Today’s Topics

• Welcome & Introductions
  § BAC & CAC Introductions
• Project Overview and Staff Introductions
• Role, Responsibilities and Resources
• Hennepin County Community Works Update
• 2015 Look Ahead
  § Design and Engineering
  § Environmental
  § Public Involvement
• Questions and Answers
Welcome from Metropolitan Council
Chair Adam Duininck
Business and Advisory Committee
Introductions

• Name and community
• Committee membership
• What does success of the Blue Line Extension look like?
Project Overview and Staff Introductions
METRO System

• Green Line Extension (Southwest LRT)

• Blue Line Extension (Bottineau Corridor LRT)

• Orange Line (I-35 W South Bus Rapid Transit)
Project Description

• 10 or 11 new LRT stations
• 13 miles of double track
• 27,000 est. rides by 2030
• Serving Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Robbinsdale, Golden Valley & Minneapolis
• Provides one seat Blue Line ride to MSP Airport and Mall of America
• Connections to METRO Green Line, Northstar and bus services
What is Light Rail Transit (LRT)?

• High capacity
• Quick acceleration & braking
• Powered by electricity
• Quiet operation
• Frequent service 21 hours/day
• Stops every ½ - 1 mile
LRT Design Elements: Station and Tracks
## Current Fares

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transit Mode</th>
<th>Fare</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Light Rail &amp; Local Bus</td>
<td>$1.75, $2.25 (peak period)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Express Bus</td>
<td>$2.25, $3.00 (peak period)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northstar</td>
<td>$3.00 - $6.00 depending on station</td>
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</table>

$180 fine for riding trains or buses without paying
Pedestrian & Bike Elements: Crossings

- Truncated domes mark crosswalk
- Sign marks crosswalk and alerts drivers
- Countdown timer
- Tactile button and audible tones announce when crossing is permitted
Safety Features

Warning devices alert pedestrians to approaching trains and signs instruct people to look both ways.
Security Features

• Open and transparent station design to promote visibility

Security camera

Emergency phone
# Project Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014-2016</td>
<td>• Project Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>• Environmental/Municipal Consent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>• Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>• Full Funding Grant Agreement</td>
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<td>2018-20</td>
<td>• Heavy Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>• Passenger Operations</td>
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Project Funding

Estimated Cost: $1 Billion
How Does Decision-making Occur?

**Issue Resolution Process**

- Issue Resolution Teams (IRT)
- Technical Project Advisory Committee (TPAC)
- Business and Community Advisory Committees (BAC/CAC)
- Corridor Management Committee (CMC)
- Met Council
BPO Organizational Chart (see handout)
Project Office

- Bass Lake Road & West Broadway
- 20,000 sq ft
- Location of monthly advisory committee meetings
Roles, Responsibilities and Resources
Advisory Committees

- Metropolitan Council
- Blue Line Extension LRT Corridor Mgmt Committee
- Blue Line Extension Project Office
- Shared Advisory Committees: CAC, BAC
- Supporting Committees
- Community Works Steering Committee
- Technical Implementation Committee
- Hennepin County
Business and Community Advisory Committees

• Serve as a voice for the community
• Advise Corridor Management and Community Works Steering Committees
• Provide input on design: stations, operations and maintenance facility, bike, pedestrian, and park-and-ride facilities
• Serve as information resource and liaison to the community
Business and Community Advisory Committees

IRTs  TPAC  BAC/CAC  CMC  Met Council

Advisory committee discussion and input
Accountability

- Serve a 2-year term and attend meetings
- Actively participate in discussions; be a voice to advance the broader interests of community
- Report back to entity represented
- Provide feedback on communication and public involvement efforts
- Listen to and respect the viewpoints of others
- Accept outcomes of Met Council decisions
Advisory Committee Leadership

• Co-Chair appointments:
  ß Corridor-wide perspective

• Co-Chair roles/responsibilities:
  ß Lead committees through their tasks and ensure charter compliance
  ß Identify topics/issues of committee concern
  ß Develop meeting agendas with BPO and Hennepin County staff
BPO and Hennepin County Staff

• Identify topics/issues for advisory committee feedback and CMC/CW Steering Committee guidance
• Develop meeting agendas with Advisory Committee Co-chairs
• Distribute agendas and meeting summaries
• Post committee presentations/meeting materials on BlueLineExt.ORG
CAC Membership

• Community appoints members:
  - Minneapolis: 3 members
  - Golden Valley: 2 members
  - Robbinsdale: 2 members
  - Crystal: 2 members
  - Brooklyn Park: 3 members
  - Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board: 2 members

• Corridors of Opportunity Engagement Grantees: 10

• At-large representation appointed by Met Council and Hennepin County Community Works: 2
BAC Membership

• Community appoints 2 members each:
  ✓ Minneapolis
  ✓ Golden Valley
  ✓ Robbinsdale
  ✓ Crystal
  ✓ Brooklyn Park

• Chambers of Commerce appoint 1 member each:
  ✓ Minneapolis Regional
  ✓ TwinWest
  ✓ Robbinsdale
  ✓ North Hennepin Area

• At-large representation appointed by Met Council and Hennepin County Community Works: 3
Advisory Committee Meetings

• First week of the month:
  § Business Committee: 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM, M/T/W
  § Community Committee: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM, M/T/W/Th
  § +/- 30 minutes

• Will send SurveyMonkey poll to members to identify best meeting time
Committee Resources

- Website:
  - Committees Pages:
    - agendas
    - meeting summaries
    - presentations
  - E-newsletter
  - Text and/or email alerts
  - One-pagers
  - Maps/plans
  - Documents

BlueLineExt.org
Hennepin County Community Works Overview
HENNEPIN COUNTY

BOTTINEAU CORRIDOR COMMUNITY WORKS

Community Advisory Committee
Business Advisory Committee
April 15, 2015
Strengthen and connect people and places
Innovate and advance sustainability
Enhance the tax base
Lead collaborative planning and implementation
Economic and Partnership Outcomes 1994 to 2014

$883 million

$89 million
Hennepin County Community Works investment

$94 million
partners and public agencies investment
Bottineau LRT Community Works

Light Rail Transit (2008-2021)

- Analyze Alternatives (3+ years)
- Project Development
  - Prepare final EIS (2 years)
- Engineering and Construction
- Open for Service (as soon as 2021)

Collaborative planning and investments around stations

Pre-planning study

Bottineau Community Works Program

1. Station Area Planning (3 years)
   - Convening partners
   - Assessing needs
   - Generating ideas
   - Making recommendations

2. Investment Framework (TBD)
   - SHARED VISION
   - Compiles all station area plans, presents vision for improvements and guides investments

3. Infrastructure Improvements for opening day and beyond
   - Getting the Work Done
     - A series of strategic partner investments
     - Funding leveraged from a range of partners

Hennepin County and partner cities

Metropolitan Council

We are here
Station Area Planning

» What is it?

• Community-based planning for the area surrounding a proposed transit station

• ½ mile radius or about a 10 minute walk
Station Area Planning

» Transit supportive plans that look at:

• Public spaces, including streets and trails
• Access and circulation (bike, walk, car, bus)
• Land use
• Types and character of buildings
Station Area Planning & Health Equity

» Improves community health and advances health equity
  • By addressing stark health disparities in communities of color and among low-income people

» Makes healthy choices easy
  • By planning for housing, transportation options, jobs, parks, land uses/activities that are safe, accessible and affordable to all
Station Area Planning

» Hennepin County in partnership with each of the five cities

» Eleven stations

» Phase 1:
  – Four stations in Golden Valley and Minneapolis

» Phase 2:
  – Five Brooklyn Park stations
  – One Robbinsdale station
  – One Crystal station
2015 Look Ahead
Design and Engineering
Engineering Phase Activities

- Station design & selection of public art for station areas
- Property acquisition
- Final design & engineering
- Final cost estimate
- Revised risk assessment
- Freight rail reconstruction
- Construction Invitation for Bids
- LRV procurement
Technical Issues
## Minneapolis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment</th>
<th>Technical Issue</th>
<th>Sub Issues</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M-1</td>
<td>Target Field Station Connection</td>
<td>7th Street Intersection Design</td>
<td>Q3 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>M-2</td>
<td>Olson Memorial Highway</td>
<td>I-94 Interchange Operations</td>
<td>Q3 2015</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Design Treatment</td>
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<td>Penn Ave Intersection operations</td>
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<td>Median Tree Impacts</td>
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<td>M-3</td>
<td>Olson Memorial Highway Crossing</td>
<td>Right-of-way Pinch Point</td>
<td>Q3 2015</td>
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<td>Bassett Creek Floodplain Impacts</td>
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<td>Poor Soils through Watershed</td>
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## Golden Valley

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GV-4</td>
<td>Plymouth Ave/Golden Valley Road Station</td>
<td>Station Location, Parking</td>
<td>Q2 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>GV-5</td>
<td>Golden Valley Alignment</td>
<td>Bassett Creek Floodplain Impacts, Poor Soils, Theo. Wirth Park Property Impacts</td>
<td>Q2 2015</td>
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## Robbinsdale

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<tr>
<td>R-6</td>
<td>Robbinsdale Station</td>
<td>Park and Ride, Bus Transit Hub</td>
<td>Q3 2015</td>
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<td>At-Grade Crossing at 39 ½ - 40th</td>
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<td>Grade Separated Pedestrian Crossings of LRT Tracks</td>
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<td>Traffic Impacts at 42\textsuperscript{nd} Ave Crossing</td>
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<td>Noise and Visual Impacts</td>
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## Crystal

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<tr>
<td>C-7</td>
<td>Bass Lake Road Station</td>
<td>Station access via all modes</td>
<td>Q2 2015</td>
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<td>Quiet zone for at-grade crossings</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parking/drop off areas</td>
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<td>Vera Cruz/West Broadway Intersection</td>
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## Brooklyn Park

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<tr>
<td>BP2-8</td>
<td>63rd Ave Park &amp; Ride</td>
<td>Park &amp; Ride Expansion</td>
<td>Q2 2015</td>
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<td>BP2-9</td>
<td>Brooklyn Blvd Station</td>
<td>73rd Ave Crossing</td>
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<td>BP1-10</td>
<td>CSAH 103/West Broadway Reconstruction Project</td>
<td>Coordination with Hennepin Co reconstruction project</td>
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<td>Traffic Impacts</td>
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<td>Operating Assumptions</td>
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<td>BP1-11</td>
<td>93rd Ave/Oak Grove Parkway Station</td>
<td>Park and Ride</td>
<td>Q2 2015</td>
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<td>Station configuration</td>
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<td>BP1-12</td>
<td>OMF</td>
<td>Site configuration</td>
<td>Q3 2015</td>
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## System Wide

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<th>Sub Issues</th>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Freight Rail</td>
<td>Design Issues</td>
<td>Q3 2015</td>
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<td>ROW Acquisition Identification</td>
<td>Q4 2015</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Transmission Line Coordination</td>
<td>Location and Support Structures for Xcel HVTL</td>
<td>Q3 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Traction Power Substation</td>
<td>Locations</td>
<td>Q3 2015</td>
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Environmental
Environmental Review Analyzes Potential Impacts

- Land use
- Community
- Property
- Business
- Historic properties
- Parks
- Visual
- Safety
- Transportation

- Water resource
- Soils
- Plants
- Animals
- Noise
- Vibration
- Contaminated sites
- Air quality
# Environmental Review Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>- LPA adopted by Met Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Draft EIS preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>- Draft EIS published</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Draft EIS comment period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>- Complete Environmental Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>- Final EIS published / Record of Decision (ROD) issued</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Environmental Update

• Coordination with key agencies is underway:
  ß Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
  ß Three Rivers Park District
  ß State Historic Preservation Office
  ß United States Army Corps of Engineers
  ß MN Dept of Natural Resources
  ß Wetlands Conservation Act entities (LGUs)

• Environmental coordination with engineering
  ß Focused on completion of tech memos distributed to corridor stakeholders late 2015: noise, wetlands, floodplains, etc.
Public Involvement
Outreach and Engagement Activities

- Outreach staff
- Public meetings
  - Tailored formats
  - One to 500 participants
- Project website, newsletter, twitter/Facebook
- Direct e-mail
- Other materials
Outreach and Engagement Activities
Community Outreach Coordinators

• What to expect:
  • Available to answer questions and relay feedback
  • Regular contact regarding process and project progress
  • Transparency

• Two-way communications:
  • Call or email with questions, ideas and concerns
  • Share ideas about stakeholders we should meet
Questions and Answers
More Information

Website/Newsletter: BlueLineExt.org
Email: BlueLineExt@metrotransit.org
Twitter: @BlueLineExt