Blue Line Coalition Hosted Listening Session
Today’s Topics

• Project Transition
• Decision Framework
• 2021 Overview
August 2020: After a multi-year effort to negotiate with BNSF that included many levels of government and offers including buying the corridor, it was time to move the project forward.
Project Transition

• We remain deeply committed to working closely with community and city partners to determine the best course forward for the METRO Blue Line Extension project

• Advancing this project will require continued strong partnerships and sincere collaboration
BLRT Issue Resolution & Advisory Process

- Issue Identification Teams
- Technical Project Advisory Committee
- Community and Business Advisory Committees
- Corridor Management Committee
- Met Council/Hennepin County
Blue Line Extension Project Staff

Met Council & Hennepin County staff working together to bring multiple elements of the project forward

- Design & Engineering
- Environmental Review/FTA New Starts Process
- Community Works: Housing/Gentrification/Economic Development
- Communications and Engagement

Blue Line Project Management Team
2021 Engagement & Communications Milestones

- **2020**
  - Seek feedback on alignment principles
  - Develop community-led engagement plan for 2021

- **2020/2021**
  - Initial route identification and engagement

- **Spring 2021**
  - Confirm community supported route to advance

- **Summer/Fall 2021**
  - Winter 2021/2022
  - Identify potential destinations to be served
  - Develop and seek feedback on route evaluation criteria
  - Analysis of potential routes with ongoing community input
Community Specific Engagement Goals

• Identify the framework and types of questions for each community
• Clearly communicate the technical analysis specific to each community
• Keep every community informed throughout the process
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

- Follow us on Twitter: @BlueLineExt