



METRO B Line Update

Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee

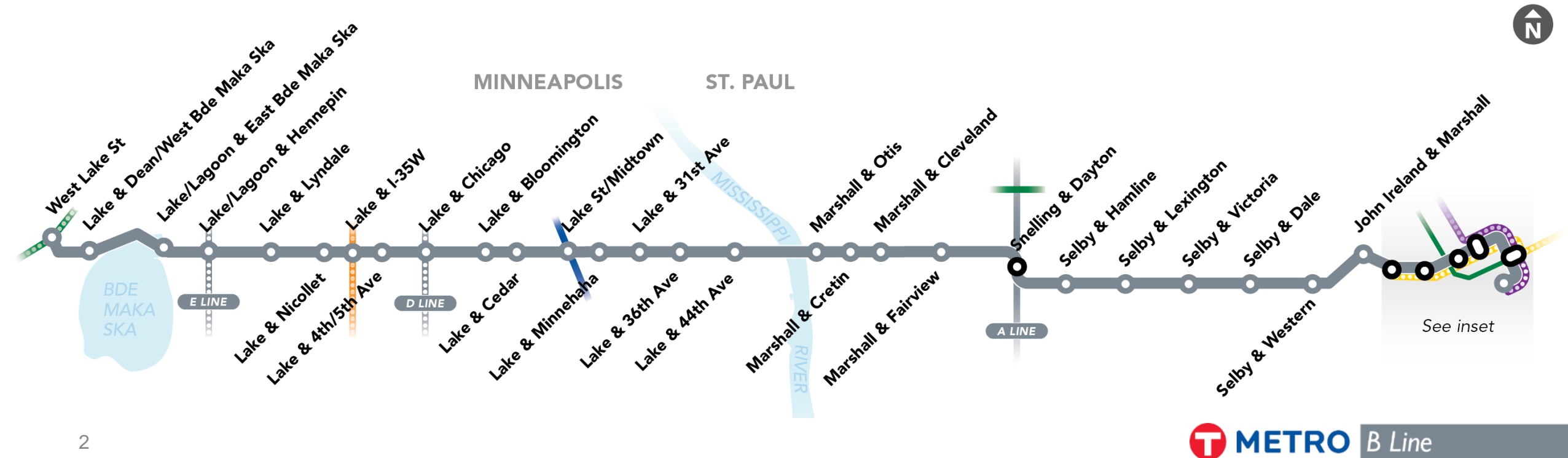
Cody Olson, Community Outreach Coordinator

Adam Smith, Senior Planner, BRT Projects

March 3, 2021

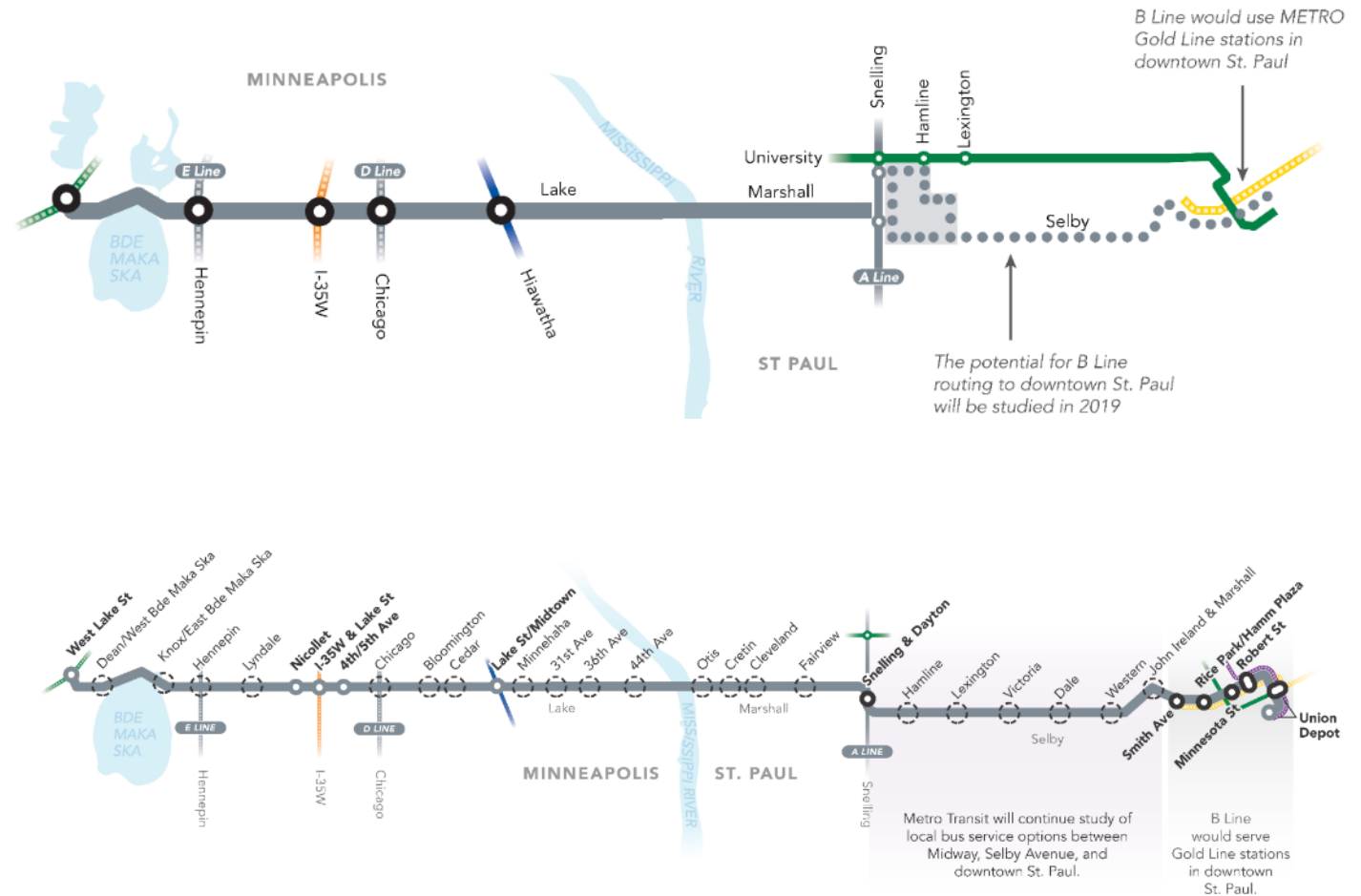
B Line (Lake/ Marshall/ Selby) Bus Rapid Transit Overview

- Planned 4th arterial bus rapid transit line
- Substantial replacement of Route 21, region's second-highest ridership but slowest in-service speed
- Service every 10 minutes, approximately 20% faster than existing Route 21
- Project fully funded, targeted opening 2024



Completed planning work (2019 – 2020)

- Extension to Union Depot in downtown St. Paul, evaluated and recommended in response to stakeholder requests
- Route B Line along Marshall, Snelling, Selby Avenues
- 33 preliminary B Line station locations identified
- Preliminary bus service plan



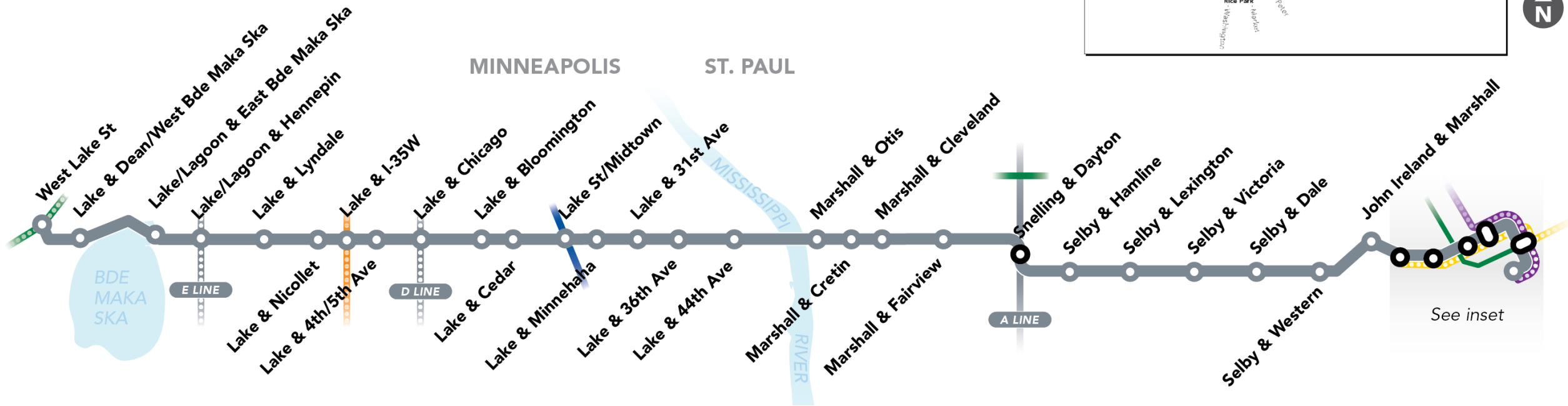
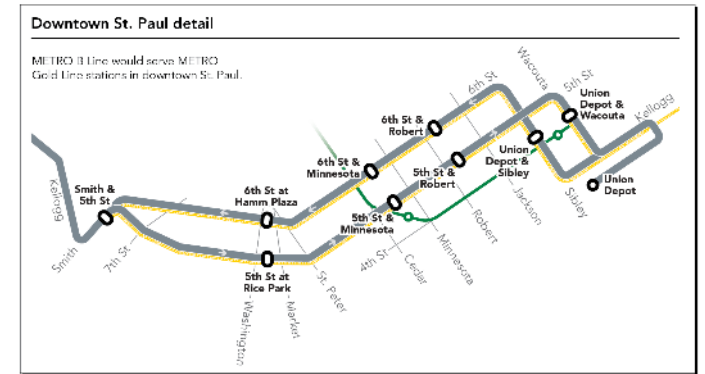
Community engagement results

- Engagement goal: engagement and feedback on main planning questions
- Engagement activities:
 - open house meetings
 - bus stop pop-ups and ride-alongs
 - neighborhood/group meetings
 - office hours, business pop-ups, and doorknocking
 - community events
- Significant feedback relating to travel time, frequency, and reliability
- Large majority in favor of downtown St. Paul endpoint
- Mixed feedback regarding alignment
 - Majority of open house attendees favored alignment that remains south of I-94
 - Majority of feedback in Midway and Selby Avenue areas indicated preference for alignment directly serving Midway



Draft B Line Corridor Plan

- **Planned station locations: station intersections and location of platforms within each intersection**
- **Corridor Context:**
 - Refined bus service plan: local and limited-stop bus service within and along B Line corridor
 - Potential bus priority treatments to meet project speed and reliability goals



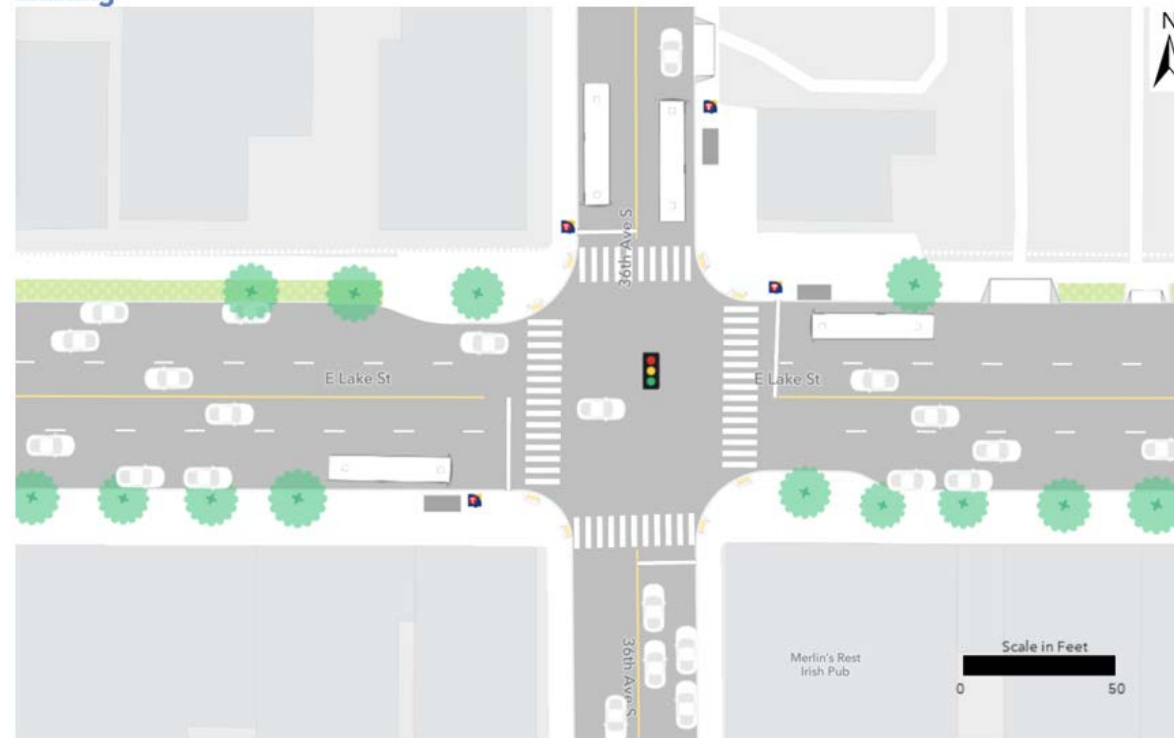
See inset

Core element of Corridor Plan: Station and platform locations

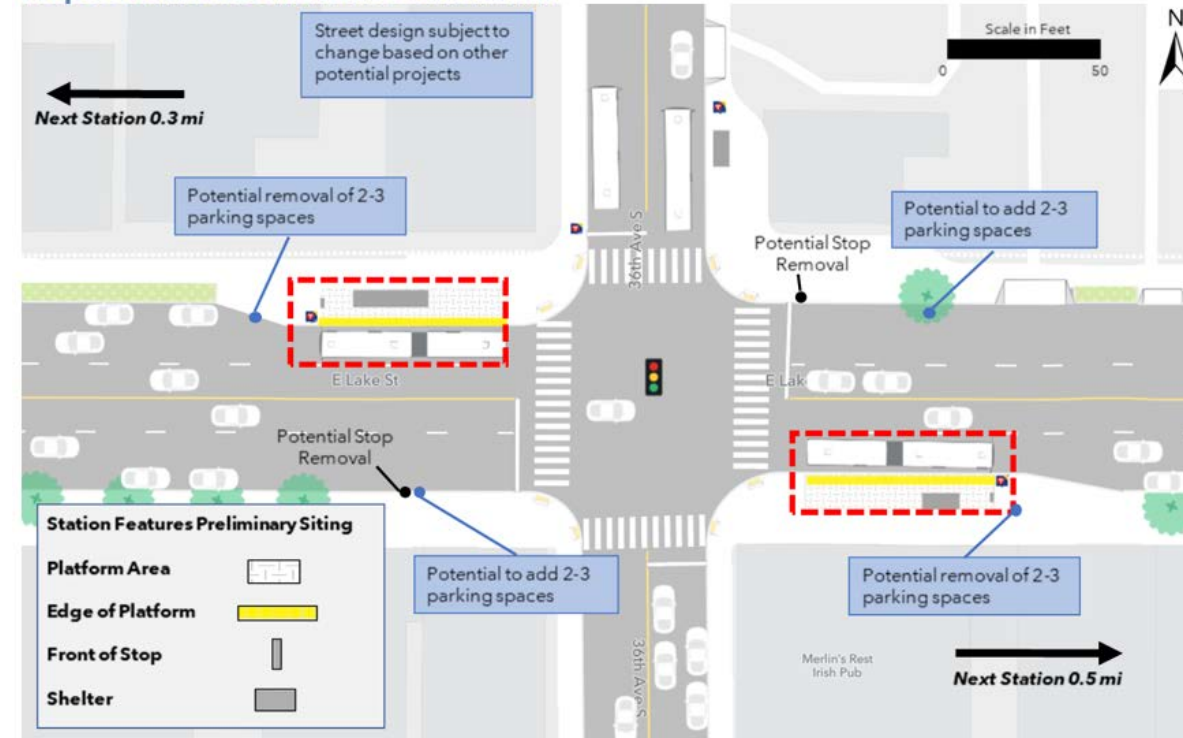
- Proposed platform locations developed through site-specific review
- Excludes locations finalized as part of other projects
- Concept designs will continue to evolve through coordination and engineering
- Lake & 36th Avenue example (existing and proposed concept):

Lake & 36th Avenue

Existing

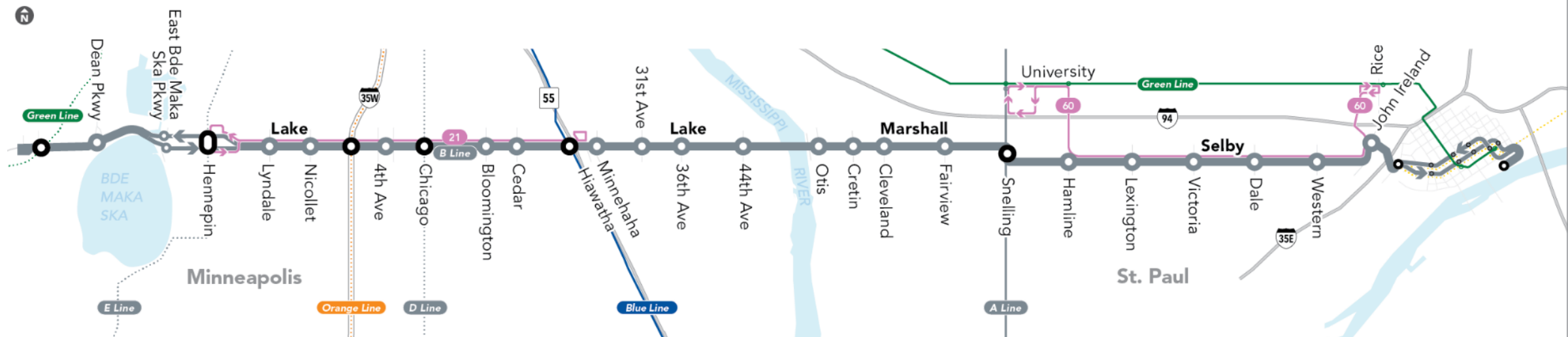


Proposed Lake & 36th Avenue Station Plan



Additional information: Concept bus service plan

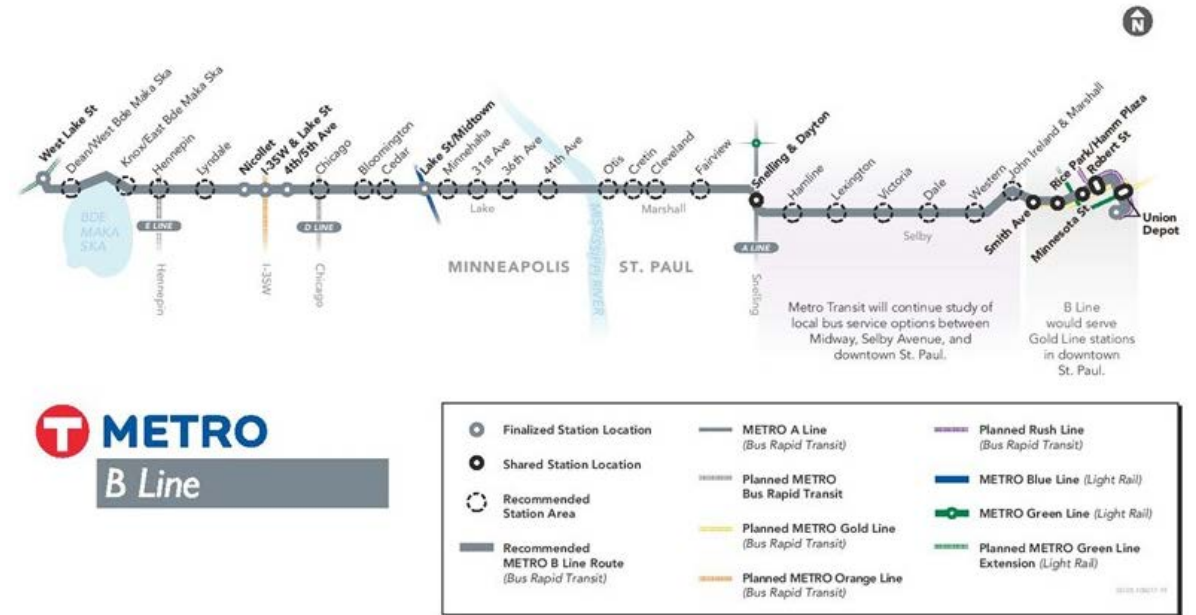
- B Line service would run every 10 minutes, seven days a week during the day and most of the evening
- Local service on Route 21 would run every 30 minutes between Hennepin Avenue and Minnehaha Avenue
- Local service on new route (Route 60) would run every 30 minutes along Selby Avenue connecting to Midway area of St. Paul
- Concept service plans will be refined and further developed closer to B Line opening
- Route 53 service will be evaluated as the B Line approaches implementation



How will people participate?

- Engagement will be primarily digital due to COVID-19
- People will be directed to the project website, where they can choose which elements of the plan to engage on
- Results will be collected, evaluated for Recommended corridor plan

Faster transit is coming to the Route 21 Corridor



What is the METRO B Line?

The METRO B Line is a planned Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line that will provide faster and more reliable transit service in the Route 21 corridor along Lake Street and Marshall and Selby avenues.

BRT brings better amenities, faster service and a more comfortable ride.

- Faster, frequent service

Where will outreach efforts be focused?

- Media communications:
 - Council communications: Social, Connect, Insights, Wire, Riders Club, Project Newsletter, Rider Alerts
 - Local media
 - Communications from neighborhood and community groups, project partners like Minneapolis, St. Paul, Hennepin/Ramsey county
- At-stop communications:
 - Flyers on non-transit items like light poles near all 21 stops
 - Limited in-person surveying



Changes coming to Route 21 in 2024. Comment now.

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[METROTRANSIT.ORG/B-LINE-PROJECT](https://metrotransit.org/b-line-project)



Next Steps and project schedule

- Distribute Draft Corridor Plan and seek feedback
- Recommended Corridor Plan: May 2021
- Final Corridor Plan: September 2021
- Engineering: Mid-2021 – Late 2022
- Construction: 2023 – 2024



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www.metrotransit.org/b-line-project