METRO F Line – Draft Corridor Plan

Jake Knight, Senior Planner | October 24, 2022
METRO F Line Bus Rapid Transit from Blaine to Minneapolis

• Fast, frequent, all-day service

• 13-mile corridor from Northtown Transit Center to downtown Minneapolis

• Substantial upgrade to Route 10, one of the region’s highest-ridership bus routes

• Approved for entry into the Project Development phase of FTA’s CIG program under Small Starts

• Targeted opening in 2026
Project schedule

• F Line identified: March 2021

• Early project coordination: 2021 – 2022

• Corridor Plan
  – Release Draft Corridor Plan: October 2022
  – Recommended Corridor Plan (Council action to release for public comment): Spring 2023
  – Final Corridor Plan (Council action to approve): Summer 2023

• Engineering: Mid-2023 – Late 2024

• Construction: 2025 – 2026
Draft Corridor Plan

• Identifies station locations

• Early, important opportunity for community input

• Addresses key station location questions:
  – What intersections will have BRT stations?
  – In which quadrants (corners) of the intersections will the platforms be located?
  – How was the location determined?
Draft Corridor Plan (cont.)

• Proposed platform locations developed through site-specific review

• Concept designs will evolve and be refined through engineering and coordination

• Other planning issues (ongoing)
  – Project coordination with agency partners
  – Bus priority treatments
  – Supporting local service
F Line coordination with other projects

• MnDOT: Hwy 47 and Hwy 65 Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study
  – Evaluating broader alternatives for changes along the Hwy 47 (University Ave) and Hwy 65 (Central Ave) corridors
  – Close collaboration to support F Line and plan station locations that do not preclude future changes to the roadways from a future MnDOT project
  – Public engagement coordination

• Coordinating design with several other projects
  – From MnDOT, Hennepin and Anoka counties, and cities of Minneapolis, Columbia Heights, and Fridley
Public engagement

• Spring-fall 2022: Raised awareness about the project

• Public comment period: October 24 – December 5

• Project website: metrotransit.org/f-line-project
  – Key project information
  – Draft Corridor Plan (full document)
  – Station concepts with surveys for feedback on specific stations
  – F Line Update newsletter sign-up

• Virtual open house: November 15, 6:30 p.m.
Public engagement – additional strategies

• Direct mailing to all homes, businesses, and property owners along the corridor

• Door knock and distribute flyers to all homes and businesses near proposed station locations

• Meet Route 10 riders at stops and aboard buses

• Post signs with project information at Route 10 bus stops

• Email: Project newsletter, Route 10 Rider Alerts, Route 10 Go-To card users, Riders Club, etc.

• Distribute messages through local elected officials, cities, and partner agencies

• Partner with neighborhood, community, business, and advocacy groups

• Tabling at community events

• Social media

• Translation of documents in Spanish, Somali, Hmong, Oromo, and Arabic
Next steps and project schedule

• Release Draft Corridor Plan and seek feedback through December 5

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• Final Corridor Plan (Council action to approve): Summer 2023

• Engineering: Mid-2023 – Late 2024

• Construction: 2025 – 2026

• Start of service: 2026