

# Making Tracks

April 2011

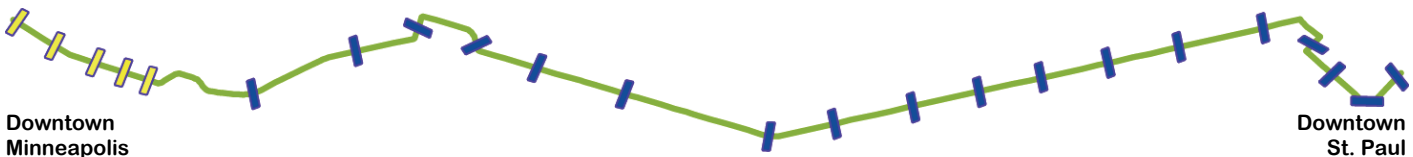


## Head to University Avenue and save!

Liberty Tax Service at 1731 University Ave. W. in St. Paul is offering a special for first-time customers who drive through the construction zone to get their taxes done.

Below is a link to a city of St. Paul-produced video about the work on University Avenue and how to get around:

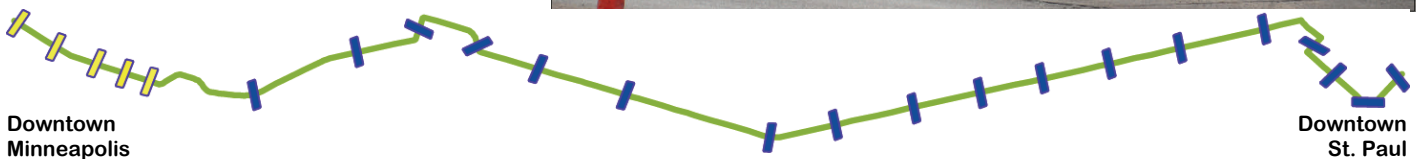
[Video: One lane of traffic is open; tips on accessing University Avenue businesses during construction](#)  
**NEW**



Downtown Minneapolis

Downtown St. Paul

**OPEN DURING CONSTRUCTION** — Yes, University Avenue businesses ARE open during construction! For directions, go to [centralcorridor.org](http://centralcorridor.org) and check out the St. Paul-University Avenue West construction update.



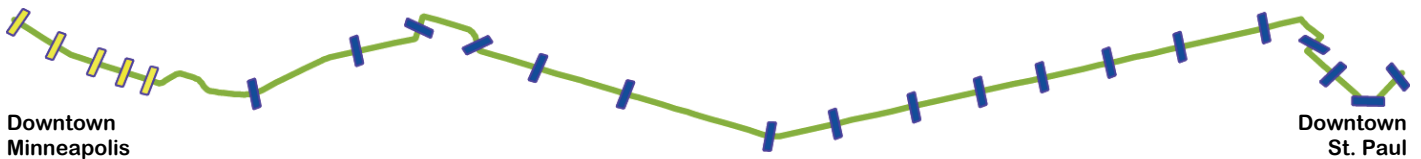
## St. Paul—University Avenue West (Emerald to Hamline)



The first day of spring brought the start of construction. Crews removed the road surface at University Avenue and Berry Street.



By a week later, construction was in full swing in the Westgate area. East-bound traffic is shifted to the north side of the avenue while crews work on the south side.



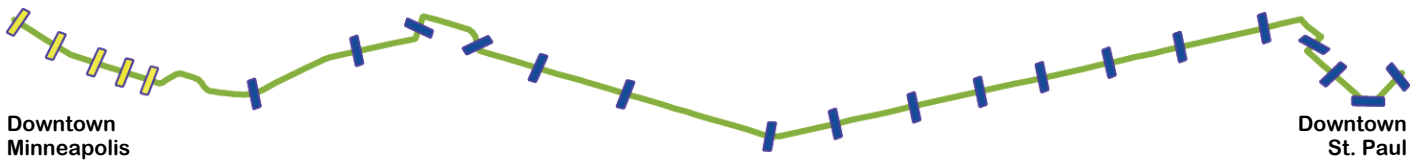
## Fourth Street in Lowertown St. Paul



Temporary parking for businesses



Heavy construction to install the guideway, tracks, stations and systems work this year began March 28 on Fourth Street. In the top photo, a temporary parking lot is provided at Wacouta and Fourth for customers of the Jax Building, Lowertown Wine and Spirits and Master Framers that are behind the barricades. In the bottom photo, crews install duct banks on Fourth between Broadway and Wall streets that will supply power, signaling and communications for light-rail transit trains.



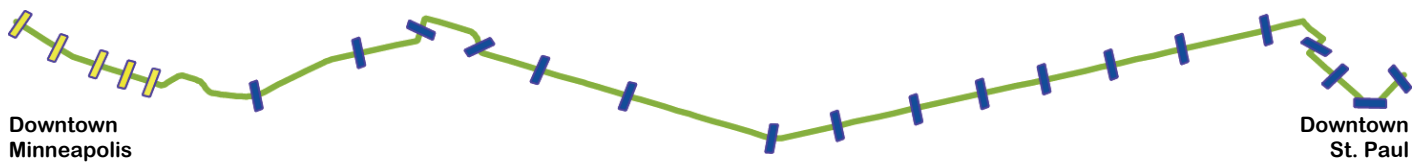
Downtown Minneapolis

Downtown St. Paul

## Capitol area



Work resumed late winter on Robert Street in the state Capitol complex.



## Washington Avenue Bridge



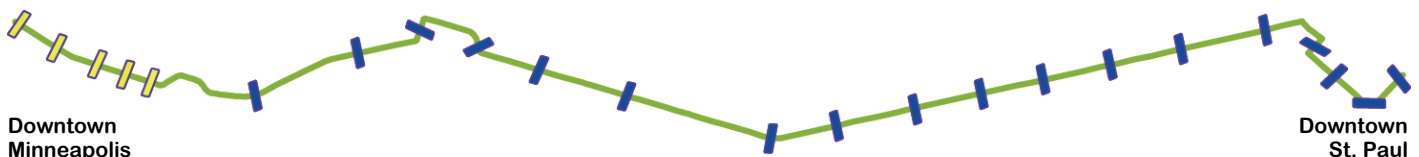
Removal of the vehicle deck (top photo) on the south side of the bridge began in late March. The bridge remains open to traffic on the north side.

Columns are being added to the piers below and other work is being performed (bottom photo) to strengthen the bridge to handle the additional weight of LRT trains.

For an overview of 2011 work planned on the West Bank, including the Washington Avenue Bridge, see:

<http://tinyurl.com/3ftk26n>

To view an animation of LRT along Washington Avenue to Stadium Village, see <http://tinyurl.com/2vgvby9>





## Sign up for weekly construction updates by email

Keep up with how to get around during construction by entering your email address in the yellow box at the top right of the [centralcorridor.org](http://centralcorridor.org) homepage. Addressees will receive updates every Friday for the sections of the corridor they choose. The updates provide a look at the week ahead with details on lane shifts, crosswalk and sidewalk closures and alternate routes and relocated bus stops. The public also can sign up to receive project newsletters such as Making Tracks and DBE News about Disadvantaged Business Enterprises working on this project.

## Bus information

Visit [metrotransit.org/construction](http://metrotransit.org/construction) for construction-related bus detours and bus stop closures during construction.

**Construction Hotline** - 651-602-1404.

**For general questions or comments** - Call 651-602-1645 or email [centralcorridor@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:centralcorridor@metc.state.mn.us)

**About the project:** The Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project will link downtown Saint Paul and downtown Minneapolis along Washington and University avenues via the state Capitol and the University of Minnesota. Construction began in late summer 2010 on the planned 11-mile Central Corridor line, and service will begin in 2014. The line will connect with the Hiawatha LRT line at the Metrodome station in Minneapolis and the Northstar commuter rail line at the Target Field Station. The Metropolitan Council will be the grantee of federal funds. The regional government agency is charged with building the line in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The Central Corridor Management Committee, which includes commissioners from Ramsey and Hennepin counties, the mayors of St. Paul and Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota, provides advice and oversight. Funding is provided by the Federal Transit Administration, Counties Transit Improvement Board, state of Minnesota, Ramsey and Hennepin counties' regional railroad authorities, city of Saint Paul, Metropolitan Council and the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative.

