



Corridor Management Committee

April 9, 2015



Today's Topics

- Advisory Committees
- Technical Issue #4: Plymouth Ave/Golden Valley Road Station staff recommendation
- Technical Issue #7: Bass Lake Road Station staff recommendation
- Technical Issue #9A: Brooklyn Boulevard Station/73rd Ave Crossing staff recommendation
- Technical Issue #10: West Broadway Update
- Environmental Update



Advisory Committees



BLRT Advisory Committees Update

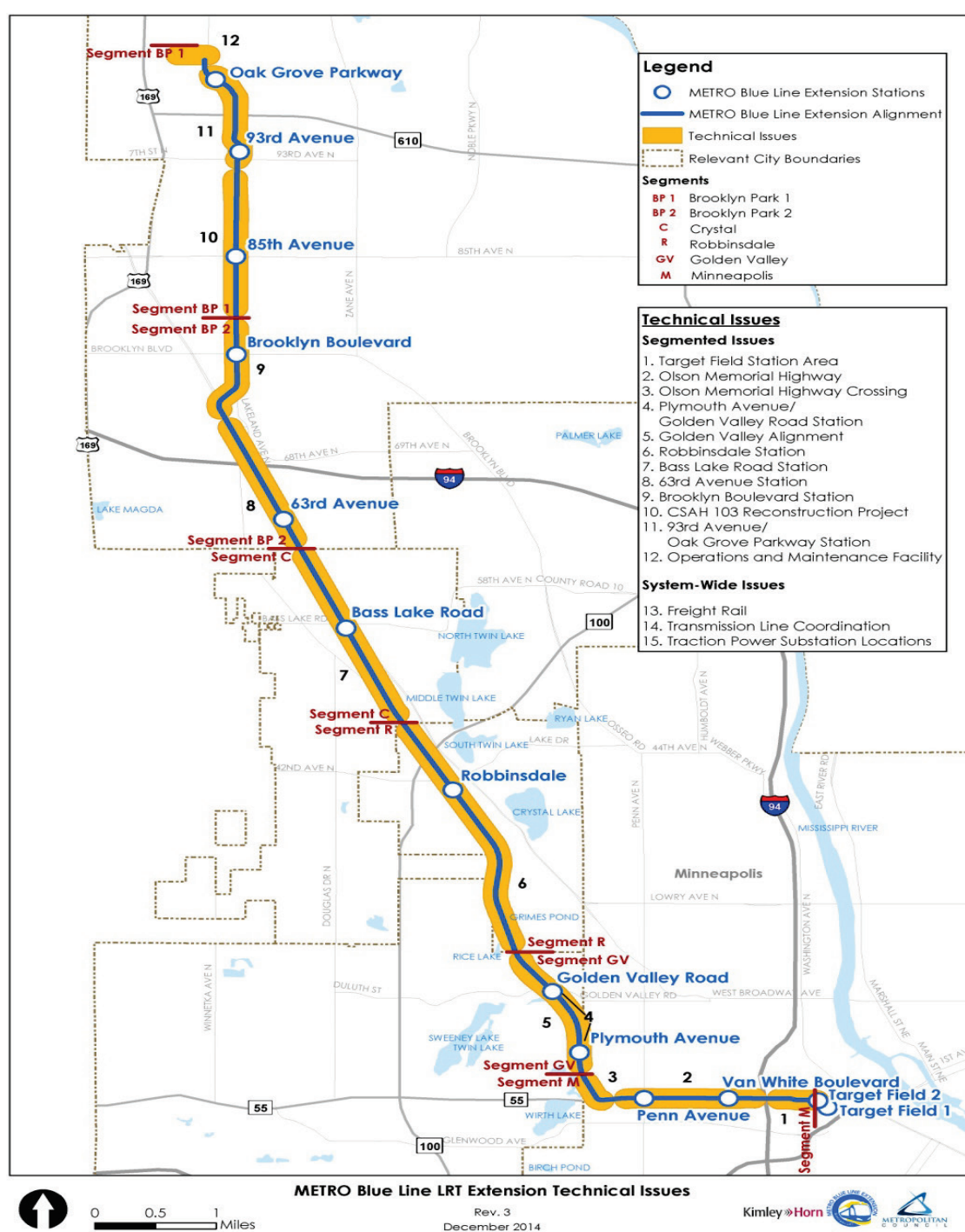
- Technical Project Advisory Committee: March 27
- Communication Steering Committee: March 30
- Business and Community Advisory Committees:
 - Joint meeting kick-off date: April 15
 - Topics: welcome/introductions, project overview, introduction of project staff, roles/responsibilities and resources, Hennepin County Community Works overview and a 2015 look ahead
 - Anticipate regular meetings to be held the first week of each month



Technical Issue Update



Technical Issues



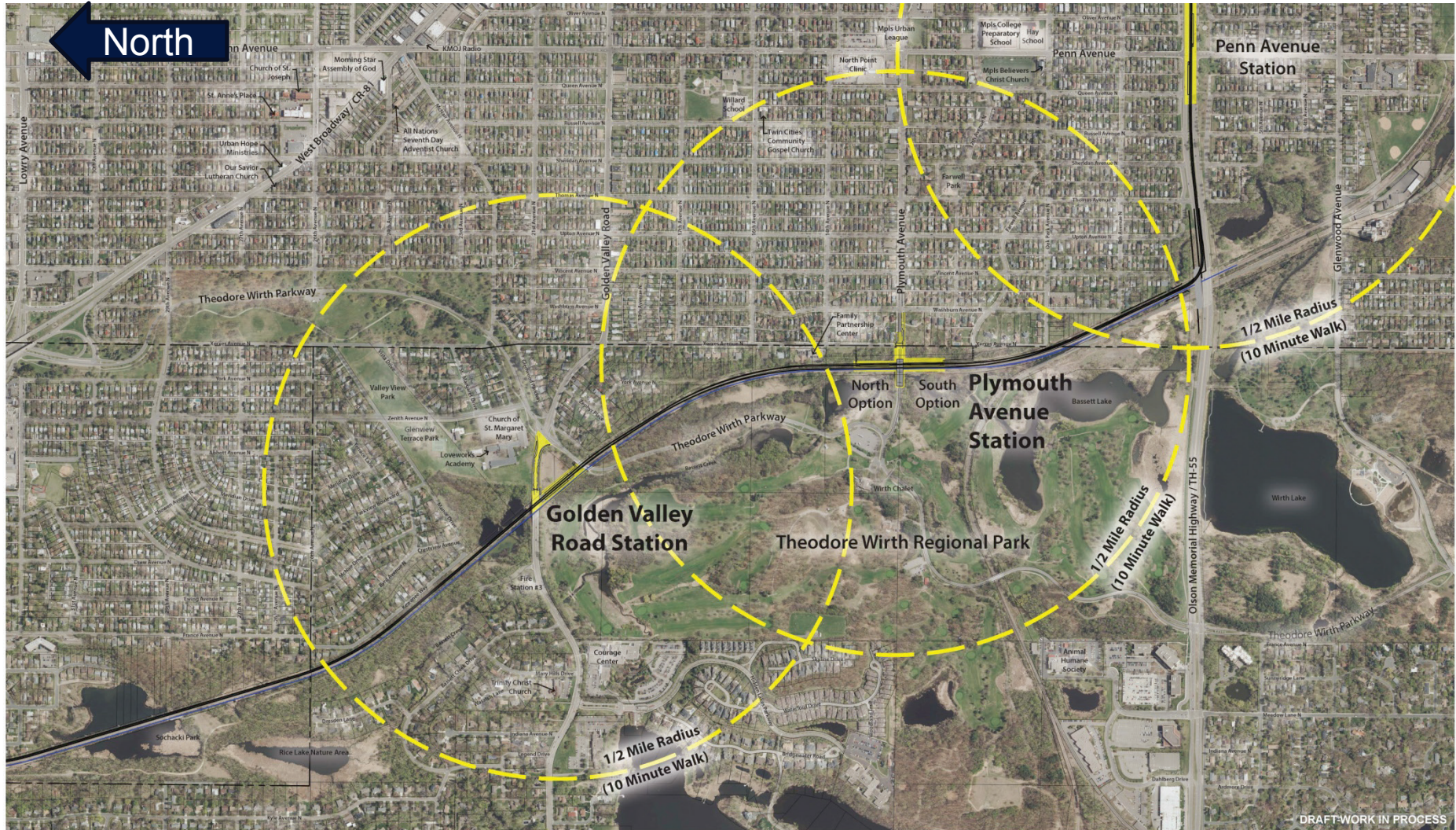
Technical Issue #4: Plymouth Ave/Golden Valley Rd Stations



Feb 26 Golden Valley Rd/Plymouth Ave Stations Community Meeting



Technical Issue #4



Technical Issue #4: Plymouth Ave/Golden Valley Road Station Recommendation

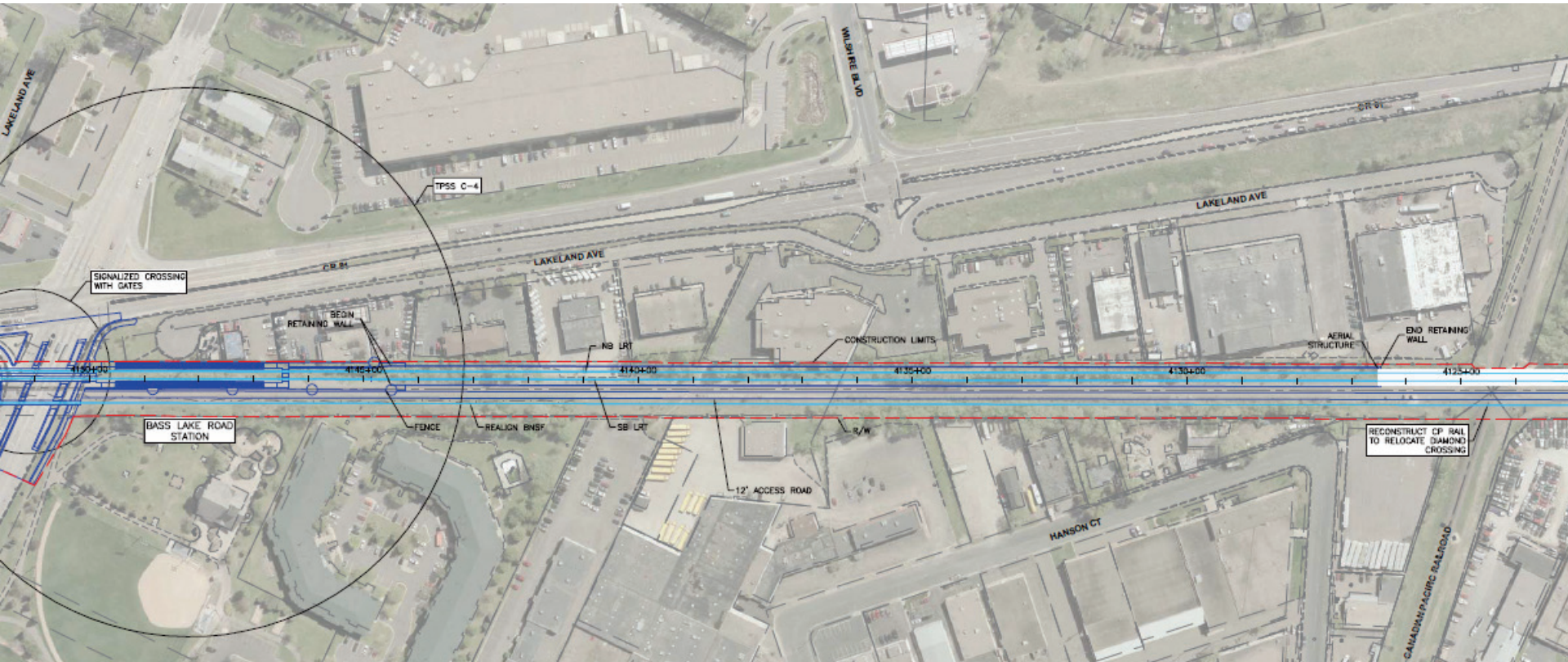
- Both stations consistent with DEIS; only 1 in cost estimate
- Continue to advance engineering and environmental analysis at both stations
 - Floodplains and wetlands
 - Noise and vibration
 - Cultural resources
 - Parking
 - Impacts to parkland
- Decision to include one or both will be part of scope and budget decision later in 2015



Technical Issue #7: Bass Lake Road Station Update



Technical Issue #7: Bass Lake Road Station from DEIS



Technical Issue #7:

Bass Lake Road Station from DEIS

- Platform located near Bass Lake Rd
- No passenger drop-off area
- LRT at-grade crossing

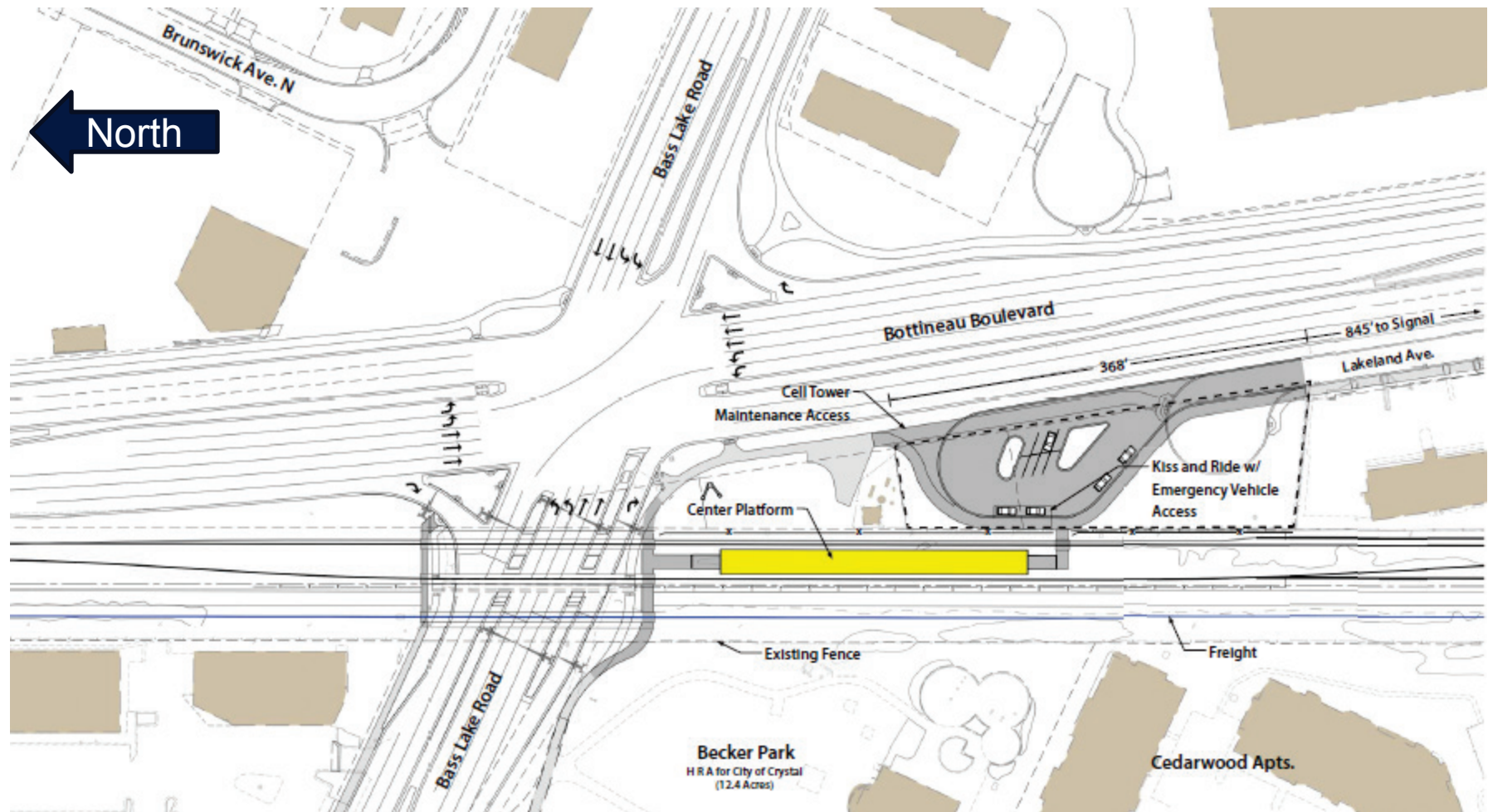


Technical Issue #7: Issues to be Resolved

- Bass Lake Rd station access via all modes
 - Explore shifting DEIS station location further south
 - Explore potential site for passenger drop off on Lakeland
 - Determine pedestrian, bus and bicycle access to station
- Traffic operations at Bass Lake Rd
 - Conduct traffic modeling
 - Analyze grade separation at Bass Lake Rd



Technical Issue #7: Bass Lake Rd Station



Technical Issue #7: Bass Lake Rd Station

Table 2 - CSAH 81/ Bass Lake Road P.M. Peak Operations

Approach	VISSIM Modeling Level of Service (LOS) Results		
	Existing No Build	Existing Build*	Existing Build* + 40% Traffic Growth and Signal Phasing Improvements
Northbound	C	D	D
Southbound	C	D	D
Eastbound	C	D	D
Westbound	D	F	D **
Overall Intersection	C	D	D

*Build assumes LRT at-grade with 10-minute headways and station south of Bass Lake Rd

**With signal timing adjustments, traffic operations can be improved over existing build condition



Technical Issue #7:

Bass Lake Rd Station Recommendation

- Retain DEIS station location
- Continued coordination with City of Crystal regarding at-grade crossing of Bass Lake Road:
 - Potential site for passenger drop off
 - Pedestrian, bus, and bicycle access to station
- Consistent with DEIS and budget



Technical Issue #9A: Brooklyn Boulevard Station/ 73rd Ave Crossing

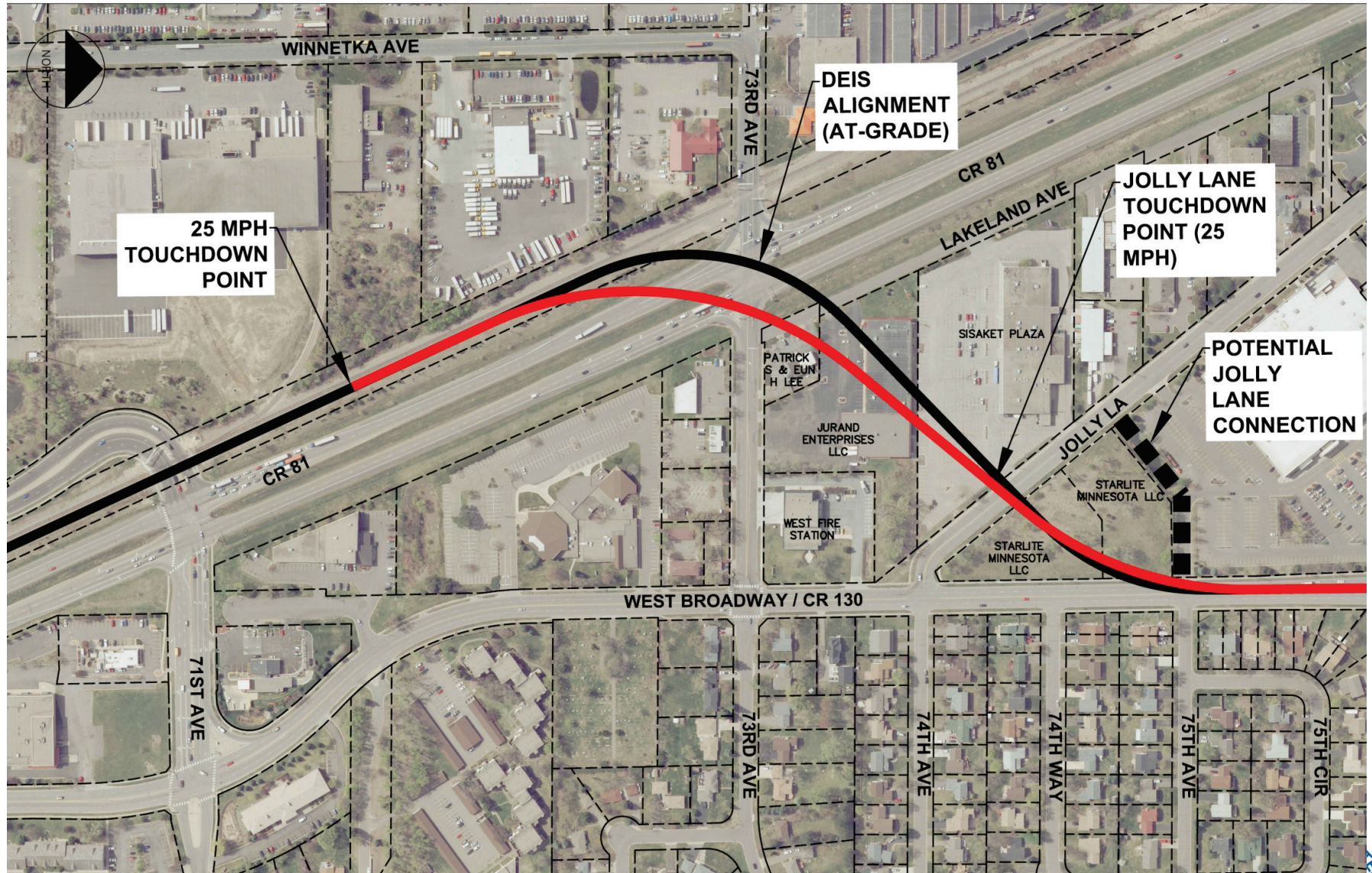


Technical Issue #9A: 73rd Ave and County Road 81 Crossing Issues For Resolution

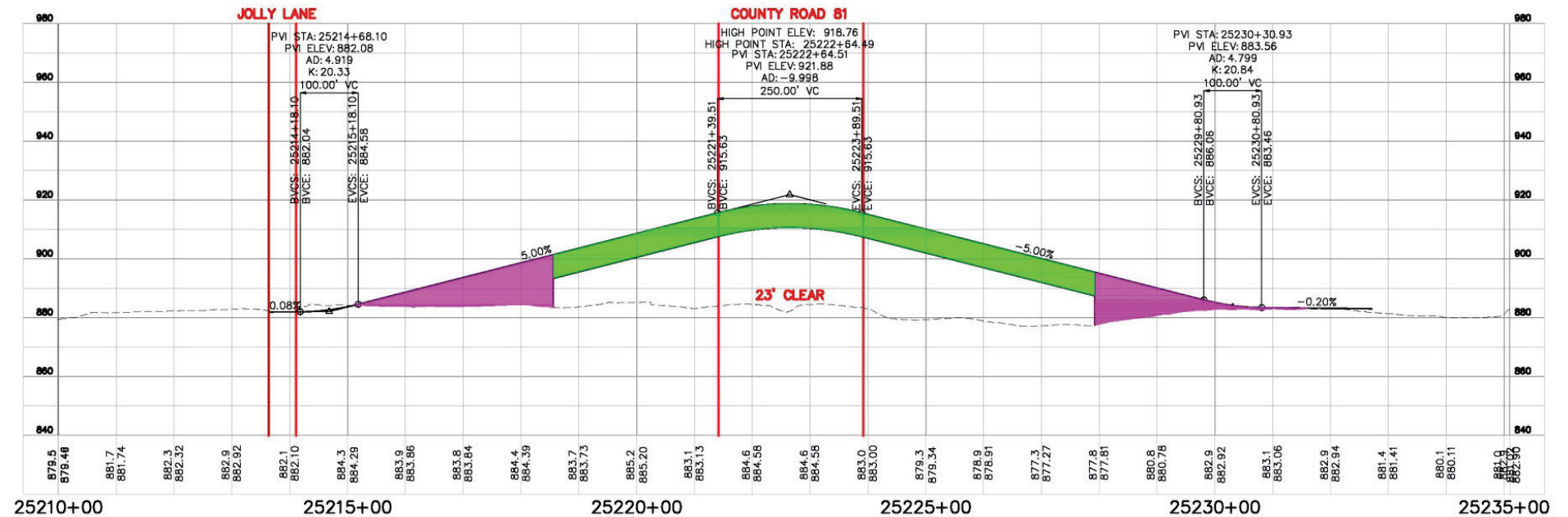
- LRT crossing of 73rd Ave and County Road 81
 - DEIS assumed LRT at-grade crossing of County Road 81 at 73rd Ave
 - DEIS traffic information showed acceptable traffic operations



Technical Issue #9A: 73rd Ave Crossing



Technical Issue #9A: 73rd Ave Crossing with LRT Elevated



Technical Issue #9A: 73rd Ave At-Grade Crossing Traffic Analysis

Approach	VISSIM Modeling LOS Results		
	Existing No Build	Existing Build*	Existing Build * + 60% Traffic Growth
Northbound	B	B	C
Southbound	B	B	B
Eastbound	D	D	D
Westbound	E	E	E
Overall Intersection	B	C	C

* Assumes 6 lanes on CR 81



Technical Issue #9A: 73rd Ave and County Road 81 Crossing Recommendation

- Intersection operates at LOS B today, only drops to LOS C in build conditions
- DEIS assumed gated crossing and signal preemption, but at 7.5-minute headways
- Traffic modeling updated to 10-minute headways and volumes increased as a sensitivity test



Technical Issue #9A: 73rd Ave and County Road 81 Crossing Recommendation

- Retain DEIS at-grade crossing of County Road 81 at 73rd Ave
- Consistent with DEIS and budget



Technical Issue #10: West Broadway Update



March 19 W. Broadway Community Meeting

- 150 attendees
- Project overview presentation and six topic areas
 - Road and LRT design elements
 - Pedestrian and bike design elements
 - Property acquisition
 - Safety and security
 - Environmental review
 - Land use and economic development



March 19 W. Broadway Community Meeting

- What we heard:
 - Keep land acquisition to a minimum
 - More comments favor 4-lane design over 2-lane design
 - Concern about congestion with 2-lane design
 - Noise and vibration are primary environmental concerns
 - Better access, traffic signals at Maplebrook Parkway
 - Minimize traffic signals; keep traffic moving



April 7 W. Broadway Community Meeting

- ~ 60 attendees
- Presented staff recommendation for roadway design
- Open house on six topic areas:
 - Road and LRT design recommendation
 - Pedestrian and bike design elements
 - Property acquisition
 - Safety and security
 - Environmental review
 - Land use and economic development



Environmental Update

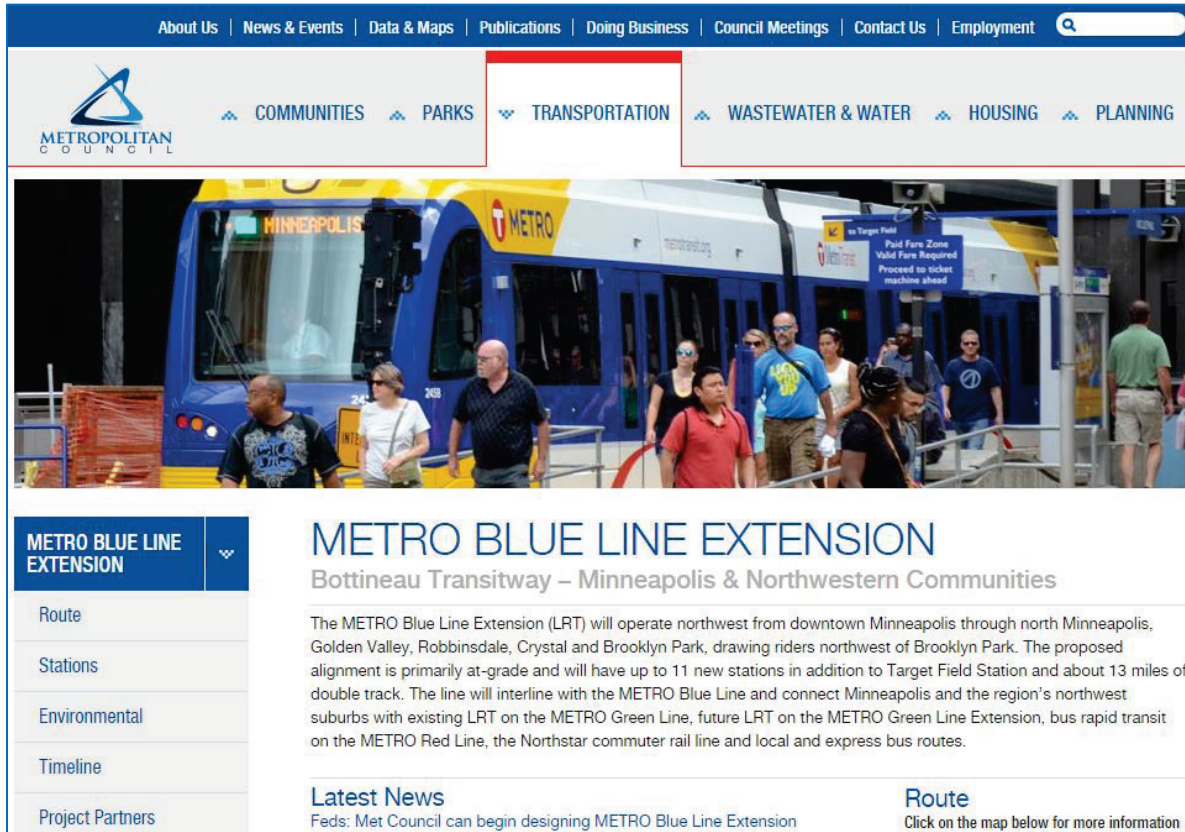


Environmental Update

- Coordination with key agencies is underway:
 - Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
 - Three Rivers Park District
 - State Historic Preservation Office
 - United States Army Corps of Engineers
 - MN Dept of Natural Resources
 - Wetlands Conservation Act entities (LGUs)
- Environmental coordination with engineering
 - Focused on completion of tech memos distributed to corridor stakeholders late 2015: noise, wetlands, floodplains, etc.



More Information



The screenshot shows the Metropolitan Council website with a navigation bar at the top containing links: About Us, News & Events, Data & Maps, Publications, Doing Business, Council Meetings, Contact Us, and Employment. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with categories: COMMUNITIES, PARKS, TRANSPORTATION (highlighted with a red border), WASTEWATER & WATER, HOUSING, and PLANNING. The main content area features a large photo of a blue and yellow METRO train at a station with passengers. Below the photo is a section titled "METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION" with a sub-header "Bottineau Transitway – Minneapolis & Northwestern Communities". A sidebar on the left lists links: Route, Stations, Environmental, Timeline, and Project Partners. The main text describes the project: "The METRO Blue Line Extension (LRT) will operate northwest from downtown Minneapolis through north Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park, drawing riders northwest of Brooklyn Park. The proposed alignment is primarily at-grade and will have up to 11 new stations in addition to Target Field Station and about 13 miles of double track. The line will interline with the METRO Blue Line and connect Minneapolis and the region's northwest suburbs with existing LRT on the METRO Green Line, future LRT on the METRO Green Line Extension, bus rapid transit on the METRO Red Line, the Northstar commuter rail line and local and express bus routes." Below the text are two sections: "Latest News" with the headline "Feds: Met Council can begin designing METRO Blue Line Extension" and "Route" with the text "Click on the map below for more information".

METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION
Bottineau Transitway – Minneapolis & Northwestern Communities

The METRO Blue Line Extension (LRT) will operate northwest from downtown Minneapolis through north Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park, drawing riders northwest of Brooklyn Park. The proposed alignment is primarily at-grade and will have up to 11 new stations in addition to Target Field Station and about 13 miles of double track. The line will interline with the METRO Blue Line and connect Minneapolis and the region's northwest suburbs with existing LRT on the METRO Green Line, future LRT on the METRO Green Line Extension, bus rapid transit on the METRO Red Line, the Northstar commuter rail line and local and express bus routes.

Latest News
Feds: Met Council can begin designing METRO Blue Line Extension

Route
Click on the map below for more information

Website: BlueLineExt.org

Email: BlueLineExt@metrotransit.org

Twitter: [@BlueLineExt](https://twitter.com/BlueLineExt)

