Today’s Topics

• Call to Order & Public Invitation
• Approval of December 14 Meeting Summary
• Community and Business Advisory Committees Reports
• Metro Transit Safety and Security Initiatives
• Network Now Update
• 2024 Schedule Overview

The public can submit written comments to Nkongo Cigolo (Nkongo.Cigolo@metrotransit.org)
Approval of December 14 Meeting Summary
Public Invitation

- 15 minutes allotted to receive public comments
  - Up to 3 minutes per speaker
- Speakers who have pre-registered will be called in order
- If there are more speakers than the time allotted, comments may be submitted in writing to Nkongo.Cigolo@metrotransit.org
Community and Business Advisory Committees Report
Metro Transit Safety and Security Initiatives
Metro Transit Police Department Update

• Chief Ernest Morales III
Chief’s Vision Plan: *Mission First, People Always*

- **Committed to Our Staff**  
  by building a strong culture & prioritizing the overall well-being of each & every member of the MTPD.

- **Committed to Training & Education**  
  by giving everyone the opportunity to grow with the department.

- **Committed to Our Community**  
  by investing in innovative solutions & building & strengthening partnerships to address larger societal issues – *together*.

- **Committed to Trust & Integrity**  
  through open communication & operating with transparency.

- **Committed to Technology**  
  by continuously looking ahead to what’s ahead, while using state of the art equipment & data *now* to guide our methods.

*Chief Morales on the Listening Sessions Tour  
January 3, 2024*
Chief’s Vision Plan: *Mission First, People Always cont.*

I am committed to leading the Metro Transit Police Department into its brightest chapter yet by building a culture that is well-respected throughout Minnesota & beyond.

That culture is one that encourages collaboration, promotes innovation, & proactively addresses emerging challenges with strategic solutions.

A culture where the professional & personal growth & well-being of each & every member of the MTPD is paramount to our overall success.

At the MTPD, we take pride in leading with integrity, empathy, & professionalism.

Swearing-in of Ernest Morales III
March 22, 2023
Q1 to Q4 2023 Data: Key Takeaways

- Overall Crime Down 25%
- Top 7 Down 13%
- Officer-Initiated Calls Up 24%
- Customer LRT Complaints Down 44%
Q1 to Q4 2023 Data: Dispatch Calls For Service

- **Q1 to Q2**: +10%
- **Q2 to Q3**: +6%
- **Q3 to Q4**: -34%
- **Q1 to Q4**: -24%
Q1 to Q4 2023 Data: Officer-Initiated Calls For Service

- Q1 to Q2: +1%
- Q2 to Q3: -20%
- Q3 to Q4: +53%
- Q1 to Q4: +23%
Q1 to Q4 2023 Data: Staffing

- **Full-Time Officers:** 113/171
- **Part-Time Officers:** 33/80
- **CSOs:** 13/70
- **Support Services:** 29/34
CSO Pathways Program

• No law enforcement experience or degree required

• Earn 12+ college credits at no cost

• New CSOs eligible for up to $18,000 tuition reimbursement
Recruitment Campaign

• Recruitment website metrotransit.org/joinMTPD

• On trains, buses, transit centers, bus shelters, kiosks, & digital signage

• Targeted in & out of state videos
MTPD Social Media

- Hired new Principal Communications Specialist & Public Information Officer (PIO)

- **Feb. 5** launch on Facebook, Instagram, & X/Twitter

- [@MetroTransitPD](https://www.facebook.com/MetroTransitPD) on Facebook & Instagram

- [@MTPDMN](https://twitter.com/MTPDMN) on X/Twitter
Network Now Update
Network Now will:

• Provide a history of service adjustments since 2019
• Analyze changes
• Outline what should Metro Transit’s network should look like now
  – Prioritize service improvements

Including in the project:

• New or redesigned routes
• Frequency or span improvements
• Resolve discontinued service and facility closures
• METRO line implementation
• Micro Transit possibilities
Where we’ve been: engagement to developed the foundation

• Over 5,000 points of contact with more than 6,000 unique comments

• Feedback received via:
  – Survey
  – Intercept conversations
  – Group and individual meetings
  – Customer Relations
Establishing the Foundation Report

- Outcome: created principles to evaluate service changes/improvements
- Outlines regional policy guidance
- Details network performance, changes since 2019, and opportunities
- Captures stakeholder feedback

Available at: metrotransit.org/network-now
Report highlight: policy for determining service

- Transit Market Areas
  - Used to guide level of service
  - Five demand levels, based on population density, employment density, intersection density, and auto availability
  - Currently being updated by the Met Council (staff coordination has occurred)
Land use helps make transit work

- Poor quality and lack of places to walk vs. high quality sidewalks
- High speed roads vs. short crossing distances
- Lots of driveways and far apart destinations vs. mix of uses (houses, stores, and workplaces)

Opportunities!
Coordination/Monitoring

- Large transitway projects
- Roadway projects
- Major developments & growth (Metro Transit wants to know)
- Unmet demand
Report highlight: service changes

- 164 routes, including 39 contracted
- 67 suspended routes, including 12 contracted
Communities of Color and routes map

Weekday Trips by Bus Stop & Light Rail Station - December 2023

Number of Trips by Stop

- LRT
- Bus

- 1 - 25
- 26 - 75
- 76 - 150
- 151 - 300
- Over 300

Tracts above Regional Average for Individual Poverty and Pop. of Color

Metro Transit service area
Transit Capital Levy District
Report highlight: ridership trends

Commuter and Express routes only
How we will make decisions

**Foundation**
- Policy guidance
- Network performance
- Public feedback

**Development**
- Principles & Metrics
- Planning questions
- Network evaluation

**Confirmation**
- Plan with priorities
- Stakeholder review of plan

Network plan to implement
Principles

1. Adapt service to changes in transit markets and travel patterns.

2. Prepare for new METRO and high-frequency routes.

3. Maintain the reliability of our scheduled service consistently over time.

4. Build on success to grow ridership, adding service where people use transit the most.

5. Provide access to opportunities and services with a focus on advancing equity and reducing regional disparities.
Example evaluation

**Principle:** Provide access to opportunities and services with a focus on advancing equity and reducing regional disparities.

**Options:** New route options/ micro transit expansion/restructuring service to reach new development/ shifting demand for service

**Measure:** Equity: % BIPOC or low-income within X distance of frequent service/any service

Sample output from previous Service Equity Study
Current external project steps & timeline

- Guiding framework
- Principles and evaluation criteria
- Draft Plan: Propose how we adapt our service
- Final Council adoption of Recommend Plan

- Completed fall 2023
- Winter 2023/24
- Spring 2024
- Summer 2024

We are here
2024 Schedule Update
• 13.4 miles & 12 new stations

• Connecting Minneapolis, Robbinsdale, Crystal, Brooklyn Park and surrounding communities to fast, frequent, all-day service across the METRO system

• Single seat ride to existing Blue Line stops downtown, MSP Airport and Mall of America

• Focus on building community prosperity through anti-displacement strategies before, during, and after construction

Next steps

• Updated post-COVID ridership and initial cost information: March 2024

• Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement: Spring 2024

• Municipal Consent process to confirm final route: Summer 2024

• Updated 60% cost estimate: Fall 2024

• Final Design: 2024-2025

• Construction starts: 2026-2027

• Anticipated opening: 2030
# 2024 Schedule

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## Environmental

**Environmental Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement & 4(f) Evaluation**

- **SDEIS**
- **SDEIS Comment**
- **Publish SDEIS**
- **SFEIS**
- **Federal Transit Administration Review**

## Design

- **30% Design**
- **30% Comments**
- **Design Coordination**
- **60% Design**

- **Met Council & Henn Co Authorize Hearings**
- **Municipal Consent**

## Cost & Ridership

- **Ridership/Cost Data**
- **30% Cost Est.**
- **60% Cost Est.**

## Anti-Displacement

- **Develop Framework**
- **Review Draft Framework**
- **Finalize Framework**

## Public Engagement

- **Consult and Involve**
Update on Funding Grant Applications

- **U.S. DOT Thriving Communities Regional Pilot Program**
  - **Purpose:** Technical assistance for corridor cities, capacity building, shared learning, and corridor studies
  - **Timeline:** 2024 – 2026
  - **Funding:** $1,998,725 (pending)

- **Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhood Community Planning Grant**
  - **Purpose:** Analysis for extending 21st Avenue over I-94 in North Minneapolis
  - **Timeline:** 2024 – 2025
  - **Funding:** $750,000 (pending)

- **Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning**
  - **Purpose:** Multimodal transportation plan, economic development strategy, housing and development strategy, visioning, climate change and resiliency strategy, community and stakeholder engagement
  - **Timeline:** 2025 – 2026
  - **Funding:** $700,000 (pending)

- **Department of Transportation Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program**
  - **Purpose:** Reconstruction of West Broadway between Lyndale and West River Parkway
  - **Timeline:** 2028 – 2033
  - **Funding:** TBD
Next steps progress

1. Create a regional group to continue conversations about corridor-wide implementation of anti-displacement strategies

2. Create local government groups to receive recommendations and begin policy making processes

3. Create dedicated regional anti-displacement fund

4. Align anti-displacement research and recommendations with Blue Line Extension federal processes like supplemental environmental impact statement

5. Develop corridor-wide anti-displacement policy agenda for 2024 state legislative session

Illustrations by Cori Nakamura Lin
Corridor Partnership Collaboration update

Most recent meeting: January 25th

• Legislative process and one-pager takeaway
• Thriving Communities Program Grant update
• Workplan [framework] - timeline
• Existing agency programs, policies, resources
• Corridor tour
• ADWG reconvening
Stay connected

• BlueLineExt.org
  • For the latest project updates and to sign up for our newsletter
  • Connect with staff for your questions or schedule a presentation

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