



# Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC)

August 3, 2016



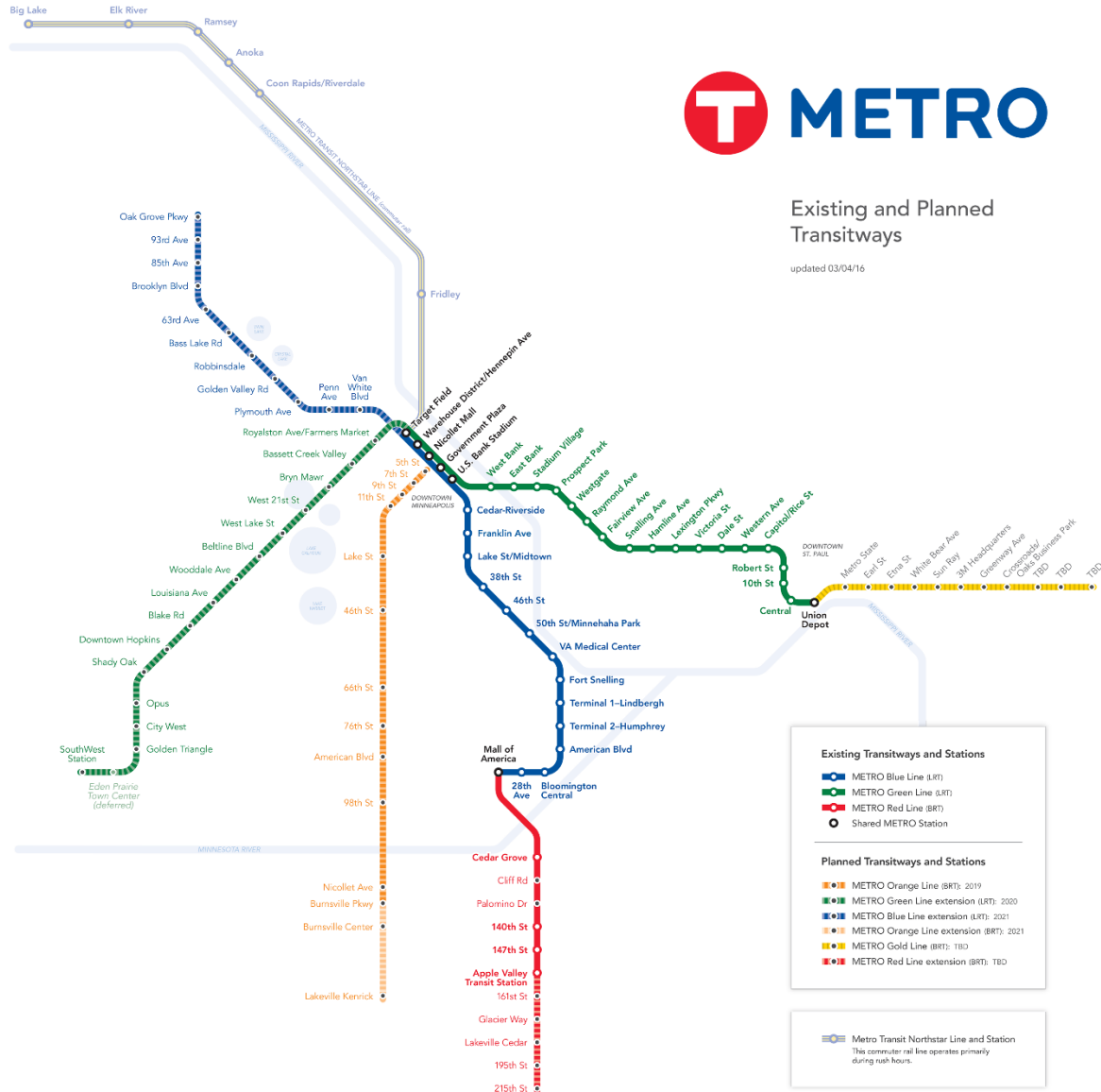
# Today's Topics

- Blue Line Extension Project Overview
- Lessons Learned From Other LRT Lines
- Station Design Overview
- Green Line Field Visit
- Working Together: Discussion



# METRO System

- Green Line Extension (Southwest LRT)
- Blue Line Extension (Bottineau LRT)
- Orange Line (I-35 W South Bus Rapid Transit)
- Red Line Extension (Cedar Avenue BRT)

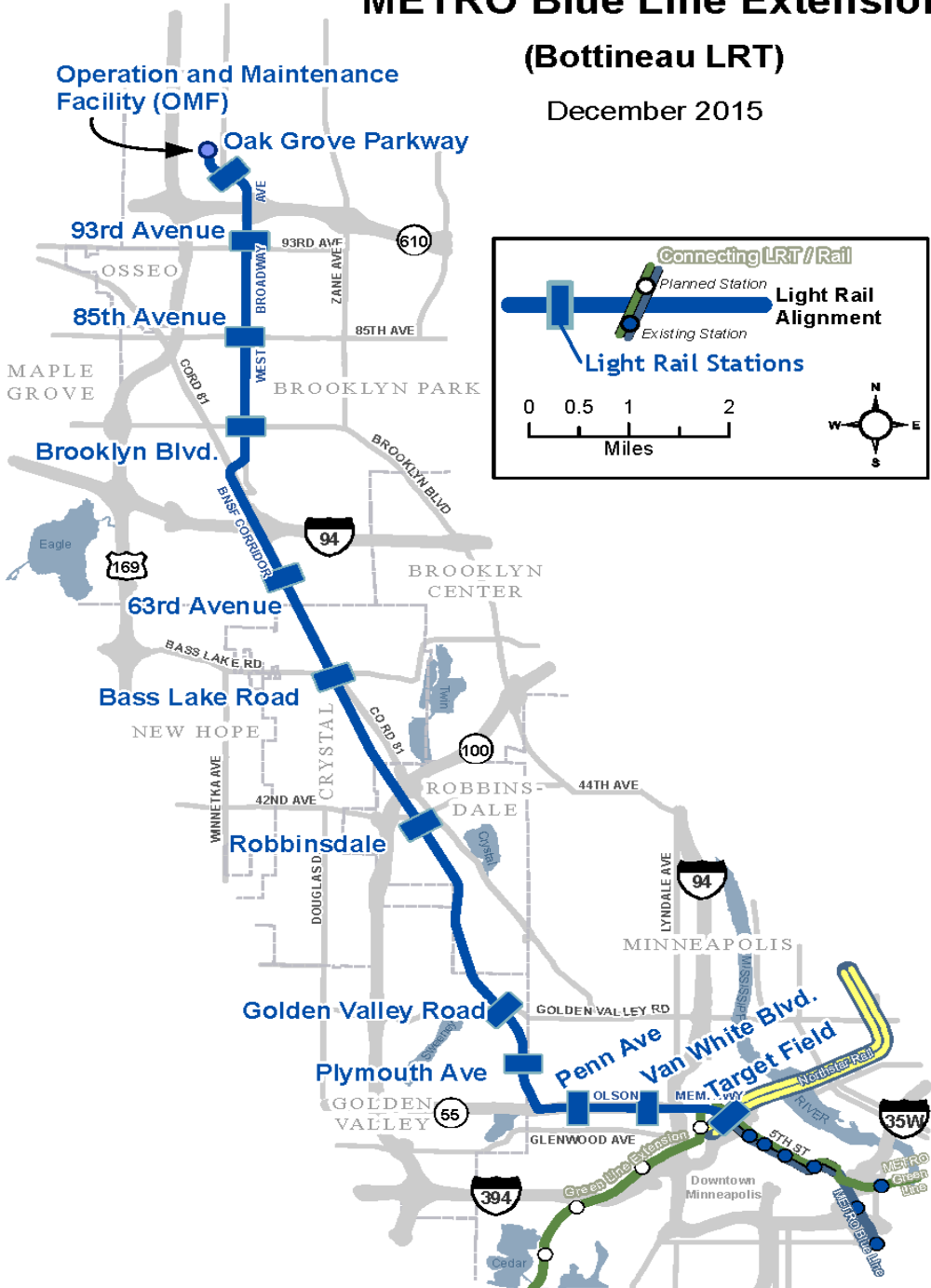


# Project Description

- 11 new LRT stations
- 13 miles of double track
- 27,000 est. rides by 2040
- Serving Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Robbinsdale, Golden Valley & Minneapolis
- Provides one seat Blue Line ride to MSP Airport and Mall of America
- Connections to METRO Green Line, Northstar and bus services

## METRO Blue Line Extension (Bottineau LRT)

December 2015



# Project Timeline

2014-2016

- Project Development

2016

- Environmental/Municipal Consent

2017

- Engineering

2018

- Full Funding Grant Agreement

2018-20

- Heavy Construction

2021

- Passenger Operations



# Outreach To Date

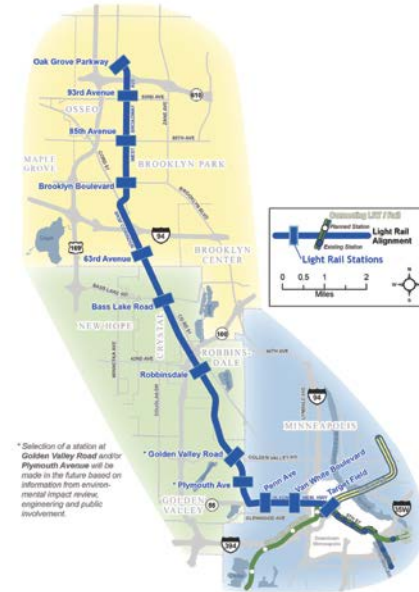
- Topics

- LRT alignment
- Station locations
- Park-and-ride facilities
- Trail facilities
- Environmental impacts
  - Noise
  - Visual screening
  - Historic impacts
  - Environmental justice




# Community Outreach Coordinators

- Brooklyn Park:
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    - 612-373-5338
- Crystal, Robbinsdale & Golden Valley:
  - David Davies
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- Minneapolis:
  - Sophia Ginis
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## Community Outreach Coordinators

Brooklyn Park	Crystal, Robbinsdale, Golden Valley	Minneapolis
		
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# Lessons Learned From LRT Projects





# Lessons Learned From LRT Projects

- Consistency in station layout is important
- Plenty of space to make circulation easy on the platform is needed
- Adequate shelter space for waiting passengers on the platform is important in our climate
- More benches versus leaning rails is desired



# Lessons Learned From LRT Projects

- LRV door indicators on the platform
- Guide barrier needed at the end of platform access
- Good sight lines and adequate lighting at track crossings are important
- Design track crossings as perpendicular to the track as possible
- Use design to direct passengers to view oncoming trains prior to crossing
- Use barrier-free best practices for designing walkways/circulation spaces



# Station Design Overview



# BLRT Station Site Elements

- Pedestrian access
- Bike facilities
- Wayfinding
- Landscaping
- Stormwater
- Bus facilities
- Passenger drop-off
- Park-and-ride



# BLRT Station Site Elements

- Ticket vending/validation
- Transit information
- Passenger amenities
- Passenger safety



# BLRT Station Design

- Working with stakeholders to establish context and character of station areas
  - Robbinsdale example:
    - Historic
    - Main street
    - Connected
    - Pedestrian-oriented
    - Destinations
- Designers will use this information to inform design



# BLRT Station Design: Next Steps

- Possible TAAC workshop to receive feedback; influence design
- Fall 2016: Community open houses with proposed station designs; receive feedback
- After receipt and consideration of community comments, seek to advance station design



# Green Line Field Visit





# Green Line Field Visit

- MnDOT ADA, Hennepin County, BPO, and SPO staff conducted a Green Line field visit to review accessibility
- Discussed a variety of design elements, including:
  - Surfaces
  - Routes
  - Vertical features
  - Devices
- Mid-block crossing: University and Simpson
- Signalized intersection: University and Pascal



# Green Line Field Visit

- Field visit discussion:
  - Positive guidance for crossings
  - Tactile or audible description of crossing geometry
  - Device volume is important
  - APS audible message
  - Landing areas, pushbutton placement, curb ramps
  - Pedestrian Access Route (PAR)
  - Corner radii at intersections
  - Crossing spacing
  - Consistency is key
  - Sightlines – walls, deterrents, vegetation
  - Future coordination



# Working Together: Discussion



# BLRT Design

- What issues/topics are important to you?
- What are good ways to receive your feedback?
- Would a similar SWLRT station workshop be beneficial? What did you like? What didn't work?



# More Information

The screenshot shows the Metropolitan Council website with a navigation menu at the top. The 'TRANSPORTATION' menu item is highlighted. Below the navigation is a large photograph of a blue and yellow METRO bus at a station platform with passengers. To the left of the main content is a sidebar with a blue header 'METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION' and a dropdown arrow. The sidebar contains 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'. Below this is a paragraph of text describing the project. At the bottom of the main content area, there are two sections: 'Latest News' with a link to 'Feds: Met Council can begin designing METRO Blue Line Extension' and 'Route' with a link to 'Click on the map below for more information'.

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**METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION**

Route

Stations

Environmental

Timeline

Project Partners

## METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION

### Bottineau Transitway – Minneapolis & Northwestern Communities

The METRO Blue Line Extension (LRT) will operate northwest from downtown Minneapolis through north Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park, drawing riders northwest of Brooklyn Park. The proposed alignment is primarily at-grade and will have up to 11 new stations in addition to Target Field Station and about 13 miles of double track. The line will interline with the METRO Blue Line and connect Minneapolis and the region's northwest suburbs with existing LRT on the METRO Green Line, future LRT on the METRO Green Line Extension, bus rapid transit on the METRO Red Line, the Northstar commuter rail line and local and express bus routes.

**Latest News**  
Feds: Met Council can begin designing METRO Blue Line Extension

**Route**  
Click on the map below for more information

Website: [BlueLineExt.org](http://BlueLineExt.org)

Email: [BlueLineExt@metrotransit.org](mailto:BlueLineExt@metrotransit.org)

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

