

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: April 23, 2018

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 9, 2018

Subject:	Recommended <i>D Line Station Plan</i> Release
District(s), Member(s):	District 2, Lona Schreiber; District 7, Gary Cunningham; District 8, Cara Letofsky; District 5, Steve Elkins
Policy/Legal Reference:	Public Accountability Policy 2-1; Public Involvement in the Transportation Planning Process 1-3b
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Charles Carlson, Senior Manager, BRT/Small Starts, 612-349-7639 Katie Roth, Manager, Arterial BRT, 612-349-7772 Scott Janowiak, Senior Planner, BRT/Small Starts, 612-341-5733
Division/Department:	Metro Transit, BRT/Small Starts Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Authorize release of the recommended *D Line Station Plan* for public review and comment
- Direct staff to collect comments through Friday, June 8, 2018, summarize comments, and report the findings to the Metropolitan Council

Background

The recommended *D Line Station Plan* identifies station locations for the D Line rapid bus corridor. Recommended station locations result from planning activities throughout 2017-2018, including public outreach and engagement, interagency coordination, and system analysis.

A draft version of this plan was published on February 5, 2018. Comments on the draft *D Line Station Plan* were accepted through March 6, 2018, with significant outreach activities conducted during the comment period. Over 100 comments were received, prompting the addition of three stations to the recommended plan. Upon completion and approval, the plan will identify the final planned locations for D Line stations in advance of engineering.

Rationale

The proposed comment period continues transparent and meaningful discussion with the public about the D Line. It also provides an opportunity for staff and the Council to better understand the components of the recommended *D Line Station Plan* that are important to communities in the corridor.

Thrive Lens Analysis

The D Line Station Plan process advances Thrive outcomes of equity, through engaging the full cross-section of the community in decision-making action, and livability, through working toward improved transportation choices. Investment in high-quality transportation options like the D Line will advance the thrive outcome of prosperity, by making the region more economically competitive through increased workers' access to employment, and support to employers by increasing available workforce with affordable, convenient transportation.

Funding

The D Line planning process has been funded using Metro Transit operating budget resources. Full funding for delivery of the D Line project is not yet identified.

Known Support / Opposition

Public engagement on the draft plan has identified strong support for the D Line and transit improvements in the Chicago-Emerson/Fremont corridor. Local partners have been supportive of the project and will continue to be closely involved as the project transitions into the detailed design and engineering phase.