



METRO Purple Line BRT Project

Metropolitan Council

July 14, 2021

Project Definition

- Dedicated guideway BRT
- Frequent, all day service
- Three major segments
 - Phalen Boulevard and Robert Street into downtown Saint Paul
 - Ramsey County rail right-of-way (shared with Bruce Vento Regional Trail)
 - Highway 61 north of I-694 into White Bear Lake
- Serves 50 medical clinics and hospitals
- Connect to 106,000 jobs within a 10-minute walk of the 21 planned stations

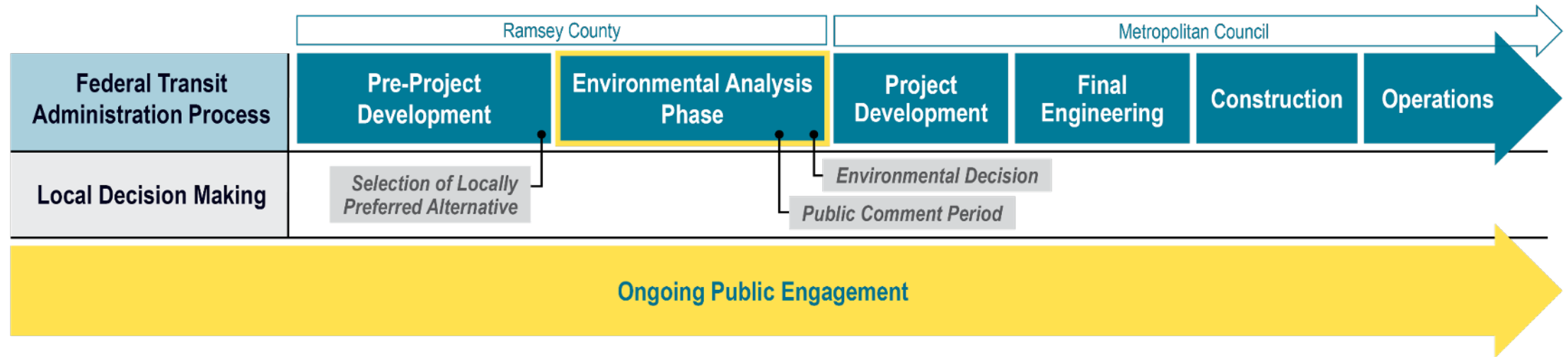


Key Project Metrics

- \$456.9 to \$473.7 million Capital Cost Estimate
 - 51% Ramsey County and 49% FTA
- \$15.3 to \$15.4 million Opening Year Operations and Maintenance Cost Estimate
 - 50% Ramsey County and 50% Met Council
- 6,700 to 7,400 average daily rides in 2040
- Anticipated Capital Investment Grant Program New Starts Project Rating: MEDIUM to MEDIUM-HIGH

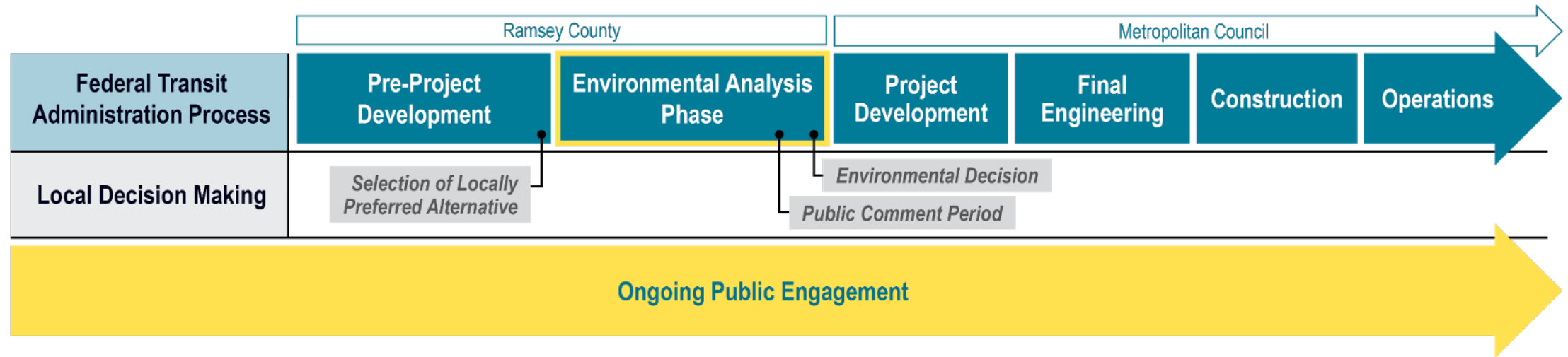


Project Schedule – Current Phase



- Environmental Analysis Phase (Early 2018 – Late 2021)
 - Environmental Assessment and Final Environmental Determination
 - Engineering (up to 25% design)
 - Station area planning
 - Public engagement

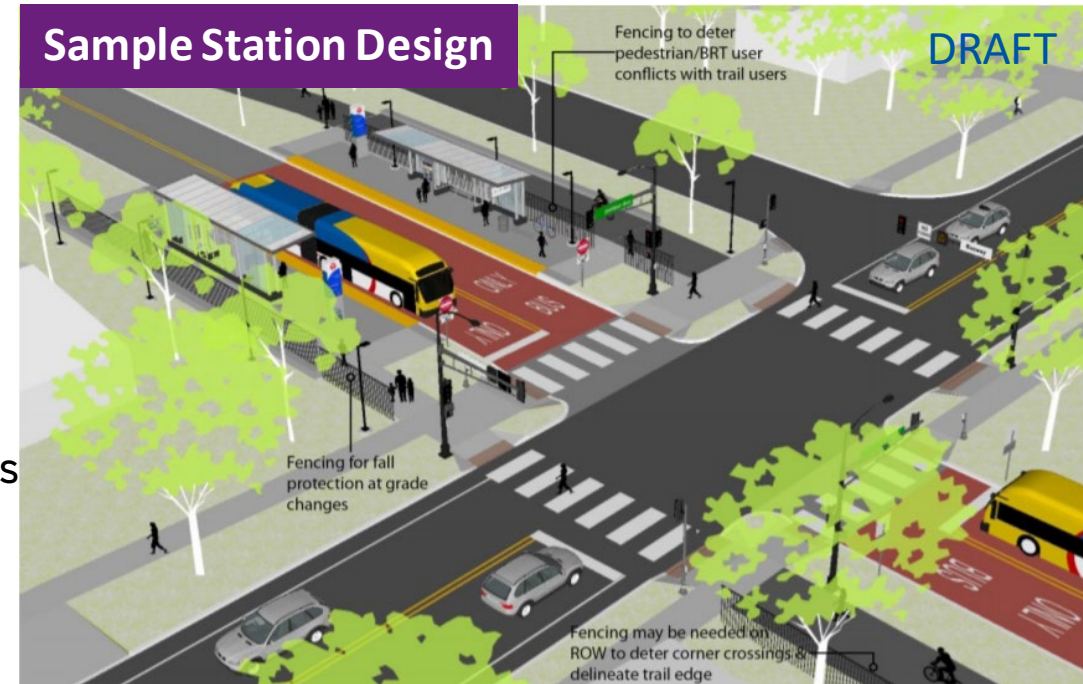
Project Schedule – Future Phases



- Project Development (Late 2021 – Early 2023)
- Engineering (Early 2023 – Early 2024)
- Construction (Early 2024 – Early 2026)
- Revenue Service (Late 2026)

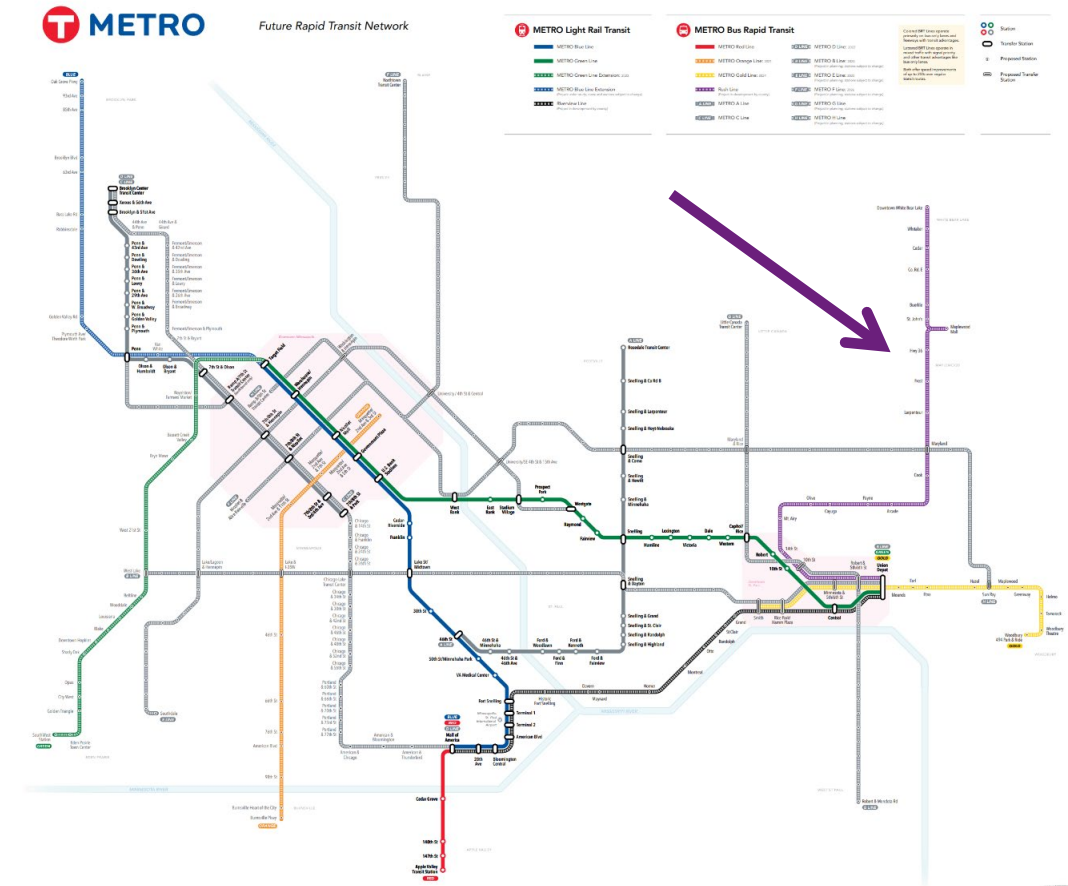
Project Transition

- Local lead agency role transitioning from County to Council
 - Mirroring the process used for METRO Gold Line BRT in 2017 and past rail projects
- Ongoing County Responsibilities
 - Complete current environmental process
 - Initiate and complete applicable municipal approvals
 - Close out the Environmental Analysis Phase
 - Make full funding commitment for next phase
- Initial Council Responsibilities
 - Continued coordination with county-led activities
 - Prepare for Project's Entry into FTA's Capital Investment Grant Program as a New Starts Project



METRO Purple Line (formerly Rush Line)

- Formal activation of Purple Line
 - Color had been set aside but not formally assigned back in 2017
- Rebranding now thru end of year
 - New Agreements, Procurements, and FTA Submittals will lead with METRO Purple Line
 - METRO Purple Line Project Website Creation
 - Rush Line Project Website Retirement

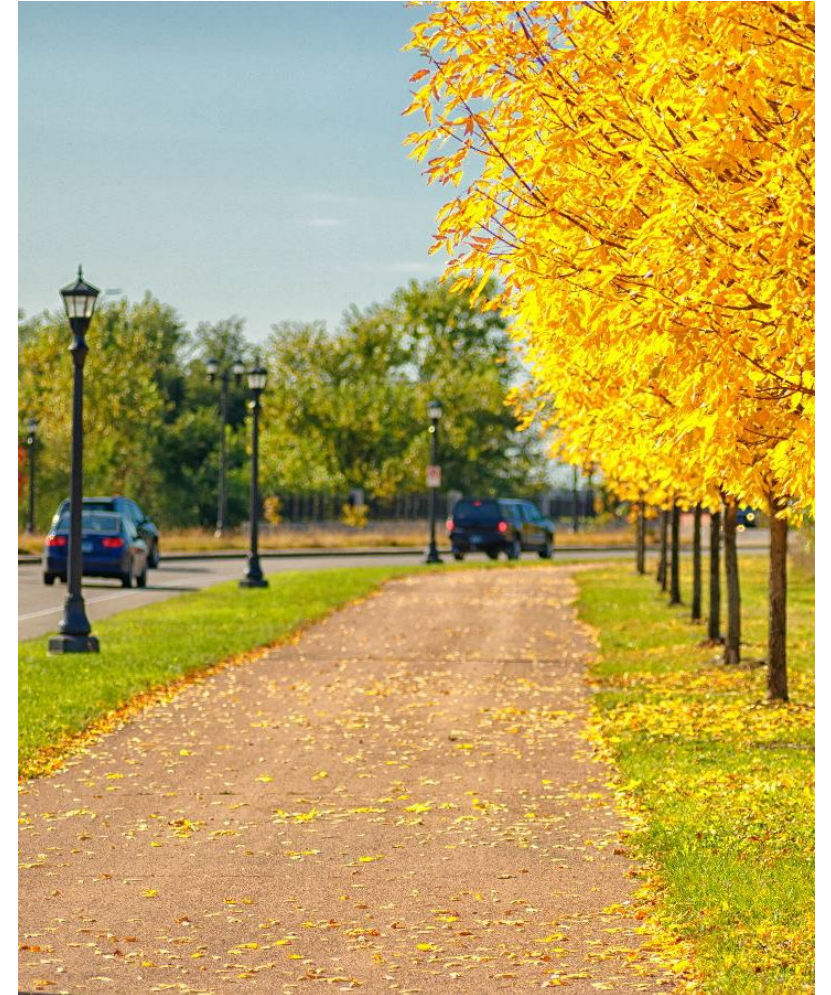


Project Delivery Approach

- Three Agency Implementation Team - Council, Ramsey Co., MnDOT
 - Builds on successful Council/County/State collaboration in METRO Gold Line BRT
 - Council/Metro Transit leads implementation; County and MnDOT staff in key roles
- Some staff will support both Purple and Gold lines in a shared project office
- County will continue to lead station area planning, closely integrate with design activities
- Council leadership begins at advanced state of project planning
 - Completed environmental process
 - 25% level of design and resolution of many key issues
 - Initiating the Right-of-Way process in Fall 2021 with property acquisition starting in late 2022
 - Planning to achieve at least a 60% level of design by end of PD phase

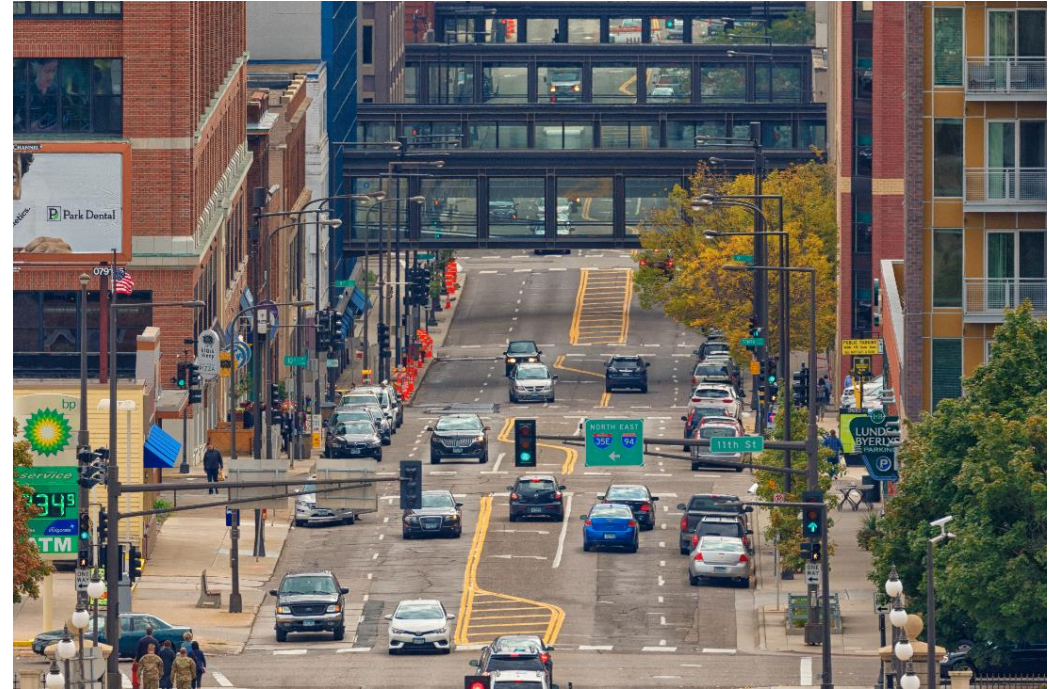
Kick-Off to the Project Development Phase

- Late Summer
 - Council Request to FTA for Project Entry into the Project Development Phase
- Early Fall
 - FTA grants the Project Entry into the Project Development Phase
 - Re-opening Gold Line Project Office as a shared Gold/Purple Project Office
- Late Summer – Early Winter
 - Staff Recruitment
 - Procurement of Professional & Technical Services
- Late Winter
 - Begin the Advancement of the Project's Design
 - Project Committee Formation



Upcoming Items for Council Consideration

- Late Summer
 - Capital Grant Agreement for Project Development with Ramsey County
 - Cooperative Agreement with MnDOT
- Early Fall
 - Master Funding Agreement and Subordinate Funding Agreement #1 with MnDOT
 - Historic Preservation Memorandum of Agreement
- Winter
 - Subordinate Funding Agreement #2 with MnDOT
 - Multiple Contract Awards



For More Information

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