

Blue Line Extension Project Update TAAC

January 3, 2023



BROOKLYN PARK | CRYSTAL | ROBBINSDALE | MINNEAPOLIS

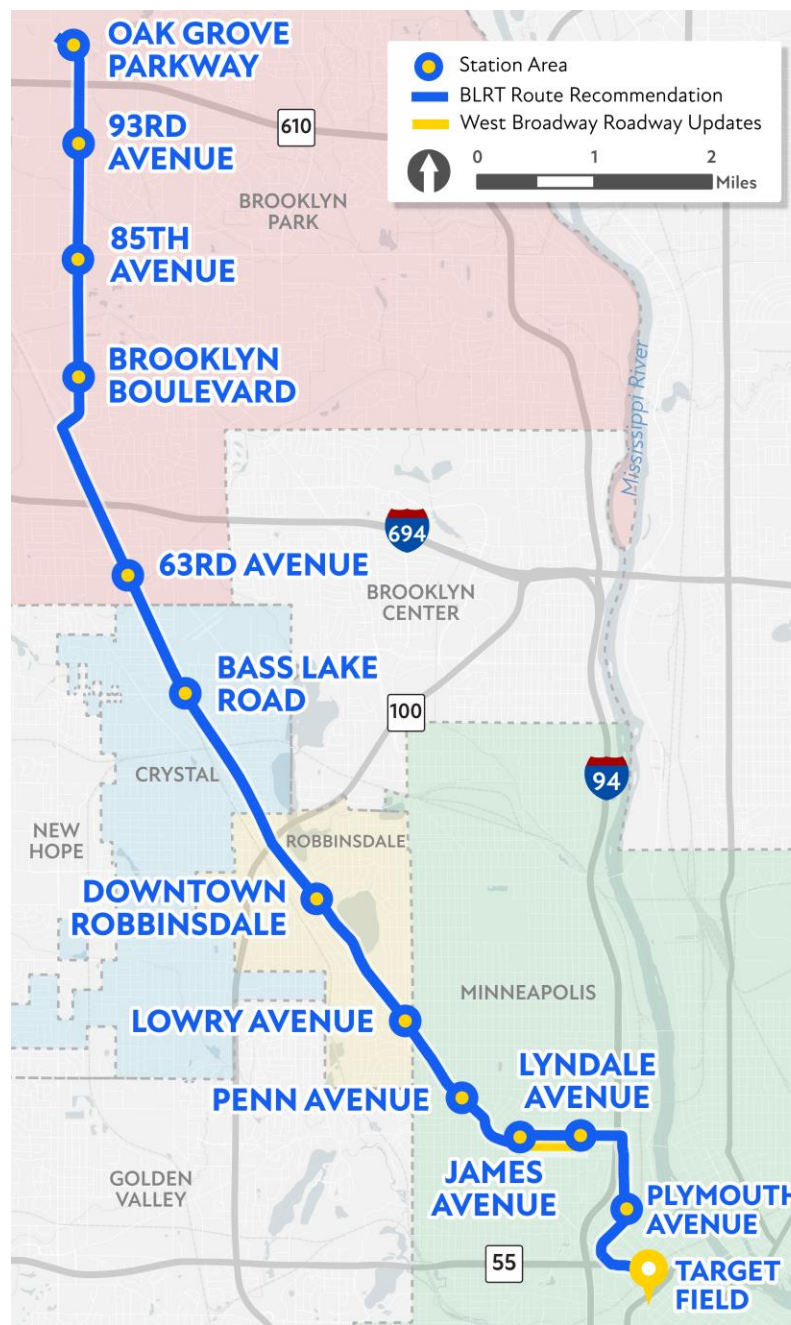




Blue Line

EXTENSION

- 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: early 2024
- Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement: Spring 2024
- Municipal Consent process to confirm final route: Summer 2024
- Updated cost estimate: 2024
- Final design: 2024-2025
- Construction starts: 2026-2027
- Anticipated opening: 2030



Project Timeline

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

RECOMMENDATIONS

ANTI-DISPLACEMENT

IMPLEMENTATION

WE'RE HERE

1.5 – 2 YEARS

2022-2024

- Analysis on route options
- Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement Process

2024

- 30% Design
- Municipal Consent Process

1.5 – 2 YEARS

2024-2025

- Final Design

2026

- Federal Funding/ Construction Bidding

3 – 4 YEARS

2027-2030

- Construction

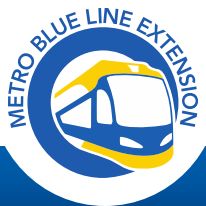
2030

- BLRT Opening



Engagement Activities

- Community meetings and workshops
- Pop-ups and tabling at community events
- Business Workshops
- Bike Tours



Engagement Through Partnerships

- Anti-displacement Work Group
- Community Cohorts
- Cultivate Arts Program
- Elevate Hennepin Program



ELEVATE
Hennepin™



Anti-Displacement Community Feedback

Strategies important to community:

- Empowering community
- Transparency in decision making process
- Support throughout project
- Commitment to community development
- Safety
- Accessibility
- Urban amenities
- Economic renewal to local businesses

Strategies of priority:

- Affordable housing preservation/development
- Limiting investor purchasing/corporate ownership
- Small business support



Anti-Displacement CMC Resolution

- Work in partnership with the project sponsors.
- Develop proposed framework and public engagement plan with community members, public, non-profit, philanthropic, and private sector partners
- Work to attain the recommended outcomes, including securing funds needed for implementation for anti-displacement measures before, during and after the construction of the Blue Line Extension



Illustrations by
Cori Nakamura Lin



Next steps

- Create regional group to continue discussion of implementation of anti-displacement strategies (**in-progress**)
- Create local government groups to receive recommendations and begin policy making processes (**complete**)
- Create dedicated regional anti-displacement fund
- Align anti-displacement research and recommendations with Blue Line Extension federal processes (**in-progress**)
- Develop corridor-wide anti-displacement policy agenda for 2024 state legislative session (**complete**)



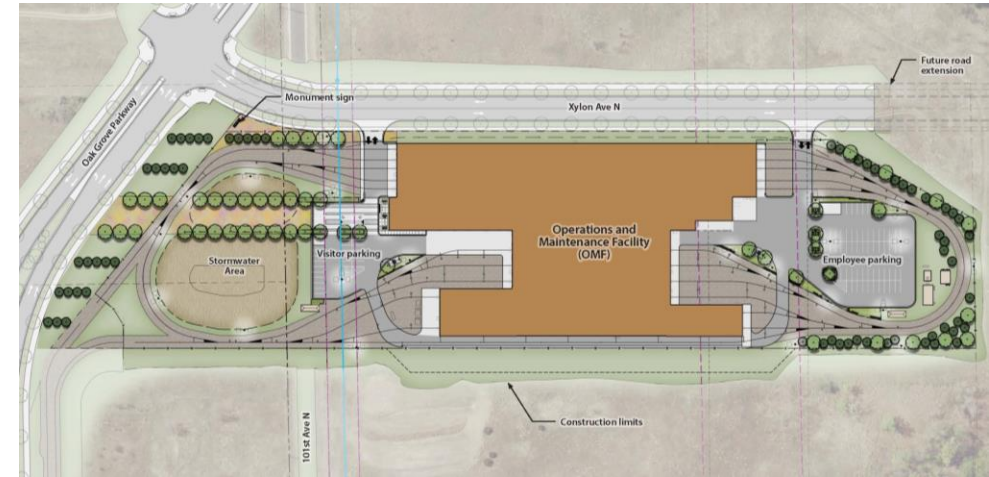
Project Scope Overview



Oak Grove Parkway Station and Park and Ride



View Looking Northwest to Plaza and Park and Ride from Oak Grove Parkway Station



Operations and Maintenance Facility is also located at the northernmost terminus of the project

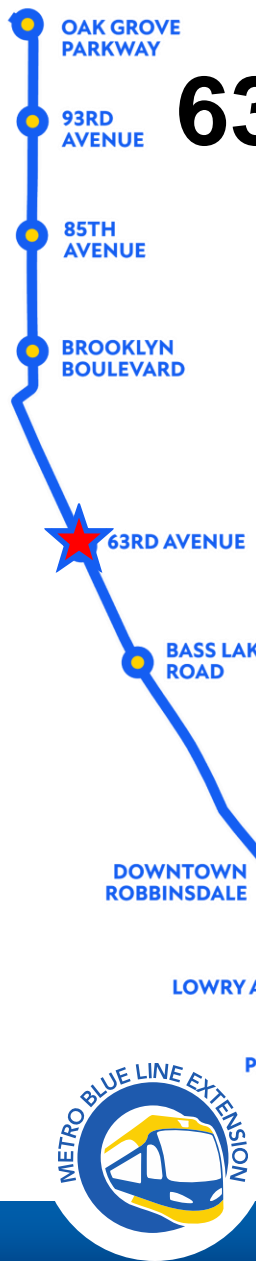


West Broadway Avenue to County Road 81

- Center-running LRT on West Broadway with 4 station locations
- Reconstruction of West Broadway
- Bridge from West Broadway to County Road 81 over northbound direction of traffic



Transition from West Broadway to County Road 81



63rd Avenue Station

- Pedestrian Bridge to connect existing Park and Ride to station and center-running LRT

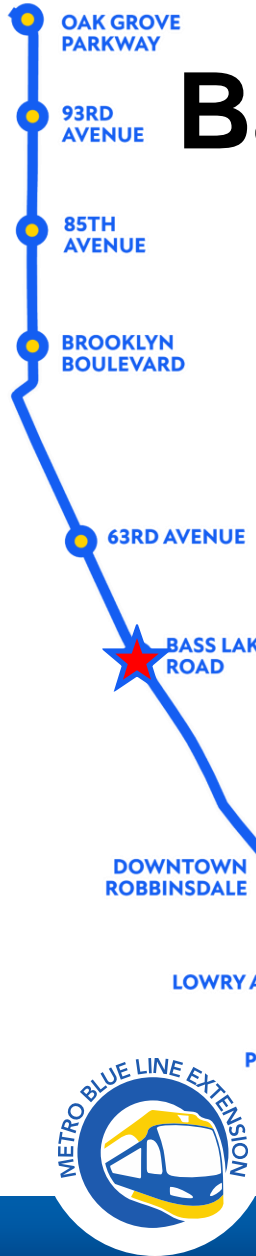


Existing



Proposed Pedestrian Crossing at 63rd Ave Station

Bass Lake Road Station



Existing



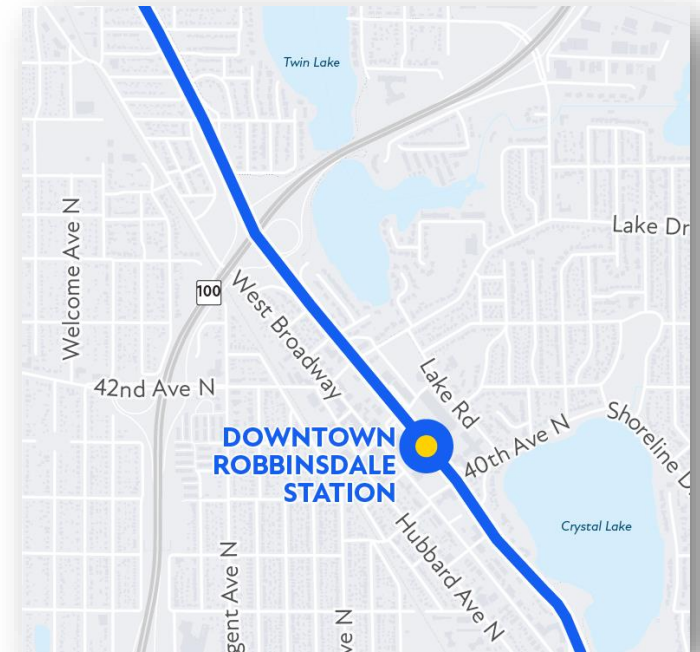
Proposed Interchange at Bass Lake Road



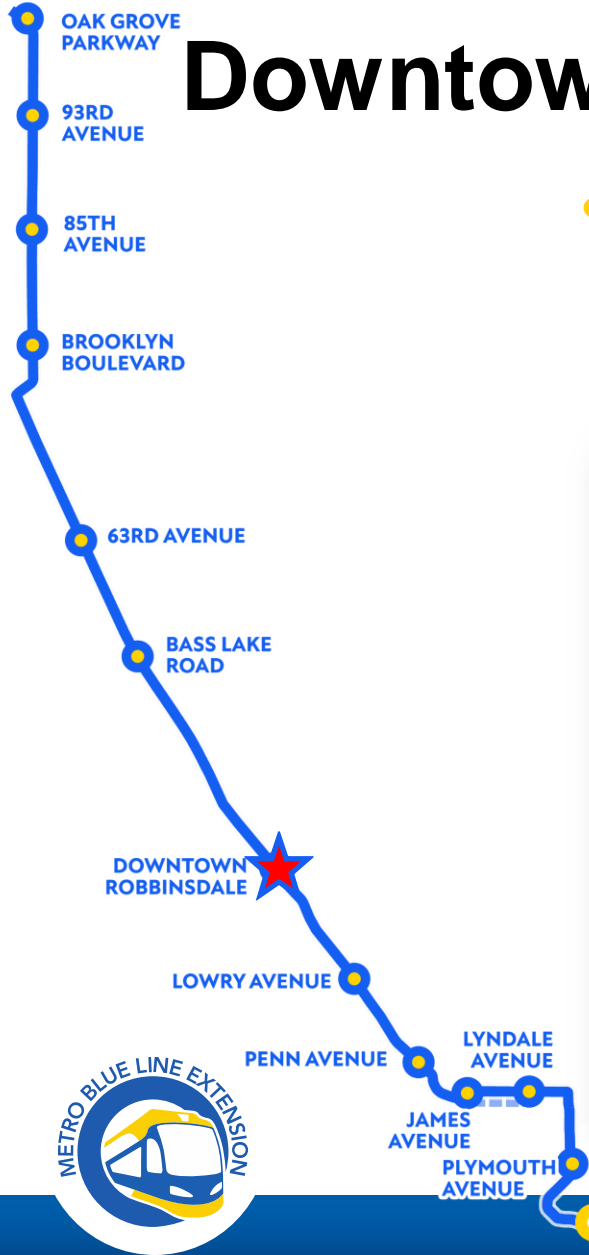
Ground view of station area looking south

Downtown Robbinsdale Park and Ride

- Redevelop US Bank Site
 - Park and ride, bank branch, and transit-oriented development



- Paired with Station at 40th
- Will incorporate bus transfers
 - 14, 19, 32, 716, 717
 - Plymouth Metrolink Click-and-Ride



Lowry Ave Station

- Provides access to the Grand Rounds trail, Victory Memorial Park, and North Memorial Hospital



Lowry At-Grade Station Concept



**Lowry Ave Station
At Grade – Looking South**



Lowry At-Grade Station Concept



**Intersection of Theodore Wirth Pkwy and Lowry Ave
Looking West**

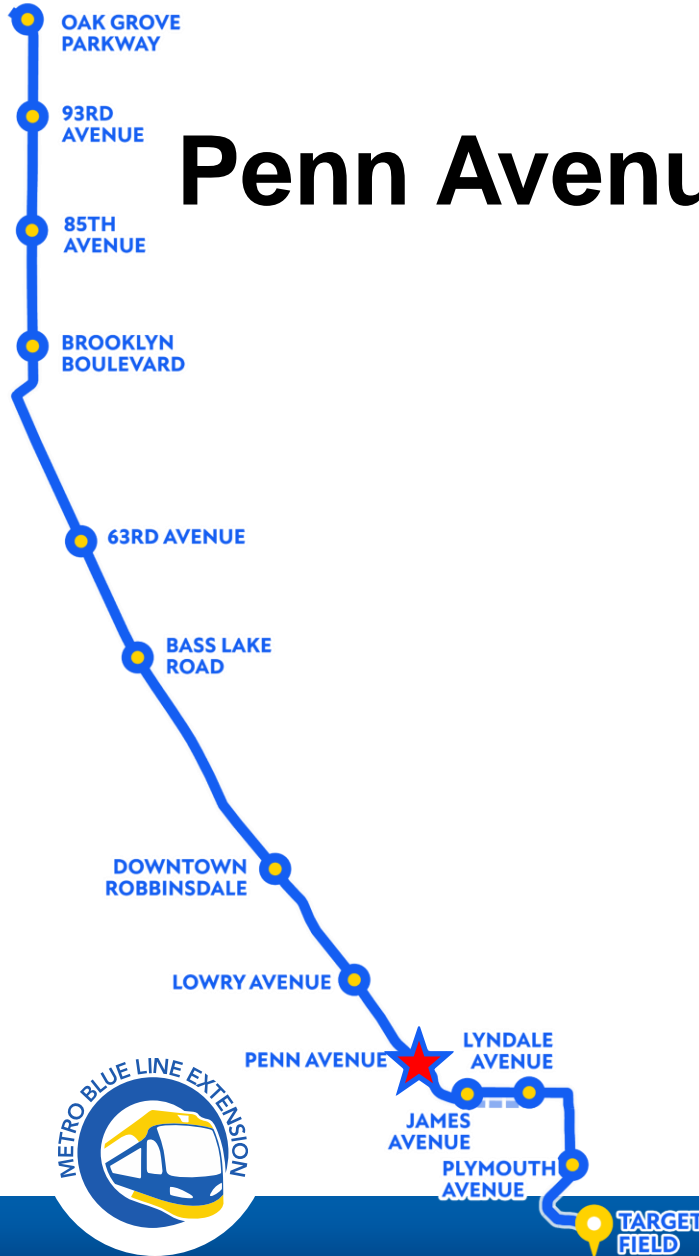


Capri Theater



*Photo Source: NEON

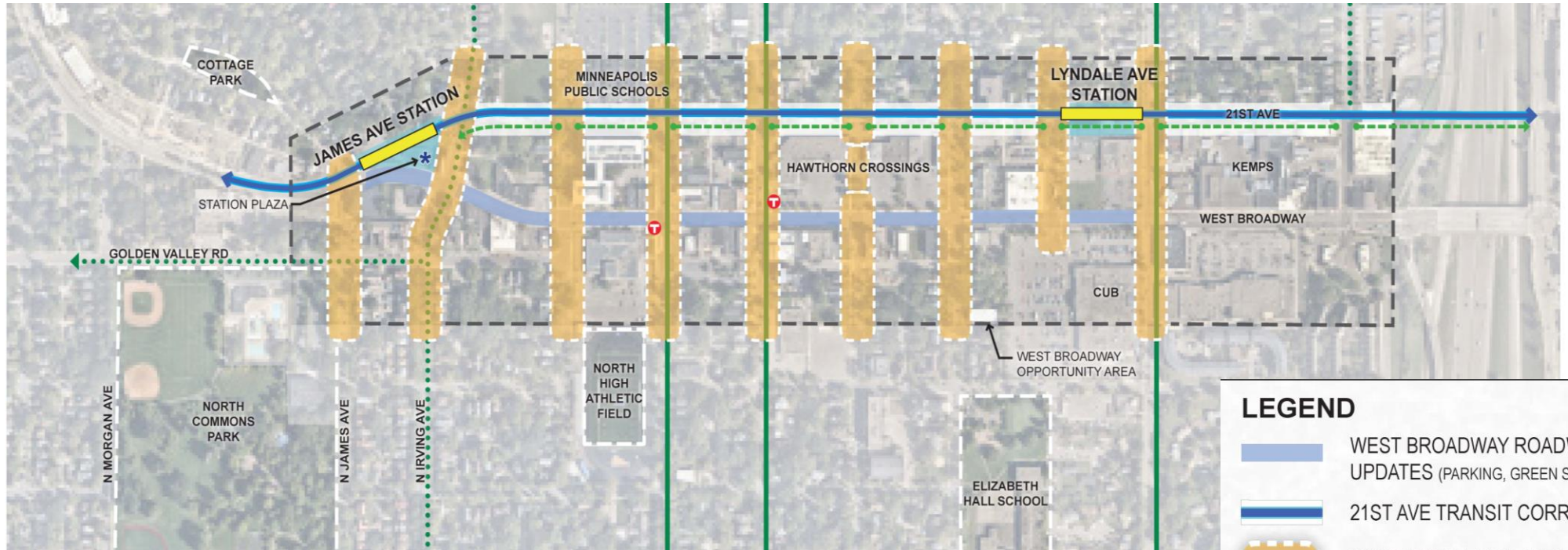
Penn Avenue Station



The Incubator Project



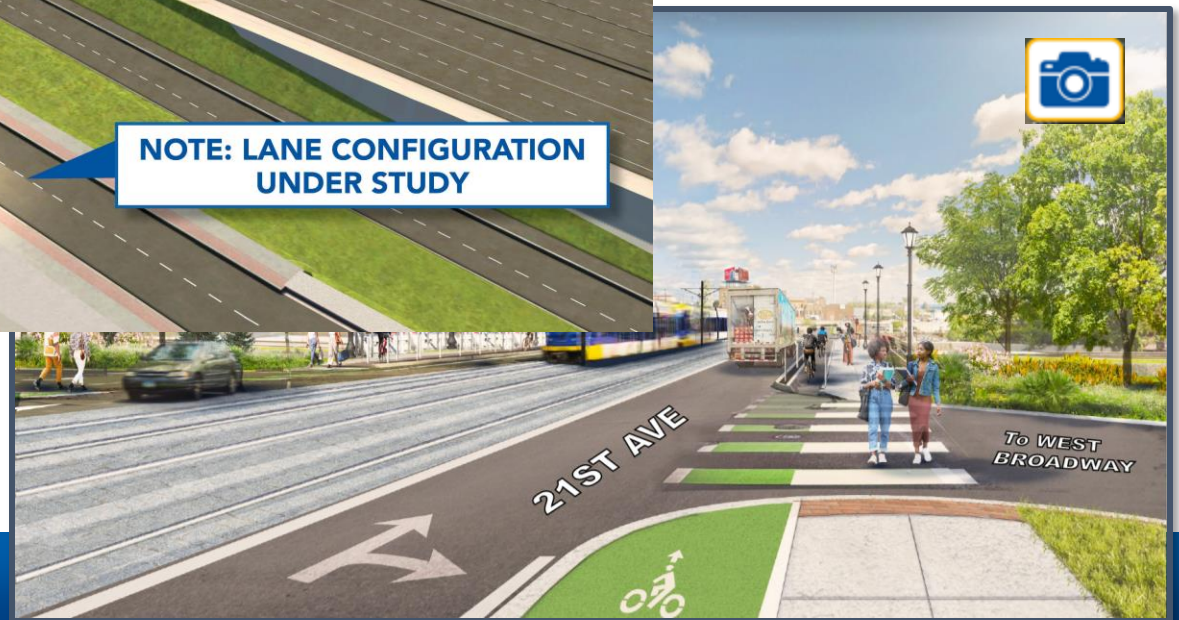
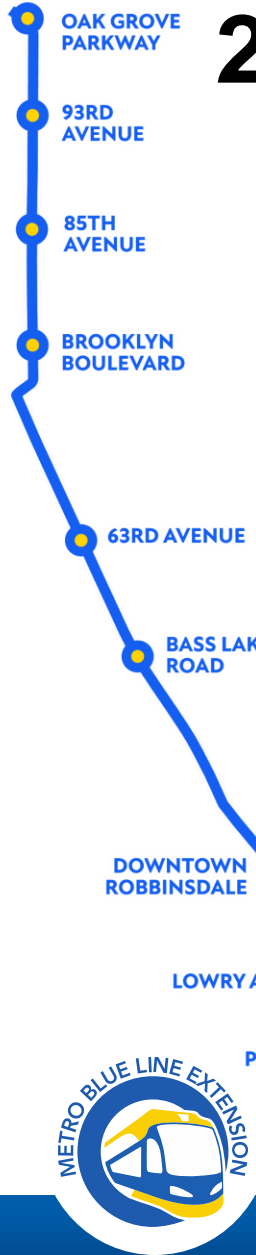
West Broadway and 21st Connections



LEGEND

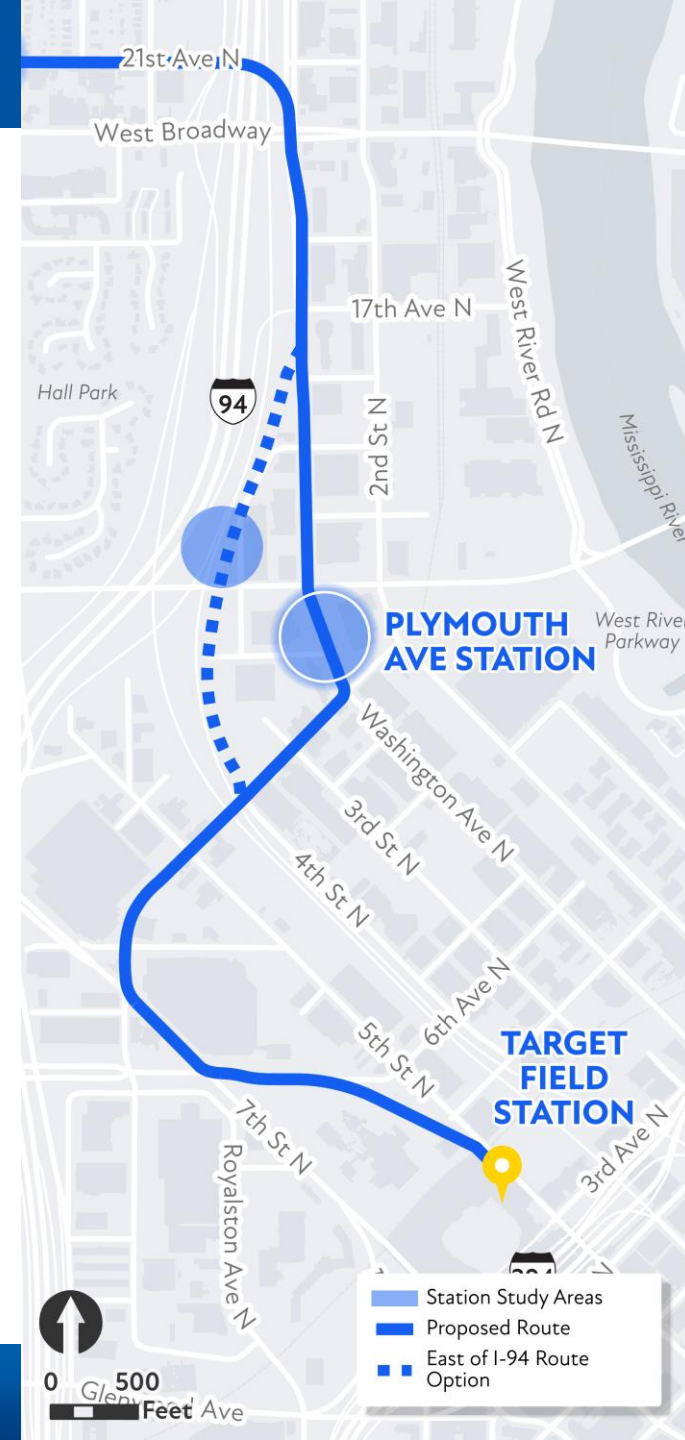
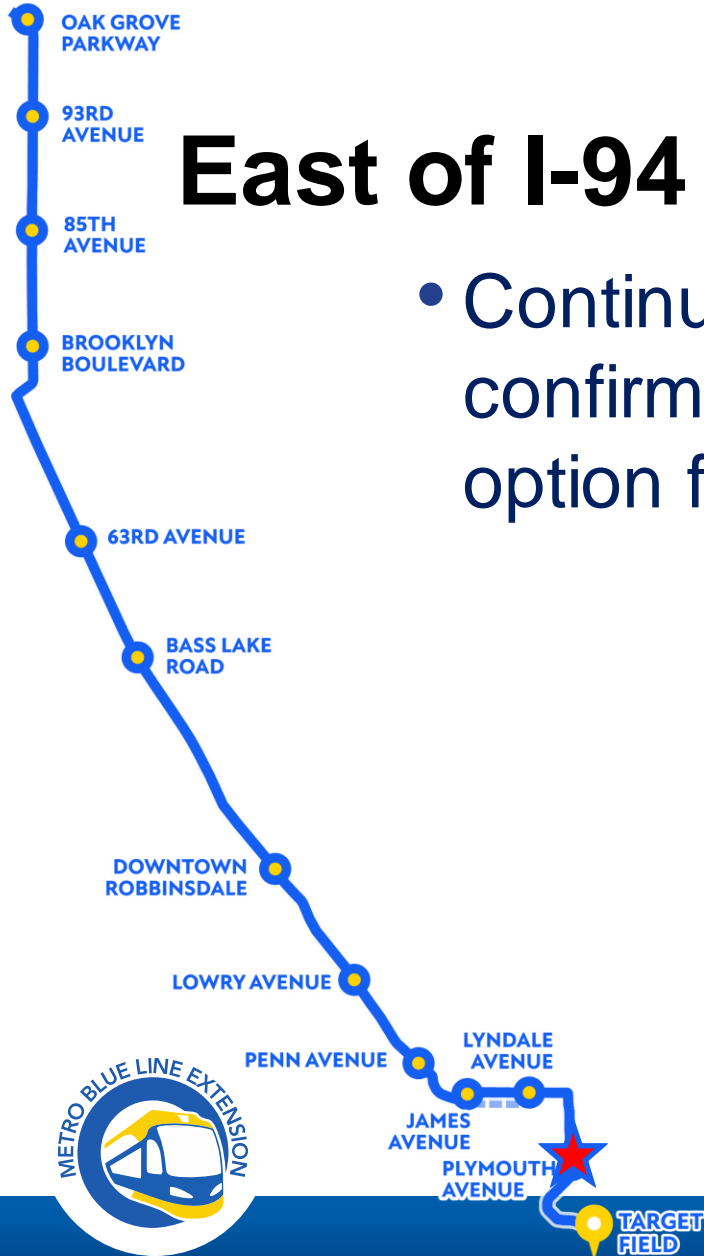
- WEST BROADWAY ROADWAY UPDATES (PARKING, GREEN SPACES, ETC.)
- 21ST AVE TRANSIT CORRIDOR
- COORIDOR STUDY AREA LINK
- PROJECT BICYCLE CONNECTIONS
- EXISTING BIKEWAY CONNECTIONS
- CITY PLANNED BIKEWAY CONNECTIONS
- METRO D LINE BRT

21st Avenue to Washington Ave Bridge over I-94



East of I-94 Track Alignment

- Continued outreach to confirm recommended option for East of I-94

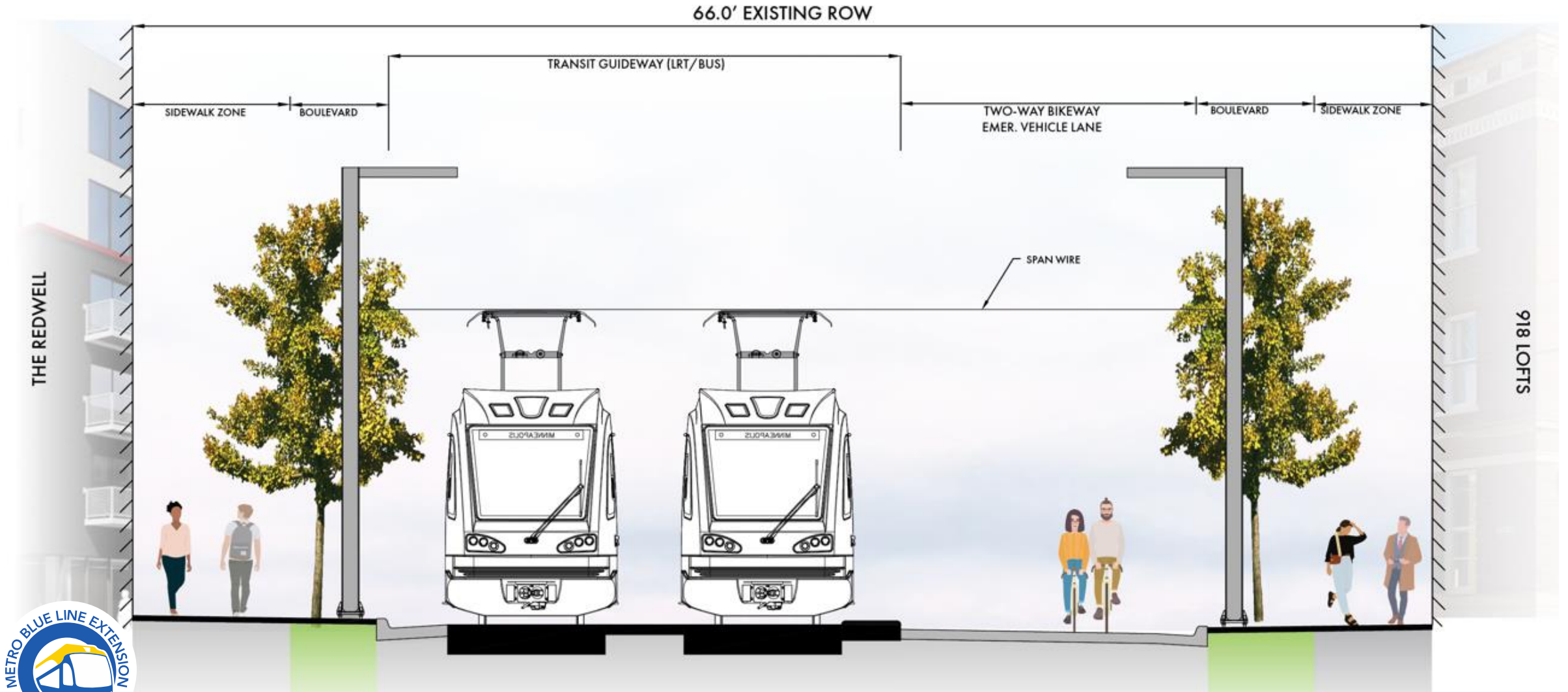


Plymouth Station on Washington Avenue, *looking South*

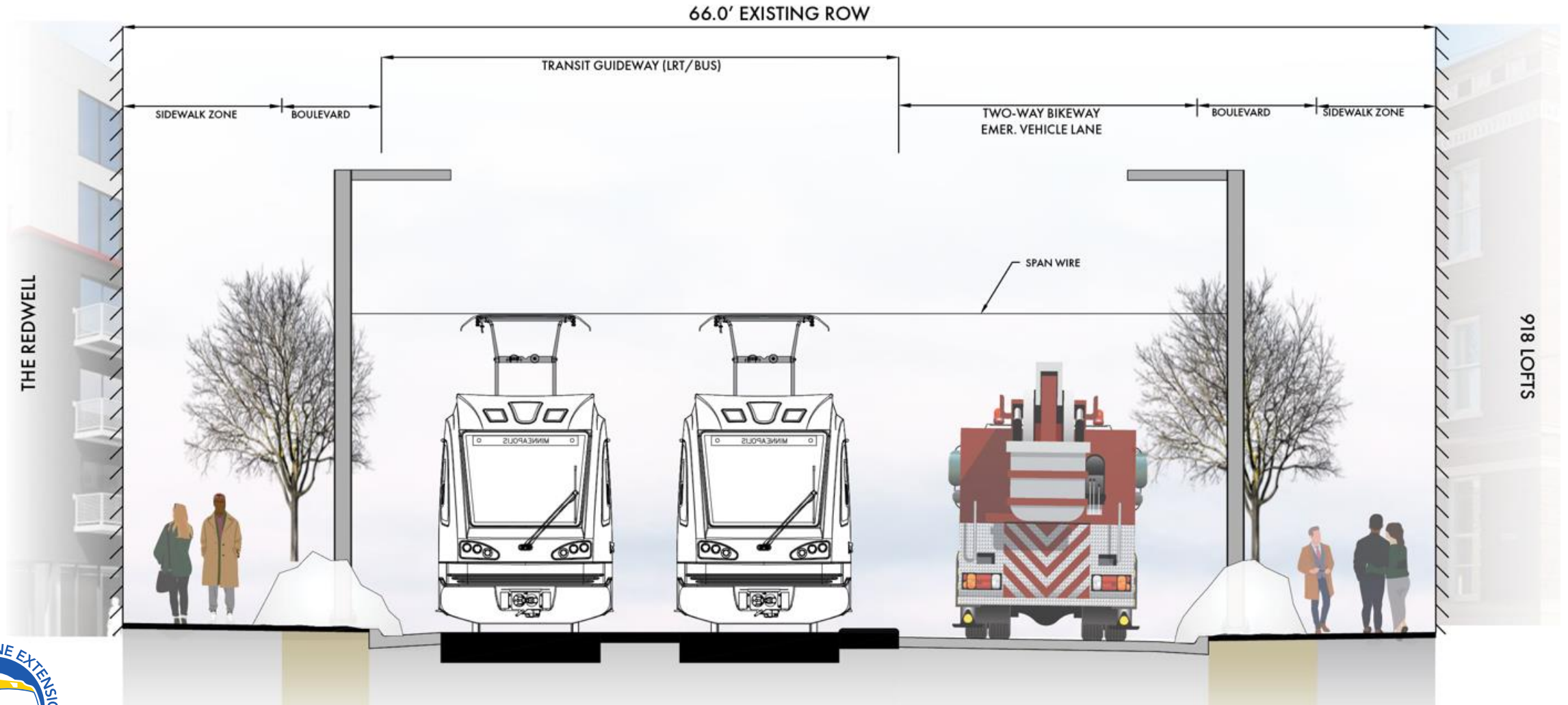


DRAFT CONCEPT

10th Ave: Transit Mall Option

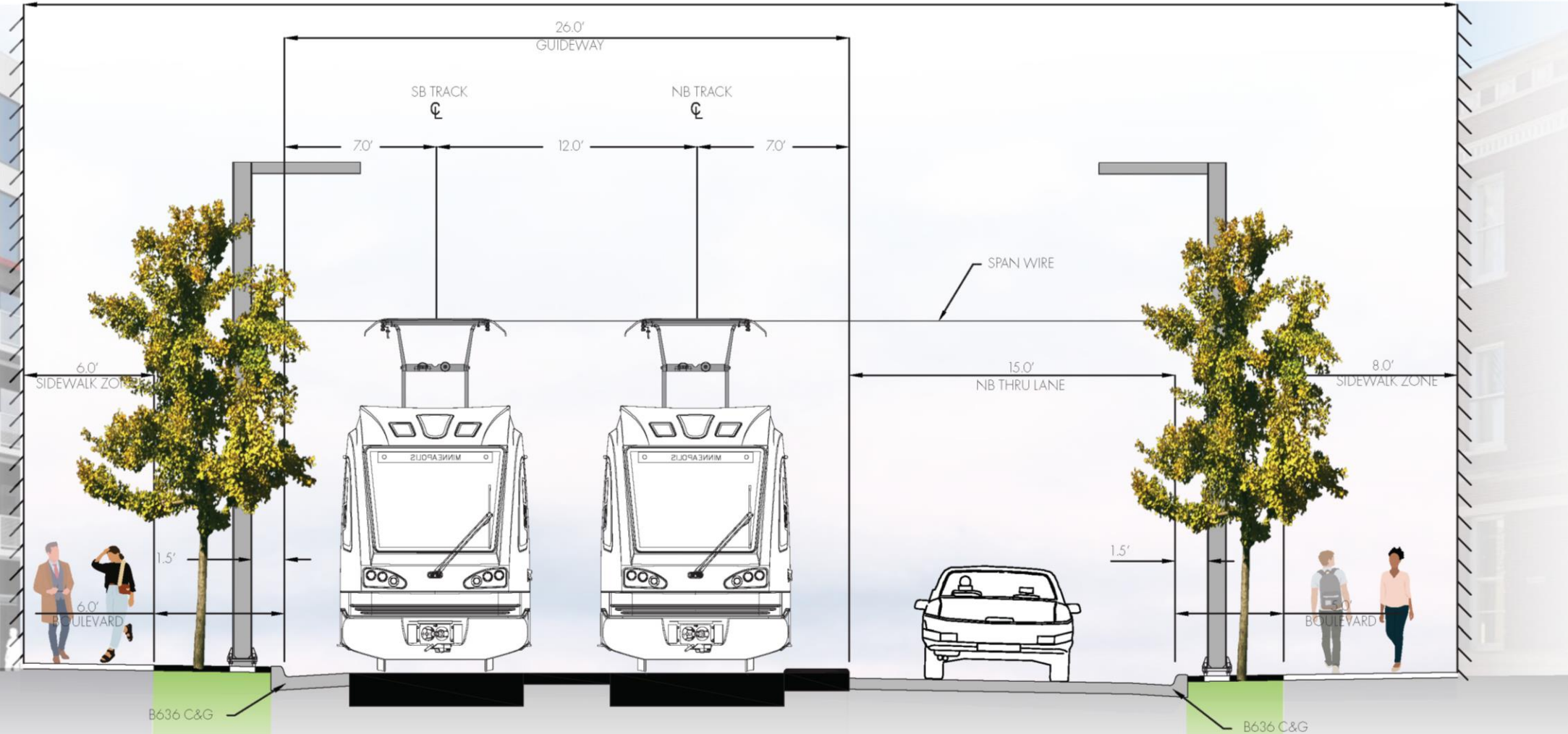


10th Ave: Transit Mall Option

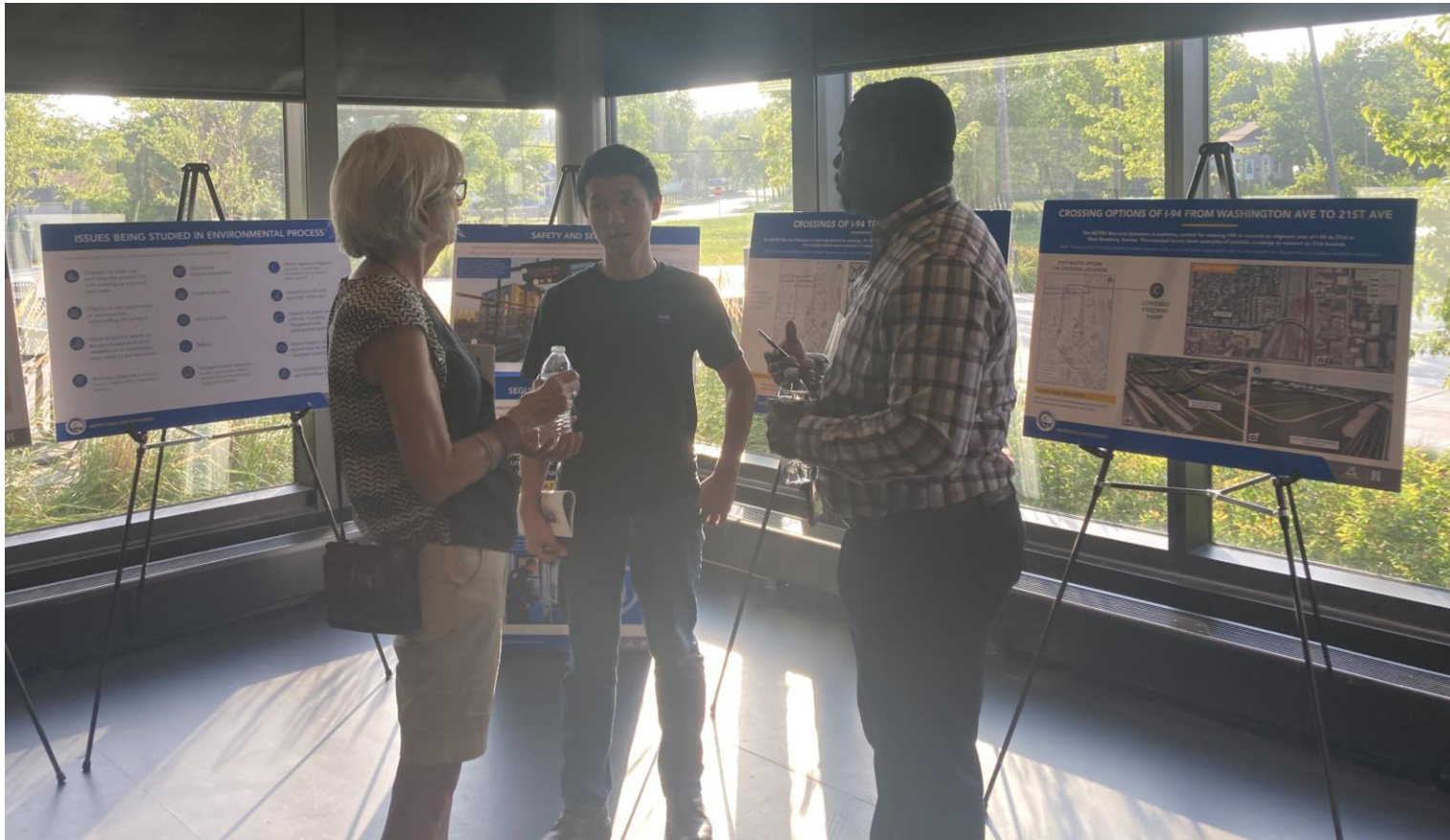


10th Ave: One-way Northbound

66.0' EXISTING ROW



Community Outreach and Engagement Guides Blue Line Alignment Recommendation



Aug 23 Quarterly Corridor-Wide Meeting at the Capri Theater in Minneapolis incorporates formal presentation and Question & Answer session.



Questions?

- **BlueLineExt.org**
 - For the latest project updates and to sign up for our newsletter
 - Connect with staff for your questions or schedule a presentation
- Follow us:
 - Twitter: @BlueLineExt
 - Facebook: MetroBlueLineExtension



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