



PROPOSED STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY IMPACTS

Workforce Development and Small Business Commitments

Strategies identified in this document are being proposed and explored by the Blue Line Extension Project, but are subject to final approval by the Federal Transit Administration.

The Blue Line Extension will be a generational investment that will connect people and communities to new opportunities. With the many benefits of this project, there will also be some impacts that will require thoughtful strategies to address. Your input is needed to help inform how the project addresses certain environmental and community impacts.

To offset indirect displacement impacts, the Metropolitan Council would implement workforce development initiatives and leverage existing workforce development programs in the Blue Line Extension corridor. These programs would improve job prospects, lower the risk of economic displacement, and support the creation of generational wealth in corridor communities.

In collaboration with community partners and the Anti-displacement Community Prosperity Program board, and guided by research into smaller programs nationwide, the Metropolitan Council would:

- Develop apprenticeships, trainings, and mentorship programs
- Host information sessions with subcontractors, vendors, the public, and workforce development agencies
- Create a speaker series, mentorships, job fairs, scholarships, and other educational opportunities
- Implement local hiring initiatives
- Support small businesses by procuring items under \$25,000 through the Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business Program



To complement project investments in anti-displacement strategies, government and community partners are also advancing robust anti-displacement and community prosperity strategies separate from the project. [Learn more at yourblueline.org](https://yourblueline.org)

We Want to Hear From You!



To ensure we're meeting the needs of the business community, please take this survey to share your feedback on the proposed strategies above related to addressing workforce development and small business commitments.

For more information, to sign-up for the project newsletter, contact us, and share your comments/questions on our interactive map, visit: BlueLineExt.org

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