



# Penn Avenue and West Broadway Transitway Update

Metropolitan Council  
Transportation Committee  
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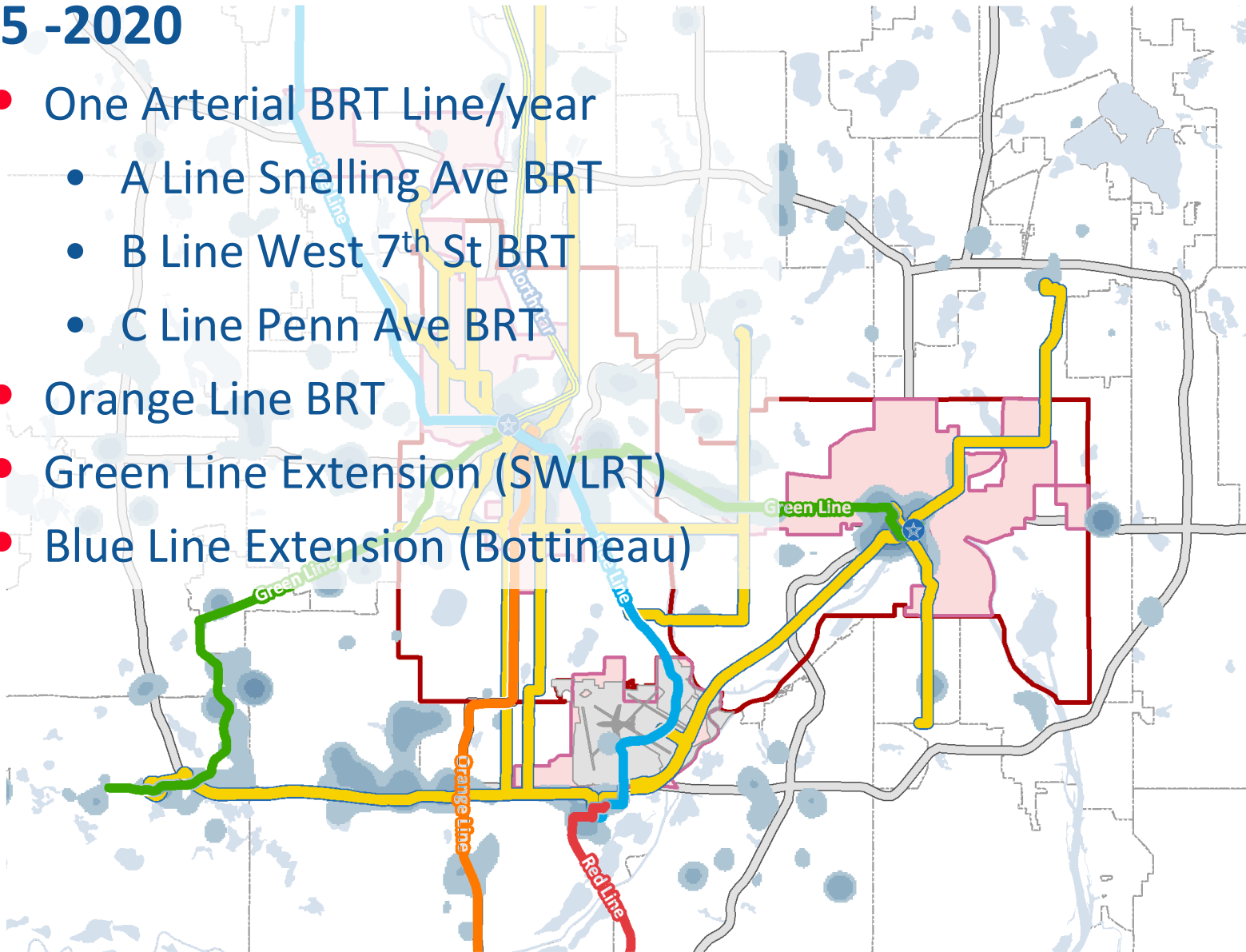


# Transitway Network Equity



## 2015 -2020

- One Arterial BRT Line/year
  - A Line Snelling Ave BRT
  - B Line West 7<sup>th</sup> St BRT
  - C Line Penn Ave BRT
- Orange Line BRT
- Green Line Extension (SWLRT)
- Blue Line Extension (Bottineau)



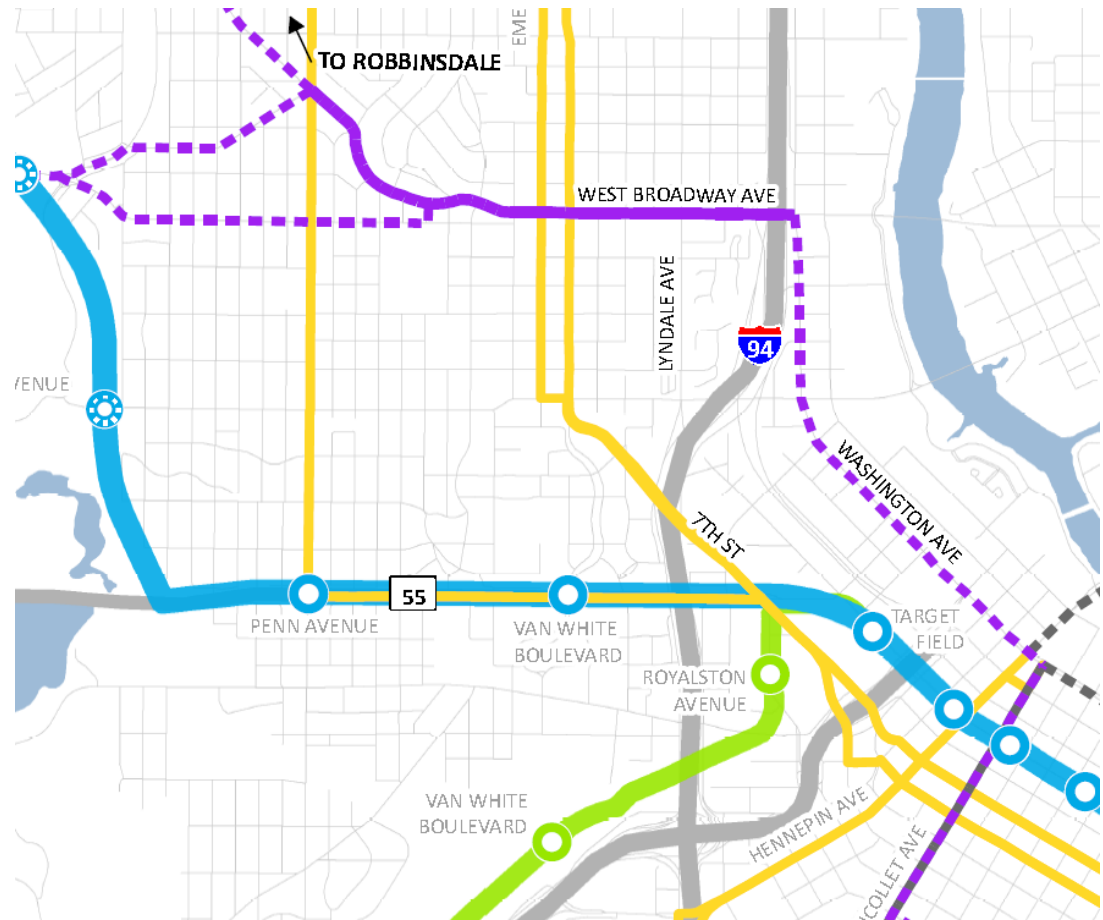
## North Minneapolis Transit Initiatives

- Several projects and activities underway, including
  - METRO Green Line Extension (SW LRT)
  - METRO Blue Line Extension (Bottineau LRT)
  - LRT Station Area Planning (Bottineau and SWLRT)
  - West Broadway Transit Study
  - Penn Avenue Community Works
  - C Line (Penn Ave) Bus Rapid Transit
  - Metropolitan Council Equity Initiatives
  - North Minneapolis Greenway Study
  - Metro Transit Service Improvement Plan
  - Bicycle planning
  - Creative CityMaking

Today's  
Presentation

# West Broadway Transit Study

- Partnership with Minneapolis and Hennepin County
- Evaluate streetcar and possible bus improvements
- Study emphasis on West Broadway Ave in north Minneapolis
- Determine connections to downtown and to regional system



## West Broadway

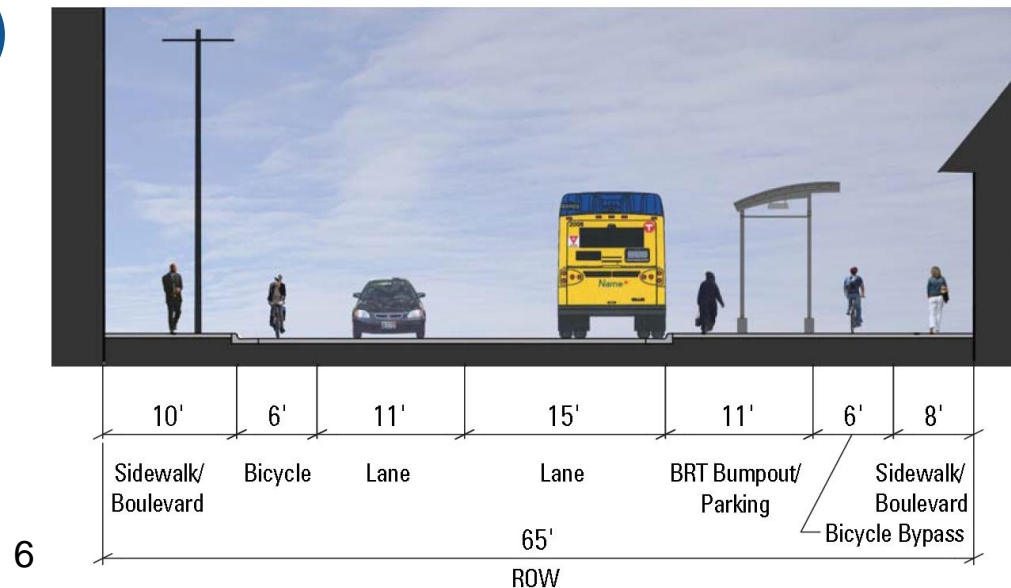
- Additional Study Focus:
  - Community engagement and outreach activities
  - Development impacts of streetcar implementation
- Potential study contract authorization award in September 2014
- Project schedule September 2014 through October 2015



*Building on  
Past Success:  
2013 Midtown  
Alternatives  
Analysis  
Outreach Work*

## Penn Avenue Community Works

- Partnership with Hennepin County launched 2013
- Focus on Penn Avenue from I-394 to 47th Ave
- Planning project with multiple phases
  - Phase I (2013-early 2014)- Collaborative Project Definition
  - Phase II (summer 2014)- Inventory and Analysis
  - Phase III- (fall 2014) Priorities and Alternatives
- Penn Avenue BRT (C Line) a key project feature for early implementation
- Study recommendations to extend beyond transit



# C LINE

## C Line Bus Rapid Transit



- Penn Arterial Bus Rapid Transit- Adopted 2013
- 8.6 miles connecting downtown Minneapolis to Brooklyn Center via Olson Highway, Penn Ave
- Buses carry 26 percent of people using Penn Ave, make up under 2 percent of vehicles
- Corridor challenges:
  - Limited facilities: narrow corridor sidewalks prevent traditional bus shelter placement, size, amenities
  - Signal and boarding delays result in slow bus speeds

### 2013 evaluation of BRT promising:

- \$35 million BRT capital cost
- 7,000 rides today along Penn Ave Route 19
- Over 9,000 by 2030 w/BRT

## Bus Rapid Transit Stations Feature:

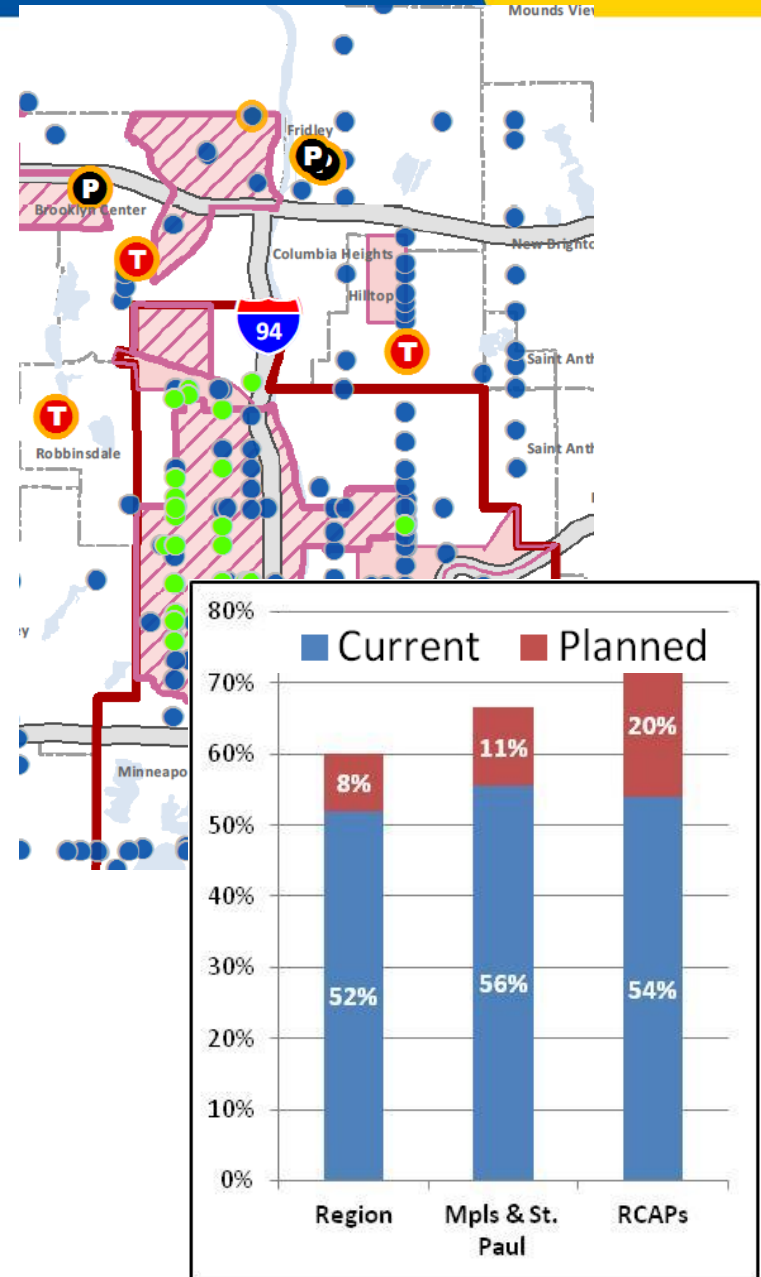
- Curb extensions for wider sidewalks and reduced bus delays
- Neighborhood-scale station design with LRT-level amenities
  - Robust shelters
  - Shelter heat
  - Dedicated lighting
  - Security features
  - Real time information
  - Transit maps
  - Fare pre-payment
  - Trash receptacles
  - Accessibility features



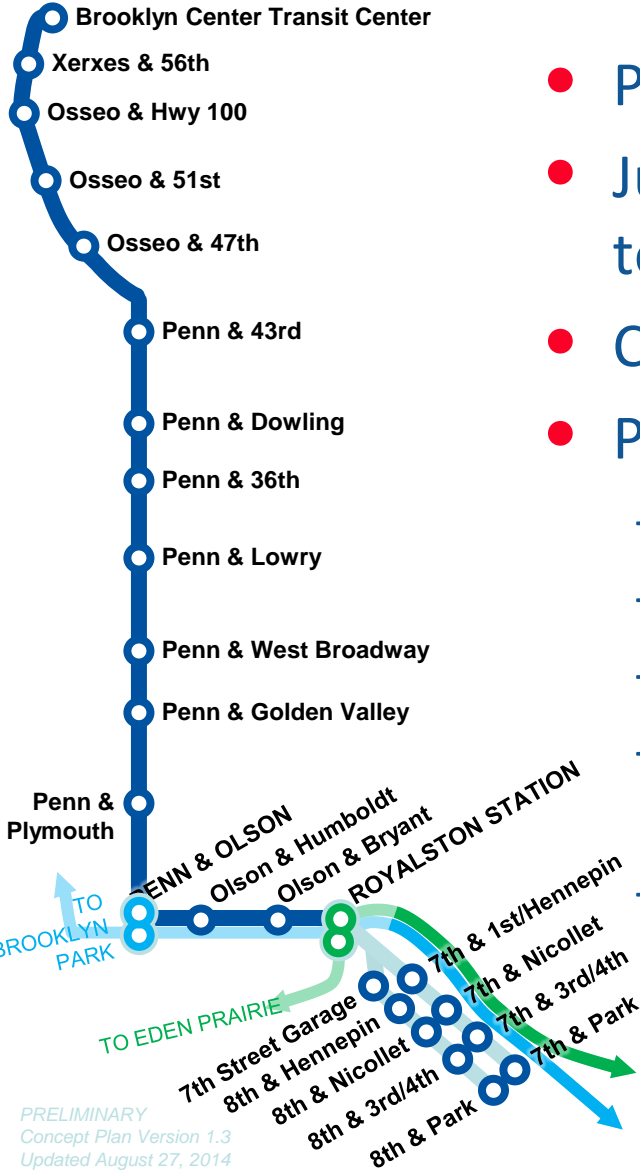


# Equity Initiatives

- Improving bus stops
  - **North Minneapolis:**  
25 new shelters in 2015
  - **Stakeholder interest in:**  
More shelters, heat, light, security cameras, real time schedule info, particularly in Racially Concentrated Areas of Poverty (RCAP) areas
  - With 2015 investment, placement rate higher than 74% for RCAPS
- Seeking additional improvements
  - Arterial BRT: frequent, fast, reliable
  - Bus route and neighborhood connectivity
    - Service Improvement Plan
    - SWLRT and Bottineau



# C LINE



## Penn Ave BRT- Faster Implementation?

- Penn Ave named in draft 2040TPP
- July 2014- St. Paul and Ramsey County requested to defer B Line (West 7<sup>th</sup>) implementation
- Could advance C Line to second line in 2016
- Past B Line funds total \$20MM, expire soon
  - Most funds not controlled by Metropolitan Council
  - \$18+MM awards by MnDOT and TAB
  - First \$5.25MM must be obligated by June 2015
  - Penn Ave Community Works project work could accelerate C Line implementation readiness
  - Metro Transit beginning to address B Line funds





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