



CAC Meeting: June 1, 2022



Brooklyn Park | Crystal | Robbinsdale | Minneapolis



Today's Topics

- Approval of minutes
- Route recommendation report
 - Staff recommendation
 - Discussion & committee recommendation



Approve April Meeting Summary



Route Modification Process

- **August 2020:** After a multi-year effort to negotiate with BNSF, Met Council and Hennepin County directed staff to seek a solution for the Blue Line Extension that did not use freight rail property
- **August 2020 – March 2021:** Project transition, goal development, route study areas
- **March 2021:** Potential routes released for input
- **December 2021:** *Draft* Route Modification Report published for 45-day comment period



Comment Period

- 38 days: April 18 to May 27
- Received 1,100+ comments
- Comments gathered through:
 - In-person meetings: stick-it notes, comment forms
 - Online: Interactive map, comment forms, emails

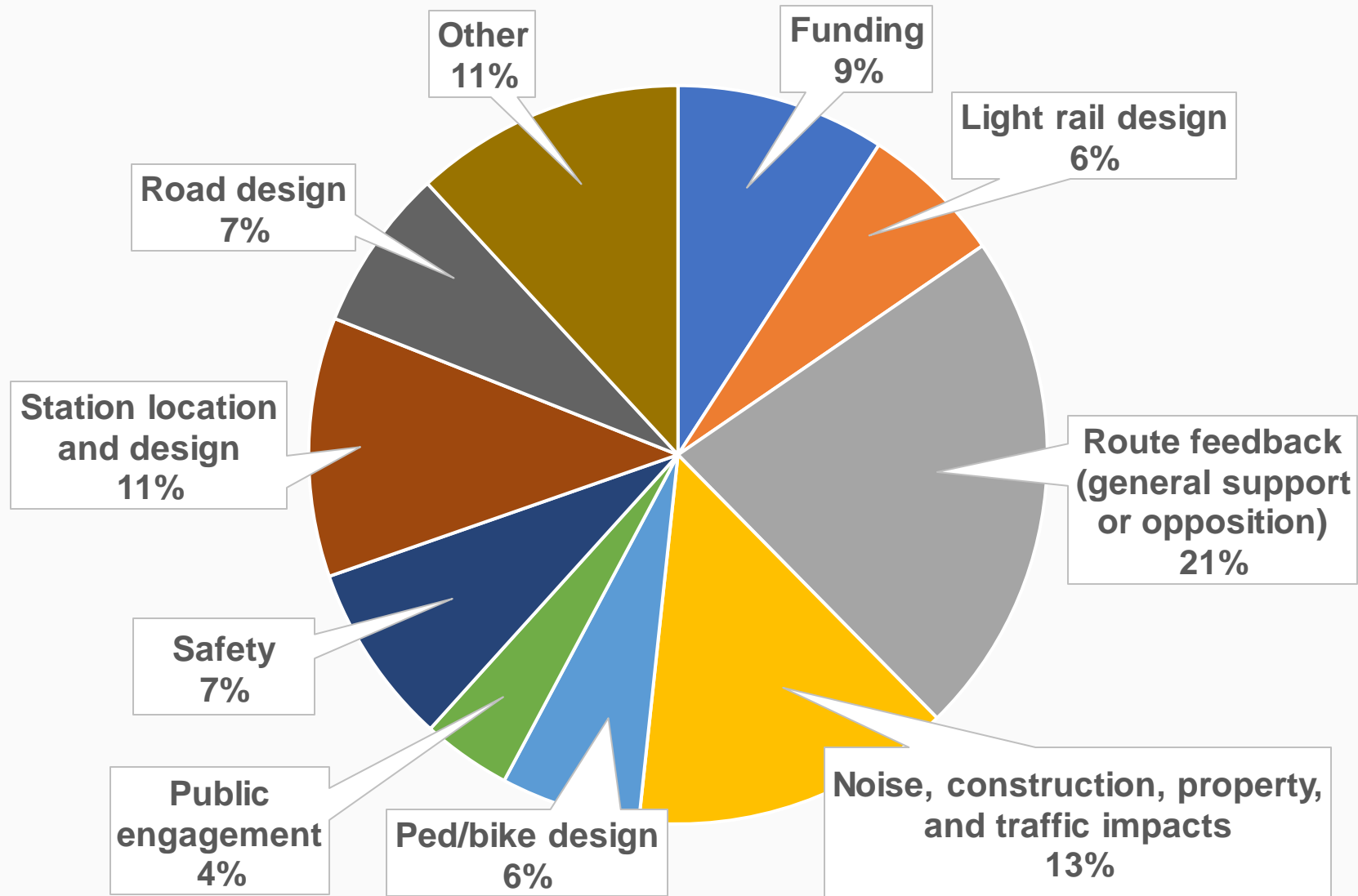


APRIL 18, 2022

METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION Route Modification Report



Comment Summary



Corridor Wide Comments

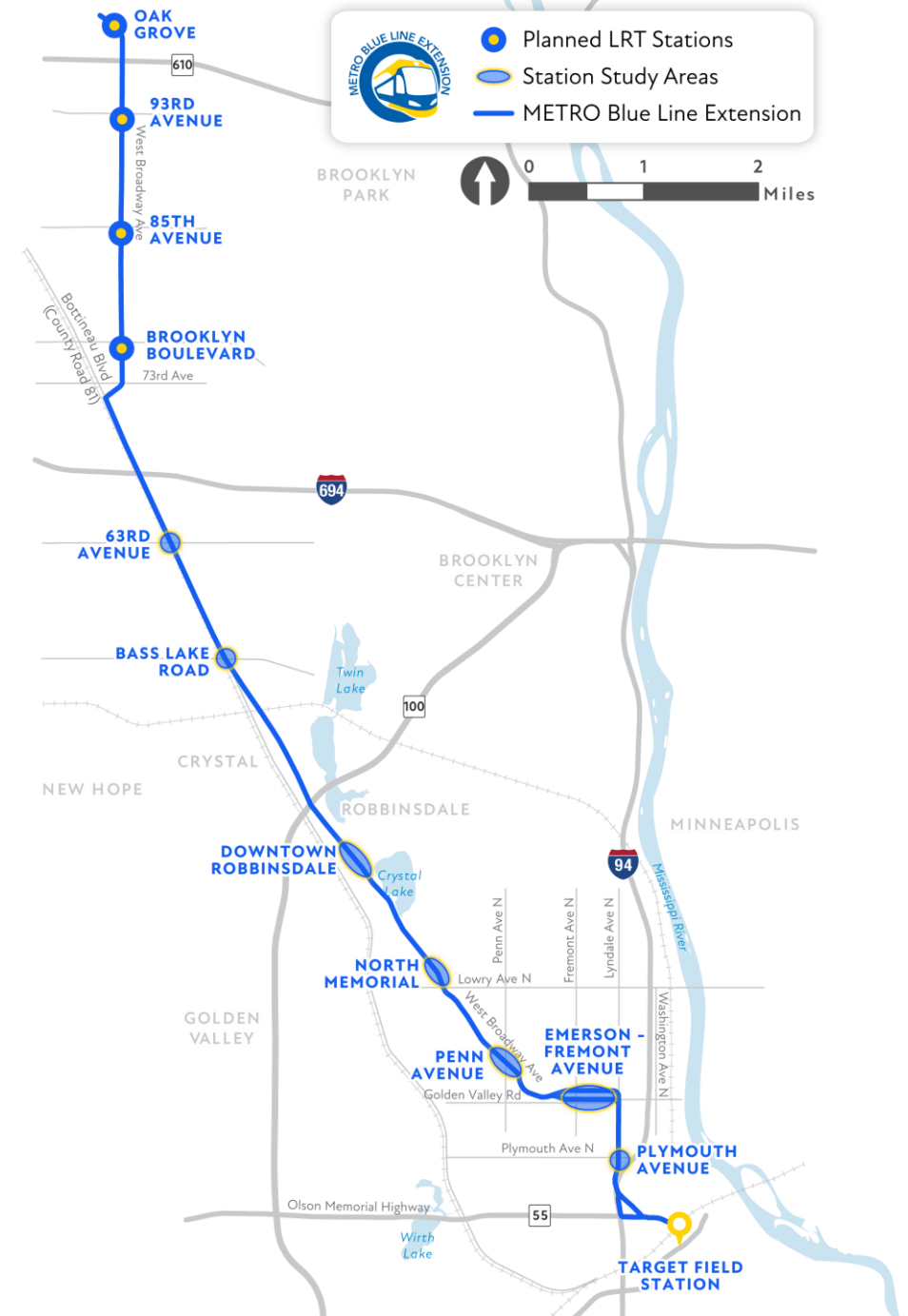
- General support or opposition for the recommended route or overall project:
 - Improvement over the original route; serves the people, places, and communities that need transit access the most
 - Do not like the recommended route; feel that another light rail project cannot be delivered on time/in budget and transit demand / ridership is low
- Evaluation of on-street parking and impacts
- Desire for landscaping, traffic calming, and easy/safe access to destinations along the route, especially for pedestrians and bicyclists

Corridor Wide Comments (continued)

- Concern about the noise, traffic, environmental, and property impacts during and after construction
- Concern about safety and crime on/at transit
- Desire for efficient travel times so it's a competitive transportation option
- Need for additional outreach and engagement
- Desire for anti-displacement commitments to be in place before project advances

Staff Recommended Route: West Broadway

- The West Broadway Route option including:
 - West Broadway Avenue in Brooklyn Park to County Road 81, County Road 81 in Crystal and Robbinsdale to West Broadway Avenue in North Minneapolis, connecting to Target Field Station in downtown Minneapolis.



Report Next Steps

Based on comment period, staff is recommending:

- Reevaluate options for the route between downtown and West Broadway
- Conducting anti-displacement work and environmental documentation at the same time

Overview Schedule

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We're here



- Identify community-supported route

- Environmental review
Document benefits and impacts of the project
- Municipal consent
Seek city support of the LRT design
- Begin engineering
Identify location of stations, LRT, pedestrian and bicycle access to stations
- Station area planning

- Develop construction ready design plans and prepare the community for construction
- Station area planning

- Construction and full funding grant agreement
Federal funding

- **GOAL:** Line opens in 2028



What's next?



- The environmental review documents the impacts of alternatives studied, along with ways to avoid, minimize, and mitigate for impacts. Examples include:
 - Noise and vibration
 - Visual impacts
 - Property impacts
 - Impacts to parks, soil, and water
 - Safety and transportation (bike/pedestrian/transit/vehicles)
- Further develop design details: place station, design sidewalks and connections
- Ongoing public engagement

Discussion of Recommendations



Next Meeting: July 6, 2022*



Stay Connected!

- Project website: BlueLineExt.org
 - Project news, maps, surveys, what we're hearing
 - Committee meeting materials: agenda, handouts, presentations, meeting minutes
 - Sign-up for GovDelivery project updates
 - Connect with staff for your questions or schedule a presentation
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