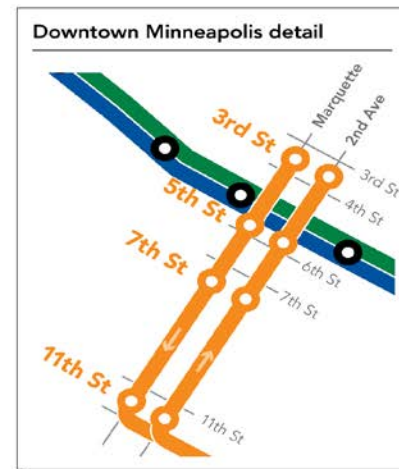


Orange Line Connecting Bus Study Proposed Concept Plan

TAAC Meeting Presentation
February 2021

METRO Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

- 12 stations, 17 miles
- All day, daily, frequent station-to-station BRT on I-35W
 - 5:00 am to 12:00 am
 - Every 10 minutes in Rush Hours
 - Every 15 minutes in Off-Peak
- Replaces most of Routes 535, 597
- Access to 50,000 jobs and 80,000 residents outside of downtown Minneapolis
- Under construction
 - Opening late 2021



Project Goals

- Link Orange Line with significant number of residents, jobs, services
- Grow ridership in an equitable way
- Simplify route network
- Enhance mobility and connectivity of the transit network
- Complement existing commuter express service in the corridor

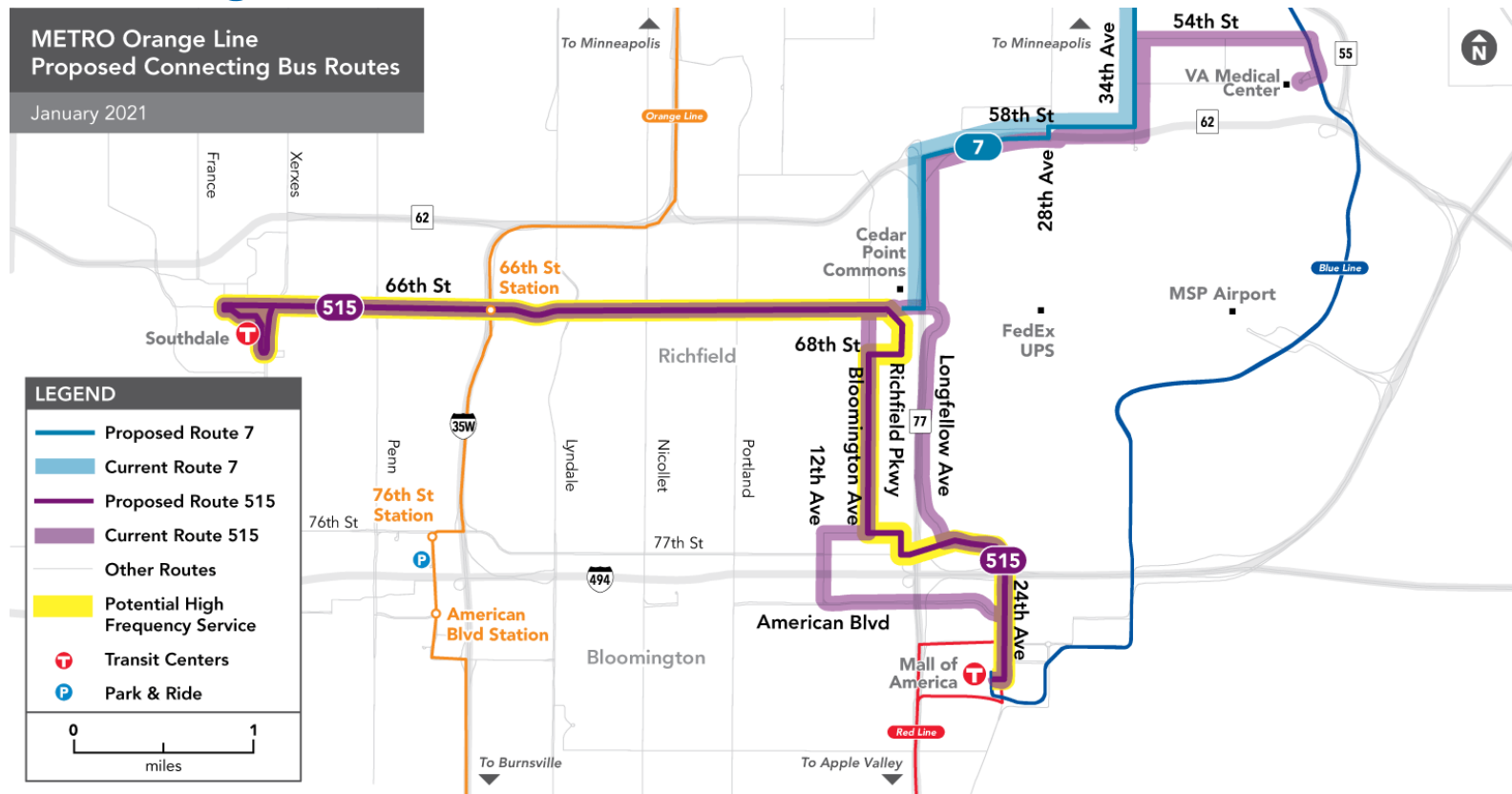
Routes 27

- Lake St Station is much improved over old stop
 - Local routes 21, 27 on Lake St underneath I-35W
 - Orange Line, express routes above Lake St in center of I-35W



Routes 7 and 515

- Route 515 simplified to one pattern
- Route 515E branch to VA Medical Center eliminated (other options available)
- Route 515 Bloomington Ave service improved
- No service on Longfellow Ave.



Routes 534 and 553: Lyndale Ave

- Replace Route 535 local service
- New Route 534
 - 98th St., Lyndale Ave. and American Blvd.
 - Select trips via 94th/James Ave (Central Bloomington Industrial Park)
 - Every 20 min. in the peak and 30 min. in the off-peak on weekdays
- Route 553 extension to 98th St. Station



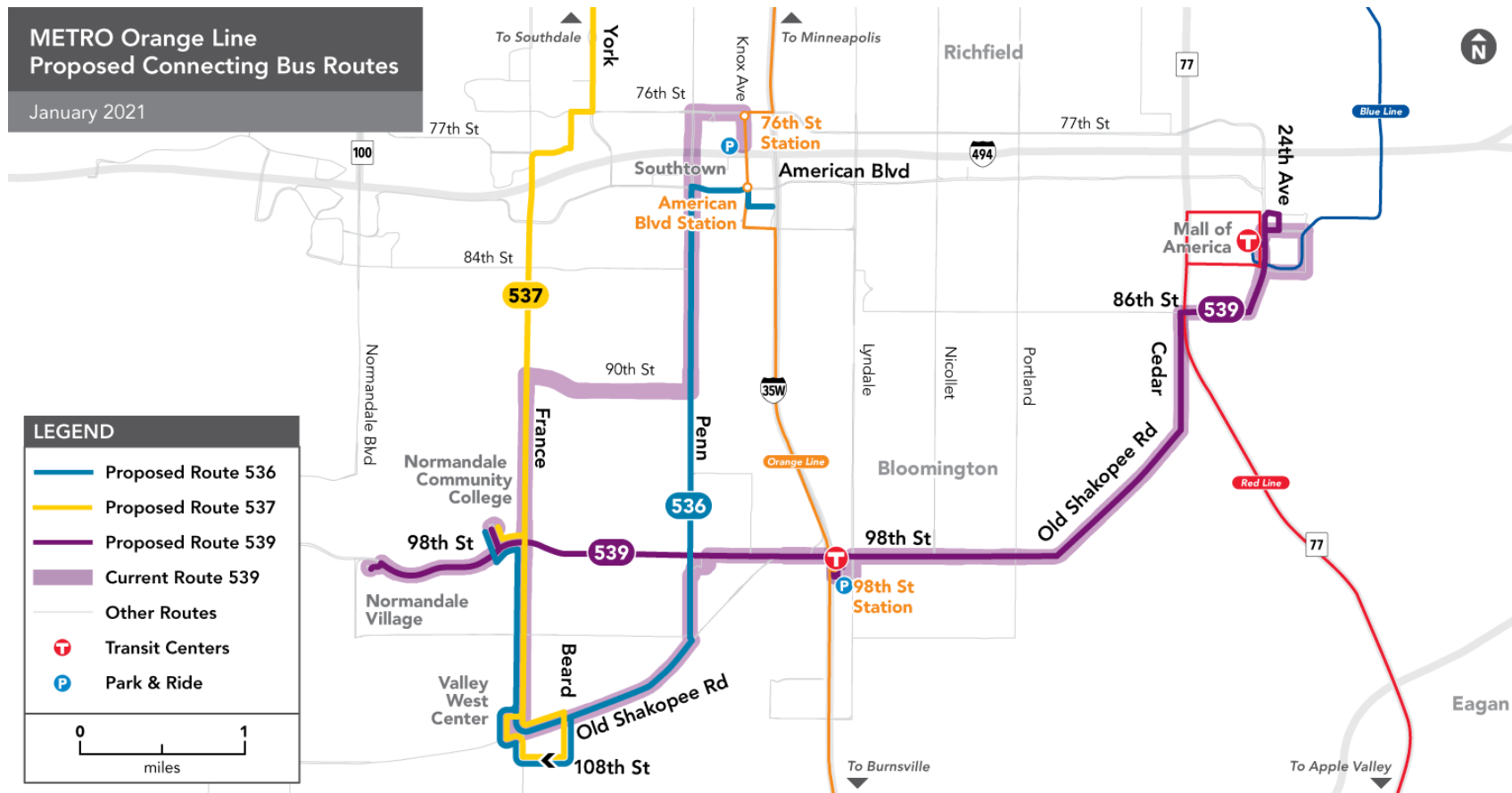
Routes 538, 540 and 542: I-494 Corridor

- Replace Route 535 local service on 76th/ 77th St, American Blvd
- Route 540 simplified to one pattern
- Restore Route 542- extended to Hwy 169 and streamlined to stay south of I-494



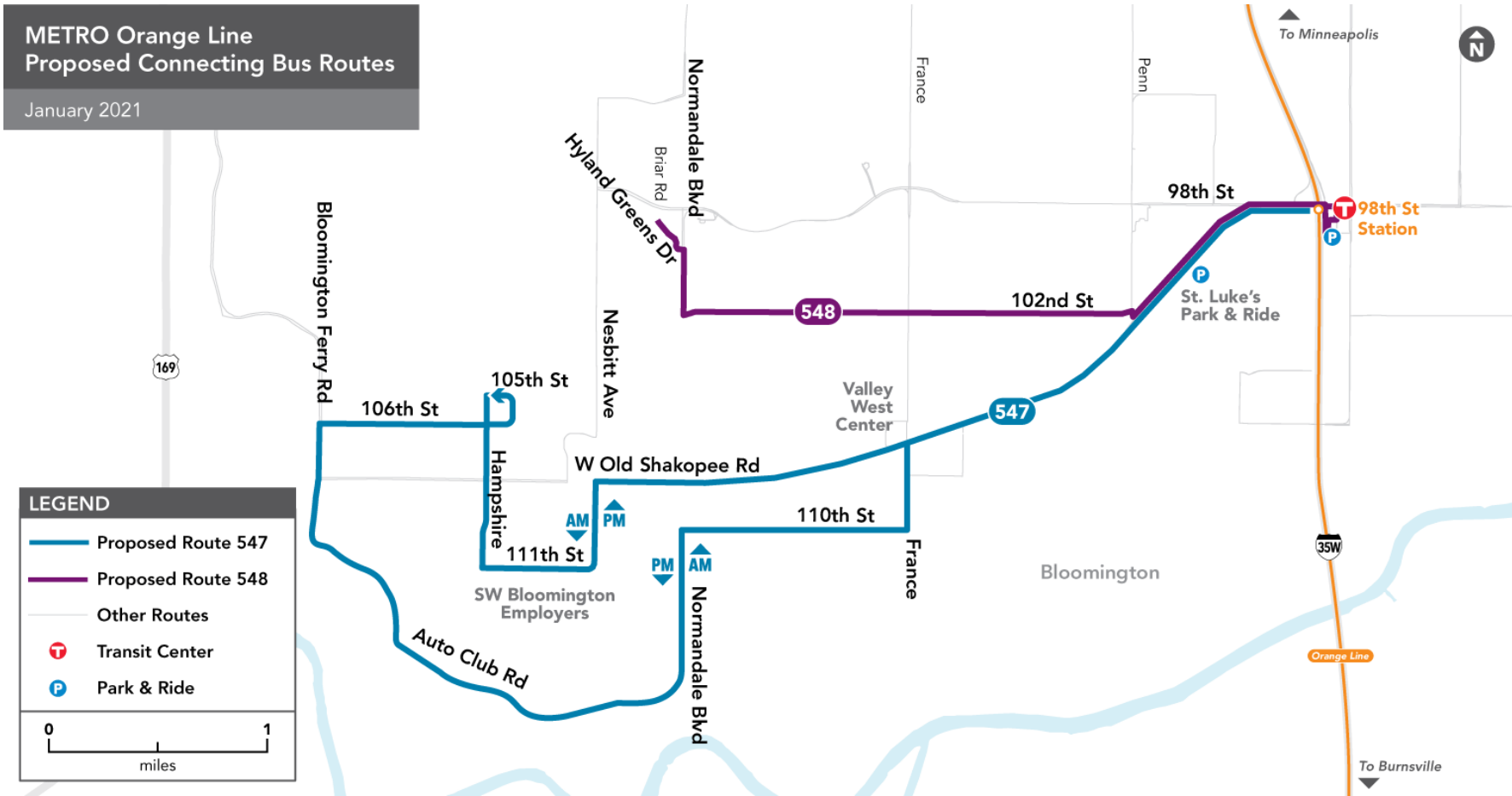
Route 536, 537 and 539: Bloomington Cross-towns

- Replace Route 535 local service on 98th St
- Route 539 Direct link to Orange Line and Normandale College via 98th St
 - No service on 90th St.
- New Route 536 replaces service on Penn, Old Shakopee Rd. and France Ave.
- Route 537 currently suspended; restored if resources available



Routes 547, 548 and 597: SW Bloomington

- Orange Line replaces Route 597 express service
- New local routes make timed connections with Orange Line
 - New Route 547 replaces Route 597C, E local branches
 - New Route 548 replaces Route 597B



Improvement Options if Resources Available

- Route 515 increase frequency on weekdays and Saturdays to every 15 minutes
- Route 534 add weekend service every 30 minutes
- Route 537 restore weekday service
- Route 538 increase weekday midday frequency to every 30 minutes
- Route 540 increase weekend frequency to every 30 minutes
- Route 542 add midday and weekend service
- Route 553 increase service to every 30 minutes during rush hours



2021 Project Timeline

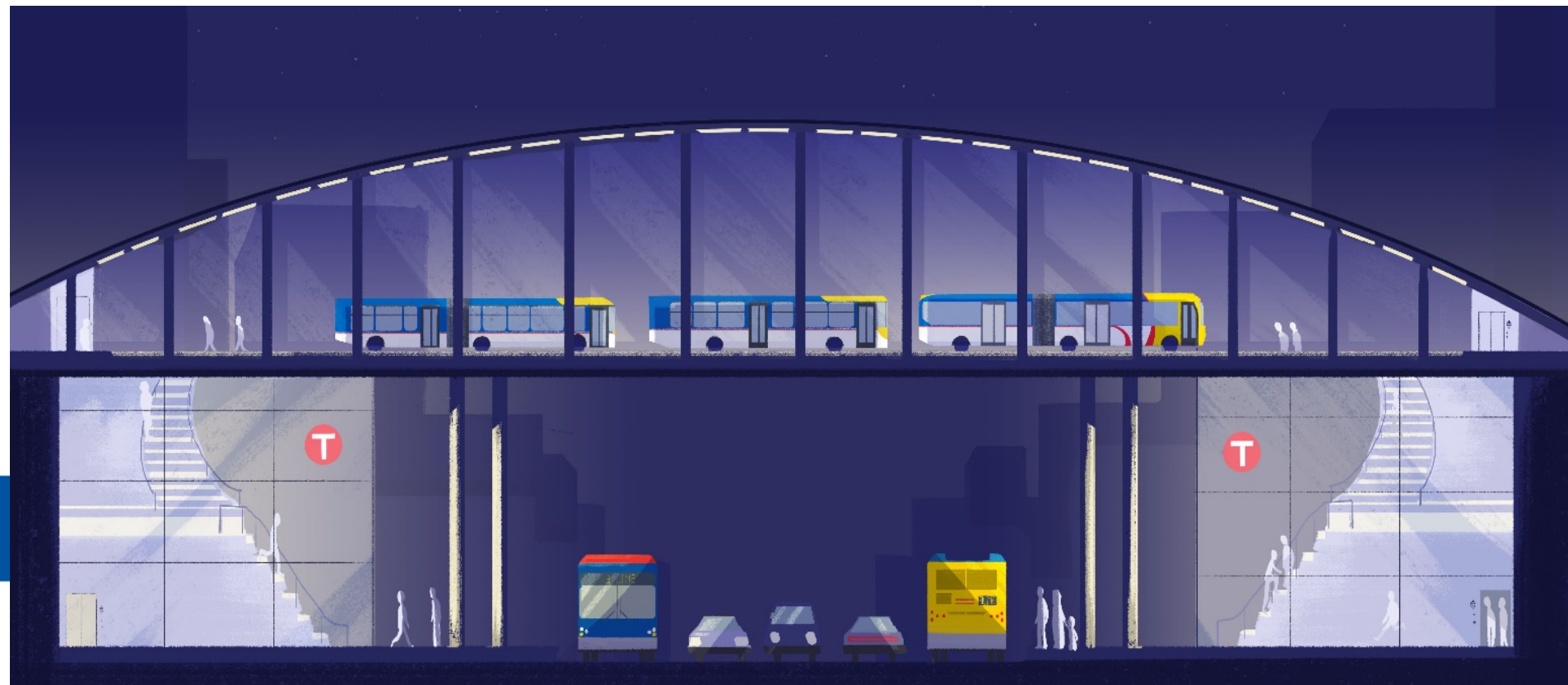
- January-February 2021: Outreach and engagement
 - Survey closes February 22
- March-April 2021: Plan revision
- May 2021: Recommended plan outreach
- June 2021: Final plan approval
- Late 2021: Orange Line begins service and connecting bus route changes made



Key Outreach and Engagement Strategies

- Website
 - Concept Plan Report
 - Video presentation
 - Map-based survey to guide feedback
- In-person intercepts
- Postcard mailer
- Target ethnic and local media
- Invite to virtual meetings
 - Public hearing on Feb. 10
 - Community meetings on Feb. 6 and 9
- Partner with community organizations, college, employers
- Internal outreach












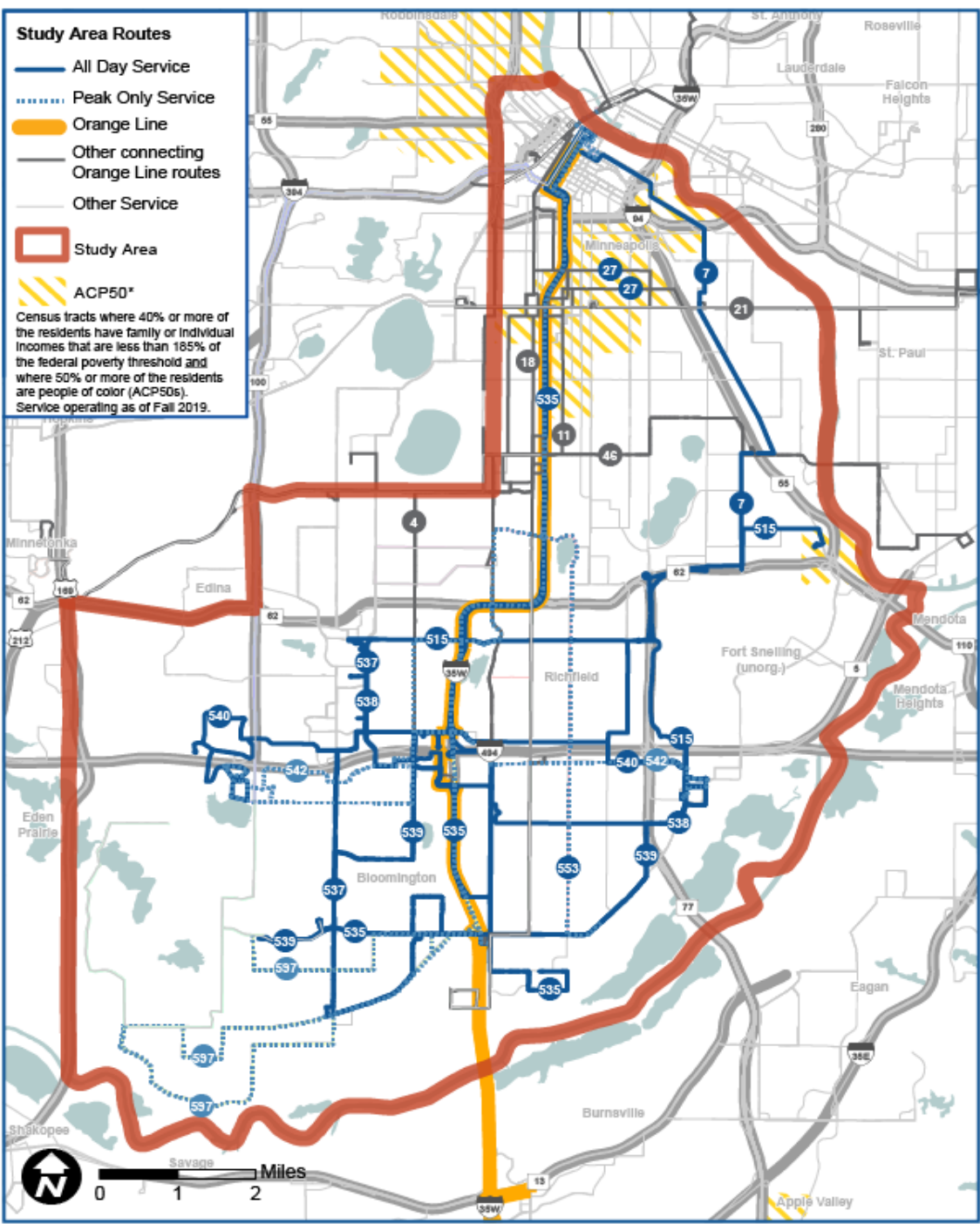
www.metrotransit.org/metro-orange-line-connecting-bus-service

Existing Routes

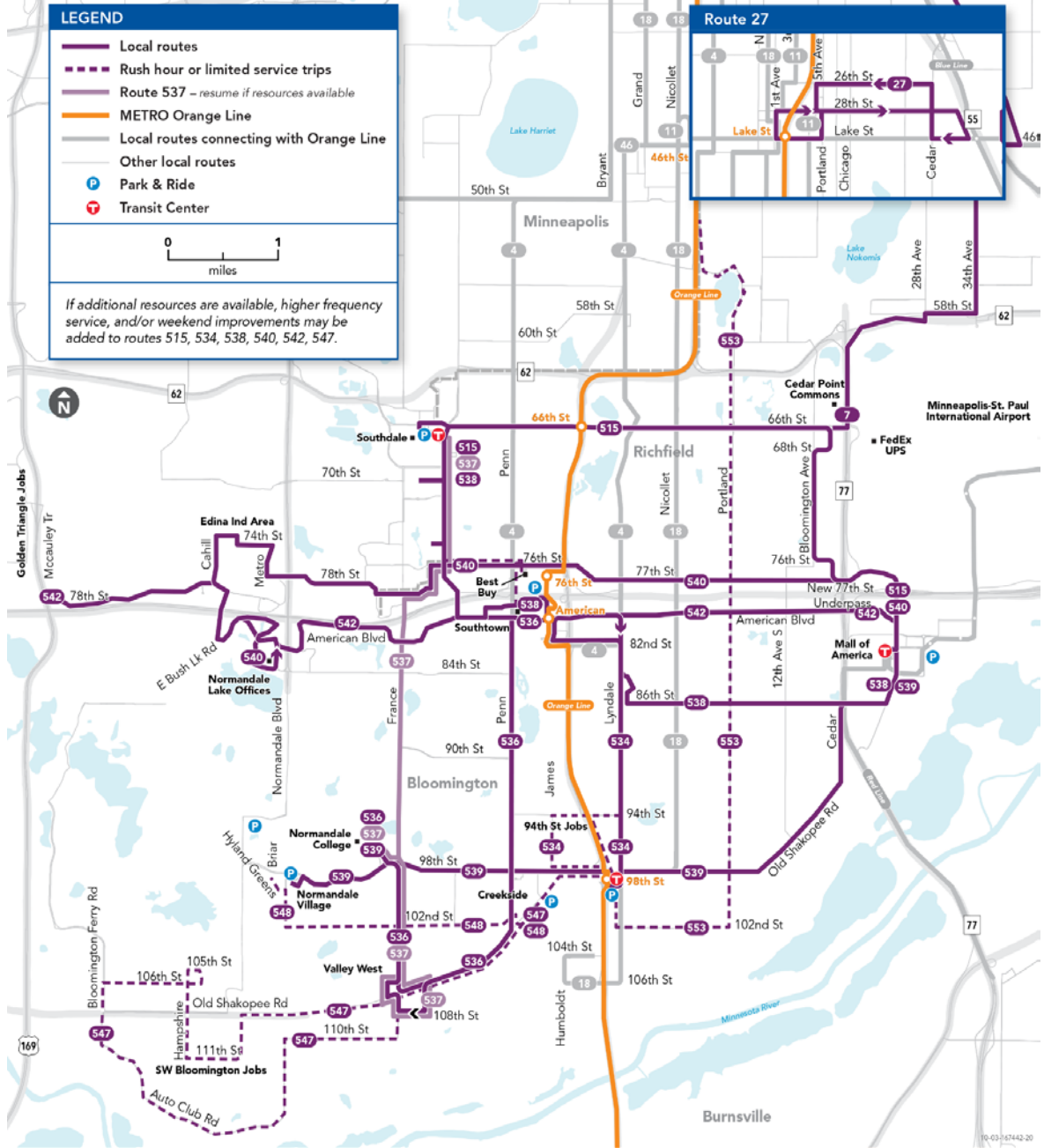
Study Area Routes

-  All Day Service
-  Peak Only Service
-  Orange Line
-  Other connecting Orange Line routes
-  Other Service
-  Study Area
-  ACP50*

Census tracts where 40% or more of the residents have family or individual incomes that are less than 185% of the federal poverty threshold and where 50% or more of the residents are people of color (ACP50s).
Service operating as of Fall 2019.



Planned Routes



South of the Minnesota River, transit is provided by Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA).