County Road 81 Community Conversation: July 2021
Today’s Topics

• Potential Station Locations
• County Road 81 LRT Visualizations
• Schedule
Potential Station Locations
Purpose & Timeline

• We are seeking your feedback to advance potential station locations and LRT visualizations to be incorporated in a report released this fall

• Expect ongoing, continued discussion as we refine and further develop these options and design
How were these potential station study areas determined?

- Previously planned stations
- Stakeholder and community input
- Key destinations
- Transit connections
- ½ to 1 mile spacing
- Overall number of stations

Note: The total number of stations has not been determined, meaning some potential station locations may be consolidated or eliminated.
Brooklyn Park
Planned Stations
Potential Station Study Areas: Brooklyn Park, Crystal, & Robbinsdale
Potential Station Study Areas: Minneapolis
How will these potential station study areas be evaluated?

- Project Principles & Goals
- Public engagement feedback
- Engineering requirements
- Population, connections, destinations, and jobs
- Available right of way
- Existing and future land use
LRT Visualizations
Crystal Design Considerations

• Confirm center running at-grade on County Road 81
• Four-lane road design
• Bass Lake Road design in development
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTY ROAD 81)  
NEAR THE CRYSTAL AIRPORT, CRYSTAL: EXISTING

This is a visualization of a section of Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81) in Crystal as it exists today.
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTY ROAD 81)
NEAR THE CRYSTAL AIRPORT, CRYSTAL: CONCEPT

This visualization represents how light rail could fit in Crystal along Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81).
This picture uses the typical width of the roadway at this location.

NOTE: Proposed trees and other landscape material omitted for visual clarity. These elements will be added as the design progresses.
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTY ROAD 81) SOUTH OF BASS LAKE ROAD: EXISTING

This is a visualization of a section of Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81) in Crystal as it exists today.

DRAFT: CONCEPT IN DEVELOPMENT

JULY 2021
METRO BLUE LINE LRT EXTENSION
This visualization represents how light rail could fit in Crystal along Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81). This picture uses the typical width of the roadway at this location.
This is a visualization of a section of Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81) in Crystal as it exists today.
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTY ROAD 81) AT 48TH AVE, CRYSTAL: CONCEPT

This visualization represents how light rail could fit in Crystal along Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81). This picture uses the typical width of the roadway at this location.

NOTE: Proposed trees and other landscape material omitted for visual clarity. These elements will be added as the design progresses.

DRAFT: CONCEPT IN DEVELOPMENT

JULY 2021
METRO BLUE LINE LRT EXTENSION
Robbinsdale Design Considerations

• Confirm center running at-grade on County Road 81
• Maintain existing intersections
• Focus on safe pedestrian crossings and the pedestrian environment
• To be developed: design details such as landscaping, streetscaping
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTY ROAD 81) AT 40TH AVE, ROBBINSDALE: EXISTING

This is a visualization of a section of Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81) in Robbinsdale as it exists today.
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTY ROAD 81) AT 40TH AVE, ROBBINSDALE: CONCEPT

This visualization represents how light rail could fit in Robbinsdale along Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81). This picture uses the typical width of the roadway at this location.

NOTE: Proposed trees and other landscape material omitted for visual clarity. These elements will be added as the design progresses.

DRAFT: CONCEPT IN DEVELOPMENT
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTY ROAD 81) AT 40TH AVE, ROBBINSDALE: ELEVATED CONCEPT

This visualization represents how elevated (aerial) light rail could fit in Robbinsdale along Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81). This picture uses the typical width of the roadway at this location.

NOTE: Proposed trees and other landscape material omitted for visual clarity. These elements will be added as the design progresses.
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTY ROAD 81) NEAR CRYSTAL LAKE, ROBBINSDALE: EXISTING

This is a visualization of a section of Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81) in Robbinsdale as it exists today.
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTY ROAD 81) NEAR CRYSTAL LAKE, ROBBINSDALE: CONCEPT

This visualization represents how light rail could fit in Robbinsdale along Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81). This picture uses the typical width of the roadway at this location.

NOTE: Proposed trees and other landscape material omitted for visual clarity. These elements will be added as the design progresses.
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTY ROAD 81) NEAR NORTH MEMORIAL, ROBBINSDALE: EXISTING

This is a visualization of a section of Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81) in Robbinsdale as it exists today.
BOTTINEAU BLVD (COUNTRY ROAD 81) NEAR NORTH MEMORIAL, ROBBINSDALE: CONCEPT

This visualization represents how light rail could fit in Robbinsdale along Bottineau Blvd (County Road 81). This picture uses the typical width of the roadway at this location.

NOTE: Proposed trees and other landscape material omitted for visual clarity. These elements will be added as the design progresses.

DRAFT: CONCEPT IN DEVELOPMENT
Schedule/Next Steps

We're here

- **1 year**
  - Identify community supported route
  - Blue Line Extension Community Supported Route:
    - Best meets the Project Principles and Goals
    - Grounded in community feedback through collaboration with stakeholders
    - Supported by Project corridor communities and decision-makers

- **1.5 to 2 years**
  - Environmental review
    - Document benefits and impacts of the project
  - Municipal Consent
    - Seek city support of the LRT design

- **1.5 to 2 years**
  - Engineering
    - Develop construction ready design plans

- **3 to 4 years**
  - Construction and Full Funding Grant Agreement
    - Federal funding

- **Goal — Line opens in 2028**

Light Rail Transit projects are complex and unforeseen challenges arise. Schedules and timelines are subject to change.
Stay Connected!

- Project website: bluelineext.org
  - Project news, maps, surveys, what we’re hearing
  - Sign-up for GovDelivery project updates
  - Connect with staff for your questions or schedule a presentation

- Follow us:
  - Twitter: @BlueLineExt
  - Facebook: MetroBlueLineExtension