METRO Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Downtown Minneapolis to Burnsville

- 12 stations, 17 miles
- All-day, frequent BRT and improvements for existing express bus service along I-35W
- Improved access to downtown Minneapolis and to 56,000 jobs and 81,000 residents outside downtown

Project Status

- Opening late 2021
- Fully funded, $150 million project
- 68% Construction Complete (by value)

Next segment of METRO network of LRT & BRT Lines
Construction Contracts

• 35W@94 Downtown to Crosstown
  - Orange Line features include 12th Street Bus Only Ramp, bus only 12th Street contraflow lane from 35W and Lake Street Station

• Knox Avenue Underpass

• Orange Line Stations
I-35W & Lake Street Station - Freeway Level

Future BRT Station

Present Construction

Past Bus Stop
Construction Activities One Year Ago

Pouring of the Transit Bridge, Spring 2020

Pouring of the Transit Bridge, Spring 2020
35W & Lake Street Station

Southbound 35W level loading area, Winter 2021

Transit Bridge, Winter 2021
Station Interior

Stairs to 35W level from North Station, Winter 2021

North Station Lobby grand staircase, Winter 2021
Knox Avenue Tunnel under I-494 (Summer 2020)

- Transit and bike/ped-only tunnel under 494
- Doorstep access to Best Buy and Penn-American district shopping, jobs, growing residential area
- Saves 10 minutes from 76th to 82nd St compared to today’s routing via Penn Ave
- 15-minute ride from Downtown Minneapolis

[Image of construction site and map with annotations]

North half tunnel construction, Summer 2020
2020 North Half Tunnel Construction

North half tunnel construction, Summer 2020

North half tunnel complete, Fall 2020

North half tunnel Interior, Fall 2020
February 2021- South Tunnel East Wall Footing Completed
Stations Package- Bloomington American Blvd

Southbound Knox and American Station utility installation, Fall 2020

Southbound Knox and American Station, Winter 2021
Stations Package- Bloomington 98th Street

98th Street Station Plaza, Winter 2020

Shelter Erection at 98th Street, Winter 2020
Station Visualization (66th St)

*Rendering of future Northbound 66th Street station*
DBE Participation

Bald Eagle Erectors Installing Lake Street Canopy, Summer 2020

Bald Eagle Erectors Installing Lake Street Canopy, Fall 2020
DBE Participation, continued

*Rice Lake Boring boring 42” Watermain under 494, Fall 2019*

*Safety Signs installing signage, Summer 2020*
2021 Next Steps

• Complete Construction
  - Complete 35W@94 road project including Lake Street Station (Sept)
  - Complete Stations
    • March shelter steel placement
    • Ongoing construction to Fall 2021
    • Commissioning/Testing
  - Complete Knox Avenue project
    • Walls/Roof completion
    • Restore I-494
    • Transit roadway and path
    • Lighting, communications, systems
    • Landscape restoration

• Revenue Service Preparations
Questions?

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