



METRO Blue Line Extension **Community Benefits**

How will the Blue Line Extension improve our communities?



The METRO Blue Line Extension will run from downtown Minneapolis to Brooklyn Park, connecting some of our region's most diverse communities to jobs, education, and opportunities. Its construction and operation present exciting opportunities to advance community visions for economic development, the environment, and streetscape that can help residents and businesses build wealth in place and improve quality of life.



METRO Blue Line Extension **Community Benefits**

- Jobs
- Schools
- Entertainment
- Equity
- Affordability
- Options
- Environment
- Landscaping
- Walkable
- Safety
- Comfort



Transit-Oriented Development

Transit in the Twin Cities has attracted development along its corridors over the past 17 years. In that time:

- 35% of regional development has occurred near transit corridors
- 20,500 multi-family housing units were built or have been approved for construction near light rail stations out of 34,200 total units



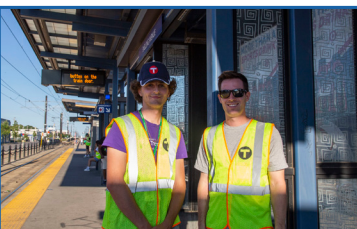
Environment Benefits

- Landscaping along light rail transit offers more stormwater infiltration opportunities and enhances the area with more green space in urban areas
- Electric-powered trains reduce pollution compared to gas-dependent vehicles
- Public health is improved by connecting people to quality health care and providing clean active transportation options



Streetscape Improvements

- Street furniture, bicycle parking, landscaping and other amenities will be provided along the corridor
- Land vacated for light rail can be used for additional green space and community-supported redevelopment
- Roads will be rebuilt from curb to curb, allowing for improvements to traffic design and utilities
- Pedestrian scale lighting provides safety and a more comfortable environment



Community Development

- The planning and construction of light rail requires many workers, generating thousands of jobs
- Small businesses can attract more employees and customers
- The project can provide tools such as forgivable loans, facade grants, training, and technical assistance to support corridor businesses during construction
- Metro Transit offers job training opportunities to help build a diverse work force



METRO Blue Line Extension Community Benefits

The Blue Line Extension will connect people to destinations and opportunities!



Brooklyn Park

Brooklyn Park offers regional employment and education destinations that are complemented by a thriving immigrant-owned business community.



North Hennepin Community College (NHCC)

NHCC is an affordable community college with programs that fit a variety of lifestyles and interests.



Bass Lake Road

Bass Lake Road and Becker Park in Crystal offer an enhanced streetscape experience for pedestrians and businesses and have become destinations for neighbors to come together.



Downtown Robbinsdale

West Broadway Avenue in Robbinsdale offers a small-town feel with shopping districts, local restaurants, parks and trails. The Blue Line Extension knits together multiple commercial intersections along the historic Main Street.



North Memorial Health Hospital

Having North Memorial Medical Center on the line offers a new connection for its 6,000 current and future employees and improved regional access to world-class health care.



Downtown Minneapolis

Downtown Minneapolis is anchored by pedestrian-centered Nicollet Mall, the tallest building in Minnesota, the IDS Tower, and eight miles of skyway. It is the city's main business district and connects the Twin Cities metro area by transit.



Brooklyn Park Library

The location that opened in 2016 with new art and meeting rooms offers a wide range of spaces and services in a beautiful building twice as large as the previous library.



West Broadway

West Broadway is a main artery of North Minneapolis, home to iconic Northside institutions and beloved Black-owned businesses.



Minneapolis North Loop

Built in the historic Warehouse District, residents and visitors come here for sports, nightlife, restaurants, and shopping.



Minneapolis - Saint Paul (MSP) Airport

MSP is one of the busiest and largest airports in the midwest. It is located 10 miles south of Minneapolis and 10 miles south of Saint Paul, connecting residents of the Twin Cities to locations around the world.



Mall of America

Recognized as the largest shopping and entertainment complex in the United States and one of the most visited tourist attractions on the globe, the Mall of America has more than 500 stores, 60 restaurants, an amusement park, and more.



Downtown Saint Paul

Saint Paul, the capital of Minnesota, is rich with culture between its great restaurants, museums, theaters, sports venues, and parks. You can get to Saint Paul by making a quick connection from the Blue Line to the Green Line in Downtown Minneapolis.

Stay Connected!



For project questions or to invite us to an event, contact: BLEOutreach@metrotransit.org

Visit BlueLineExt.org for more information, to sign-up for the project newsletter, and view upcoming events

Where will you go?