

## **Arterial Bus Rapid Transit Update**

Katie Roth | Director, Arterial BRT Kyle O'Donnell Burrows | Planning Manager, Arterial BRT January 15, 2025





HIGHWAY



### GUIDEWAY



Mixed traffic with some bus-only lanes

Metro Transit leads planning and pursues capital funding High-Occupancy Vehicle (or Toll) lanes County sponsors planning, provides capital funding

Exclusive BRT guideway County sponsors planning, provides capital funding

Three varieties of BRT, one 🕞 METRO transitway system

## **Current Planned Arterial BRT Network**

- A Line (Snelling): 2016
- B Line (Lake/Marshall): Construction; **opens Jun. 14, 2025**
- C Line (Penn): 2019
- D Line (Chicago/Fremont): 2022
- E Line (Hennepin/France): Construction; **opens Dec. 6, 2025**
- F Line (Central): Engineering
- G Line (Rice/Robert): Planning
- H Line (Como/Maryland): Planning



## **2024 Arterial BRT Highlights**



- Total BRT ridership up 17% over 2023 (as of 3rd Quarter)
- D Line ridership up 21%
- TRIP expansion onto C & D lines in December



- B Line: Most infrastructure is complete after second construction season
- E Line: 20 stations largely completed in first season of construction



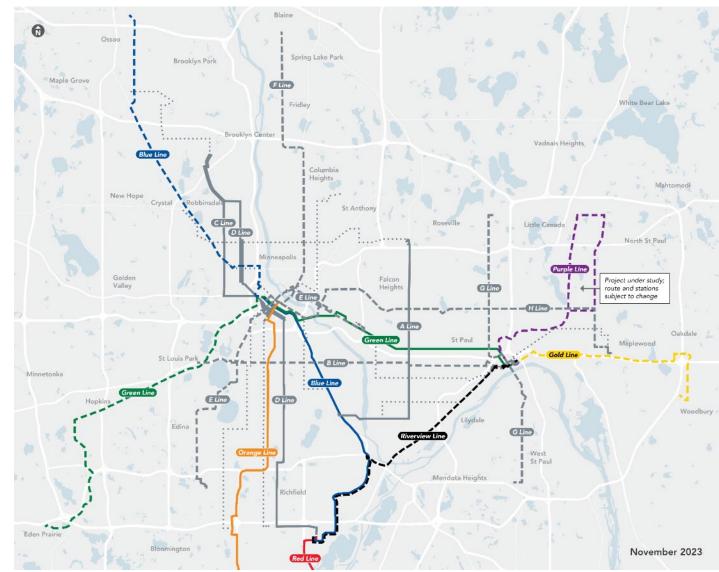
- G Line: Over 1,300 community members engaged in planning
- F Line and H Line: Significant planning and design coordination with project partners

## **2025 Arterial BRT Plan Update**



## **Current arterial BRT plans in policy**

- 2020-2021 Network Next plan resulted in:
  - The next programmed arterial BRT lines (F, G, and H Line) to be implemented between 2025-2030 (Business Item 2021-52)
  - Seven additional corridors as good candidates for arterial BRT before 2040 (Business Item <u>2021-245</u>)
- Amended into 2040 Transportation Policy Plan in March 2022



## **Planned outcomes**

- Identify the next programmed arterial BRT lines to be implemented between 2030-2035
  - To be designated as the J, K, and L lines
- Identify additional arterial BRT candidate corridors for consideration before 2050
  - Aligned with the 2050 Transportation Policy Plan horizon
  - Beyond the J, K, and L lines, Metro Transit will continue to consider additional lines for implementation as resources allow
  - We will also continue to focus on **optimization** of the growing network planned for implementation through 2035
- Plan complete by December 2025 to feed into 2026 Regional Solicitation application submittal for J Line corridor
- Plan update outcomes to be adopted into 2050 TPP via amendment in 2026

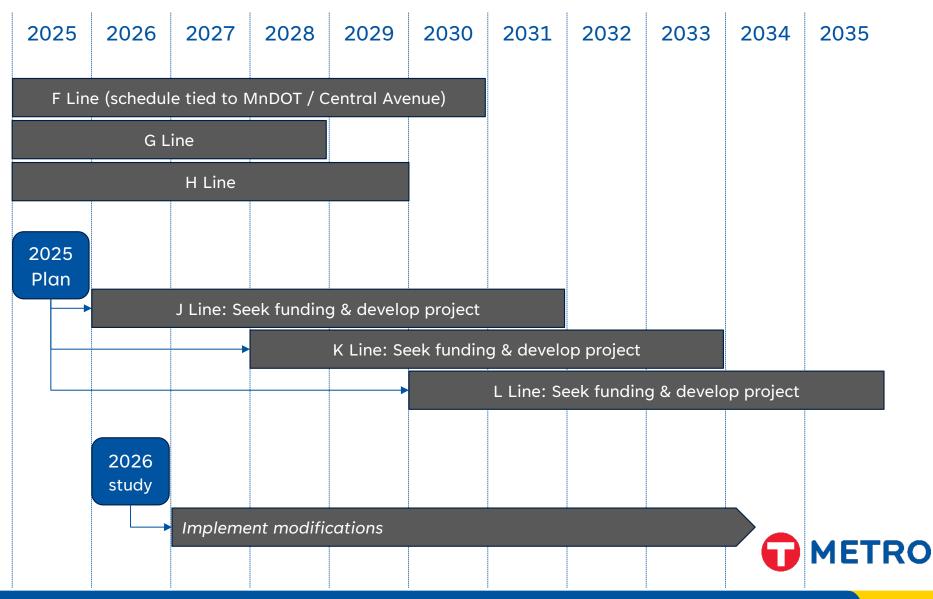


## **Arterial BRT Network Expansion & Optimization**

**Deliver F, G, H lines** Identified in Network Next (adopted 2021)

ABRT Plan Update: Identify the next programmed lines for expansion

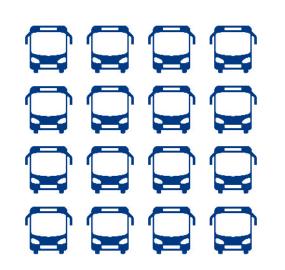
ABRT network optimization: Evaluate changes to the existing & programmed network May include infill stations, extensions, or other changes.



# Four step 2025 plan update process

#### **1. IDENTIFY**

Identify ~15 to 20 candidate corridors for consideration for arterial BRT



#### 2. SCREEN

Conduct simple screening to narrow consideration to most promising corridors

#### **3. EVALUATE**

Perform detailed technical evaluation of corridors and rank by technical score

High technical score

Medium technical score



#### 4. PRIORITIZE

Apply technical evaluation and readiness criteria to prioritize next three lines



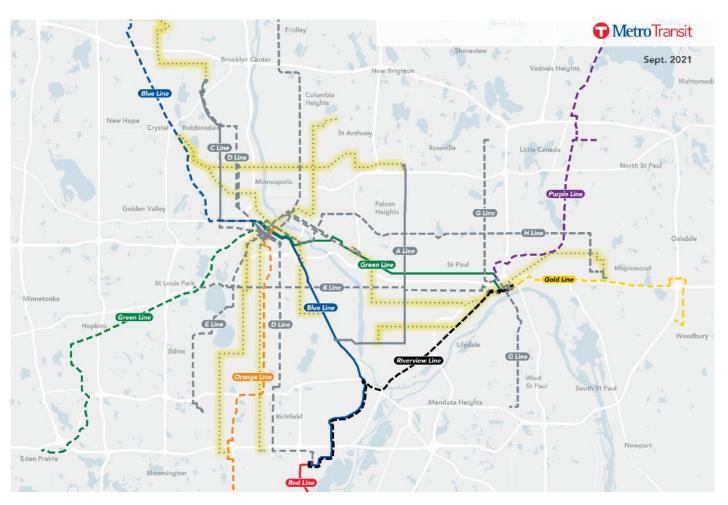


METRO K Line



## Identify candidate corridors: where are we starting from?

- Key inputs:
  - Seven corridors identified as candidates prior to 2040 in current TPP
  - Current high-frequency, high-ridership corridors
  - High-frequency corridors identified in Network Now
  - Met Council policymaker priorities for consideration
  - Stakeholder priorities for consideration
- Draw a large universe of candidate corridors
- Screen according to policy and performance criteria





## **Key stakeholders**

- Met Council
  - Committee of the Whole Info items at major milestones
  - Council adoption of plan outcome
- Core City and County partners
  - TAB updates January, ~April, ~October
  - Technical input/ feedback from staff inform development of major tasks
    - Corridor priorities for consideration, screening & evaluation criteria
    - How to prioritize top-ranked corridors: Align CIPs, planned and programmed projects with prioritized corridors
  - Roadway owner commitments for funding ADA & signal scope required by Legislature

- Advocacy and community groups
  - Information sharing ahead of major milestones
  - Seek feedback on plan priorities and outcomes
  - Communications amplification
- Riders and public
  - Seek feedback on plan priorities and outcomes



## Schedule

| Task   | Q1  |     |     | Q2  |     |     | Q3  |     |     | Q4         |           |        |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|-----------|--------|
|  | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct        | Nov       | Dec    |
| Identify candidate corridors                   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |            |           |        |
| Screen to most promising corridors             |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |            |           |        |
| Evaluate and rank by technical score           |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |            |           |        |
| Prioritize to identify J, K, and L<br>lines    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |            |           |        |
| Finalize and adopt plan results                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | Act | ion to ada | pt – Dec/ | 'Jan 이 |
| Major communications/<br>engagement milestones |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |            |           |        |
| Network Now                                    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |            |           |        |



## Next steps

- Initiate project kickoff with partner agency staff
- Identify core city and county priorities for consideration in plan update
- Onboard planning and engagement consultant support team
- Finalize engagement and communications plans

