



Table Comments

METRO Blue Line LRT Extension (BLRT)

5514 West Broadway Avenue, Suite 200, Crystal, MN 55428 www.bluelineext.org

Brooklyn Park Community Meeting – March 5, 2015

All comments are recorded verbatim from flipcharts used at discussion tables. No grammatical, word choice changes or spelling has been corrected. If handwriting is unclear, then correct spelling is used and the most contextual word choice is assumed or marked illegible. Any personal identifiable information, if provided, has been deleted from these comments

Table Comments 01

(1) LIKES/DISLIKES ABOUT WEST BROADWAY TODAY

LIKES

- 4 lane
- Speed down 45 → 35 (on project)
- Like rural feel (non urban)

DISLIKES

- Traffic controls off – timing off
- No consistent speed along stretch
- No pedestrian or bike area – hard to see them
- No lights
- Not viewed as safe for children as currently is
- Noise from traffic –radios –trucks (wheels)
- Old beat-up road

(2) PROPOSED CHANGES

LIKE

- More consistent –speed –lanes

Other ideas

- Sidewalk one side (6f)
- Bike trail other (10f)



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- Would there be fences for homes on LTR line

DISLIKE

- Don't see how current traffic would support system
- Like a 2-lane system more (instead of like thru-way)
- NO lights for street
- Worried about cut-through traffic
- Crossings of LTR only at signals
- What are the plans to sync w/Met Council 2040 Projection

(3) WHAT DO WE WANT TO SAY TO PEOPLE INVOLVED?

- Not opposed, but want sound barrier, lighting (to help lower crime). Basically, okay w/positives, and great way to make city better. Make sure negatives mitigated.
- Rustic feel important
- Multi-use trails more useful
- Work w/Park/Rec to make beautification more low maintenance and more natural sustainable habitat.

- LOW COST LOW TAX \$\$
- Fences to keep-out rif raf and keep yards private, lessen noises
- Timing of lights important - Hit one green light → hit all
- Lights for safety at night

(4) IMPORTANT TO YOU

- Need to be able to drive fast enough to get where we need, but not so slow it takes forever to get places
 - Can we do pine trees?
 - Not feel like Hwy 169
 - LIMIT NOISE! In residential
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Table Comment 02

1.) LIKES/DISLIKES ABOUT WEST BROADWAY TODAY

- Like today – Speed/residential neighborhood/no stop signs/connects to 610/central transit corridor.
- Dislike – too narrow/difficult for peds & bikes/no. of 85th – narrows on N.B./too fast/turn lane issues.

2.) LIKES/DISLIKES ABOUT PROPOSED CHANGES

- Small footprint than 294/4 lane → better throughout/trail system both sides/added curb/wider footprint → safety plus
- Safety barrier/2 lane → diverting traffic into neighborhoods to avoid bottleneck/lack of sound protection/why LRT on Bdwy?/2 lane under design for traffic volume/LRT → traffic delays/need to compress construction timeframe.

3.) WANT DECISION MAKERS TO KNOW

- Park & rides needed – esp @ 85th
- Hide & Ride (H&R)
- Mail service could be restricted due to H&R/driveway access
- Noise issues – need barriers of some kind.
- Construction project hrs.
- Hours of operation for train
- Stormwater/snow removal issues/rainwater gardens
- Assessment issues for property owners
- Public safety issues – crime where is doesn't exist today

4.) MOST IMPORTANT

- Reduce construction timeframe
- Delay project start
- Sound mitigation for construction
- Ongoing maintenance issues
- Curb appeal to be kept a plus
- Impact to BP Evangelical Free Church



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Table Comment 03

1. LIKES BEST [ABOUT WEST BROADWAY TODAY]

- Mature trees
- Open feel
- Walk across W. Broadway
- Good access all along (both ways)

DISLIKE [ABOUT WEST BROADWAY TODAY]

- Lack of sidewalks and trails (sidewalks ending)
- Intersection at Candlewood (no left turn)
- Unattractive (73rd to 93rd) whole stretch
- Road in bad shape
- U turns @ 85th and Maplebrook

2. LIKE ABOUT PROPOSED CHANGES

- Reduced speed limit
- Trails
- Sidewalks
- New roadway
- Landscaping
- Think 4 lanes needed for traffic (4' to go to 2 lanes not worth it)
- Saves more homes over previous options
- Encourage development
- Signalized @ College Park Drive Way
- Get light rail

DISLIKE ABOUT PROPOSED

- Berm will be lost @ Maplebrook – flooding concerns
- Loss of mature trees
- Noise
- Vibration
- Loss of property value (some think it might increase)
- Hide 'n Ride (parking in neighborhoods)



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- Loss of left turns at side roads

3. WHAT DECISION MAKERS NEED TO KNOW

- Construction impacts to traffic and businesses
- Need for berms replaced (Noise, minimize foot traffic, safety to homes)
- Fire, police, EMS access
- Skyway access Maplebrook to library
- Compensation to homeowners, not just HOA
- A lot of us are excited about Light Rail coming
- Resolved that it is coming, some are excited it is coming – but need to keep listening to public concerns
- Excited at prospect of going all the way to airport
- Need minority input
- Schedule needs 24/7
- Need public transit
- Other cities/countries – Transit is slick.
- Be aware of assessments

4. MOST IMPORTANT

- Property values
- A good transportation system
- Need for barrier/buffer
- Noise/vibration
- Bringing in business/improves tax base
- Maintenance for future
- Hide 'n Ride concerns
- Access to library

Table Comment 04

LIKES [ABOUT WEST BROADWAY TODAY]

- Alternative to 169 going north
- Access to businesses near Brooklyn Blvd.
- Like it the way it is
- Haven't paid attention to sidewalks



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- Like existing sidewalks in summer

DISLIKES [ABOUT WEST BROADWAY TODAY]

- Maplebrook turning left to NB W. Broadway tough w/traffic. Doesn't even try.
- Same for SB (anytime crossing traffic – left turns)
- Trying to use right turn lane as bypass lane around cars waiting to turn left.
- Full out potholes (rough) – 85th to Candlewood
- Noise now – too much traffic
- No traffic light @ 74th
- Unsafe for peds to cross @ bus stop
- Too long of stretch of cards – impossible for cross traffic to turn to W. Broadway
- Speed limit too high
- Not enough lanes now
- Lane shifts suddenly by 93rd (after gas station) – jogs to the left
- Needs traffic light @ Maplebrook Pkwy.
- Traffic lights @ 4-way stop

2. LIKES [ABOUT PROPOSED]

- Like narrower, to reduce property
- 4 lanes options

DISLIKES [ABOUT PROPOSED]

- Lots of U-turns
- Dangerous to go across tracks
- Correct 85th Pkwy
- Don't like light rail on W. Broadway
- Oppose LRT in all forms
- 74th is cut through – concerned about safety w/traffic

3. WANT DECISION MAKERS TO KNOW

- Can the Setzler farmstead be preserved?
- Are trees ripped out? Been there forever.
- Concerned about safety w/right in only.
- Appreciate taking public comment & listening. Last summer, what you heard was recognized.



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- Changes were made?
 - Want more info about noise & vibration impacts... When is that coming?
 - Want info about taxes or property value impacts. Property values up!!!!
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Table Comment 05

1. CURRENT DISLIKES

- No sidewalks
- Need better intersections
- No rt turn lanes
- Congestion: Needs to be widened N of 85th @ 93rd
- Timing of pedestrian “walk” signal too short

2. LIKES/DISLIKES [ABOUT PROPOSED]

- LRT might remove some congestion.

Dislike:

- Don't know enough about it yet.
 - Park N Rides (?) Are there enough spots?
 - Getting in/out of neighborhoods
 - 2 lane option might be too much congestion
- Q →
- Are there multi family units planned to support LRT ridership?
 - Any planned expansion to Anoka?
 - Is Target expansion going to ↑ traffic
 - Will LRT replace bus service
 - Will there be walls or noise mitigation put in place > or for safety?
 - Crime? Will it increase?
 - Will sewer size increase? Drainage issues.
 - What happens to the electric lines? Will they go underground.

3. WANT DECISION MAKERS TO KNOW

1. The 4 lane should be the only option.
 - Do we need to worry about vibration?



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- BLRT should be a priority over SWLRT (we shouldn't have to wait).
 - Will the platforms be covered?
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Table Comment 06

1A. [LIKES ABOUT WEST BROADWAY TODAY]

- Not much
- Like having the road
- Access – stores, connections
- 4 lane section good, 2 lanes not so good
- 45–50 mph → better flow & travel time
- Not a lot of stop lights on the above 85th N–half
- Like sidewalks @ S end → some people don't have cars.

1B. [DISLIKES ABOUT WEST BROADWAY TODAY]

- Traffic volume
- Traffic noise → vibration → possibly quality of roadway?
- “Country Road” at N end
- 93rd intersection layout → can't use space for turns
- No way to cross at Shingle Creek Bridge
- Lack of pedestrian & bike facilities
- Volume of traffic makes it hard to get on W. Broadway
- Traffic growth
- Lighting (lack of – Esp. N–end)
- Emergency traffic & getting out of their way
- Random nature of existing fences

2A. [LIKES ABOUT PROPOSED]

- Like that the improvement is narrower
- Potential for landscaping
- Continuous bike/ped path
- Separated bike/ped path from roadway



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2B. [DISLIKES ABOUT PROPOSED]

- Why are paths so wide (10'). (Could be narrower) – to increase greenspace
- Would prefer some sort of privacy barrier
- Don't know how much they are being impacted
- Understanding the transit decision-making process → Why LRT vs. BRT?
- Noise
- 35 mph speed limit (prefer 40–45 mph)
- Buses & traffic flow – esp. 2-lane
- Train (LRT) traffic in shopping areas
- Frequency of trains
- Ability (or lack thereof) to make lefts or rights across tracks
- Target layoffs/cost cutting – does this affect the decision – shouldn't it?
- Why not 169 or 81

3. WANT DECISION MAKERS TO KNOW

- Don't do it
- Go back and reconsider BRT
- How is this cost effective (cost per rider)
- Ridership → How much is people “stealing” rides? Those kind of individuals may be willing to steal in neighborhood.
- People are getting meeting fatigue, getting stressed and still not knowing what's going to happen.
- Is there a target-specific ridership analysis BRT vs. LRT?
- Stay on 81 /BNSF → bus people to them.
- Does LRT bring in more buses
- What is going to be done to improve the road now – before LRT & the final road?

4. MOST IMPORTANT

- How long will road be closed?
- What is impact on local businesses?
- Property values
- Crime & Safety
- Trains running at night
- Get it done



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Table Comment 07

- If the Blue line goes on West Broadway – please minimize as much impact on owners. 2 lane is good, but there is concern with increased congestion.
- Where is the parking going to be. We do not want people parking on residential side streets.
- Concern that decisions are being made by decision-makers that do not live on West Broadway so are not directly or personally affected by the LRT.
- Concerns: huge * intrusion into residential life, home life
- Decision to put it on W. Broadway w/out community input.
- Strong feelings/expressions/opinions on the corridor choice
 - Why were alternatives not looked at more?
 - Why is destroying residential areas “better” than going thru commercial areas (i.e. Hwy 81)
 - Seems “convenient” to go on W. Broadway.
 - Property devaluation based on location of the train.
 - Can we eliminate or reduce the trails to save space?
 - Use a sidewalk instead?
 - Go from 10 ft to 8 ft?
- Positive – increase in transportation options will bring extra companies and extra jobs to Brooklyn Park.
- Can we have very open communication on when meetings are happening and be able to do/give public input?
 - Make it EASY to find
 - High lite signs?
 - Flyers?
 - Emails?
 - TV or radio announcement?
- Minimize noise as much as possible
- We are good w/progress, but not through our backyards or houses.
 - – 2 lanes = less space/intrusion on life
- Get more input and community meetings from east & central district residents.
- Concern about an increase in crime due to more people in a residential area.
- Concern of children safety getting on or too close to LRT.