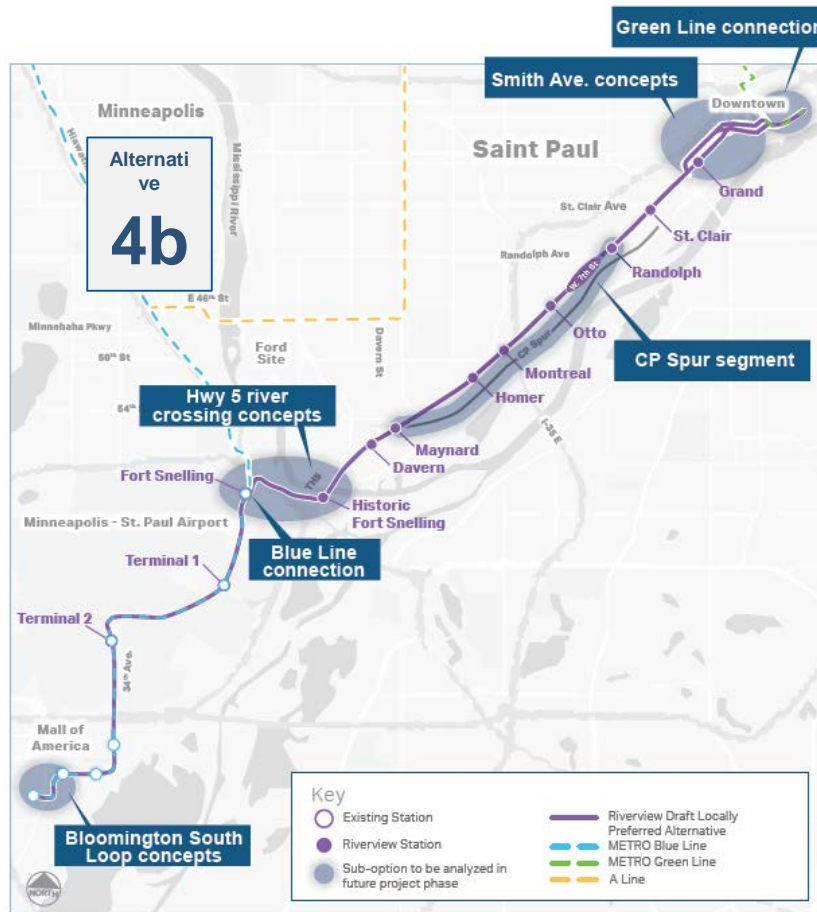
For Riverview Corridor.

- Operating Environment.
 - Dedicated and shared use lanes.
- Infrastructure compatible with Blue & Green Lines.
 - Tracks, signals, power.
 - Operations and maintenance.
 - Stations.
- Station Features.
 - Level boarding.
 - Pay before you board.
 - High amenity stations.



Work in progress; subject to change without notice

Riverview Details and Schedule



Locally Preferred Alternative Stats:

- 11.7 mi.** - Corridor length
- 20** - Number of stations
- 10 min.** - Peak frequency
- 44 min.** - End-to-end travel time
- 13,900** - Daily riders (current year)
- 20,400** - Daily riders (2040)

Projected Opening in 2031

Riverview Financial Plan adopted in TPP

- \$2.066 B capital cost assumption in financial plan, per new mid-year of construction
- Available revenues based on realistic projects or assumptions
- Capital cost funding split:
 - FTA New Starts: 49.0% \$1,012.3 M
 - Ramsey County: 28.7% \$592.9 M
 - RCRRA: 7.0% \$144.6 M
 - Hennepin County: 12.3% \$254.1 M
 - HCRRA: 3.0% \$62.0 M
- Operating cost funding split (first full year):
 - Passenger fares: 30.0% \$11.1 M
 - State: 35.0% \$13.0 M
 - Ramsey County: 24.5% \$9.1 M
 - Hennepin County: 10.5% \$3.9 M



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C O U N C I L