

# METRO F Line – Approval of Final Corridor Plan

Transportation Committee, Business Item 2023-134

Jake Knight, Senior Planner, Arterial BRT | July 24, 2023



### Proposed action 2023-134

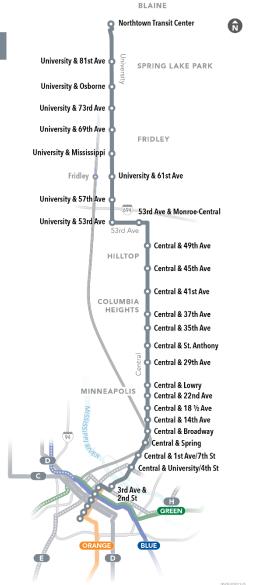
Approve the METRO F Line Final Corridor
 Plan to establish the number and location of stations included in the project



July 2023

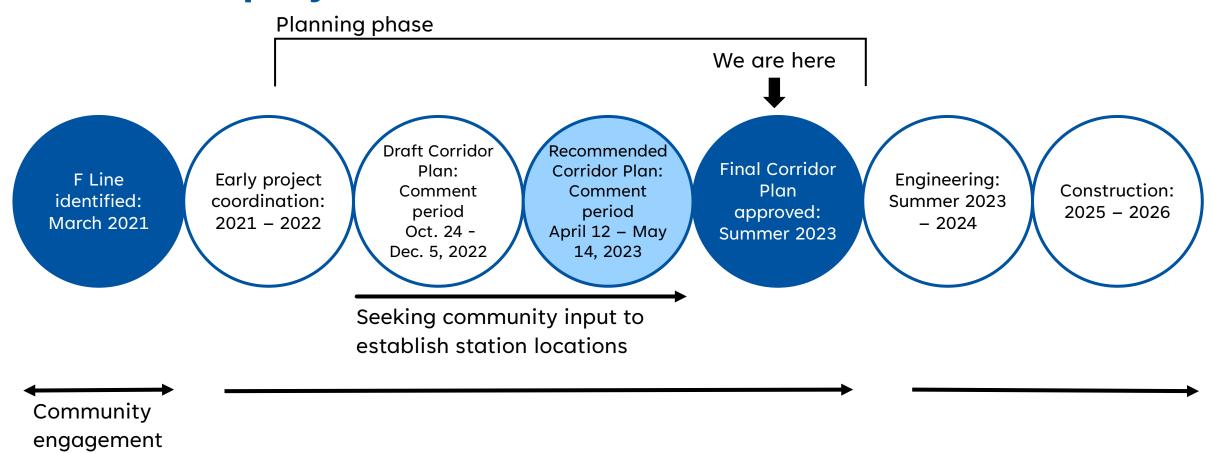








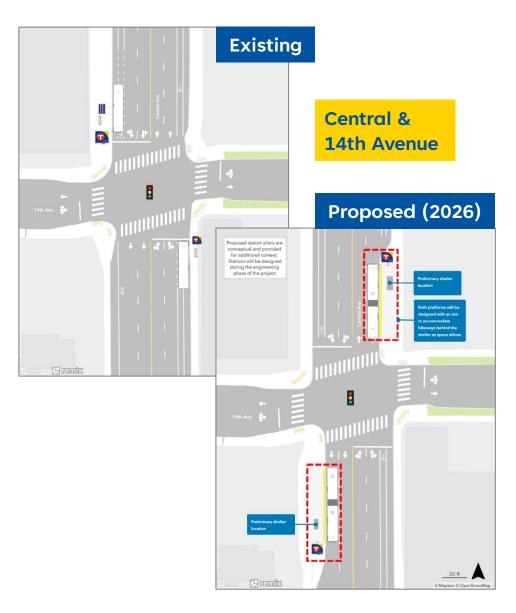
# Planned project schedule





#### **F Line Corridor Plan**

- Planning process and document to establish station locations and inform design
- Station intersections and locations of platforms within each intersection
- Policy basis for design
- Three versions for review and comment
  - Draft: Oct. 24 Dec. 5, 2022
  - Recommended: April 12 May 14, 2023
  - Final: July 24 Transportation Committee,
     August 9 Council





## Corridor Plan engagement: Strategies

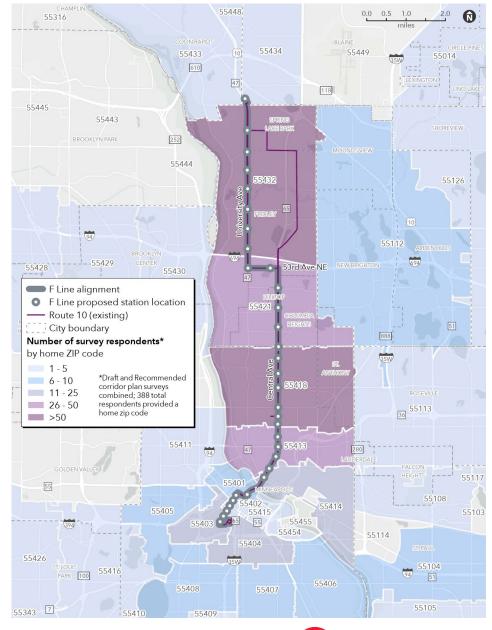
- 2 public comment periods (1 month each), collecting feedback via survey, email, phone, and in person
- 13,000 email addresses received project information
- 12,900 homes and businesses received postcards
- 874 people engaged at 40 public events and meetings
- 149 properties visited, talking to station neighbors and leaving station-specific materials (most visited twice)
- 99 bus stops signed with project information
- 20+ newsletters, websites blurbs, and social media postings from agency partners
- 4 rounds of Metro Transit social media ads targeted by zip code; posts on Metro Transit and Council social media accounts
- 1 virtual open house presentation with Q&A
- Translation of vital documents in English, Spanish, Somali, Hmong, Oromo, and Arabic





# Corridor Plan engagement: Survey demographics

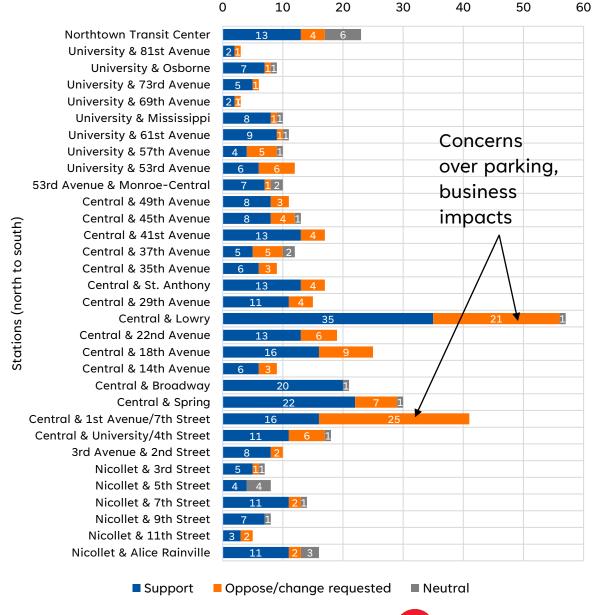
- 425 survey respondents (cumulative)
- Majority live in ZIP codes near the project (74%)
- Majority use Metro Transit at least a few times per month (76%); half at least a few times per week
- Majority white (78%)
- Majority have lower than average household incomes (70% under \$100k)\*





# Corridor Plan engagement: What we heard

- 850 survey/email/phone comments received
  - 70 percent were in support of the plan
- One 205-signature petition in opposition to Central & 1st Avenue/7th Street Station
- Key themes
  - Support for bus priority treatments
  - Station amenities and maintenance
  - Pedestrian safety and connections
  - Access to destinations
  - Station designs that integrate bicycle facilities
  - Concerns: On-street parking, business visibility
  - Concerns: Access to transit for seniors and people with limited mobility
- Right: Comments by station (cumulative)



Number of Comments

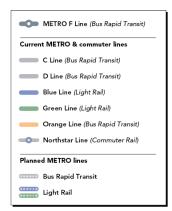


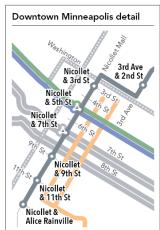


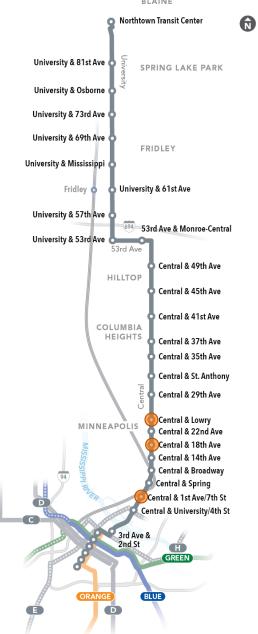
- Most concerns are associated with a few specific station locations
  - Central & 1st Avenue/7th Street
  - Central & 18th Avenue
  - Central & Lowry
- Concerns responded to in Recommended and/or Final corridor plans
- Staff recommending changes to one station location: Central & 18th Ave



March 2023

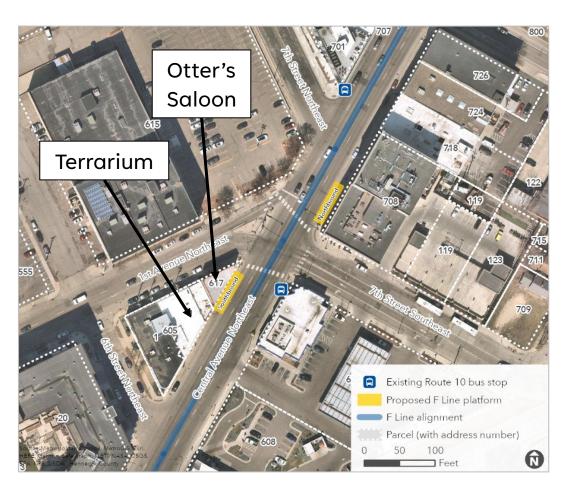






### Central & 1st Ave/7th St

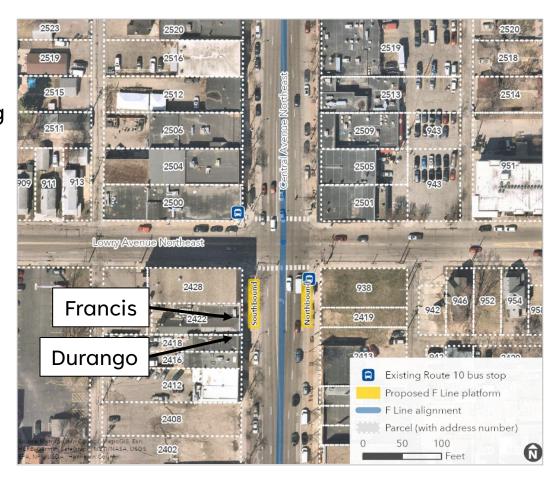
- Received 205-signature petition letter from Otter's Saloon regarding southbound platform
- Concerns expressed by Otter's Saloon and/or Terrarium Recording Studio
  - Removal of on-street parking spaces: At southbound platform, 3 to 5 total est. spaces removed, or about 5%-10% of spaces within 2-minute walk/roll
  - Placement in front of building
  - Potential for disruptive behavior at the platform
  - Noise from buses at and leaving platform
- Staff met with both stakeholders
- Staff evaluated two alternative locations
  - Alternatives pose safety concerns
  - Proposed location best meets project goals





### Central & Lowry: Southbound platform

- Concerns expressed by Francis restaurant and/or Durango bakery
  - Shelter placement in front of windows, café seating
  - Potential for disruptive behavior at the platform
  - Loss of on-street parking spaces: 4 to 6 total estimated on-street parking spaces removed, or about 7%-10% of spaces within 2-minute walk/roll
- Staff met with both stakeholders
- Alternative location does not support speed and reliability goals and is also adjacent to business storefronts





### Central & 18th Ave - shift north to 18 ½ Ave

- Existing Route 10 bus stops at 18th Ave,
   18 ½ Ave, and 19th Ave
- Residents, Route 10 riders concerned about increased walk/roll distance for seniors and people with limited mobility from a station at 18th Ave
- Access to Parker Skyview: 333-unit Minneapolis Public Housing Authority building for seniors
- Recommendation: Shift station to 18 ½
   Ave





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