



Network Now Concept Plan, Discontinued Service and Public Hearing

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Why Network Now?

Pivotal time in our history

- Ridership dropped 50% between 2019 and 2020 but is now growing again
- 30% less service, with 60+ routes suspended

Travel patterns are **changing**

- Fewer downtown commuters and more diverse needs
- Customers increasingly need all-day, all-purpose transit

Workforce is a top priority

- Bus and rail service expansion requires operators and support staff
- Service design can impact employee satisfaction

Metro Transit is **growing**

- New regional sales tax
- 4 new transitways under construction and more in planning
- New transit modes (microtransit)

Network Now goals:

Resolve:

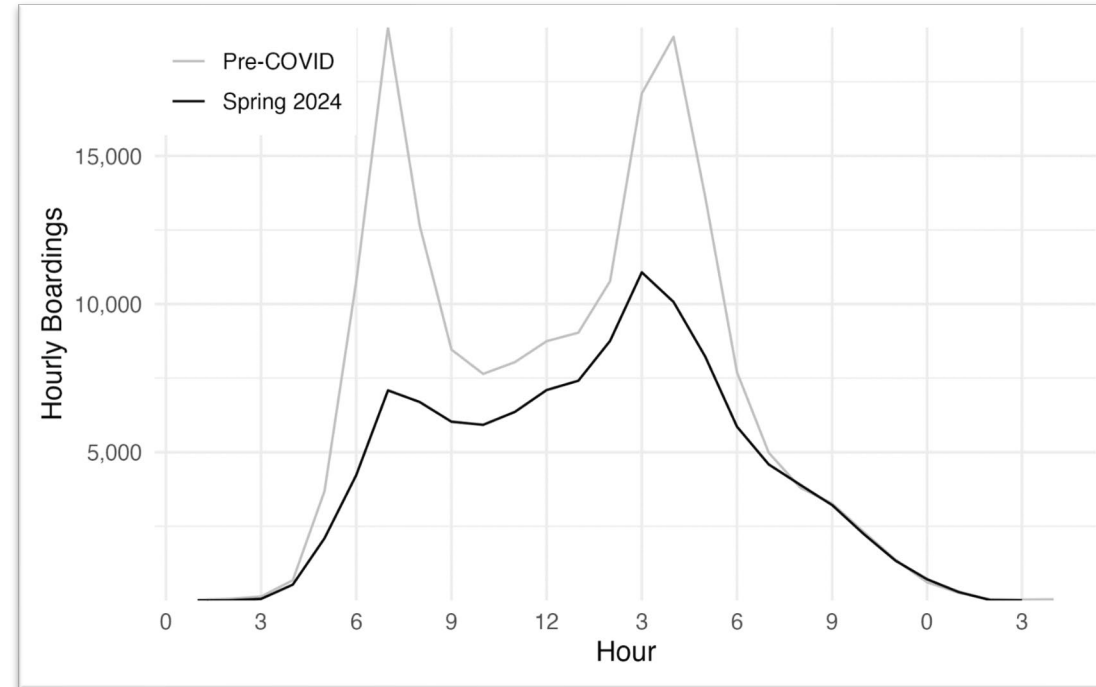
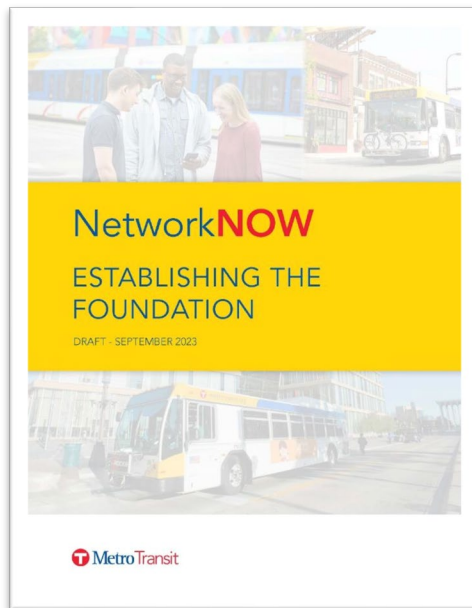
- Status of routes that are currently suspended (some since 2020)
- Facility closure needs

Improve:

- New or redesigned routes
- Frequency or span improvements
- METRO line investments
- Micro Transit possibilities

The foundation for network modification

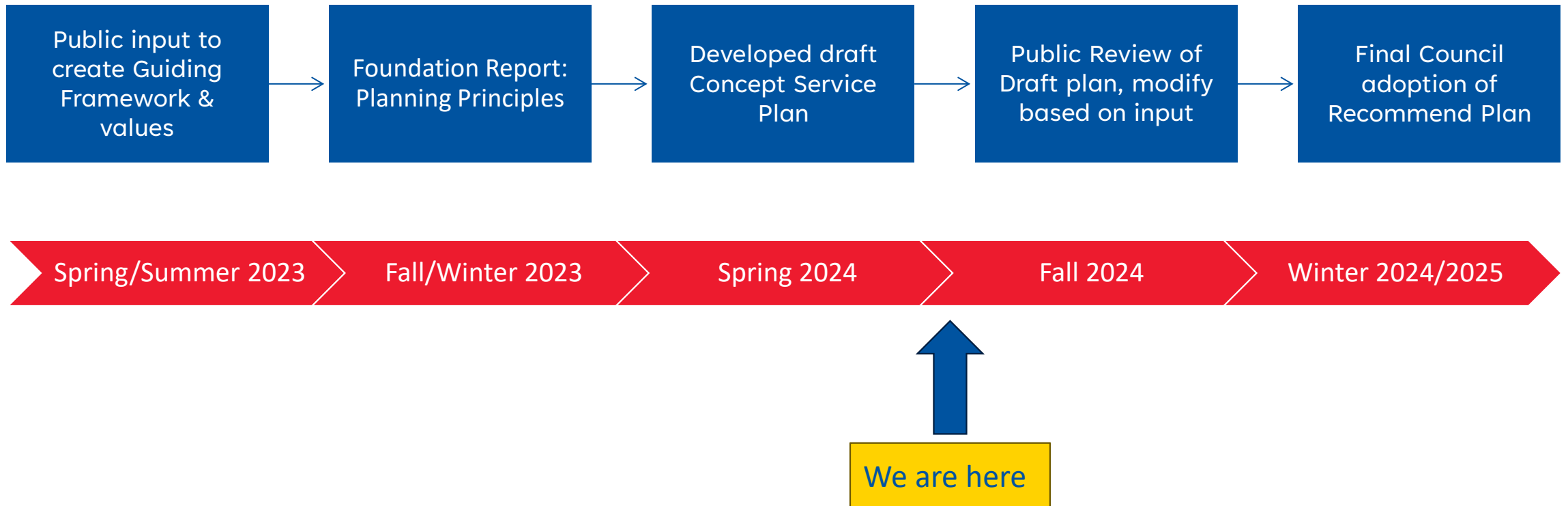
- **Performance:** details network performance, changes since 2019, and opportunities
- **Policy:** regional policy guidance from the Metropolitan Council applied
- **Engagement:** 2023 captured values and thoughts, surveys, workshops, customer contacts, 6,000 comments



Network Now Principles

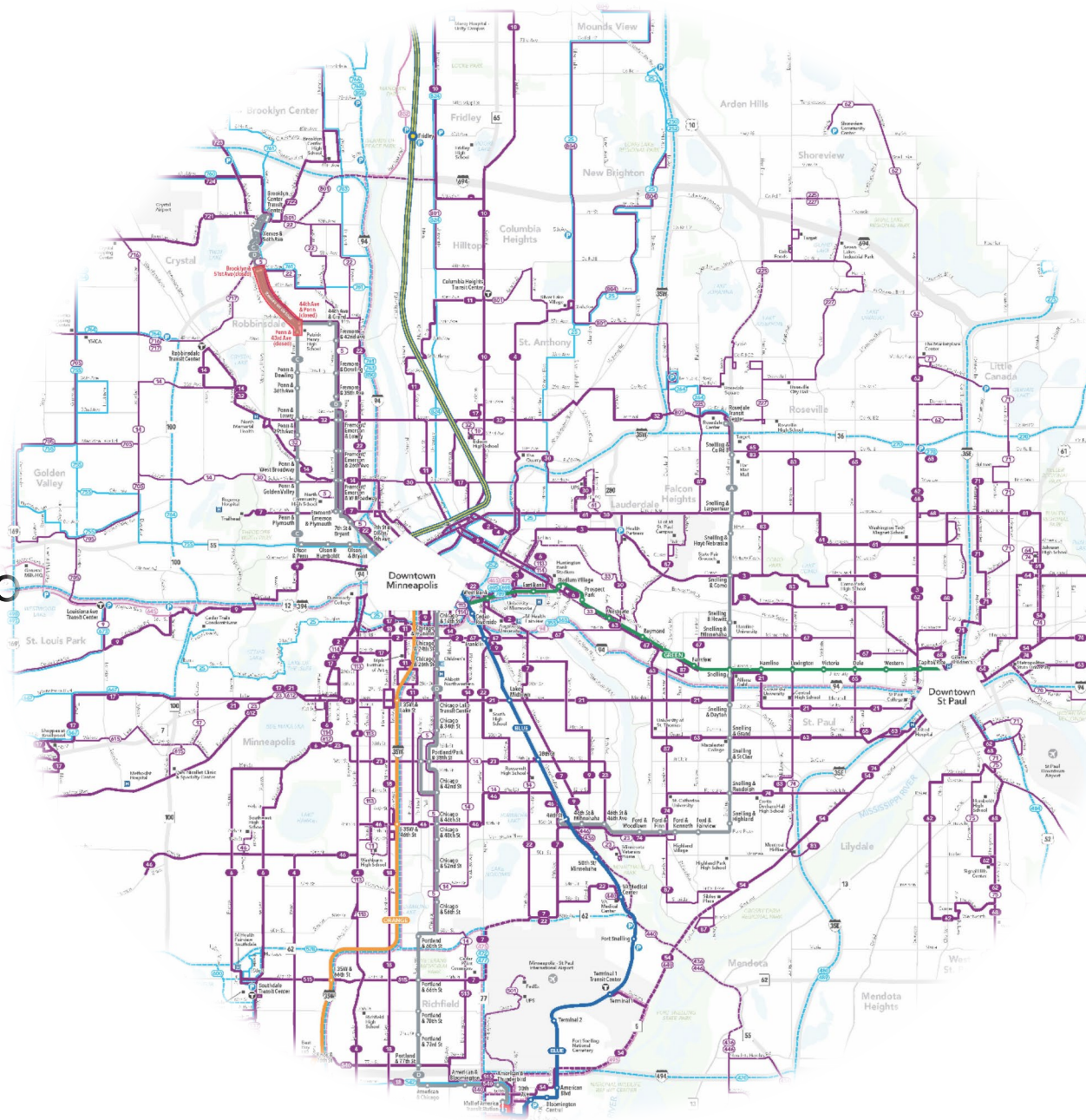
Adapt	Adapt service to changes in transit markets and travel patterns.
Prepare	Prepare for new METRO and high-frequency routes.
Maintain	Maintain the reliability of our scheduled service consistently over time.
Build on success	Build on success to grow ridership, adding service where people use transit the most.
Provide access	Provide access to opportunities and services with a focus on advancing equity and reducing regional disparities.

Network Now development timeline



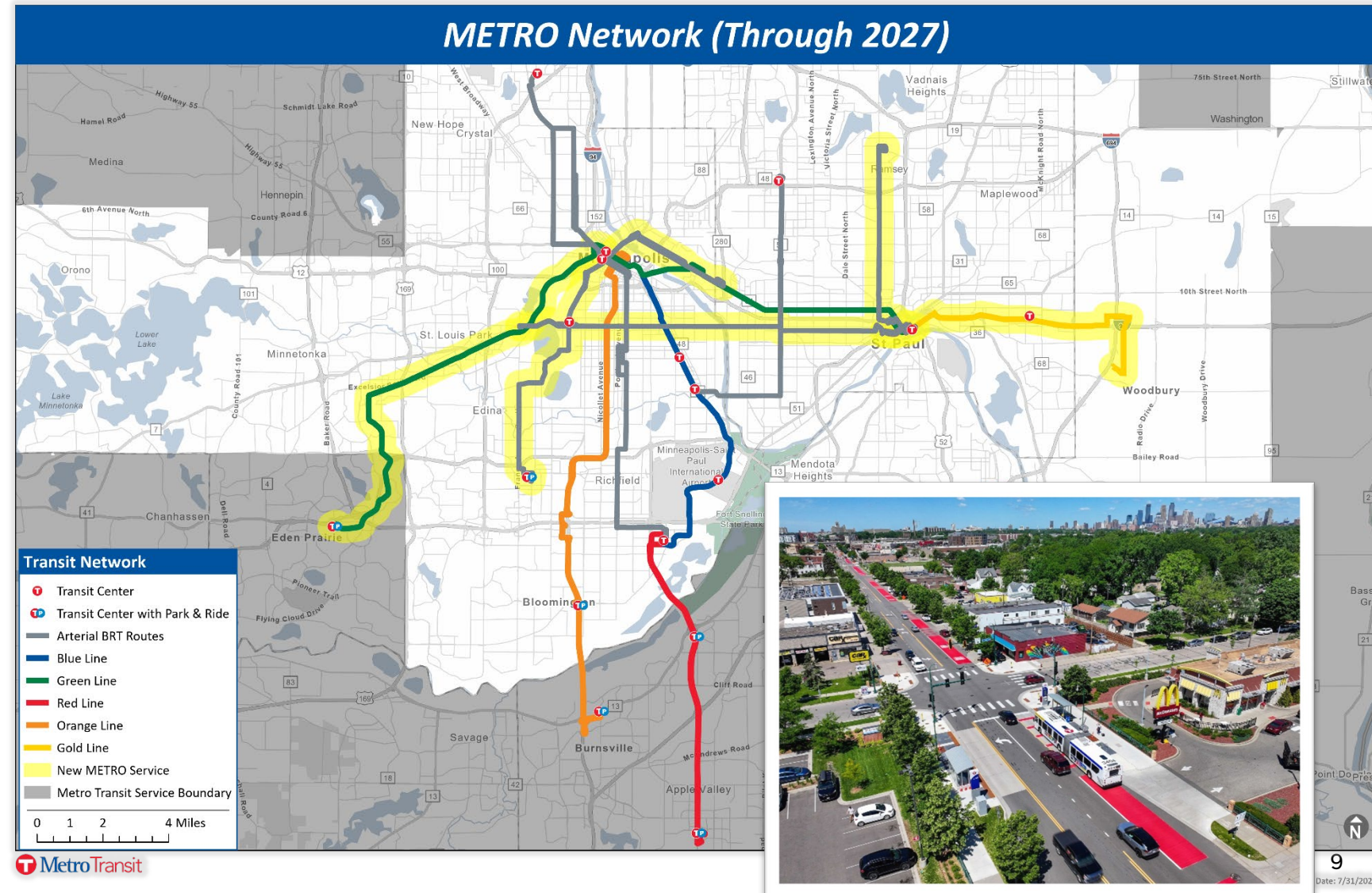
Network Now

- Metro Transit's vision through 2027
- 35% service expansion grow ridership
- Improve coverage and mobility by expanding bus routes and Metro micro service
- Redesign commuter services to meet the travel needs of our region now



2027 Concept Plan Results

- **Implement METRO network**
 - 2025 Gold Line, B Line, E Line,
 - 2027 G Line (north), Green Line Extension
- **Maintain the reliability of our scheduled service**
 - Scheduling that recognizes the needs of our workforce
 - Ongoing speed and reliability work

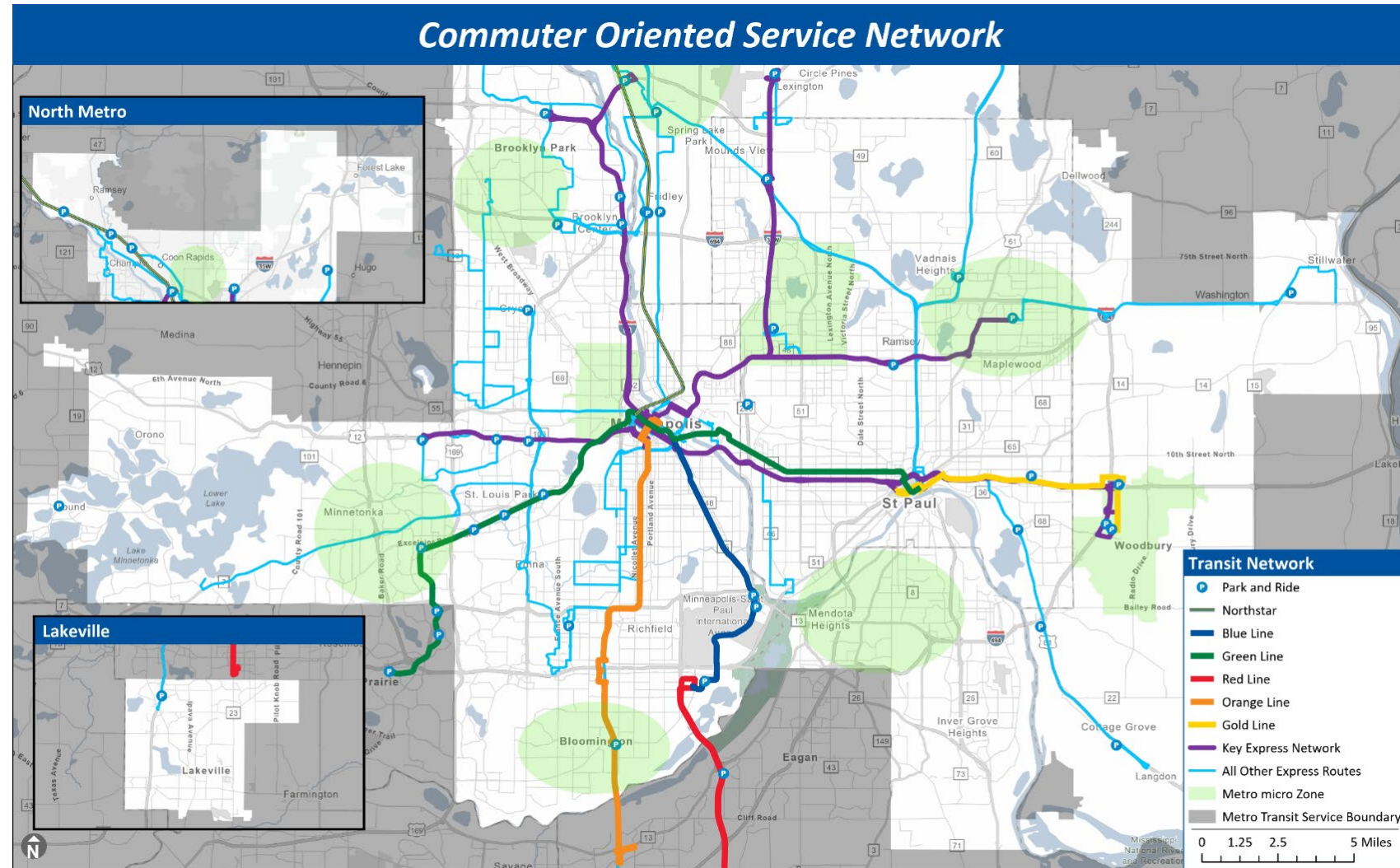


2027 Concept Plan Results

- **Adapt service to travel patterns**
 - **Key Express Network** all day service
 - 40+ routes restructured or adjusted
 - 53 suspended routes officially discontinued
 - 8 routes restored

Key Express Network Routes

94
250
270
355
673
768
850





Metro Micro Project Expansion

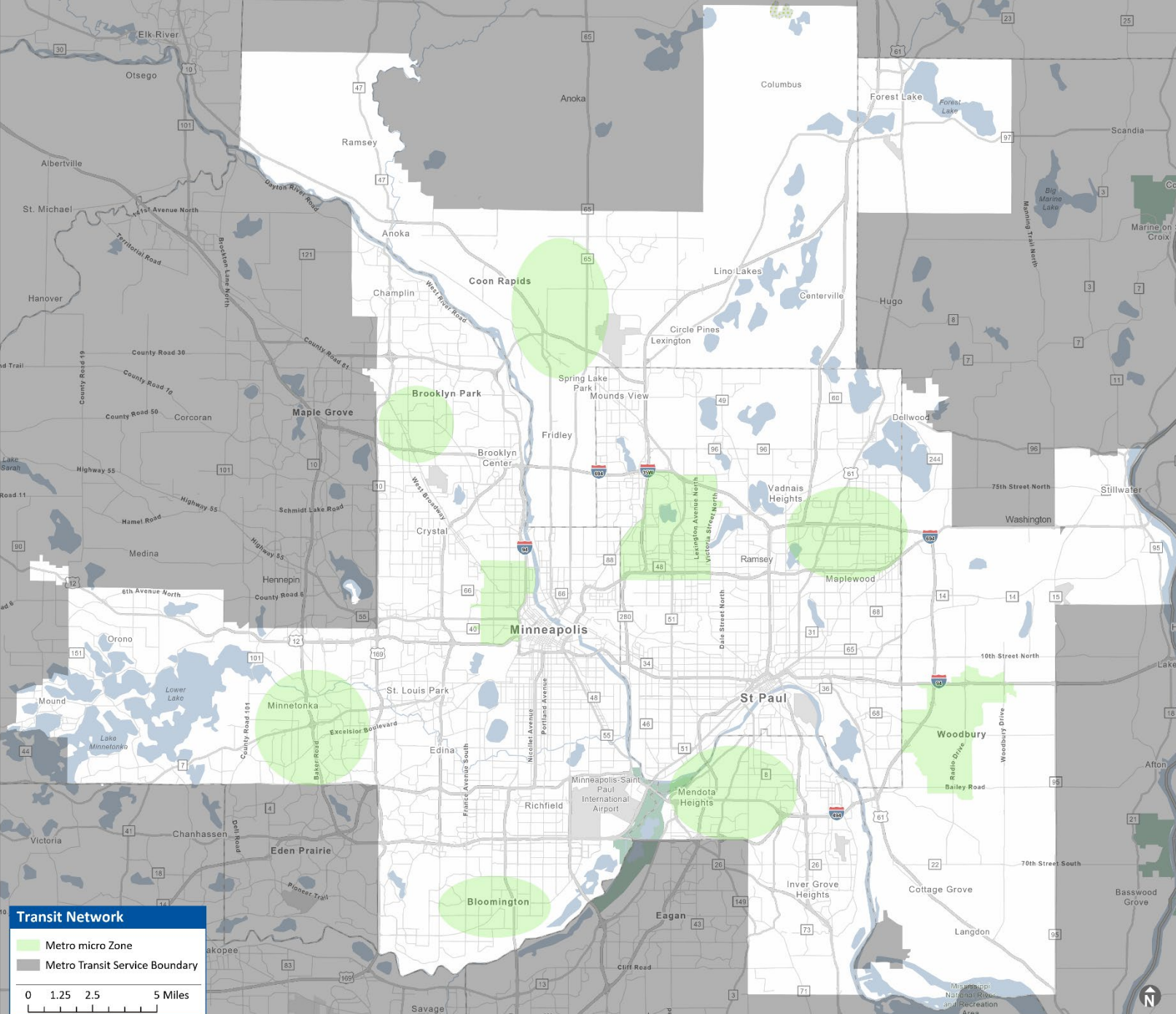
December 2024

Rosedale –
A Line

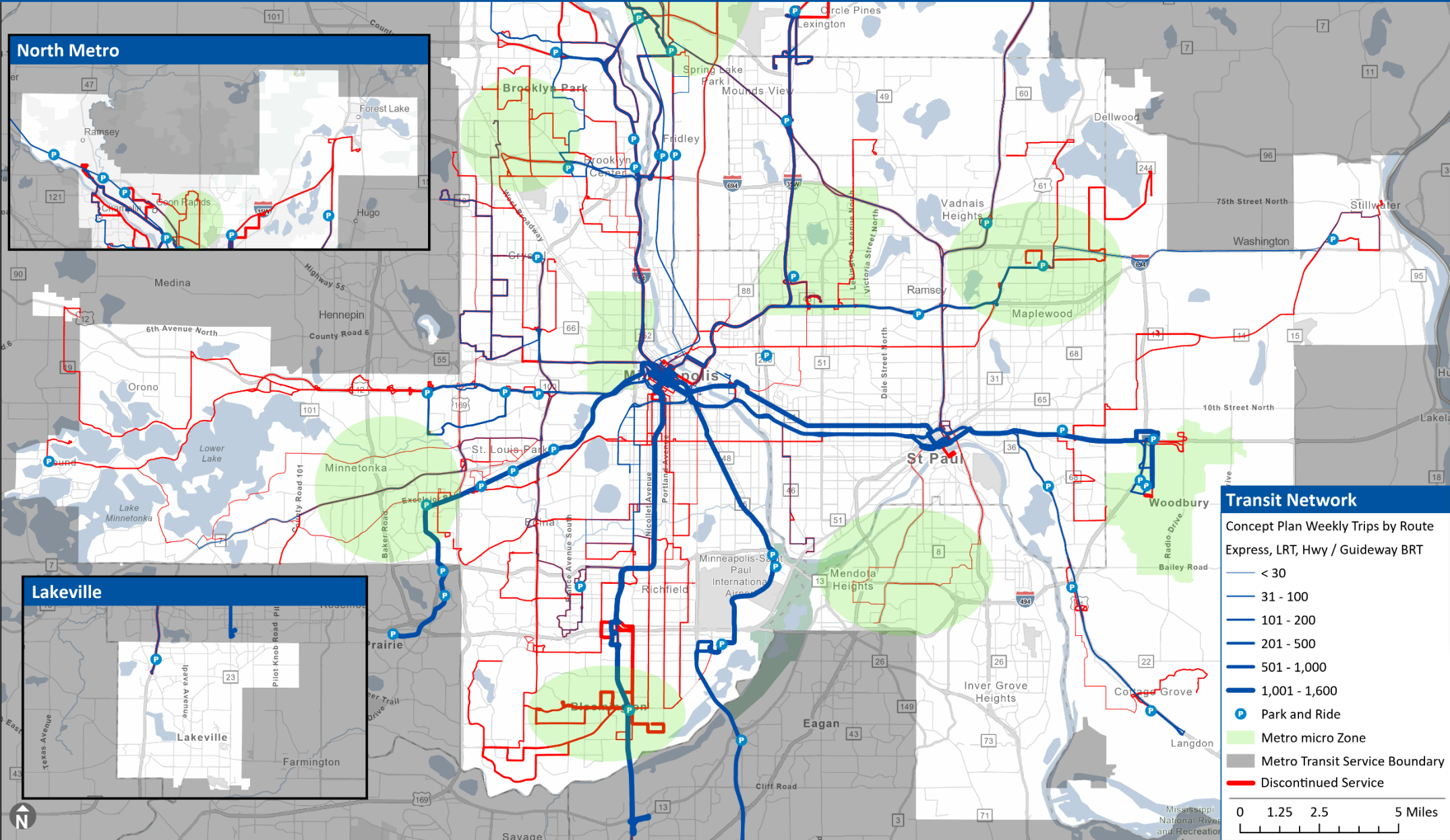
Gold Line –
Woodbury

2 projects/year 2025-2027

- Orange Line - 98th St Station
- Starlite Transit Center
- Northtown Transit Center
- Minnetonka - Green Line Ext. / Opus Station
- Maplewood Mall Transit Center
- Dakota Co. Service Center

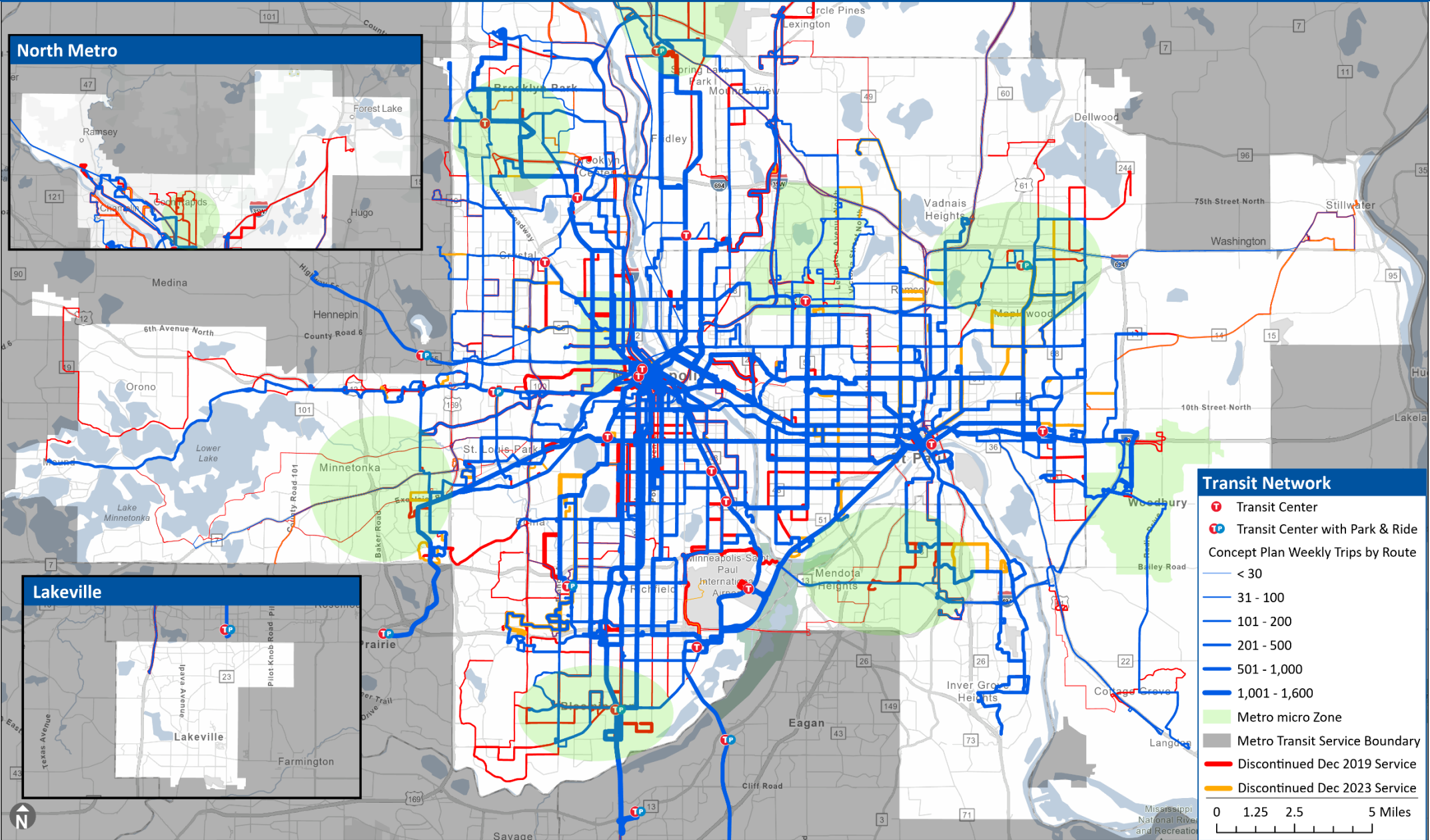


Change in Commuter Oriented Service Access



Key Express network, Highway and Guideway BRT with Light Rail service offers robust access for commuters

Concept Plan Network Changes by Number of Weekly Trips



Network Now
concept plan
invests in
frequent
service

Engagement Process

- Online comment form
 - Paper version available for customer intercept and community work
 - Comments also accepted via email
- Community meetings
 - Public hearing on October 29
 - Virtual and in-person events around the metro
- Pop-up and customer intersect events
- Social media, rider alerts, and information shared across our system
- Direct reach out to government partners and community organizations
 - Do you have organizations or individuals that you want us to reach?

Public meetings

October 1 / 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Take transit via: 612
Hopkins Pavilion / 11000 Excelsior Boulevard, Hopkins, MN 55343

October 7 / 5:30-7:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting

October 8 / 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Take transit via: Blue Line, Green Line, 4, 6, 10, 11, 17, 18, 25, 61
Minneapolis Central Library / 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401

October 10 / 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Take transit via: 65, 21
Hallie Q. Brown Community Center / 270 Kent Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102

October 21 / 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Take transit via: 63, 70, 74, 80, 219
Sun Ray Library / 2105 Wilson Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55119

October 29 / 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Take transit via: C Line, D Line, 5, 22, Blue Line, Green Line
***Official Public Hearing**
Heywood Chambers / 560 N 6th Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55411

What's Next

- **August 26:** Transportation Committee sets October 29 public hearing date
- **September 11:** Council action to set public hearing date
- **September 12–November 15:** Draft concept plan public engagement
- **Winter 2024–2025:** Refine plan based on feedback
- **Early 2025:** Seek Metropolitan Council approval
- **2025–2027:** Phased implementation

To learn more or subscribe for updates, visit metrotransit.org/network-now.

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes a public hearing to accept comments on the proposed Network Now Concept Plan service expansion and discontinuation of suspended routes.