

METRO B Line Draft Corridor Plan

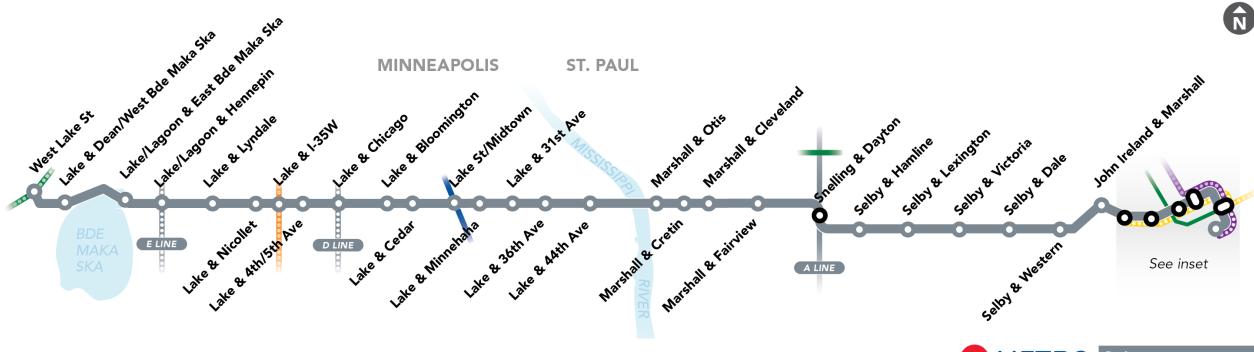
Adam Smith, Senior Planner, BRT Projects Katie Roth, Assistant Director, BRT Projects Metro Transit

February 22, 2021



B Line Bus Rapid Transit Overview

- Substantial replacement of Route 21, second-highest ridership route but slowest in-service speed
- Route 21 ridership remains strong, even during pandemic
- Project fully funded, targeted opening 2024





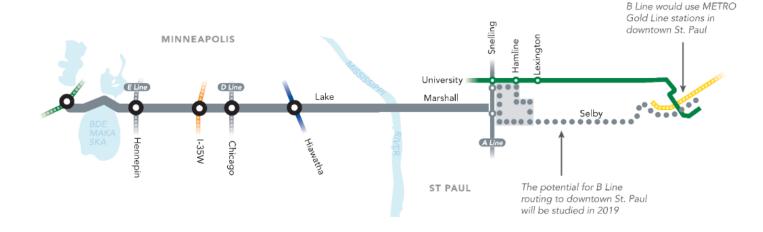
Project schedule

- Initial corridor recommendations and station planning: 2019 2020
- Corridor Plan
 - Release Draft Corridor Plan: February 2021
 - Recommended Corridor Plan (Council action to release for public comment): May 2021
 - Final Corridor Plan (Council action to approve): September 2021
- Engineering: Mid-2021 Late 2022
- Construction: 2023 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

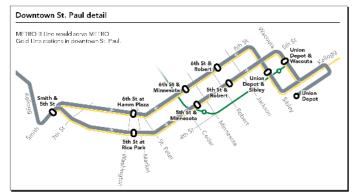




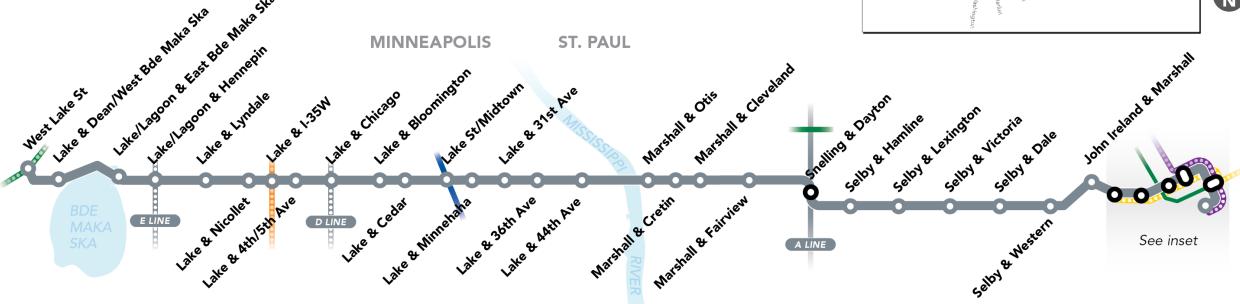


Draft B Line Corridor Plan

- 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

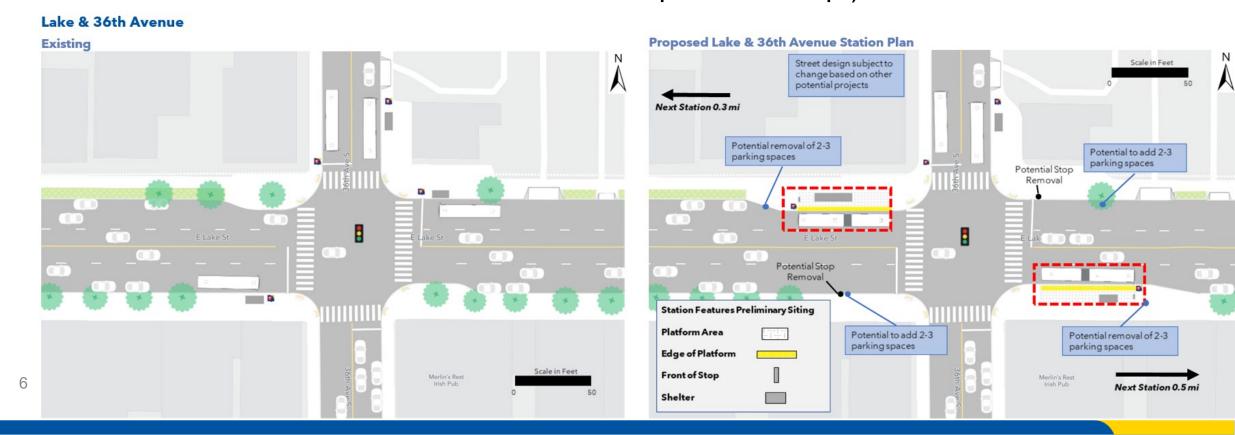






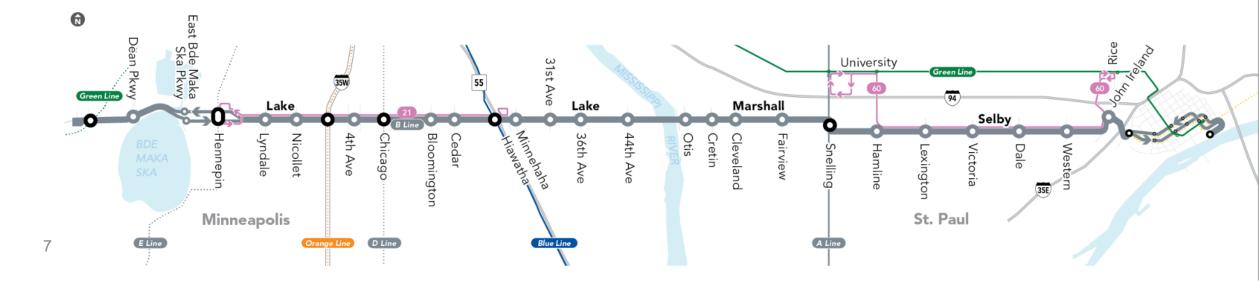
Core element of Corridor Plan: Station and platform locations

- 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):

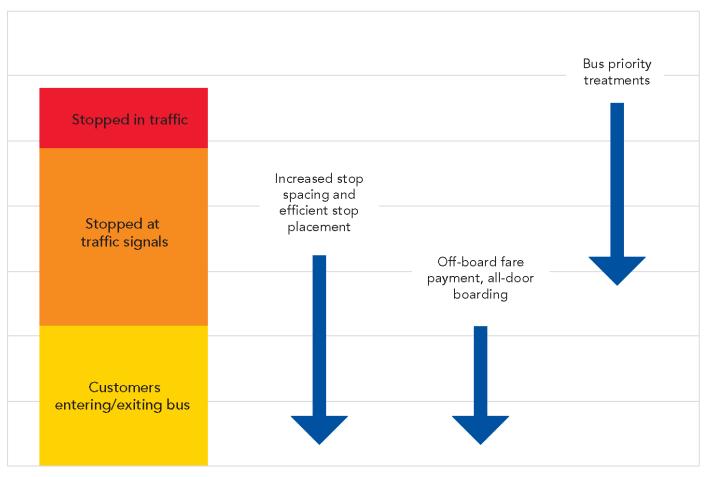


Additional information: Concept bus service plan

- 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 can the B Line move people faster?





Route 21 sources of delay

B Line speed and reliability features



Outreach and engagement strategies

- Public comment period: February 22 March 22
- Project website
 - Key information and station concepts
 - Draft Corridor Plan Document
 - Video
 - Comment boxes for feedback on specific stations
- Direct mailing (postcard)
- Email to subscribers, Rider Alerts
- In-person feedback at key bus stops
- Partner with community organizations, neighborhood groups along corridor
- Flyers at bus stops
- Social media



Next steps and project schedule

- Distribute Draft Corridor Plan and seek feedback
- Develop recommendations for bus priority treatments through agency coordination
- Recommended Corridor Plan (Council action to release for public comment): May 2021
- Final Corridor Plan (Council action to approve): September 2021
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