LOWRY AVENUE STATION VISUALIZATIONS MUNICIPAL CONSENT DESIGN, AT-GRADE STATION AND CROSSING (OPTION A)

This is the current design for the Lowry Avenue Station and LRT tracks are at grade, with at-grade crossings of the Wirth/Victory Memorial Parkway, Grand Rounds Trail, and Lowry/Oakdale Avenue.

- At-grade station is more visible and accessible to the community
- Creates additional parkland
- Builds on existing infrastructure (bridges)
- Cost efficient



COMMENTS



METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

- crossing, but experience is largely unchanged
 - encountered
 - » Gates are up about 90% of the time
- May modify EMS response route and timing

• Parkway and trail users along Theodore Wirth Parkway may encounter a gate

» Gate operations are 45 seconds, 25 second average delays if





LOWRY AVENUE STATION VISUALIZATIONS ALTERNATE DESIGN, AT-GRADE STATION WITH NO CROSSINGS (OPTION H)

This is the alternative design for the Lowry Avenue Station area. Station and LRT tracks are at-grade, with the Wirth/Victory Memorial Parkway and Grand Rounds Trail below grade. Lowry/Oakdale Avenue will meet with West Broadway Avenue (CR 81) and the LRT tracks at a signalized intersection.

- At-grade station and signalized intersection are good for safety, security, and Parkway and trail users in "trench", underneath the station and tracks accessibility
- No rail crossing gates necessary
 - » Parkway and trail bypass Lowry Ave, West Broadway Ave (CR 81), and LRT Tracks



COMMENTS



METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

- would continue to use N Washburn Ave
- More costly than current design

• Right turn from northbound West Broadway Ave to eastbound Lowry Ave



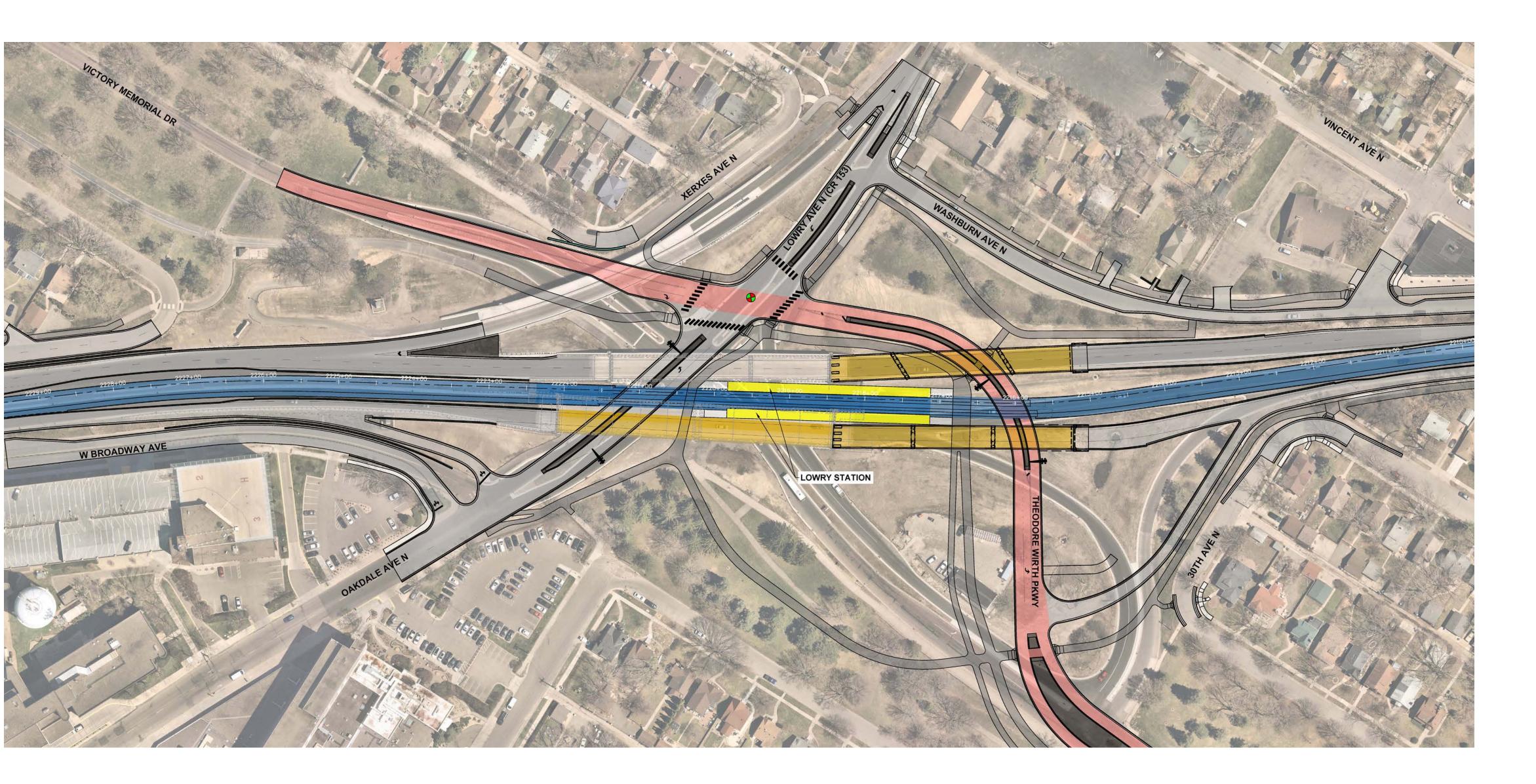


LOWRY AVENUE STATION DESIGN OPTIONS **OPTION A: MUNICIPAL CONSENT DESIGN**

	Option A – Municipal Consent Design
Station accessibility, safety, experience	At-grade station maximizes accessibility, integrated station within park provides positive user experience, visible platform improves safety
Park and trail impacts	Requires re-routing of parkway and trail, at-grade gated crossings of trail and parkway next to station. Creates additional park space.
Hospital traffic, access	Gated crossing at Oakdale/Lowry may create average of 25 seconds delay on 10% of trips, could be mitigated by alternate wayfinding/ routing for hospital
Area traffic operations, connectivity	Maintains existing road network
Neighborhood connectivity	Station provides convenient access for neighborhoods
Impacts to new bridges	Keeps existing three bridges but modifies southbound County Road 81 bridge to reduce overall width.
Constructability, construction impacts	Less complex foundation construction
Cost	Comparatively lower cost
METRO BLUE L	

METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

 At-grade station and crossings Preserves and modifies new bridges over Lowry







LOWRY AVENUE STATION DESIGN OPTIONS **OPTION B: LRT IN A TUNNEL**

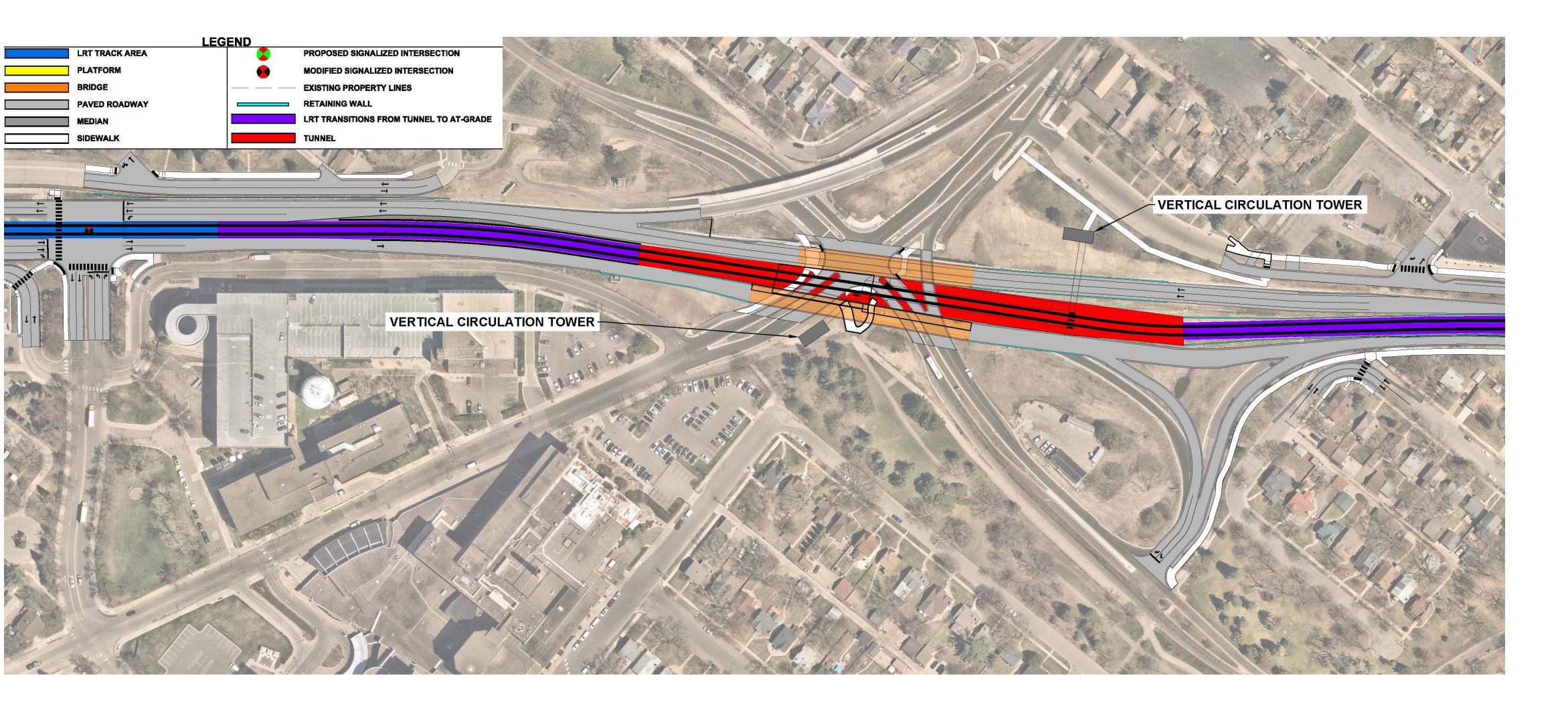
	Option B				
Station accessibility, safety, experience	Underground station not visible from surrounding area, poor transit rider experience, no eyes on platform creates safety concerns				
Park and trail impacts	Parkway and trails do not cross with LRT				
Hospital traffic, access	No gated crossings, no interruption to hospital access				
Area traffic operations, connectivity	Roadway connections same as existing				
Neighborhood connectivity	Underground station disconnected visually from surrounding neighborhood				
Impacts to new bridges	Southbound and northbound County Road 81 bridges are removed and replaced				
Constructability, construction impacts	Constructability challenges with existing piling and complexity of design, multiple additional years construction duration and disturbance				
S Cost	Very high cost				

Better than option A About same as option A Worse than option A



METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

• Station underground below West Broadway Ave (County Road 81) bridges Grade separated from parkway Roadway network stays unchanged from existing conditions







LOWRY AVENUE STATION DESIGN OPTIONS **OPTION C: LRT IN A TRENCH**

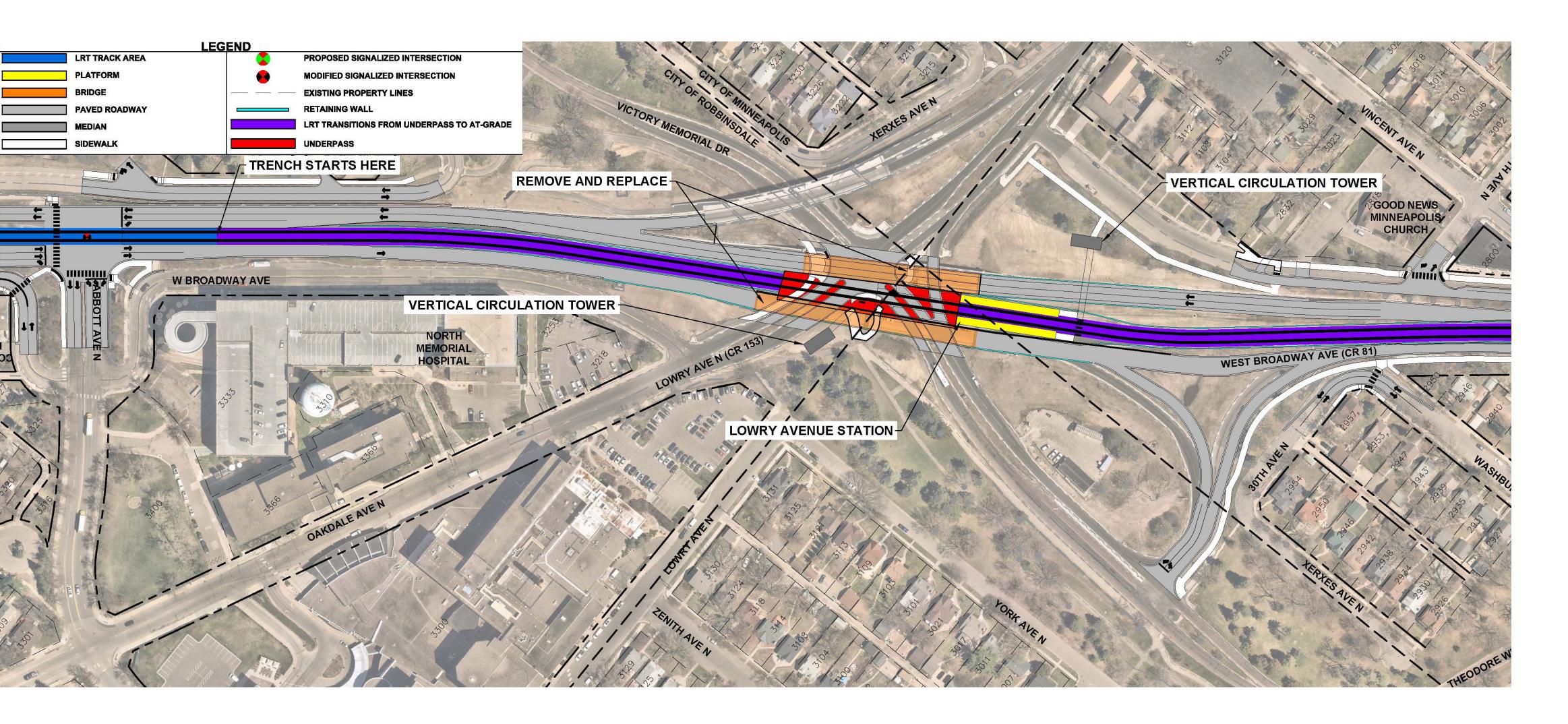
	Option C			
Station accessibility, safety, experience	Station in trench and less visible from surrounding area, poor transit rider experience, less eyes on platform creates safety concerns			
Park and trail impacts	Parkway and trails do not cross LRT			
Hospital traffic, access	No gated crossings, no interruption to hospital access			
Area traffic operations, connectivity	Roadway connections same as existing			
Neighborhood connectivity	Station in trench and disconnected visually from surrounding neighborhood			
Impacts to new bridges	Southbound and northbound County Road 81 bridges are removed and replaced			
Constructability, construction impacts	Constructability challenges with existing piling and complexity of design, multiple additional years construction duration and disturbance			
Cost	Very high cost			

Better than option A About same as option A Worse than option A



METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

• Station underground below West Broadway Ave (County Road 81) bridges Grade separated from parkway Roadway network stays unchanged from existing conditions









LOWRY AVENUE STATION DESIGN OPTIONS OPTION D1: LRT CENTER RUNNING AT THE SAME ELEVATION AS WEST BROADWAY AVE BRIDGES

	Option D1				
Station accessibility, safety, experience	Elevated station requires several new bridges to get transit riders to platform				
Park and trail impacts	Parkway and trails do not cross LRT				
Hospital traffic, access	No gated crossings, no interruption to hospital access				
Area traffic operations, connectivity	Adds a traffic signal south of the station at Washburn				
Neighborhood connectivity	Elevated station disconnected from neighborhood				
Impacts to new bridges	Southbound County Road 81 bridge is removed and replaced				
Constructability, construction impacts	Constructability challenges with existing pilling, moderately complex design				
Cost	Comparatively lower cost				

Better than option A About same as option A Worse than option A





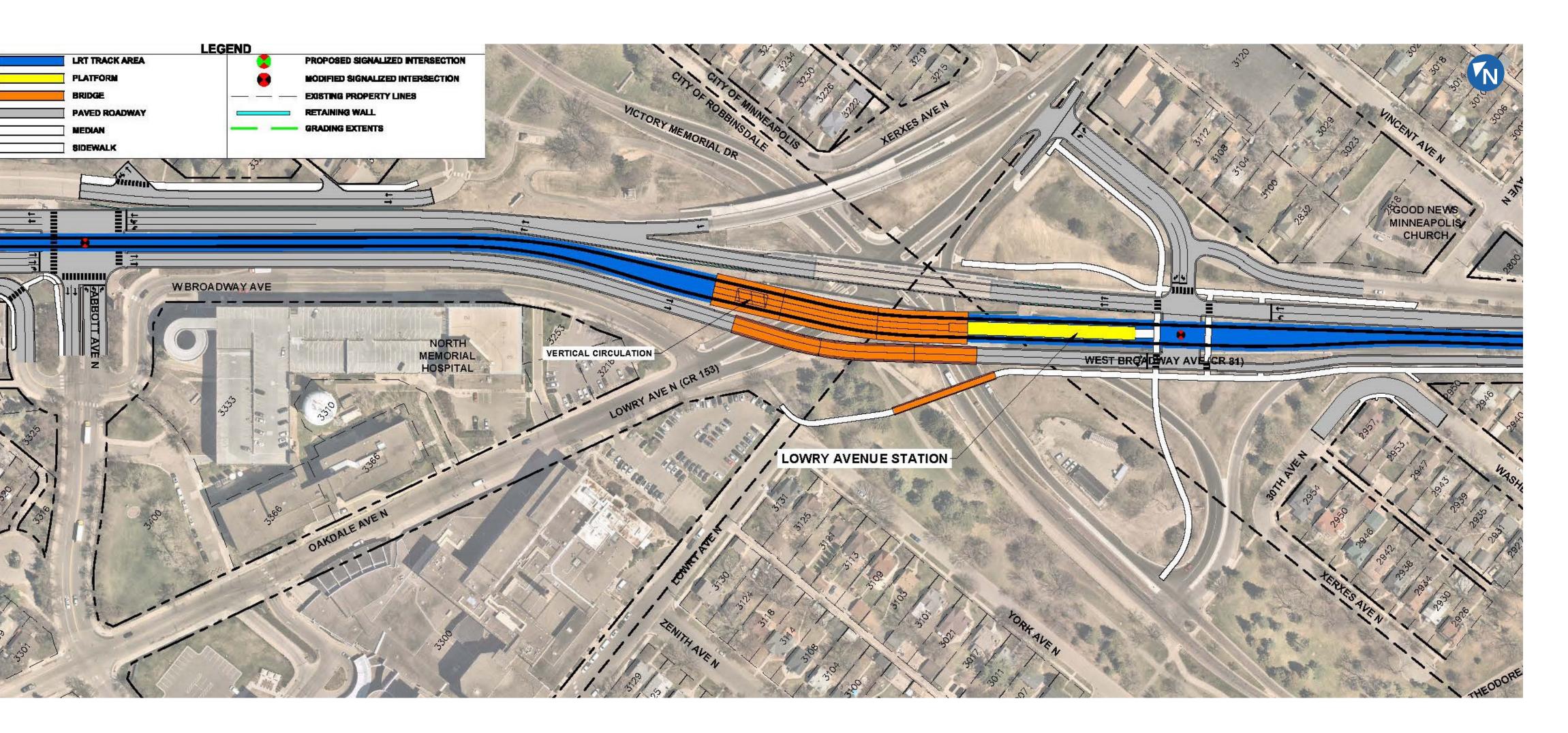
METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

• Station at the same elevation as West Broadway Ave bridges between northbound and southbound

Grade separated from parkway

 Adds one signalized intersection south of station that connects to Lowry Ave through Washburn Ave.

Slip ramp to Washburn Ave from northbound West Broadway Ave is removed.







LOWRY AVENUE STATION DESIGN OPTIONS OPTION D2: LRT SIDE RUNNING AT THE SAME ELEVATION AS WEST BROADWAY AVE (CR 81) BRIDGES

	Option D2				
Station accessibility, safety, experience	Elevated station requires several bridges to get transit riders to platform				
Park and trail impacts	Parkway and trails do not cross LRT				
Hospital traffic, access	No gated crossing of LRT, no interruption to hospital access				
Area traffic operations, connectivity	Adds two LRT crossings on West Broadway, crossing at am angle creates driver safety concerns				
Neighborhood connectivity	Elevated station disconnected from neighborhood				
Impacts to new bridges	Southbound County Road 81 bridge is removed and replaced				
Constructability, construction impacts	Constructability challenges with existing piling, moderately complex design				
Cost	Higher cost				

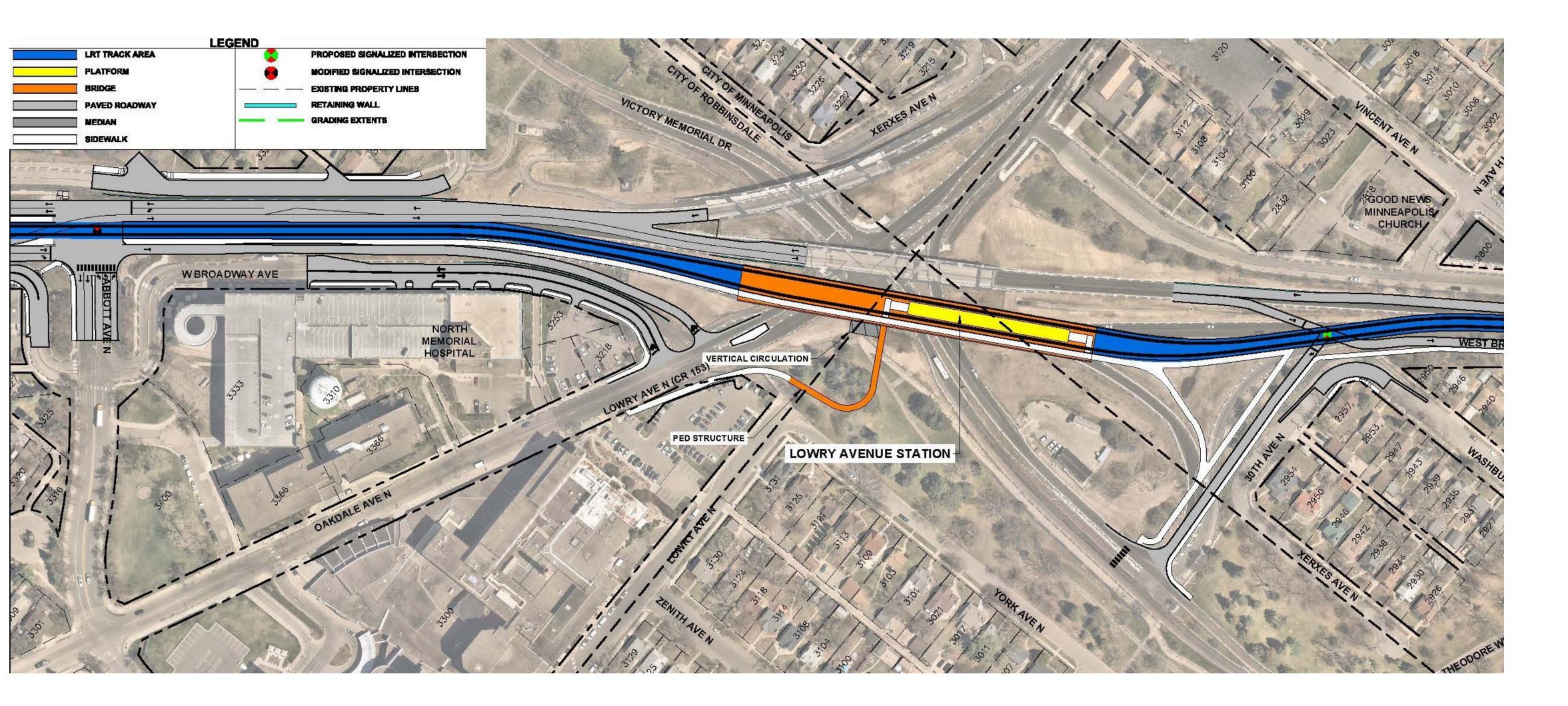
Better than option A About same as option A Worse than option A





METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

• Station at the same elevation as West Broadway bridges Grade separated from parkway Adds two at-grade signalized track crossings of West Broadway









LOWRY AVENUE STATION DESIGN OPTIONS **OPTION E: PARKWAY UNDER LRT**

	Option E				
Station accessibility, safety, experience	At-grade station maximizes accessibility, integrated station provides positive park user experience, visible platform improves safety				
Park and trail impacts	Parkway and trails go under LRT in trench				
Hospital traffic, access	No gated crossing of LRT, no interruption to hospital access				
Area traffic operations, connectivity	No parkway connection at Lowry/County Road 81, good connection otherwise				
Neighborhood connectivity	Station provides convenient access for neighborhoods				
Impacts to new bridges	Maintains existing three bridges. Southbound County Road 81 bridge is modified to reduce overall width				
Constructability, construction impacts	Significant construction disruptions/extended duration needed for retaining walls due to extensive construction				
Cost	Higher cost				

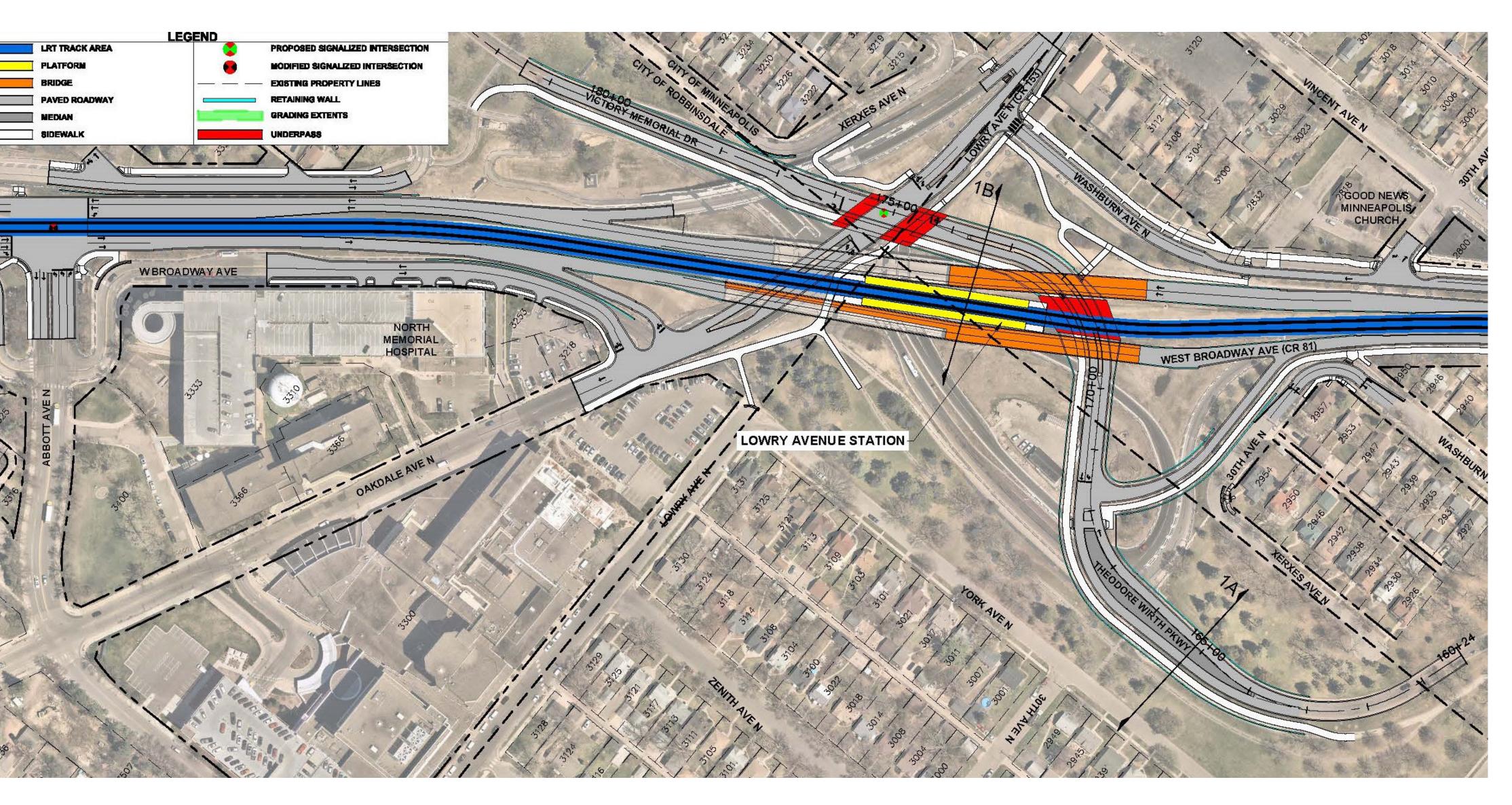
Better than option A About same as option A Worse than option A





METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

 Station stays at-grade • Grade separated as parkway goes under the LRT Parkway goes under Lowry Ave as well, so a connection is no longer available









LOWRY AVENUE STATION DESIGN OPTIONS **OPTION F: PARKWAY, TRAIL, AND LOWRY AVE UNDER LRT**

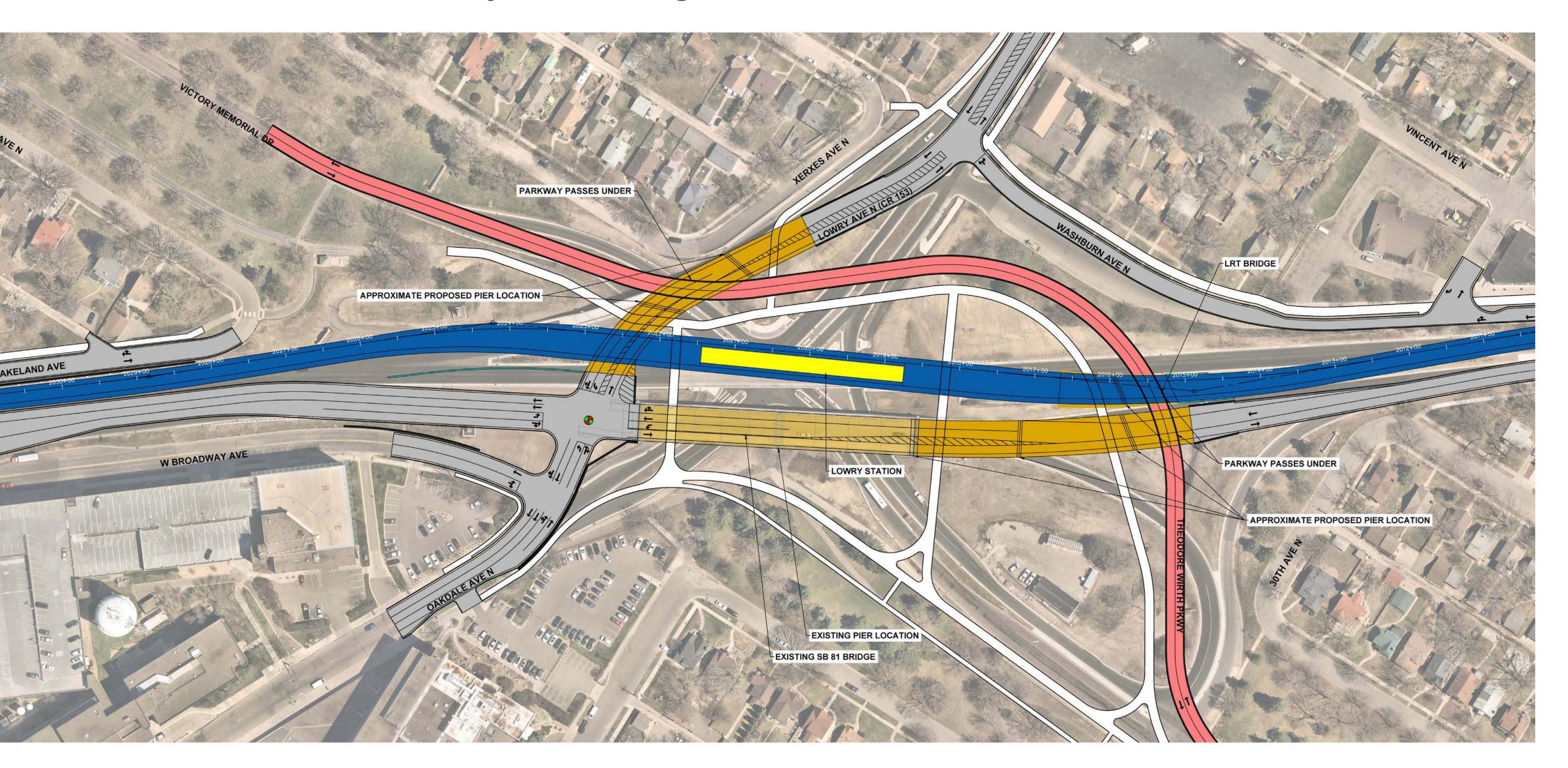
Option F			
At-grade station maximizes accessibility, integrated station provides positive park user experience, visible platform improves safety			
Parkway and trails do not cross LRT or Lowry			
No gated crossing of LRT, no interruption to hospital access			
No parkway connection to Lowry/County Road 81, two LRT crossings on West Broadway			
Station provides convenient access for neighborhood, less roadway crossings to access station			
Northbound County Road 81 and Lowry on-ramp bridges are removed and replaced, existing County Road 81 southbound bridge is re-used.			
Constructability challenges with existing piling and complexity of design, multiple additional years construction duration and disturbance			
Higher cost			

Better than option A About same as option A Worse than option A



METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

 Station at-grade at park level Parkway, trails, and Lowry are grade separated and go under LRT Northbound West Broadway Ave (CR 81) crosses and uses existing southbound West Broadway Ave Bridge



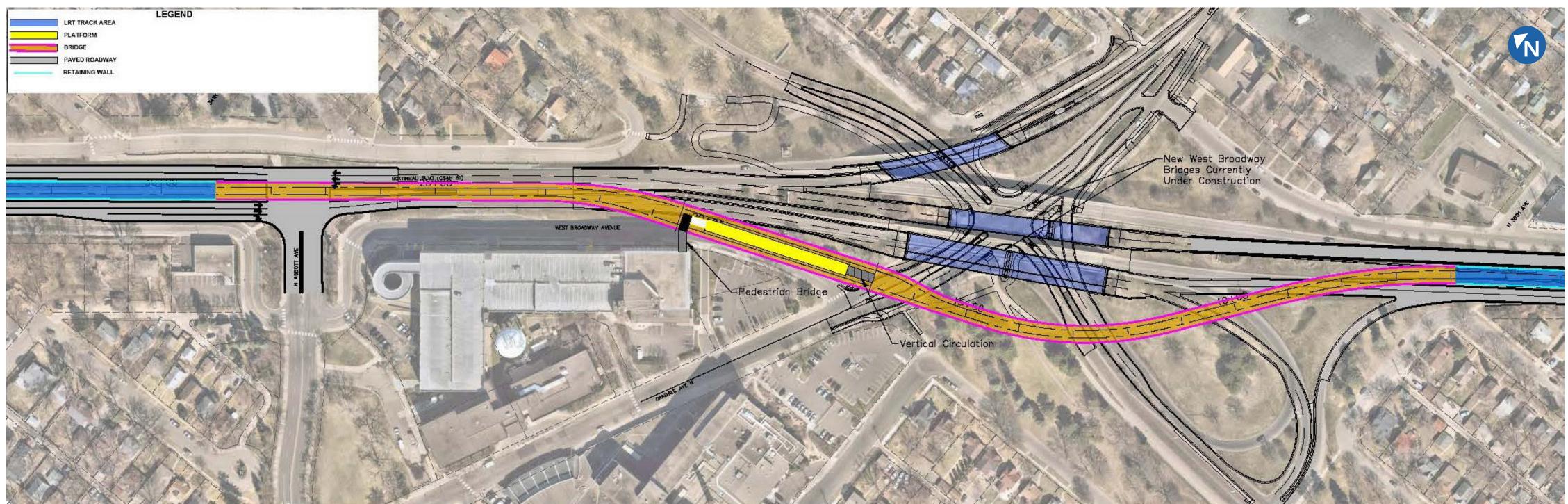






LOWRY AVENUE STATION DESIGN OPTIONS **OPTION G: FLYOVER**

	Option G				
Station accessibility, safety, experience	Elevated station requires several bridges to get transit rider to platform				
Park and trail impacts	Additional bridge detracts from park experience				
Hospital traffic, access	No gated crossing of LRT, no interruption to hospital access				
Area traffic operations, connectivity	Maintains existing roadway network				
Neighborhood connectivity	Elevated station disconnected from neighborhood, farther distance for Minneapolis neighborhood				
Impacts to new bridges	Keeps existing bridges				
Constructability, construction impacts	Constructability challenges with existing piling and complexity of design due to height and length of bridge, multiple additional years construction duration and disturbance				
Cost	Higher cost				
	same as option A				
20 BILUE LINE ET TELES					



Worse than option A

METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

 Station elevated above and around roadway network Grade separation from roadways





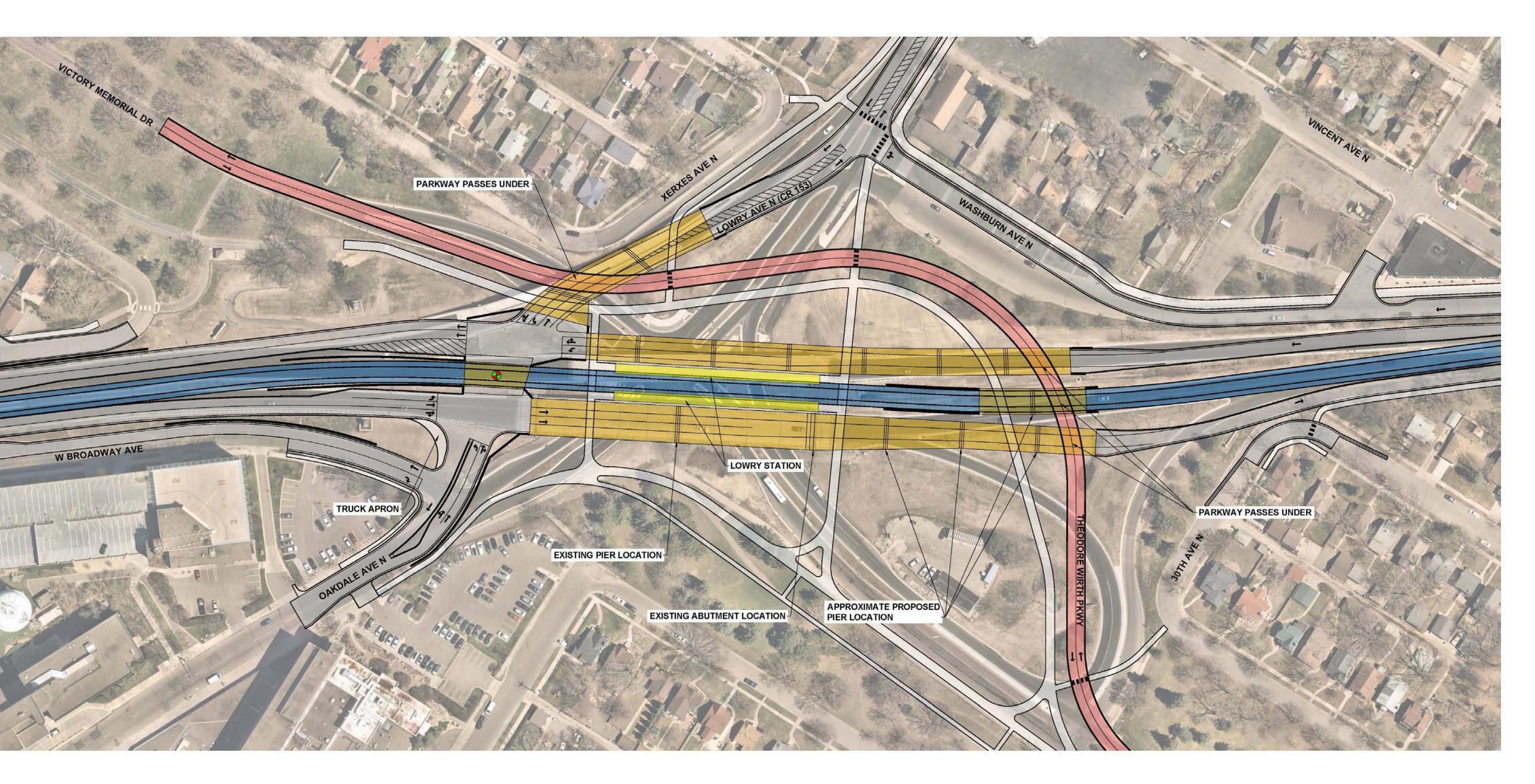
LOWRY AVENUE STATION DESIGN OPTIONS **OPTION H: AT-GRADE STATION WITH NO CROSSINGS**

	Option H							
Station accessibility, safety, experience	At-grade station maximizes accessibility, integrated station provides positive park user experience, visible platform improves safety							
Park and trail impacts	Parkway and trails do not cross LRT or Lowry							
Hospital traffic, access	No gated crossings, no interruption to hospital access							
Area traffic operations, connectivity	No gated crossings, no interruption to hospital access No parkway connection at Lowry/County Road 81, good connections otherwise Station provides convenient access for neighborhoods, less roadway crossings to access station Northbound County Road 81 and Lowry on-ramp bridges are removed and replaced, keeps existing County Road 81 southbound bridge Extensive bridge				Lowry/County Road 81, good			
Neighborhood connectivity	access for neighborhoods, less roadway crossings to access							
Impacts to new bridges	Northbound County Road 81 and Lowry on-ramp bridges are removed and replaced, keeps existing County Road 81							
Constructability, construction impacts	Extensive bridge constructability challenges with existing piling and complexity of design, multiple additional years construction duration and disturbance							
Cost	Higher cost							



METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024

 At-grade station No at-grade LRT crossings Removes and reconstructs 1 of 3 bridges over Lowry and adds 2 new bridges



Worse than option A



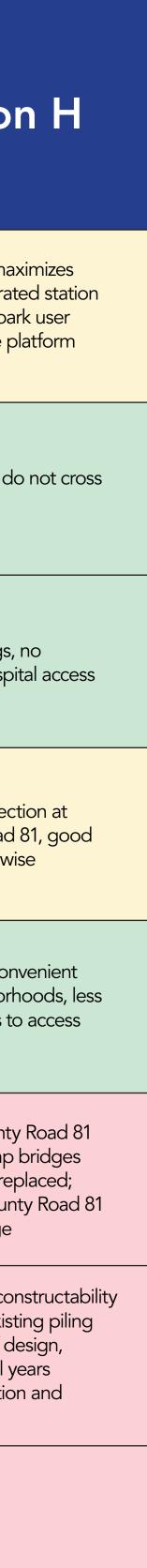




SUMMARY OF OPTIONS EVALUATED

	Option A – Municipal Consent Design	Option B	Option C	Option D1	Option D2	Option E	Option F	Option G	Option
Station accessibility, safety, experience	At-grade station maximizes accessibility, integrated station within park provides positive user experience, visible platform improves safety	Underground station not visible from surrounding area, poor transit rider experience, no eyes on platform creates safety concerns	Station in trench and less visible from surrounding area, poor transit rider experience, less eyes on platform creates safety concerns	Elevated station requires several new bridges to get transit riders to platform	Elevated station requires several bridges to get transit riders to platform	At-grade station maximizes accessibility, integrated station provides positive park user experience, visible platform improves safety	At-grade station maximizes accessibility, integrated station provides positive park user experience, visible platform improves safety	Elevated station requires several bridges to get transit rider to platform	At-grade station maxim accessibility, integrated provides positive park u experience, visible plat improves safety
Park and trail impacts	Requires rerouting of parkway and trail, at-grade gated crossings of trail and parkway next to station. Creates additional park space.	Parkway and trails do not cross LRT	Parkway and trails do not cross LRT	Parkway and trails do not cross LRT	Parkway and trails do not cross LRT	Parkway and trails go under LRT in trench	Parkway and trails do not cross LRT or Lowry	Additional bridge detracts from park experience	Parkway and trails do ne LRT or Lowry
Hospital traffic, access	Gated crossing at Oakdale/ Lowry may create average of 25 second delay on 10% of trips, could be mitigated by alternate wayfinding/routing for hospital	No gated crossings, no interruption to hospital access	No gated crossings, no interruption to hospital access	No gated crossings, no interruption to hospital access	No gated crossing of LRT, no interruption to hospital access	No gated crossing of LRT, no interruption to hospital access	No gated crossing of LRT, no interruption to hospital access	No gated crossing of LRT, no interruption to hospital access	No gated crossings, no interruption to hospital
Area traffic operations, connectivity	Maintains existing road network	Roadway connections same as existing	Roadway connections same as existing	Adds a traffic signal south of the station at Washburn	Adds two LRT crossings on West Broadway, crossing at angle creates driver safety concerns	No parkway connection at Lowry/County Road 81, good connection otherwise	No parkway connection to Lowry/County Road 81, two LRT crossings on W Broadway	Maintains existing roadway network	No parkway connectior Lowry/County Road 81, connections otherwise
Neighborhood connectivity	Station provides convenient access for neighborhoods	Underground station disconnected visually from surrounding neighborhood	Station in trench and disconnected visually from surrounding neighborhood	Elevated station disconnected from neighborhood	Elevated station disconnected from neighborhood	Station provides convenient access for neighborhoods	Station provides convenient access for neighborhood, less roadway crossings to access station	Elevated station disconnected from neighborhood, farther distance for Minneapolis neighborhood	Station provides conver access for neighborhoo roadway crossings to a station
Impacts to new bridges	Keeps existing three bridges but modifies southbound County Road 81 bridge to reduce overall width	Southbound and northbound County Road 81 bridges are removed and replaced	Southbound and northbound County Road 81 bridges are removed and replaced	Southbound County Road 81 bridge is removed and replaced	Southbound County Road 81 bridge is removed and replaced	Maintains existing three bridges; southbound County Road 81 bridge is modified to reduce overall width	Northbound County Road 81 and Lowry on-ramp bridges are removed and replaced, existing County Road 81 southbound bridge is re-used	Keeps existing bridges	Northbound County Re and Lowry on-ramp brid are removed and replace keeps existing County F southbound bridge
Constructability, construction impacts	Less complex foundation construction	Constructability challenges with existing piling and complexity of design, multiple additional years construction duration and disturbance	Constructability challenges with existing piling and complexity of design, multiple additional years construction duration and disturbance	Constructability challenges with existing pilling, moderately complex design	Constructability challenges with existing piling, moderately complex design	Significant construction disruptions/extended duration needed for retaining walls due to extensive construction	Constructability challenges with existing piling and complexity of design, multiple additional years construction duration and disturbance	Constructability challenges with existing piling and complexity of design due to height and length of bridge, multiple additional years construction duration and disturbance	Extensive bridge const challenges with existing and complexity of desig multiple additional year construction duration a disturbance
Cost	Comparatively lower cost	Very high cost	Very high cost	Comparatively lower cost	Higher cost	Higher cost	Higher cost	Higher cost	Higher cost
RETRO BLUE LIN	E EXTENSION C		er than option A	About same as a	option A Wors	e than option A			







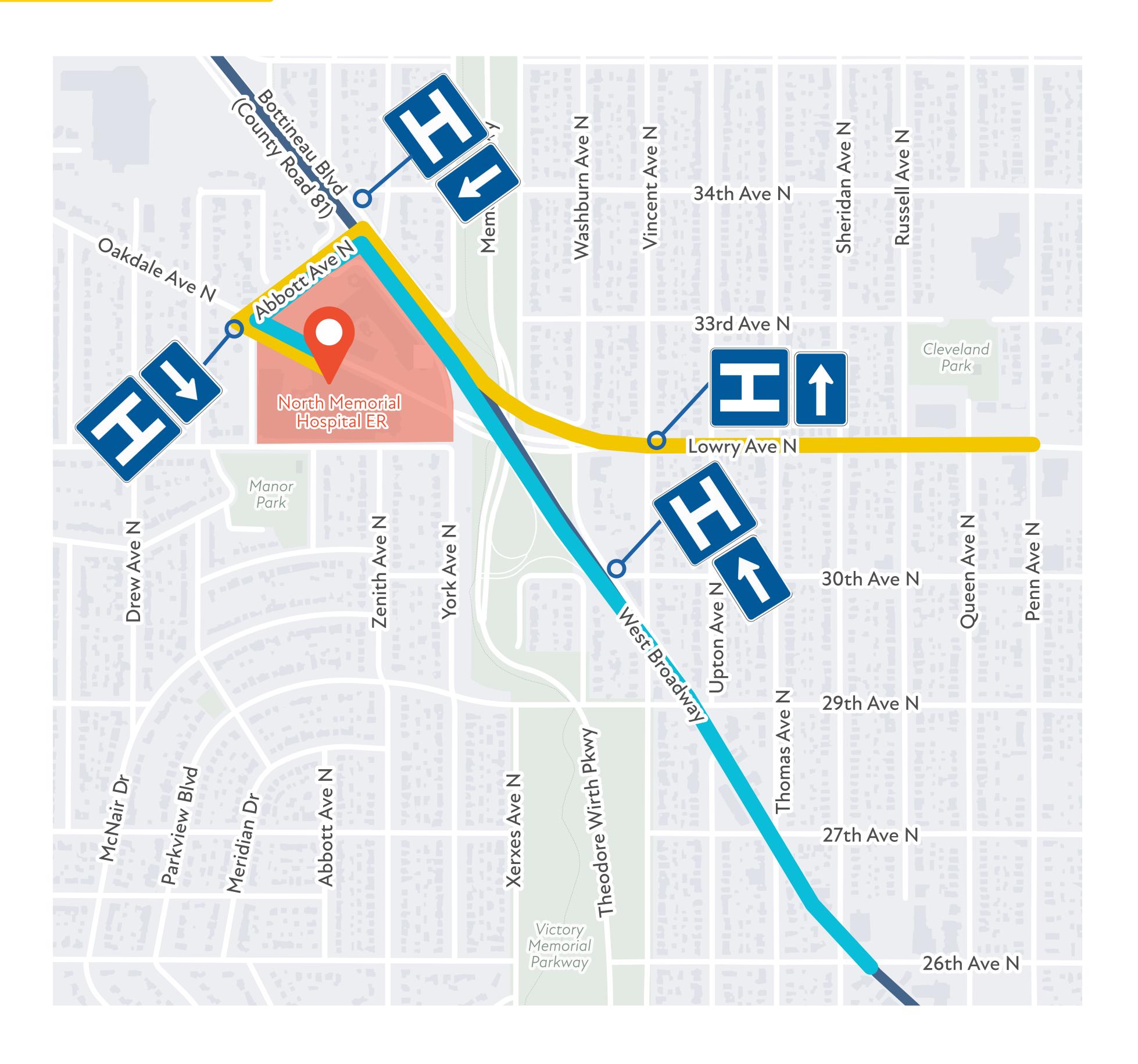
ROUTING TO NORTH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL MUNICIPAL CONSENT DESIGN, AT-GRADE STATION AND CROSSING (OPTION A)

- To avoid LRT crossing gates, emergency service and personal vehicles driving to and from North Memorial Hospital can use Abbott Ave N via West Broadway/ Bottineau Blvd.
 - » Gates are only expected to be down 10% of the time.
- Hospital wayfinding signage will be installed along the route to guide vehicles.





METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION | December 2024



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