

SOUTHWEST

Green Line LRT Extension



# Corridor Management Committee

March 28, 2018



# Today's Topics

- Chair's Update
- Proposed Corridor Protection Wall Update
- Environmental Update
- 2018 Look Ahead
- Eden Prairie Video

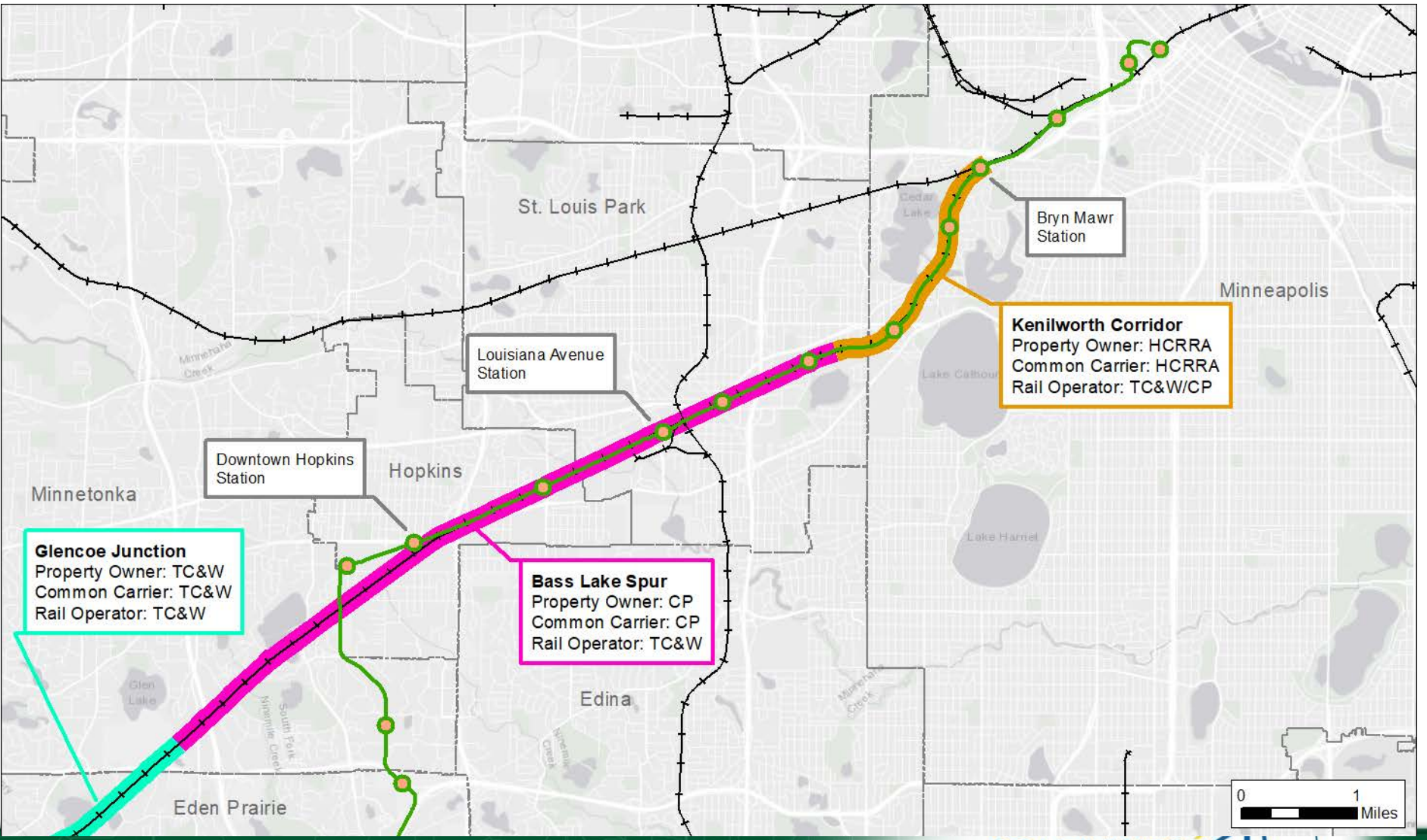


# Chair's Update

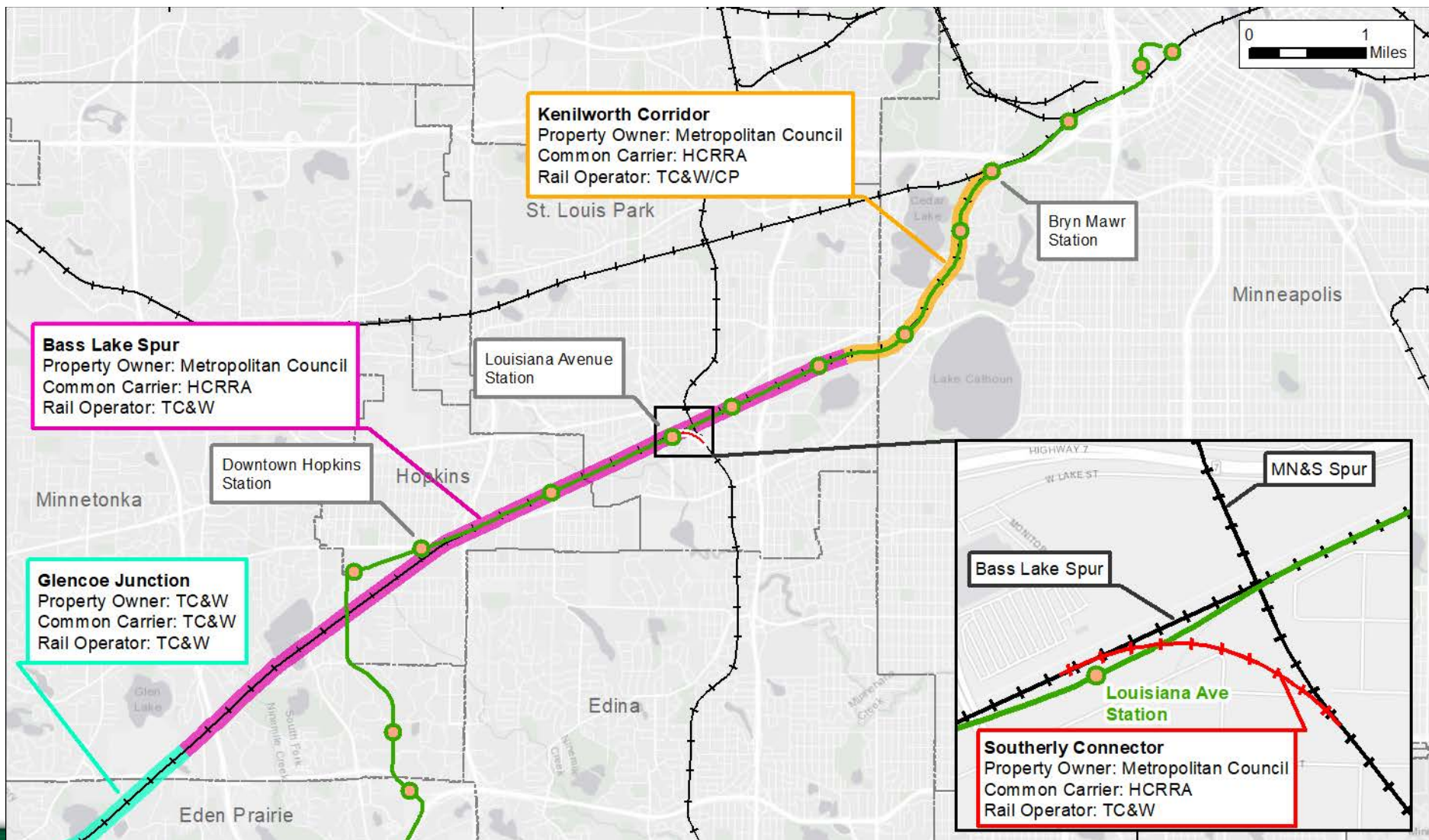
# Recent Activities

- Feb 23 FTA and Council issued Supplemental Environmental Assessment
- Feb 27 Judge Tunheim ruled on Lakes & Parks Alliance lawsuit
- March 21 Met Council acted to authorize execution of agreements related to freight rail
  - HCRRA Joint and Cooperative Exercise of Powers Agreement
  - CP Real Estate Purchase Agreement
  - HCRRA Property Transfer Agreement
  - TC&W Settlement Offer

# Current Freight Rail Owners, Carriers & Operators



# Proposed Freight Rail Owners, Common Carrier & Operators



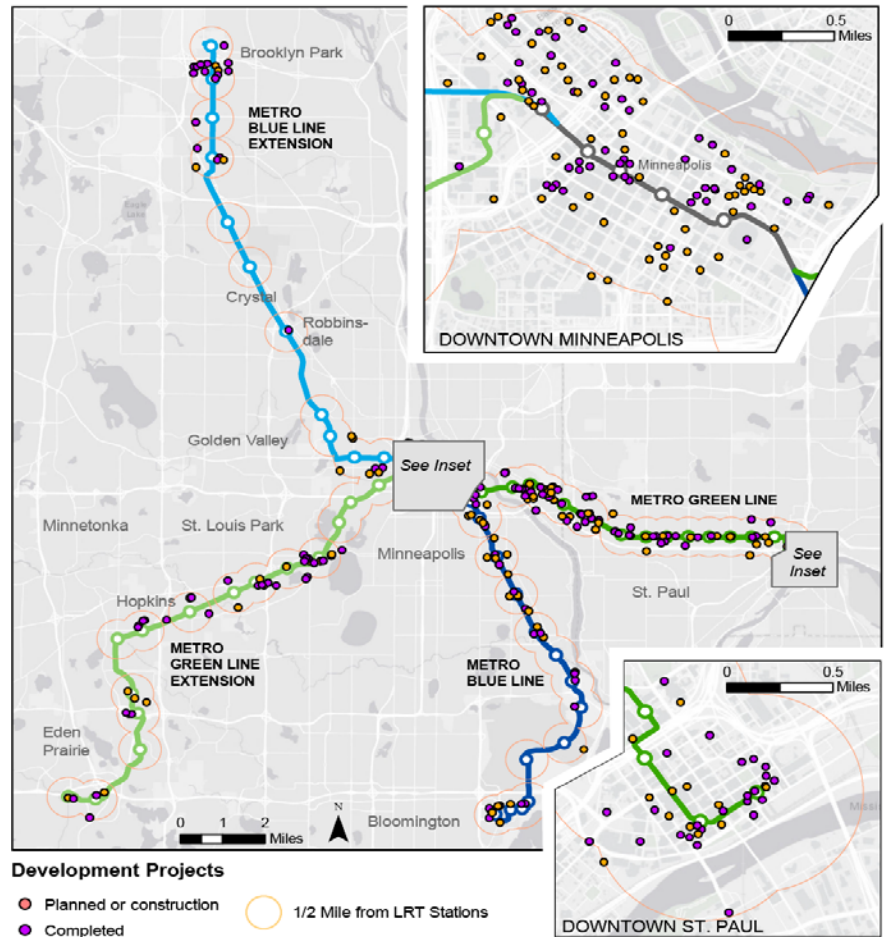
# Surface Transportation Board (STB) Petition

- STB petition is required to allow the Council to acquire rights-of-way and physical assets of Bass Lake Spur and Kenilworth Corridors subject to the freight rail easements & existing Trackage Rights Agreements
- STB is the federal regulatory agency responsible for reviewing certain railroad property transfers
- After the Council petitions the STB, it is anticipated the STB will rule within 30-60 days

# Nearly \$8.4B in Development Along LRT

- \$2.8B near 5 Blue and Green Line shared stations in downtown Minneapolis.
- \$2.9B along Green Line between West Bank and Downtown St. Paul
- \$1.0B along Blue Line outside of downtown
- \$1.0B development planned or underway along Green Line Extension
- \$506M development planned or underway along Blue Line Extension

Development projects within one-half mile of light rail transit stations in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area (December 2017)

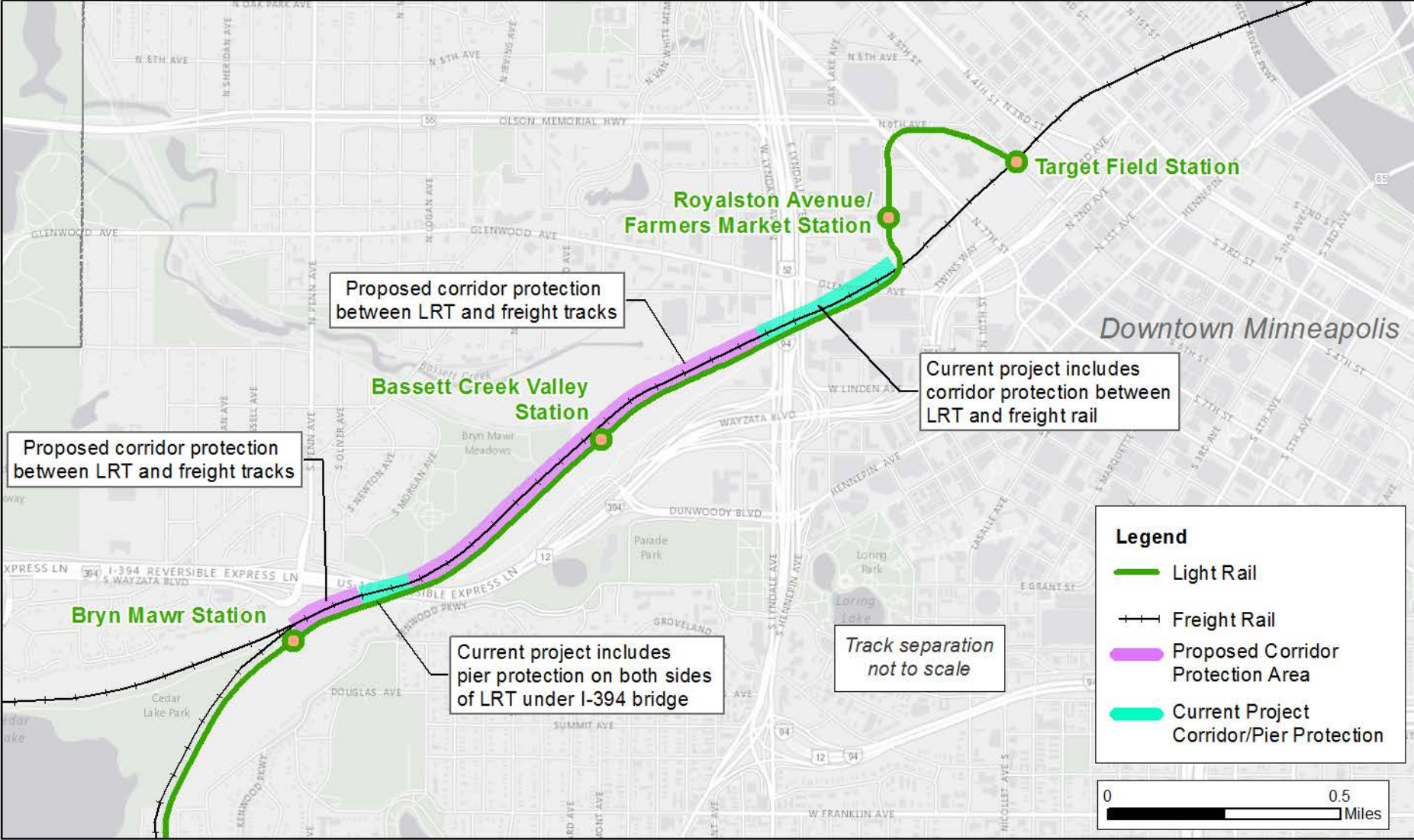


Staff compiled data reported by developers about recently completed developments and projects that are under construction or design. For each LRT line, only projects initiated after the beginning of the design process are included.



# Proposed Corridor Protection Wall Update

# Proposed Corridor Protection Wall



# Corridor Protection Wall: Existing Conditions



# Corridor Protection Wall: Proposed



Note: Planned trees not shown

# Corridor Protection Wall: Vines & Texture



# Outreach Activities

- Bassett Creek Valley Working Group
- Presentations to Communities
- Public and Elected Corridor Tours
- Community Open House and Town Hall
- Pop-Up Events
- Project Website



# Environmental Update

# Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- The SEA is a federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review, which evaluates the significance and the potential impacts of proposed project changes made after the 2016 Record of Decision
- Preparation of an SEA includes a public input process
- Under the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), the SEA will serve as the state environmental document to evaluate the proposed changes to the project since 2016



# SEA/Amended Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation

- Evaluated ten proposed changes to Project design since the 2016 Final Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision
- Analyzed whether there have been significant changes to the proposed action, affected environment, and anticipated impacts or the proposed mitigation measures required
- The SEA will be used by the Met Council to reach an informed and appropriate decision whether to issue a Negative Declaration for the proposed project revisions (pursuant to Minnesota Rules, part 4410.1700) or that a Supplemental EIS is warranted

# SEA Topics

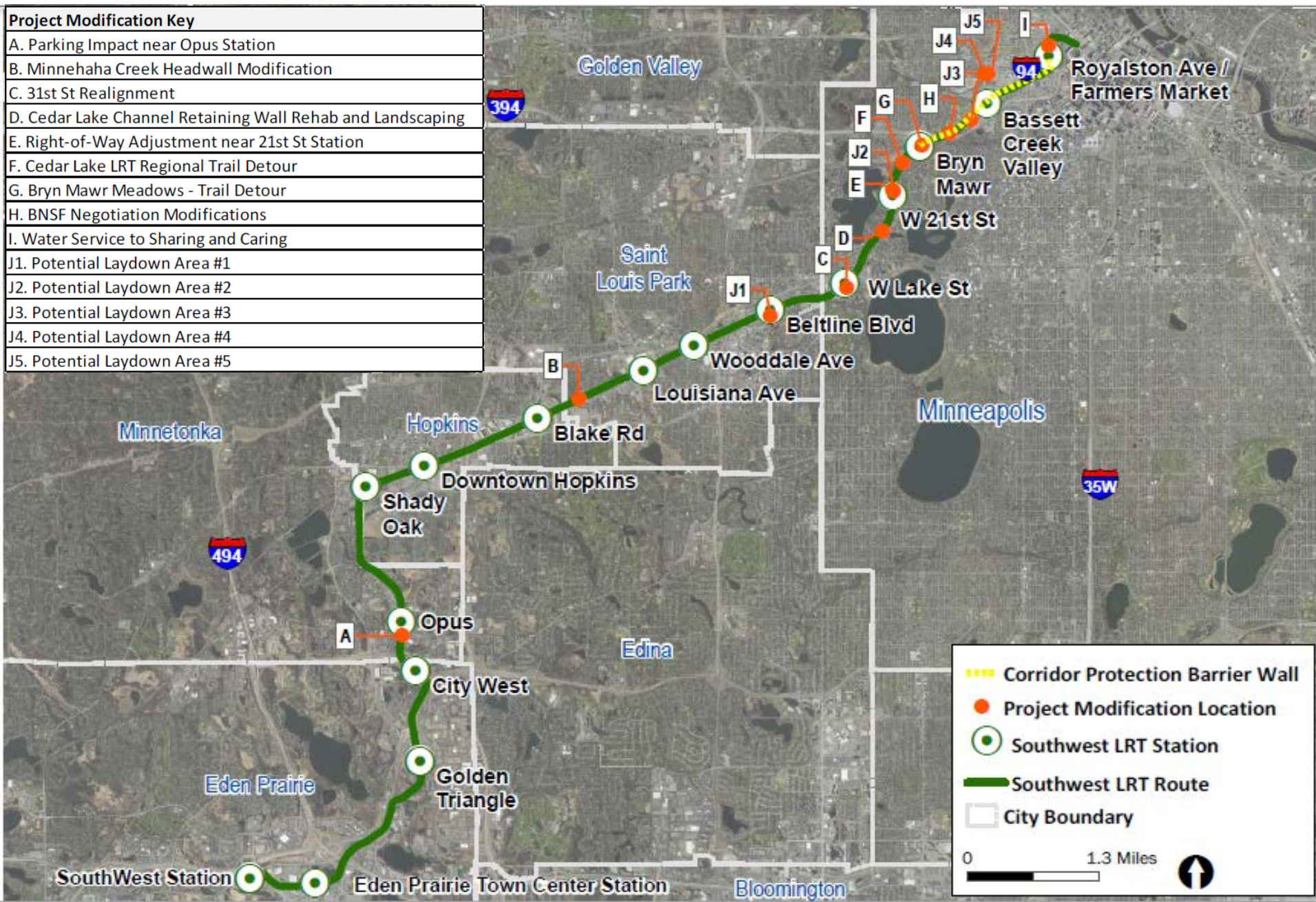
- Parcel 322A parking impact near Opus Station
- Minnehaha Creek headwall
- Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail Detour
- 31<sup>st</sup> Street realignment
- Grand Rounds Historic District: Kenilworth Lagoon Works Progress Administration (WPA) rustic style retaining walls rehabilitation and landscaping
- Right-of-way adjustment near West 21<sup>st</sup> Street Station

# SEA Topics

- BNSF negotiation modifications
- Bryn Mawr Meadows trail mitigation
- Water service to Sharing and Caring Hands
- New potential construction laydown areas

# SEA Scope

Project Modification Key	
A.	Parking Impact near Opus Station
B.	Minnehaha Creek Headwall Modification
C.	31st St Realignment
D.	Cedar Lake Channel Retaining Wall Rehab and Landscaping
E.	Right-of-Way Adjustment near 21st St Station
F.	Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail Detour
G.	Bryn Mawr Meadows - Trail Detour
H.	BNSF Negotiation Modifications
I.	Water Service to Sharing and Caring
J1.	Potential Laydown Area #1
J2.	Potential Laydown Area #2
J3.	Potential Laydown Area #3
J4.	Potential Laydown Area #4
J5.	Potential Laydown Area #5



	Corridor Protection Barrier Wall
	Project Modification Location
	Southwest LRT Station
	Southwest LRT Route
	City Boundary

0 1.3 Miles

# Amended Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation

- To mitigate the Project's impacts on the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba / Great Northern Railway Historic District, several measures have been identified:
  - Designing the Project modifications to meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards to the extent feasible
  - Preparing a Minnesota Historic Property Record for portions of the district
  - Incorporating interpretive elements into the Project

# Key Dates

- Feb 23, 2018: SEA/Amended Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation published
  - 45-day public comment period commences
- March 22, 2018: Community Town Hall held to receive public comments



# Public Comments

- 45-day comment period: Feb 23 - April 9, 2018
- Comments can be submitted by:
  - Using online comment form: [swlrt.org](http://swlrt.org)
  - Emailing written comments: [swlrt@metro council.org](mailto:swlrt@metro council.org)
  - Written/spoken testimony at March 22 town hall
  - Mailing written comments to the address below:  
Southwest LRT Project Office  
ATTN: Kelcie Campbell, Environmental Project Manager  
Park Place West Building, Suite 500  
6465 Wayzata Boulevard  
St. Louis Park, MN 55426

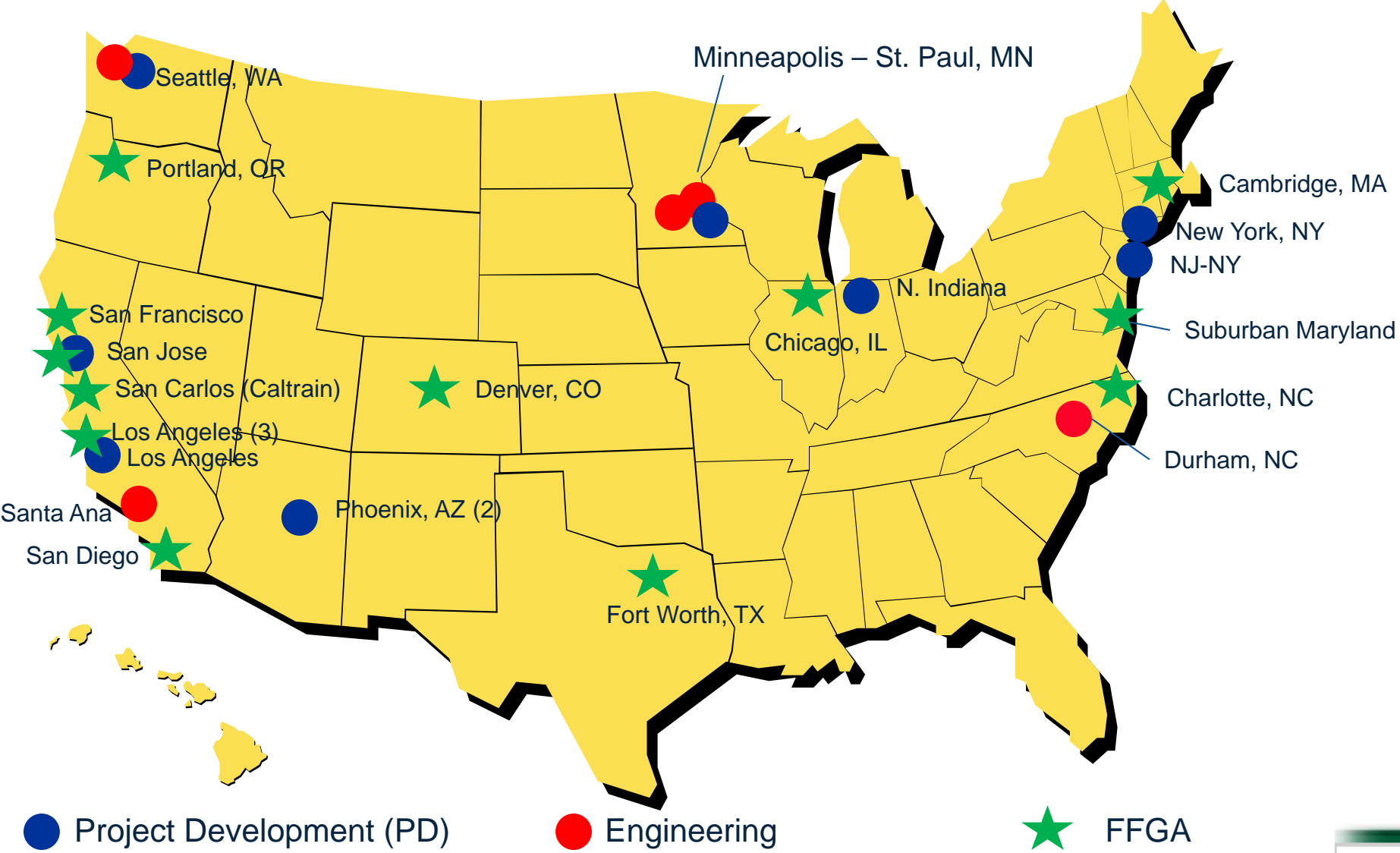
# Next Steps

- Respond to substantive comments received
- Document agency's decision and basis for decision
- Document Final Section 4(f) Finding
  
- FTA issues an Amended Record of Decision (AROD)
  
- Met Council decides whether to issue a Negative Declaration under Minnesota Rules



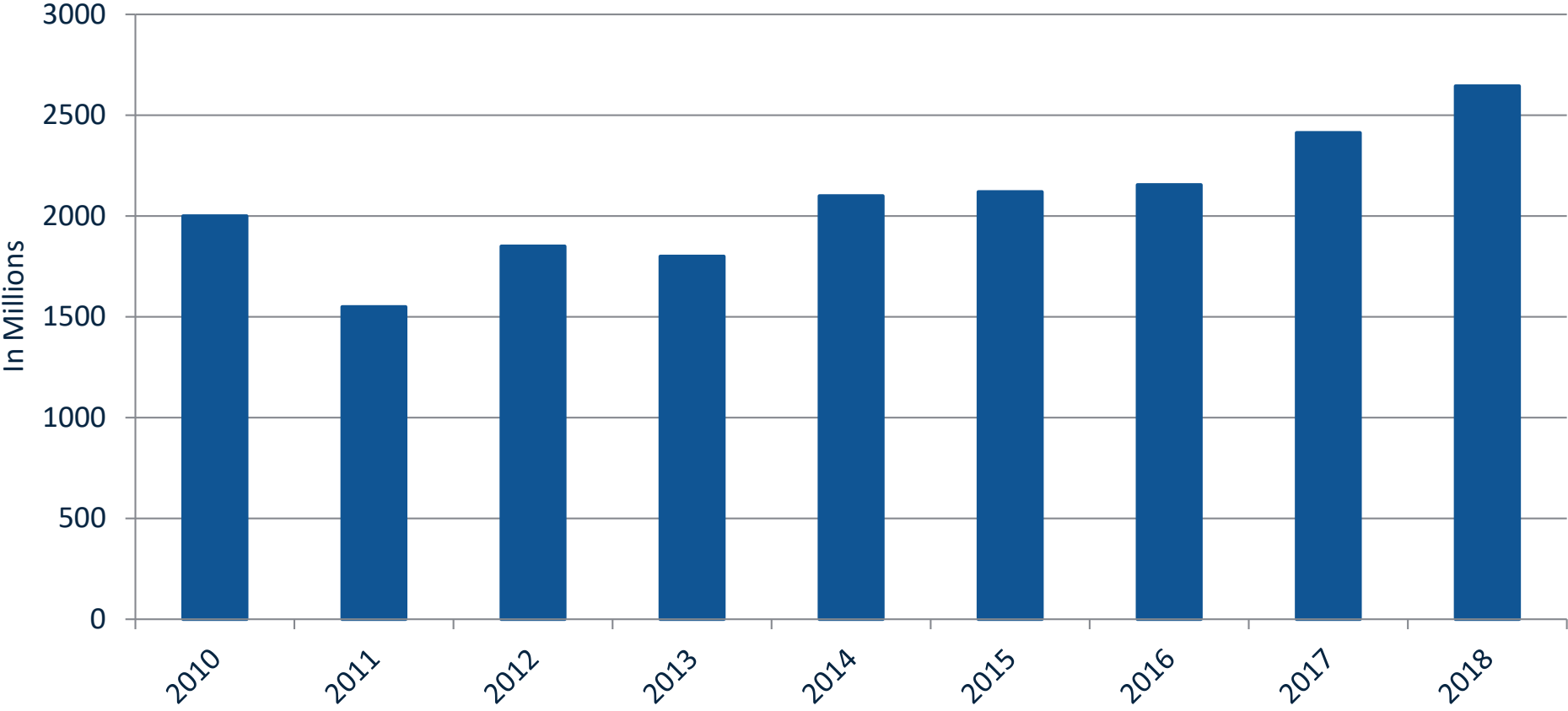
# 2018 Look Ahead

# Peer “New Starts” Projects (February 2018)



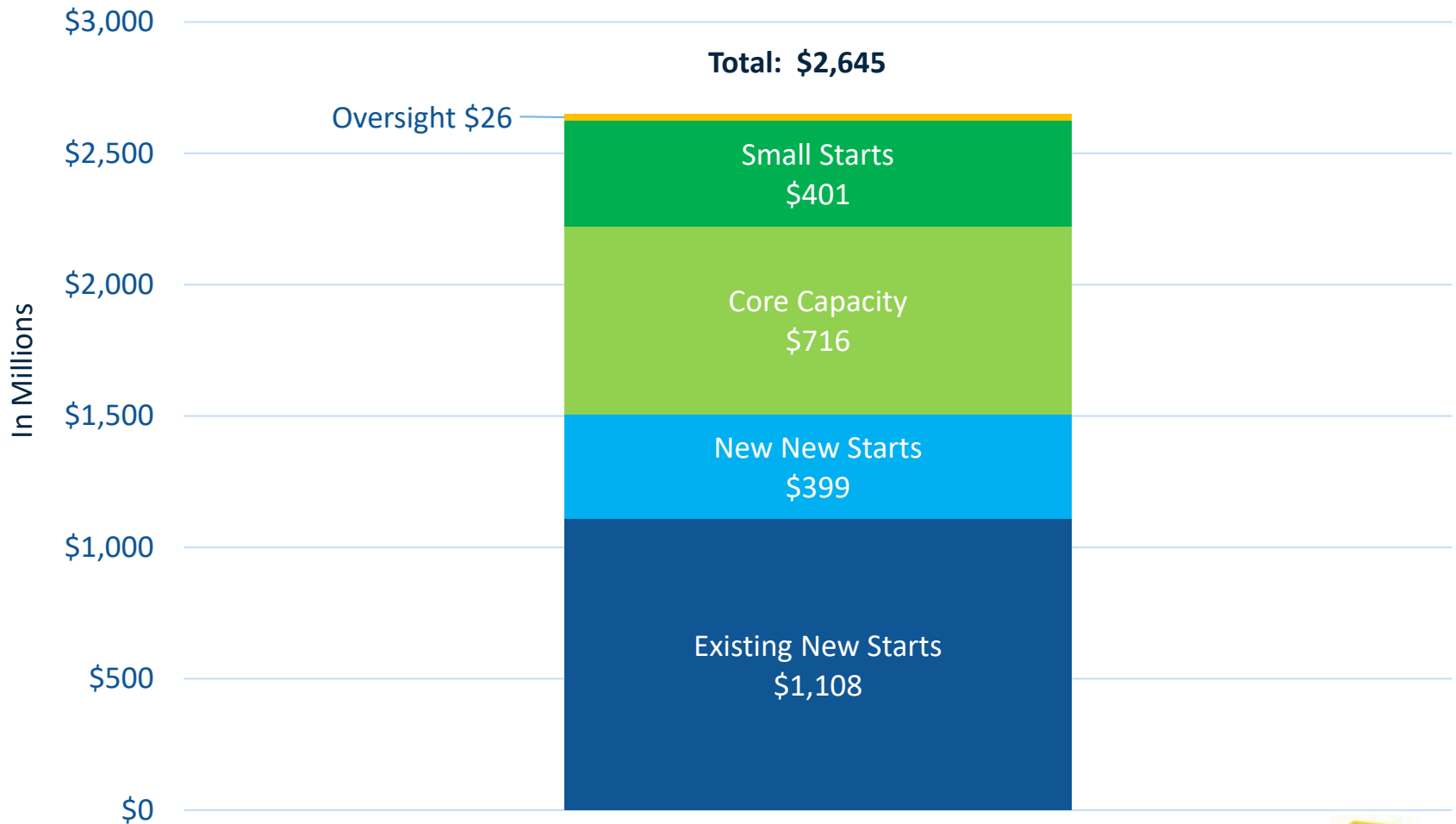
Source: Feb 2018 FTA CIG Report

# FTA Capital Investment Grant Program Federal Funding Levels 2010 to 2018



Note: Horizontal axis represents federal fiscal years

# FTA Capital Investment Grant Program 2018 Funding by Subprogram



# Overall Project Schedule

	2011-2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Project Development									
Engineering		ROD		AROD					
Construction				LONP	FFGA				
LRV Design, Production & Testing									
Fare Collection Production & Testing									
Integration Testing									
Revenue Operations									

**ROD:** Record of Decision    **AROD:** Amended ROD    **LONP:** Letter of No Prejudice    **FFGA:** Full Funding Grant Agreement

# 2018 Major Project Milestones

Month	Milestone
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Published Supplemental Environmental Assessment</li><li>•Published Quality Management Services for Civil Construction RFP</li></ul>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Completed Congressional Funding for 2018</li><li>•Freight Rail Agreements/Surface Transportation Board Filing</li></ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•FTA Environmental Finding/Met Council Environmental Declaration</li><li>•Open Civil Construction Bids</li><li>•Request FTA &amp; Hennepin County Letters of No Prejudice (LONP)</li></ul>
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•FTA &amp; Hennepin County Approve LONPs</li></ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Met Council Awards Civil Construction Contract</li></ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Begin mobilizing for Civil Construction</li></ul>

# Eden Prairie Video



# More Information

Online:

[www.SWLRT.org](http://www.SWLRT.org)

Email:

[SWLRT@metrotransit.org](mailto:SWLRT@metrotransit.org)

Twitter:

[www.twitter.com/southwestlrt](http://www.twitter.com/southwestlrt)

