



# Corridor Management Committee

October 1, 2015



# Today's Topics

- Blue Line Coalition Overview
- Project Ridership Estimates
- Technical Issue #4: Golden Valley Rd and Plymouth Ave Stations
- Technical Issue #9: 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave Crossing
- Outreach Update
- Project Schedule



# Blue Line Coalition Overview



# Blue Line Coalition

In 2013, 16 organizations united around advocacy for the mutual benefit for all along the Blue Line Corridor. We are service providers, businesses, place-based and cultural organizations, historic communities of color, immigrants and refugees, migrants, people living with disabilities, and low-income communities along the Blue Line Corridor.

# Our Mission is

to build community-based power to advance local and regional equity and community health by securing community benefits, changing policies and systems to support the creation of wealth and well-being of historic communities of color, immigrant/refugees, migrants, people living with disabilities and low-income communities along the Blue Line Corridor.

# Blue Line Coalition

## Our Purpose

1. To advance local and regional equity and community health
2. To secure community benefits, change policies and systems
3. Support the creation of wealth and well-being of historic communities of color, immigrant/refugees, migrants, people living with disabilities and low-income communities along the Blue Line Corridor.

## What is it?

- Formed in 2013
- 16 member organizations with constituencies along the entire corridor
- Members include neighborhood groups, faith organizations, social services, advocacy groups, workforce providers, businesses, etc.
- Multi-cultural/ethnic

# Guiding Principles & Values

- Do no harm.
- We work as one strong community voice.
- We share resources and opportunities to achieve our individual and collective goals of racial and economic equity for our communities and those bordering the Blue Line.
- We work to secure equitable outcomes through shared leadership, shared values, and shared responsibilities.
- We all win – when the coalition wins.
- We remain accountable to each other and community through direct connection, communication, and transparency.
- We strive for collaboration over competition.
- Understanding history and how history impacts our current relationships.
- We engage in culture sharing and building mutual understanding.
- Commitment to leadership development, community building, community organizing, and networking for social change.
- Equity is an outcome not just a process

# Formal BLC Members

1. African American Leadership Forum (AALF)
2. African Career, Education and Resources, Inc. (ACER)
3. Alliance for Metropolitan Stability (AMS)
4. Asian Economic Development Association (AEDA)
5. Asian Media Access (AMA)
6. CAPI USA
7. City of Lakes Community Land Trust (CLCLT)
8. Harrison Neighborhood Association (HNA)
9. Heritage Park Neighborhood Association (HPNA)
10. Lao Assistance Center of MN (LACM)
11. Masjid An-Nur (MAN)
12. MICAH
13. Northside Residents Redevelopment Council (NRRC)
14. Nexus Community Partners
15. Project Sweetie Pie
16. Urban Small Business Alliance (USBA)

# Project Ridership Estimates



# How Is Ridership Calculated?

- Ridership forecasts are calculated by the regional model to estimate future year daily weekday trips on the Blue Line Extension
- The regional model is a four-step model that includes mathematical equations that simulate travel behavior
- The regional model:
  - Supports Met Council's Thrive 2040 plan, using forecasted population, employment and household data
    - Cities provide direction on how growth gets distributed throughout their cities
  - Complies with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Requirements
    - Part of New Starts process to help calculate the project justification criteria
    - Regional model methodology is supported by the FTA



# Regional Model Assumptions

- LRT service assumptions
  - Current fare structure and hours of service
  - Feeder bus network
  - 10 minute frequency of service
  - 31 minutes from Target Field to Oak Grove Pkwy Station
  - Current downtown Minneapolis parking rates
- Transitways included in the Council's 2040 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP)
  - Existing transitways: Blue, Green, Red Lines, Northstar
  - Transitway expansion: Red Line stage 2, Orange Line, Green Line Extension, Gold Line, Snelling BRT, Penn BRT, Chicago Emerson-Fremont BRT



# Comparing to DEIS Ridership

- DEIS ridership: 27,000 (2030)
- What has changed?

	Change
Frequency of service change (7.5 to 10 minutes)	-
End to end running time increase	-
Station added at Plymouth	-
Update development assumptions (to 2040 Thrive)	-
Added Penn BRT (C Line)	-
Updates to model/validation and feeder bus assumptions	+
Park and ride capacity constraint	-



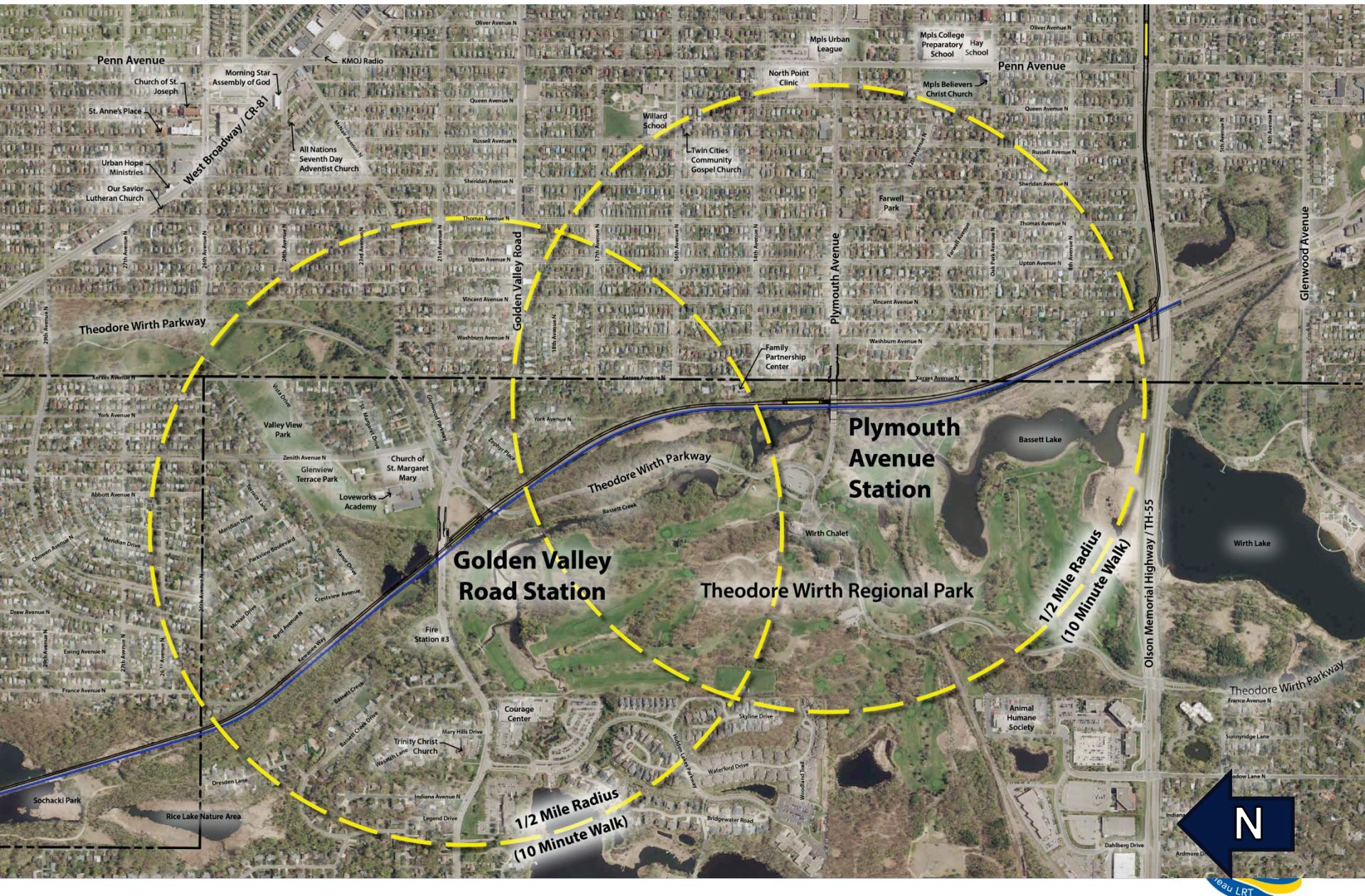
Blue Line Extension LRT Station	2040 Weekday Ridership	Park & Ride Spaces
Oak Grove Parkway	2,350	850
93 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue	350	-
85 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	2,200	-
Brooklyn Boulevard	2,400	-
63 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue	1,350	565
Bass Lake Road	1,650	170
Robbinsdale	3,500	550
Golden Valley Road	900	100
Plymouth Avenue	250	-
Penn Avenue	1,000	-
Van White Memorial Boulevard	650	-
Downtown ridership & transfers from Green & Blue Lines	10,400	
Estimated Project Ridership	27,000	



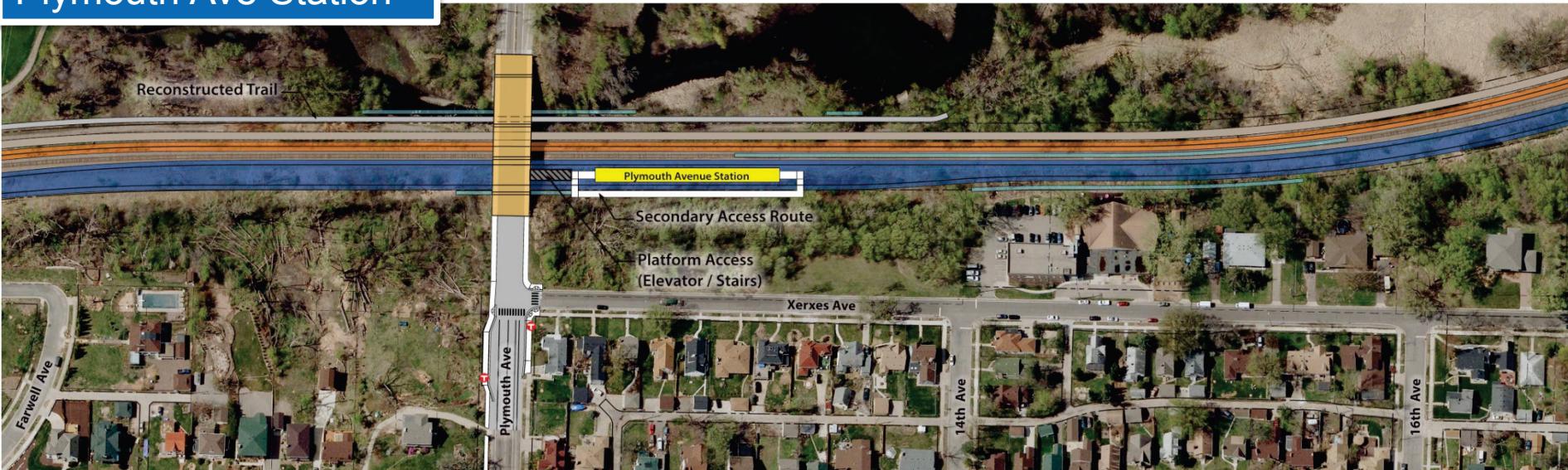
# **Technical Issue #4: Golden Valley Rd and Plymouth Ave Stations**



# Golden Valley Rd & Plymouth Ave Stations



# Plymouth Ave Station



# Golden Valley Rd Station



# Golden Valley Rd/Plymouth Ave Stations

- Both stations included within DEIS; only Golden Valley Rd Station in DEIS cost estimate
- Engineering analysis and environmental review conducted for both stations
  - Floodplains, wetlands and noise
  - Cultural resources and impacts to park land
  - Parking, cost and ridership
- Other non-technical factors also analyzed
- Comments from public meetings and events
  - Provided insight into community priorities: safety, parking, environmental concerns, etc.
  - Factored into station analysis



# Quantitative Factors Comparison

Factor	Plymouth Ave	Golden Valley Rd
Housing Units (2010)*	873	977
Population (2010)*	2,579	2,218
Employment (2010)*	102	733
Homes within 10 Minute Walk	565	349
Projected Daily Ridership (2040)	250	900
Bus Frequency (2040)	1 route every 30 min.	2 routes every 30 min.
Right of Way Impacts	1/2 acre	1/2 acre
Vegetative Impact	Medium	High
Wetland Impact	Minimal	None
Floodplain Impact	Minimal	Minimal
Cost	\$13M - \$16M	\$15M - \$18M

\*Within ½ mile of station



# Qualitative Factors Comparison

Factor	Plymouth Ave	Golden Valley Rd
Serving Minneapolis Residents	High	Medium
Serving Golden Valley Residents	Low	High
Environmental Justice	High	Medium
Access to Regional Park	High	Medium
Health Equity	High	Medium
Bicycle Trail Access	High	High
Access to The Grand Rounds	High	High
Existing Adjacent Sidewalk Network	High	Medium
Access to Job Centers	Low	Medium
Adjacent Neighborhood Impacts	Medium	Medium
Visual Impacts	Low	Low
Opportunities for Parking	Low	Medium
Future Redevelopment Opportunity	Low	Medium



# Next Steps

- Met Council receives feedback on station comparison from CAC/BAC, project partners
- Project office staff will recommend one or both stations in revised scope and cost estimate at Oct 29 CMC
- Decision to include one or both stations will be part of scope and cost estimate CMC decision on Nov 12



# **Technical Issue #9A:**

## **73<sup>rd</sup> Ave Crossing**



# Issues To Be Resolved

- DEIS scope included an at-grade crossing of CR 81 at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave intersection
  - Concern with intersection performance/traffic operations
- At-grade crossing was recommended at the April 9 CMC
  - LRT at-grade did not impact intersection operations
- Additional feedback/concerns/analysis:
  - High-speed, 6-lane roadway with vehicles travelling more than posted speed (55 mph)
  - LRT crossing diagonally through intersection
  - LRT track and roadway maintenance conflicts
  - CR 81 is designated as a “moving” route



# Technical Issue #9A: 73rd Ave Crossing

## Issues to be Resolved



# 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave Crossing: Recommendation

- Proceed with grade separated crossing of CR 81
- Continue coordination with Hennepin County/City on the CR 81 roadway project



# Outreach Update



# Upcoming Community Open Houses

- Open house format
- Environmentally focused:
  - Noise/vibration
  - Water resources
  - Stormwater
  - Cultural resources
  - Wild life
- Updated roll-plots: stations and alignment



# Upcoming Community Open Houses

<b>Crystal</b>	Mon Oct 19	Crystal Community Center 5:00 – 7:30pm
<b>Brooklyn Park</b>	Tues Oct 20	Hennepin Technical College 5:00 – 7:30pm
<b>Robbinsdale*</b>	Wed Oct 21	Robbinsdale Middle School 6:00 – 7:00pm
<b>Golden Valley</b>	Wed Oct 28	Golden Valley City Hall 5:00 – 7:30pm
<b>Minneapolis</b>	Thurs Oct 29	Harrison Community Center 5:00 – 7:30pm

\* Combined with Hennepin County Station Area Planning Meeting



# **Schedule for Roll-out of Project Scope and Cost Estimate**



# Upcoming Meetings

Date	Cmt.	Agenda
Sept 28 Oct 1 Oct 5/6	TPAC CMC CAC/BAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ridership</li><li>• Present results of Golden Valley Rd &amp; Plymouth Ave station analysis</li><li>• 73rd Ave Crossing</li><li>• Environmental update</li><li>• Schedule for roll-out of updated project scope/cost estimate</li></ul>
Oct 5/6 Oct 12 Oct 15	CAC/BAC TPAC CMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of issues 13 – 15</li><li>• TH 55 Recap</li></ul>
Oct 26 Oct 26	TPAC CAC/BAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of recommendation on revised project scope</li></ul>
Oct 29	CMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of recommendation on revised project scope/cost estimate</li></ul>



# Upcoming Meetings

Date	Cmt.	Agenda
Nov 2	TPAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discussion on revised project scope/cost estimate</li></ul>
Nov 2/3	CAC/BAC	
Nov 4	MPRB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MPRB resolution on project as it relates to park properties</li></ul>
Nov 12	CMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Final recommendation and CMC action on revised project scope/cost estimate</li></ul>
Nov 23	Met Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Met Council Transportation Committee recommendation on revised project scope/cost estimate</li></ul>
Dec 9	Met Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Met Council action on revised project scope/cost estimate; authorize the submittal of Municipal Consent plans to cities and county</li></ul>



# **Next CMC Meeting: October 15, 2015**



# More Information

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Metropolitan Council website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links to About Us, News & Events, Data & Maps, Publications, Doing Business, Council Meetings, Contact Us, Employment, and a search bar. Below the navigation bar is the Metropolitan Council logo. The main menu includes categories like COMMUNITIES, PARKS, TRANSPORTATION (which is highlighted with a red border), WASTEWATER & WATER, HOUSING, and PLANNING. The central image is a photograph of a blue METRO LRT train at a station platform with people boarding. On the left, a sidebar for the "METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION" page lists links for Route, Stations, Environmental, Timeline, and Project Partners. The main content area has a title "METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION" and subtitle "Bottineau Transitway – Minneapolis & Northwestern Communities". It contains a detailed description of the proposed route, mentioning stations like Target Field, and information about environmental impact, timeline, and project partners.

Website: [BlueLineExt.org](http://BlueLineExt.org)

Email: [BlueLineExt@metrotransit.org](mailto:BlueLineExt@metrotransit.org)

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

