



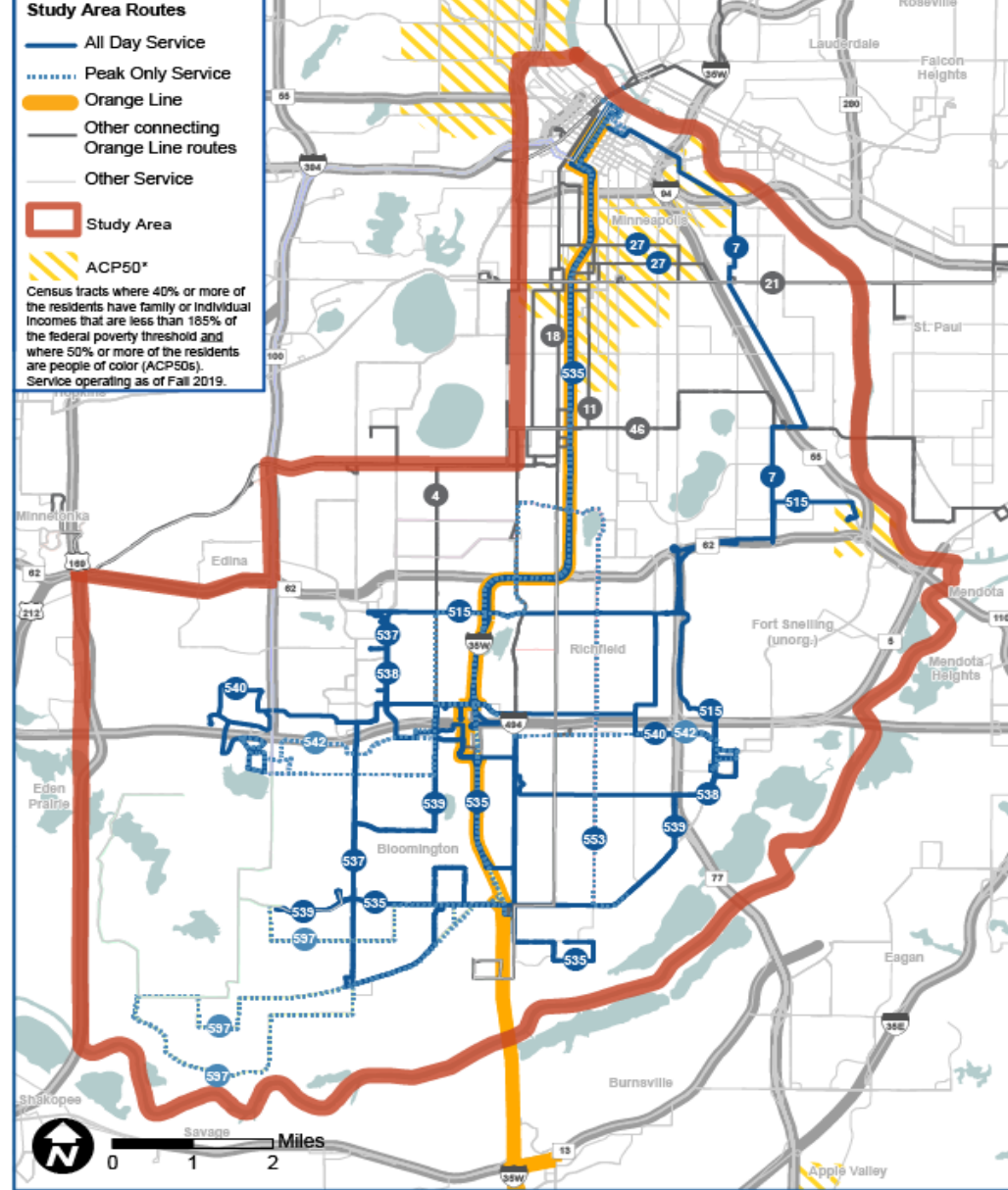
Orange Line Connecting Bus Study Concept Plan

January 25, 2021 Transportation Committee

*Cyndi Harper and John Dillery
Metro Transit Service Development*

Project Goals

- Link Orange Line with significant number of residents, jobs, services
- Retain existing riders and grow ridership in an equitable way
- Simplify route network
- Enhance mobility and connectivity of the transit network
- Complement existing commuter express service in the corridor



Existing Routes

Concept Plan

• Scenario A

- Fall 2020 resources
- Replace routes 535, 597
- Provides access to suburban jobs and schools
- Simplified Routes 515, 540

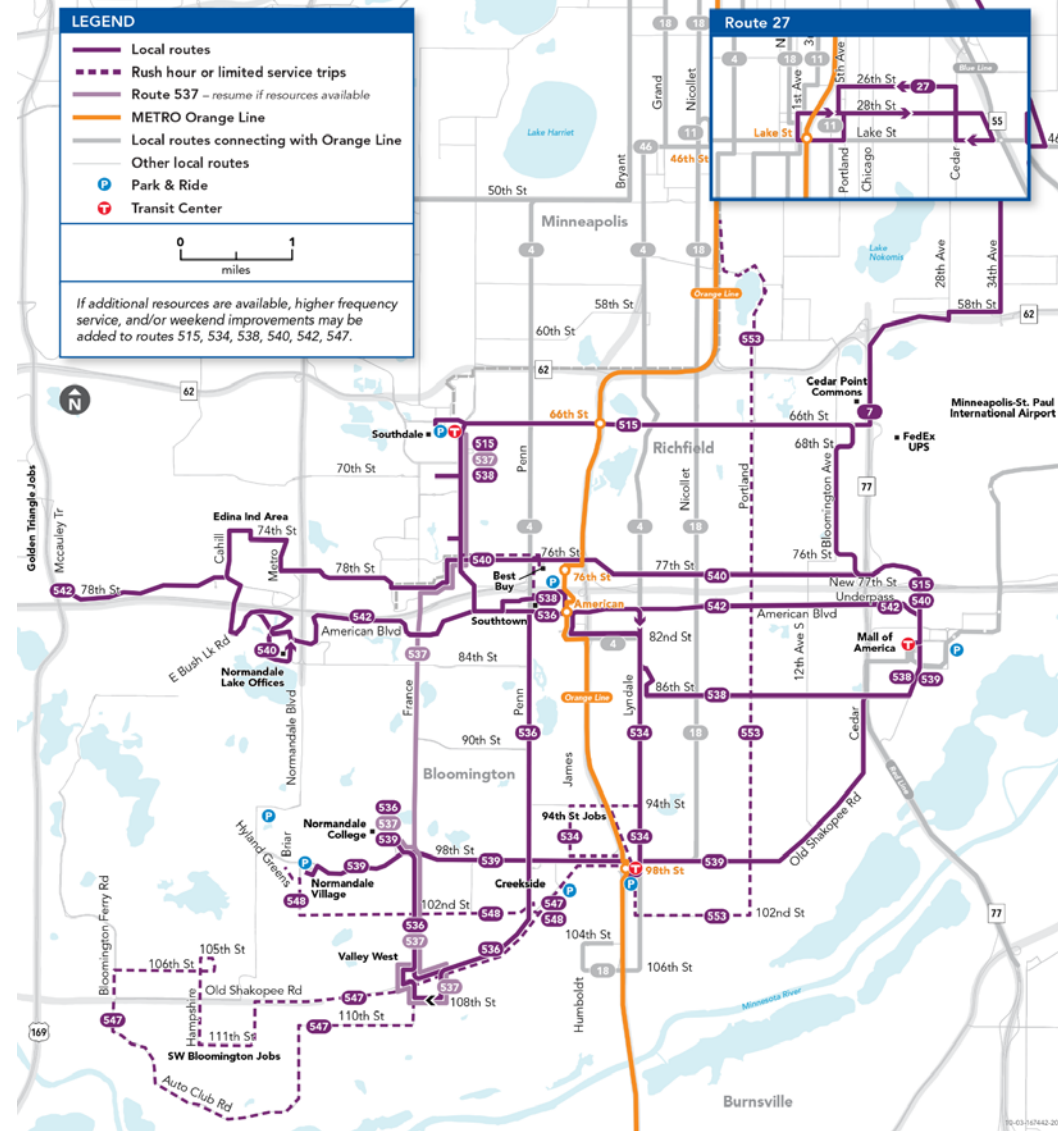
• Scenario B

- Fall 2019 resource level
- Additions to scenario A
 - Route 537
 - Add weekend service on routes 534, 542
 - Improve frequency on routes 515, 538, 540, 542, 547

- Most commuter routes continue to be suspended

METRO Orange Line Connecting Bus Study Concept Plan

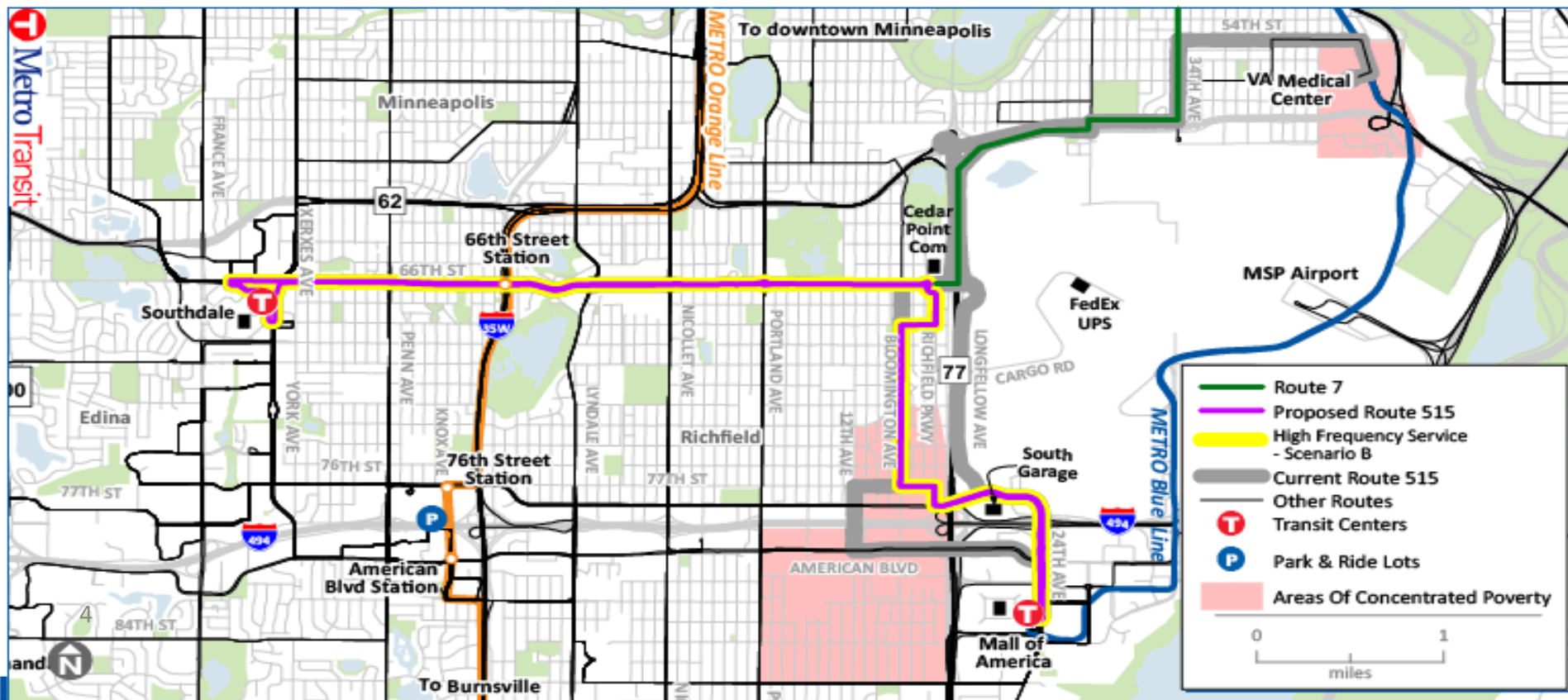
January 2021



South of the Minnesota River, transit is provided by Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA).

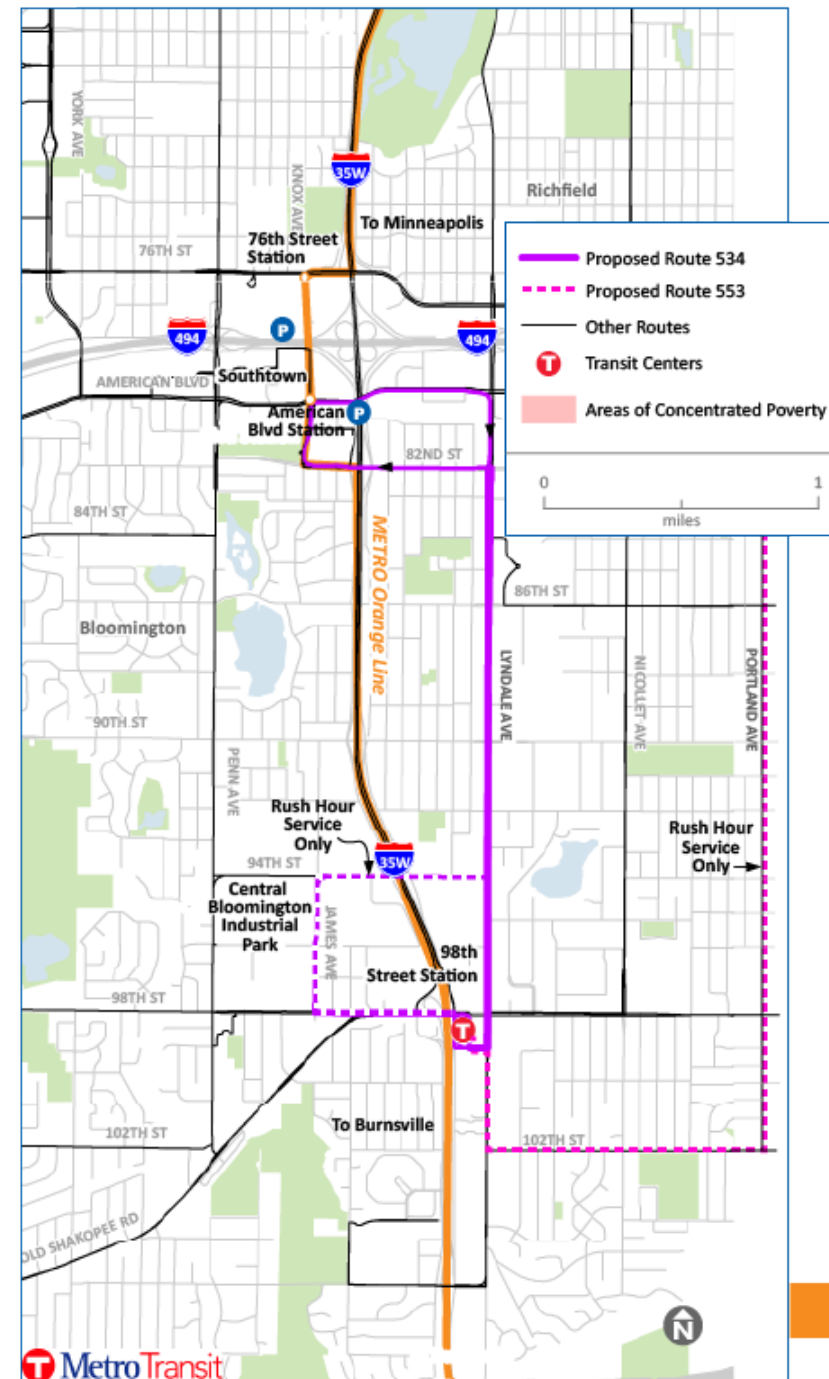
Routes 7 and 515

- Route 515 simplified to one pattern
- Route **515E branch eliminated (other options available)**
- Route 515B and C branches combined
- No service on Longfellow Ave.
- Rejoins high frequency network in Scenario B



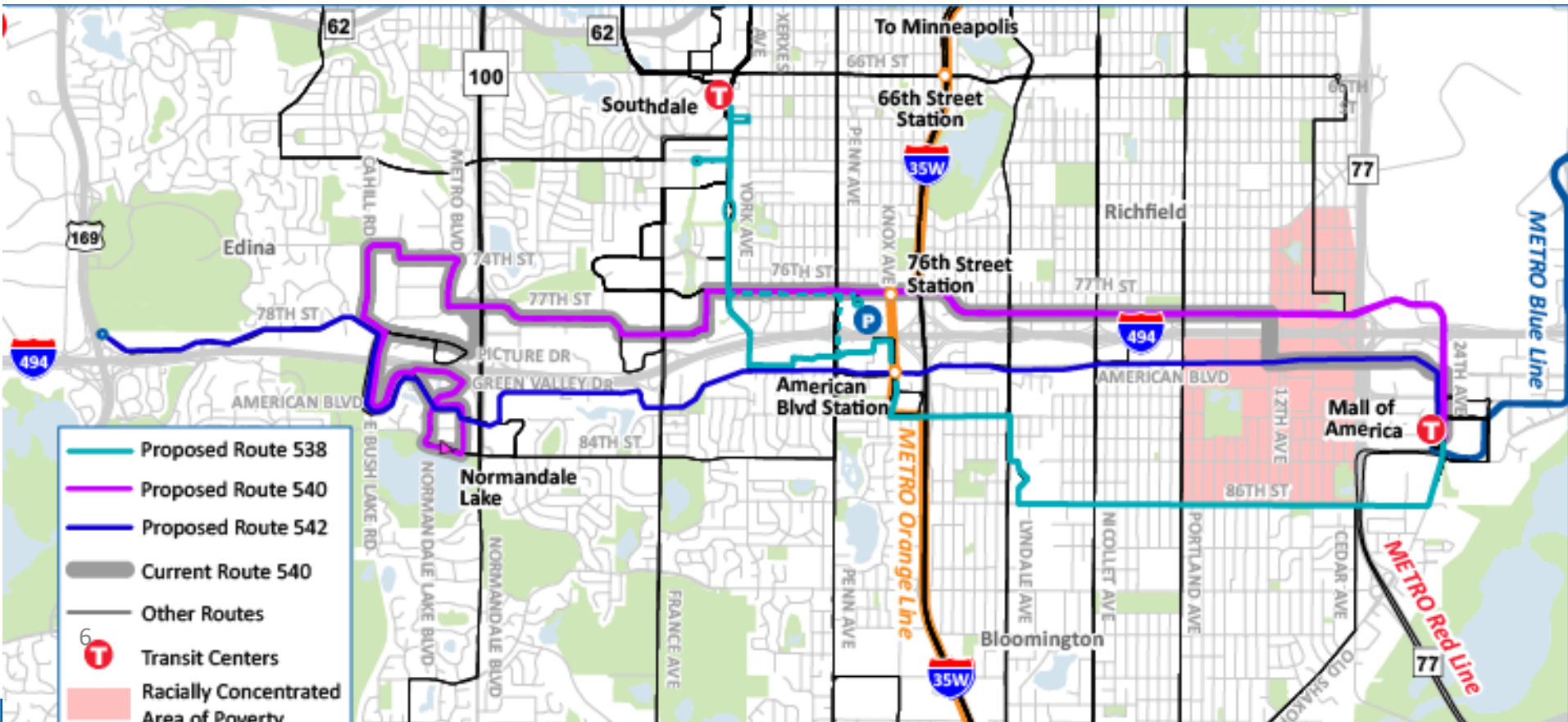
Routes 534 and 553

- Replace Route 535 local service
- New Route 534
 - 98th St., Lyndale Ave. and American Blvd.
 - Select trips via 94th/James Ave (Central Bloomington Industrial Park)
 - Scenario A: Every 20 min. in the peak and 30 min. in the off-peak on weekdays
 - Scenario B adds service on weekends
- Route 553 extension to 98th St. Station



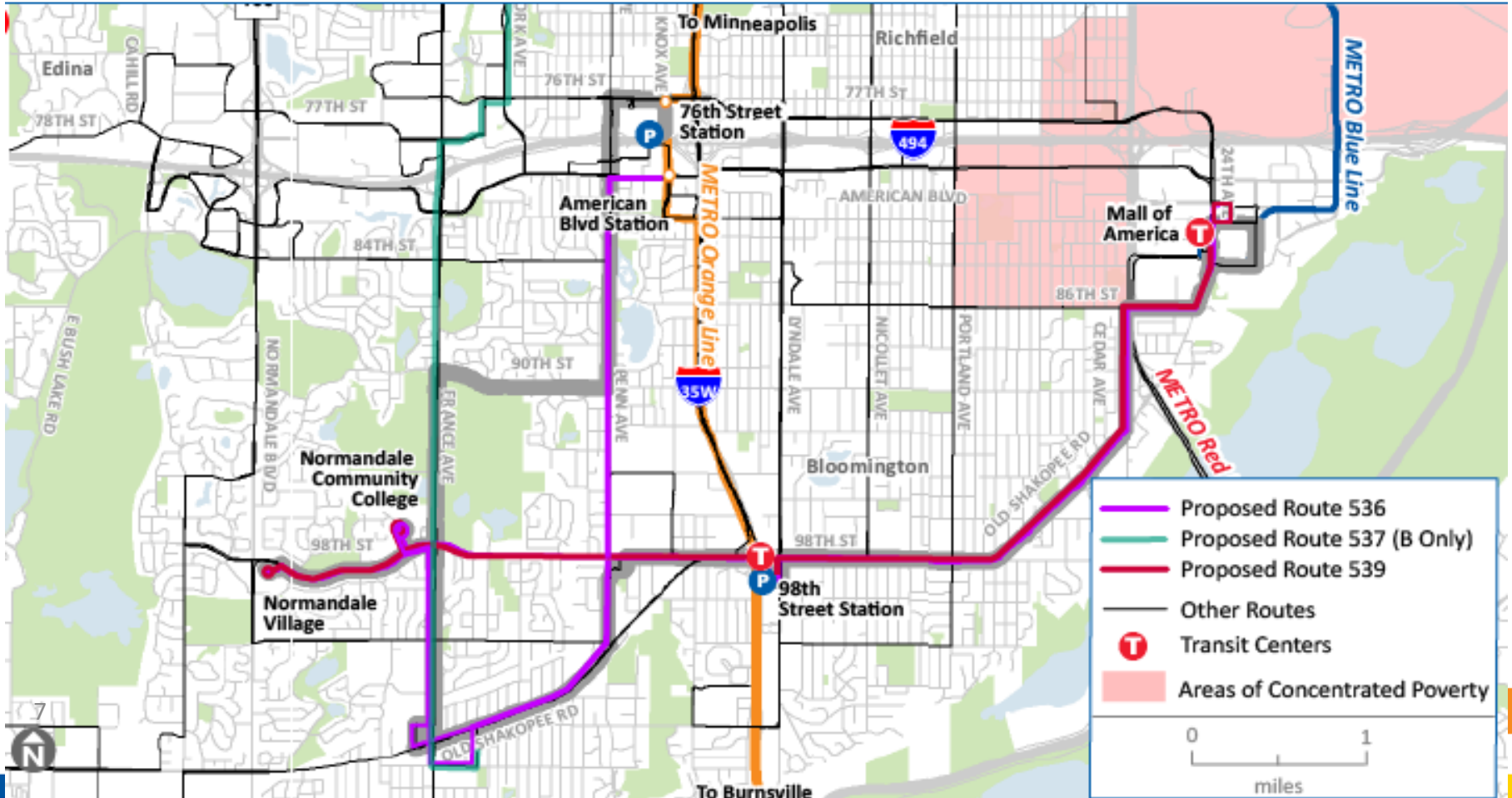
Routes 538, 540 and 542: I-494 Corridor

- Replace Route 535 local service on 76th/ 77th St, American Blvd
- Route 540 simplified to one pattern
- Restore Route 542- extended to Hwy 169 and streamlined to stay south of I-494



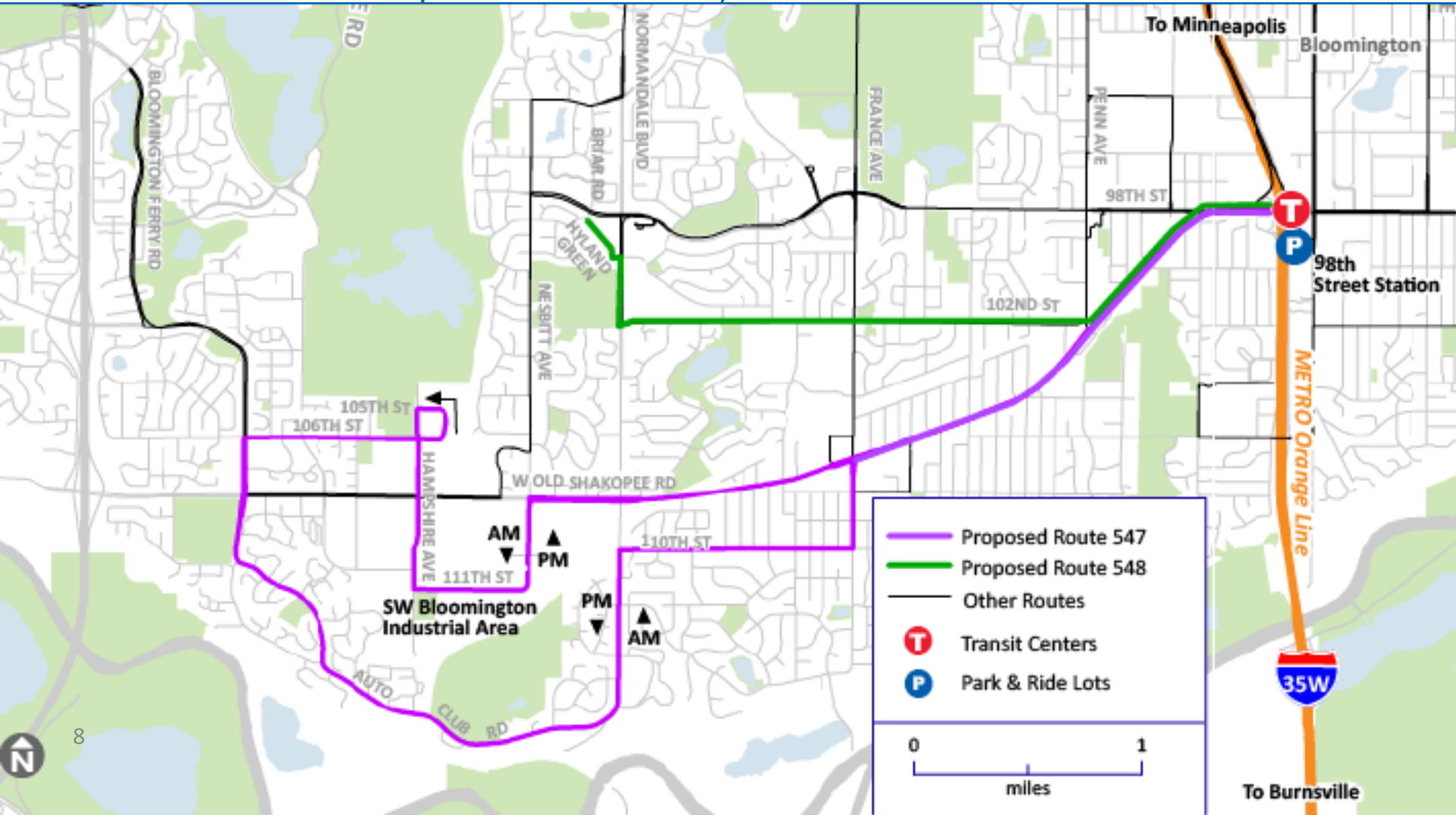
Route 536, 537 and 539

- Replace Route 535 local service on 98th St
- Route 539
 - Direct link between Orange Line and Normandale College via 98th St
 - **No service on 90th St.**
- New Route 536 replaces service on Penn, Old Shakopee Rd. and France Ave.

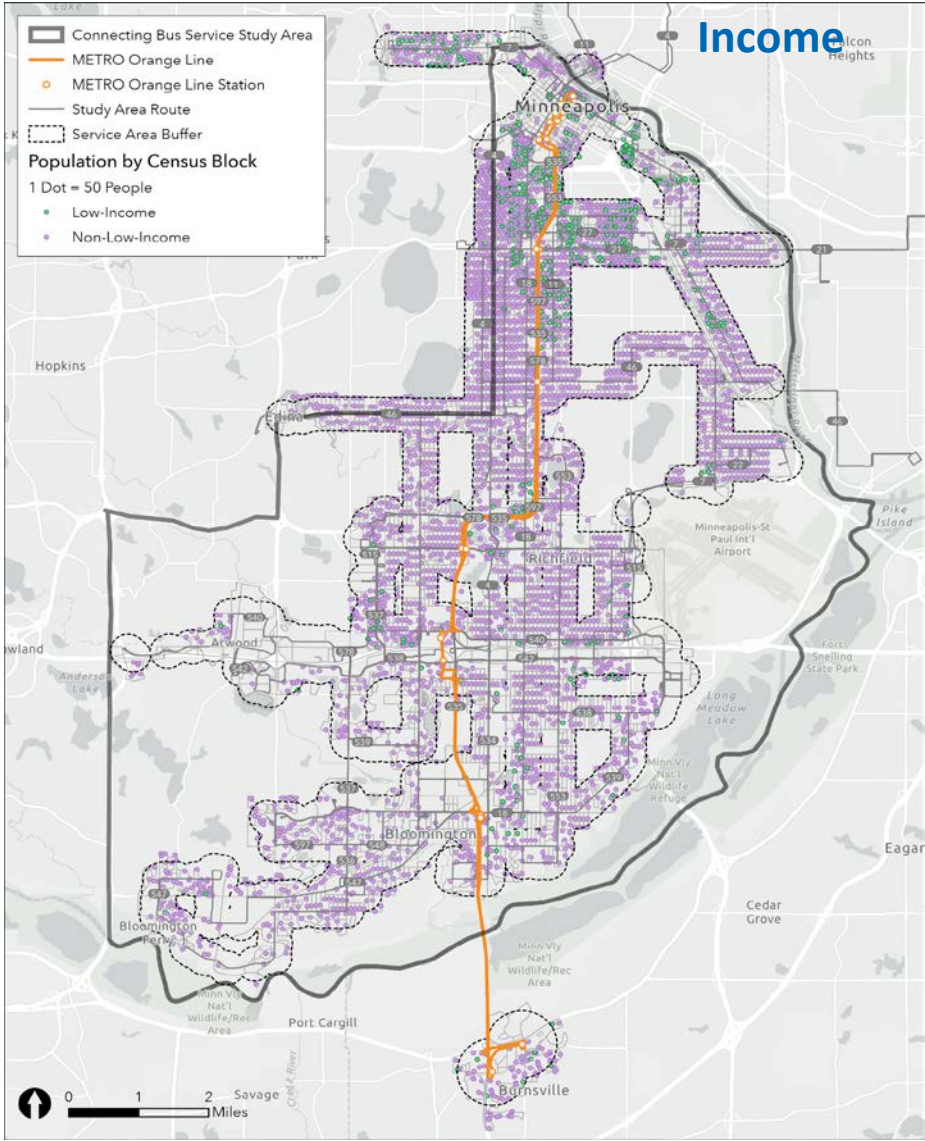
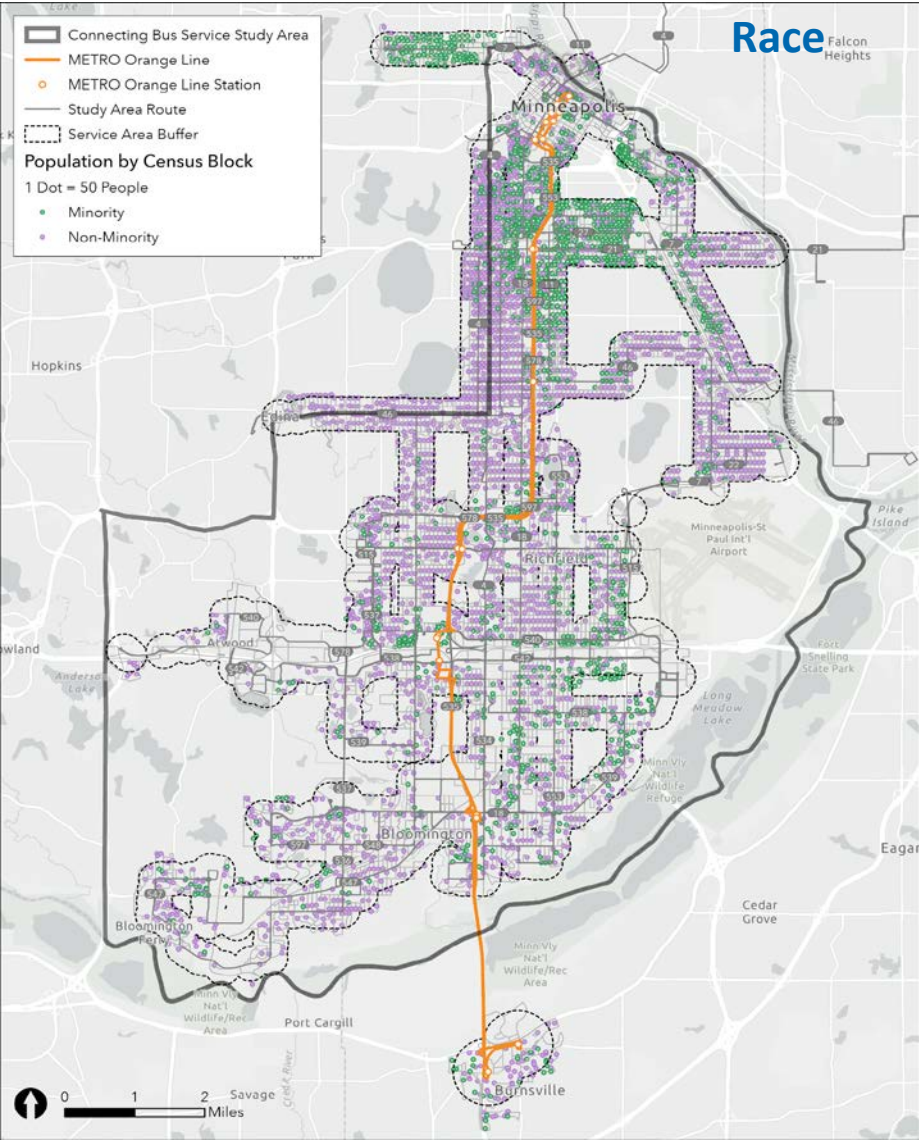


Routes 547, 548 and 597

- Orange Line replaces Route 597 express service
- New local routes make timed connections with Orange Line
 - New Route 547 replaces Route 597C, E local branches



Equity Considerations



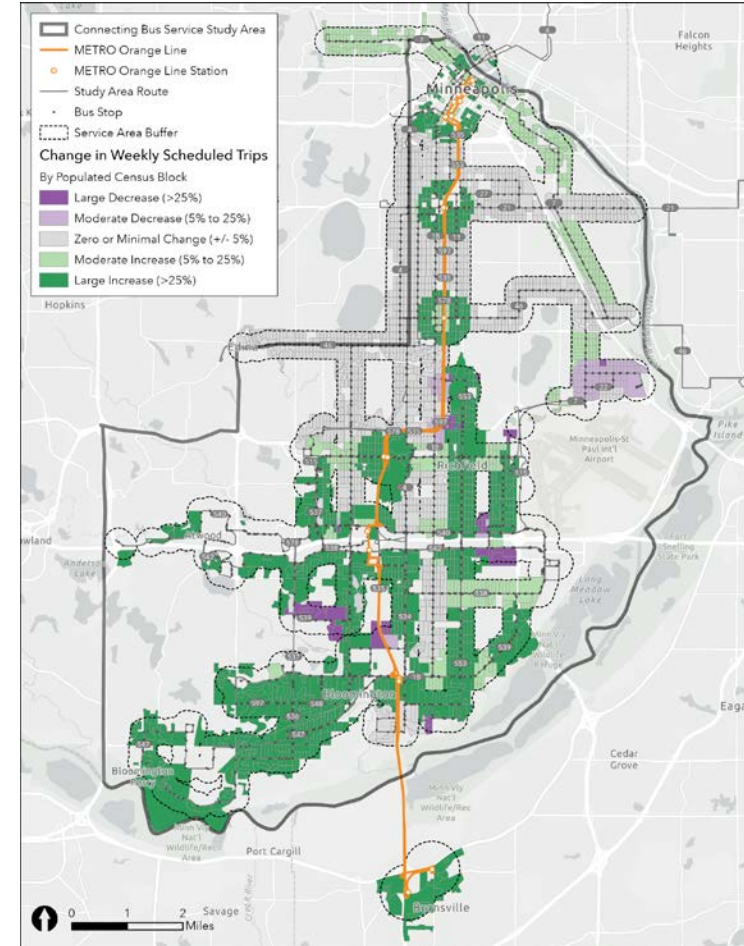
FTA Title VI Service Equity Analysis

Methodology

- Based on residential demographics
- Measures percent increase in weekly trips

Results

- Increase in service for average resident
- Minorities receive 82% of the benefits non-minorities experience
- Low-income groups see 80% of the benefits non-low income people receive
- Does not reflect access to jobs, other important destinations
- Percentages include suspended routes



	Population	% Population	Trips Change
Minority	113,665	38.6%	24.3%
Non-Minority	180,984	61.4%	29.7%
Low Income	43,295	14.7%	22.9%
Non-Low Income	243,943	82.8%	28.6%
Total	294,649	100.0%	27.6%

Which jobs can be accessed in 45 minutes?

AM Peak

Midday

Change in Population

○ Orange Line Stations

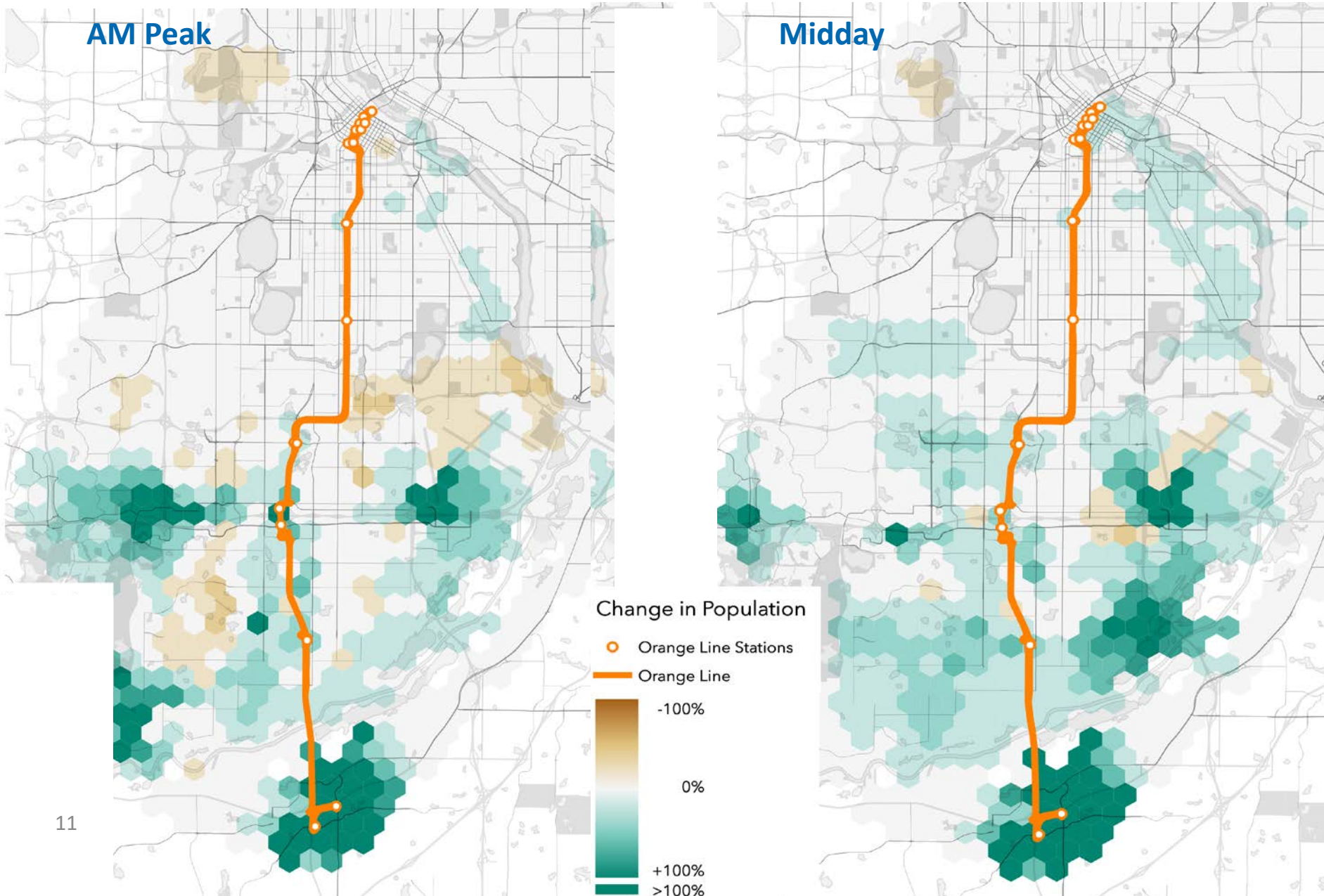
— Orange Line

-100%

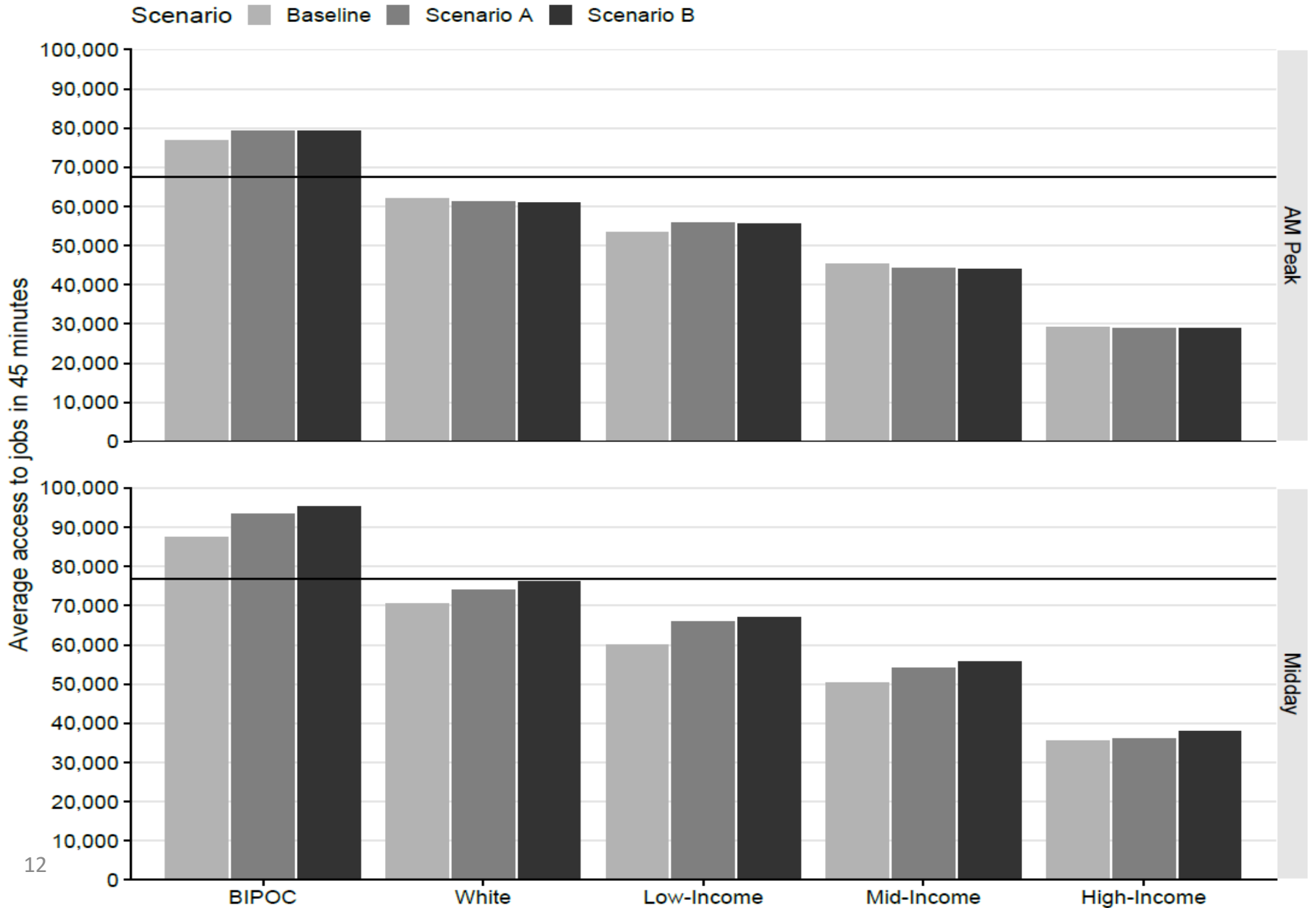
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Who can access these jobs?



Key Outreach and Engagement Strategies

Public Comment Period: January 25-February 22, 2021

- Website
 - Concept Plan Report
 - Video presentation
 - Map-based survey to guide feedback
- In-person intercepts
- Postcard mailer
- Target ethnic and local media
- Invite to virtual meetings
 - Public hearing on Feb. 10
 - Community meetings on Feb. 6 and 9
- Partner with community organizations, college, employers
- Internal outreach





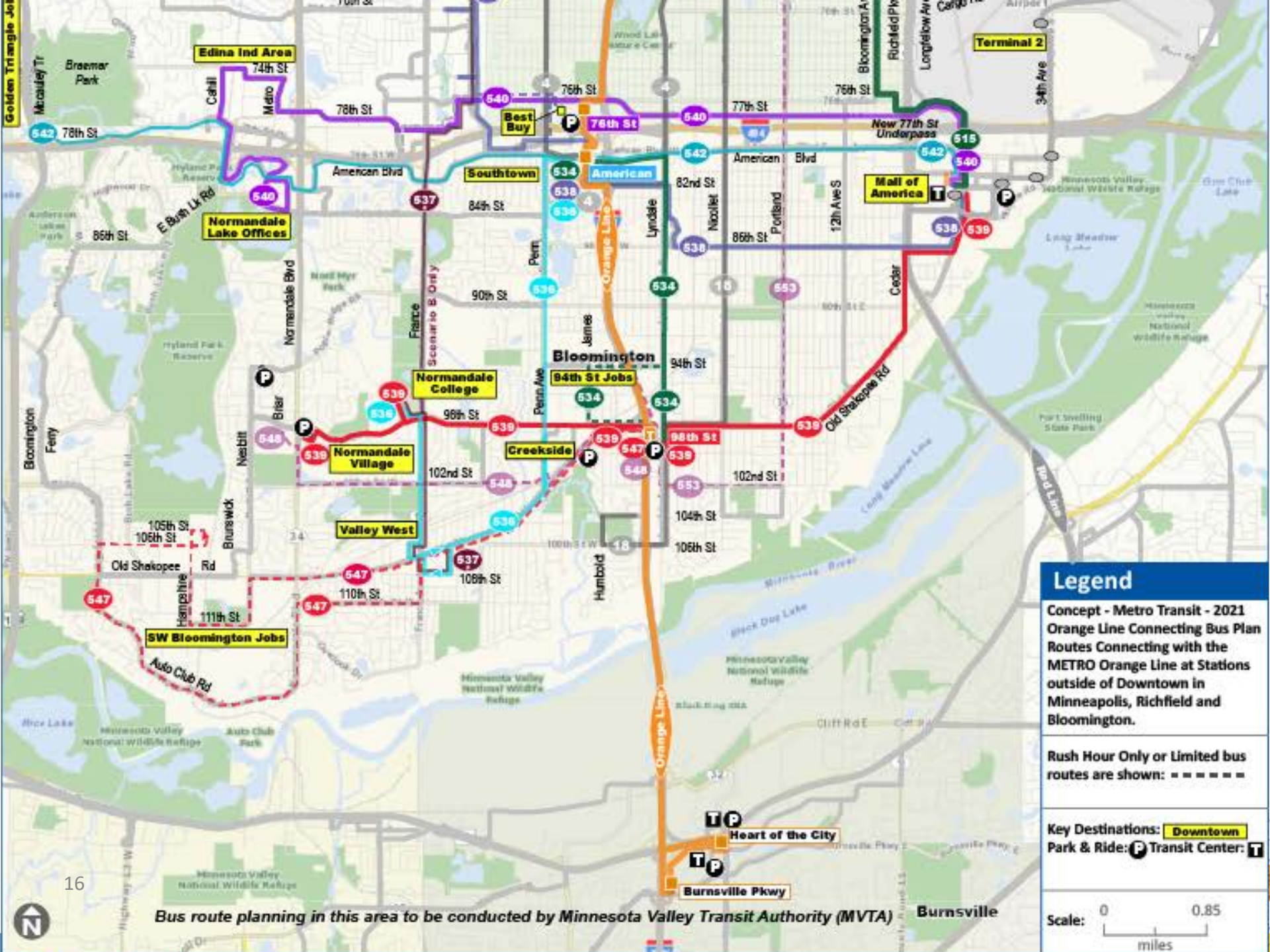
www.metrotransit.org/metro-orange-line-connecting-bus-service

Scenario A vs B Operating Budget Comparison

	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Scenario A	Scenario B
Revenue Hours				
Weekday	478	378	369	423
Saturday	219	206	233	274
Sunday	175	168	184	227
WK Equivalent	553	453	452	523
Peak Buses	47	32	34	39

Orange Line

	Opening Day
Revenue Hours	
Weekday	110
Saturday	92
Sunday	92
WK Equivalent	147
Peak Buses	10



Legend

Concept - Metro Transit - 2021 Orange Line Connecting Bus Plan Routes Connecting with the METRO Orange Line at Stations outside of Downtown in Minneapolis, Richfield and Bloomington.

Rush Hour Only or Limited bus routes are shown: - - - - -

Key Destinations: **Yellow Box**
 Park & Ride: **P** Transit Center: **T**

Scale: 0 0.85 miles

Bus route planning in this area to be conducted by Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA)