

A blue and yellow Metro Transit tram is stopped on a city street. Three pedestrians are walking on the sidewalk in the foreground. The background features several tall skyscrapers, including the One Texas Tower. The tram has a 'T METRO' logo on its side. The scene is set in a dense urban environment with a brick-paved sidewalk and a clear sky.

# Welcome to Metro Transit

Austin Chamber of Commerce  
InterCity Visit  
September 16, 2019

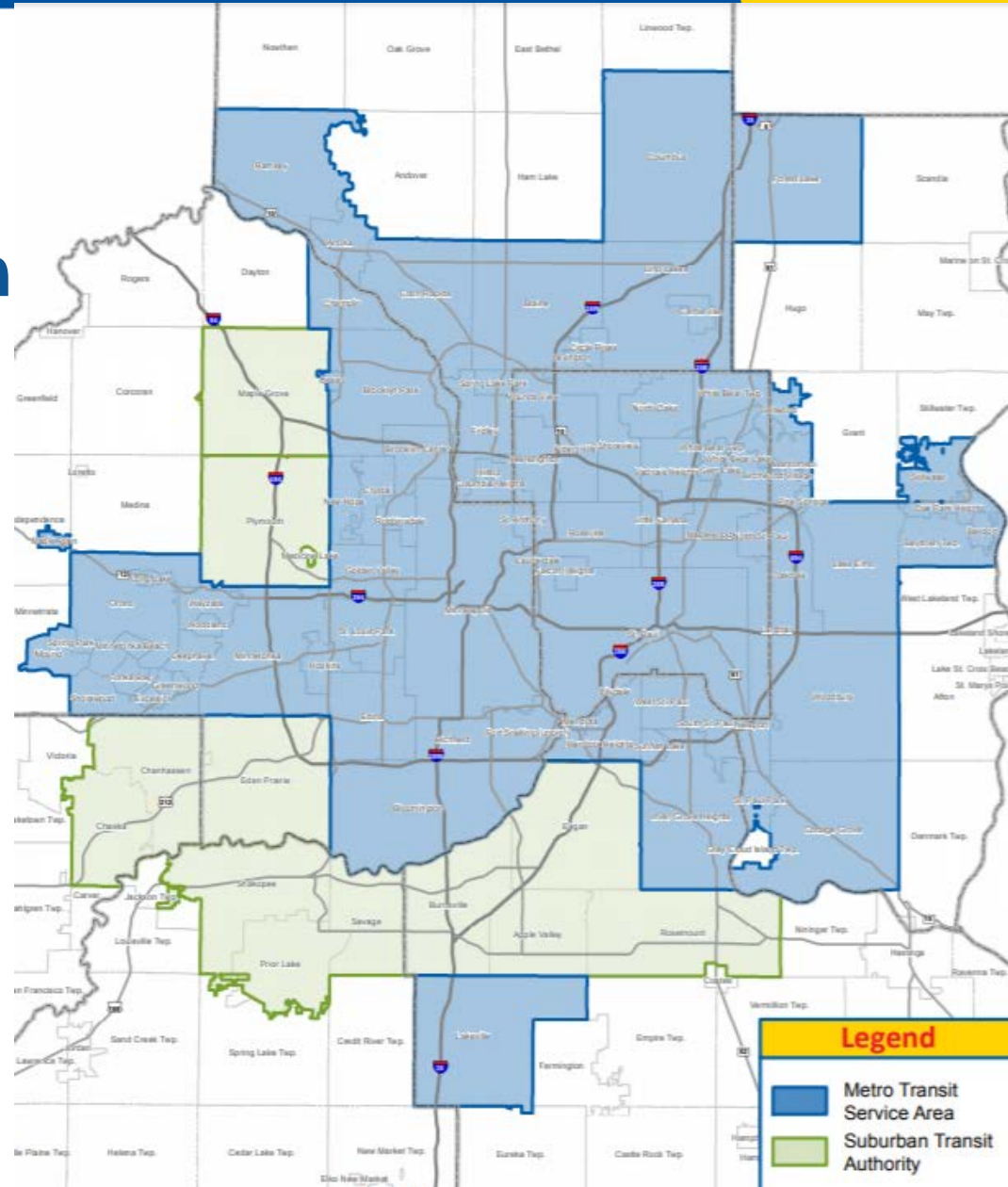
# Metro Transit is part of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Council

- Over 3 million people in 7-county metro
- 17 Governor-Appointed Metropolitan Council Members
- MPO, Regional Wastewater, Land Planning, Regional Parks, HRA



# Metro Transit provides nearly 90% of all transit service in the metro

- Over 900 square miles
- 90 cities





# Metro Transit Service

- 127 bus routes
- Bus Rapid Transit
- Light Rail
- Commuter Rail



# Metro Transit Operating Sources – Bus and Rail

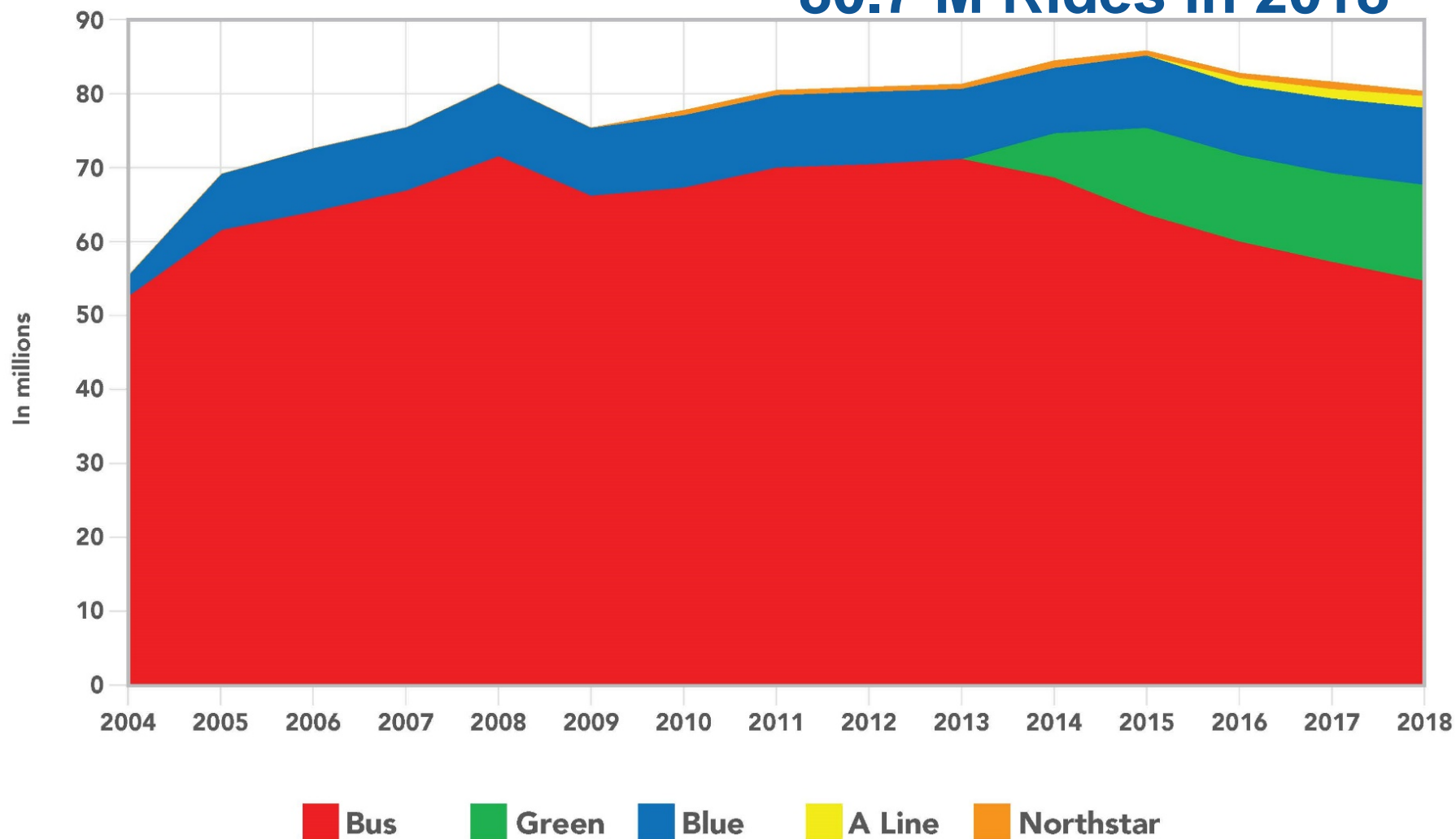
- Fare Box Recovery
  - 27% across all services
  - Ranges from 20% for bus to 36% for light rail
- Operating Subsidies
  - Bus - Motor Vehicle Sales Tax
  - Rail - State General Fund and County Sales Tax



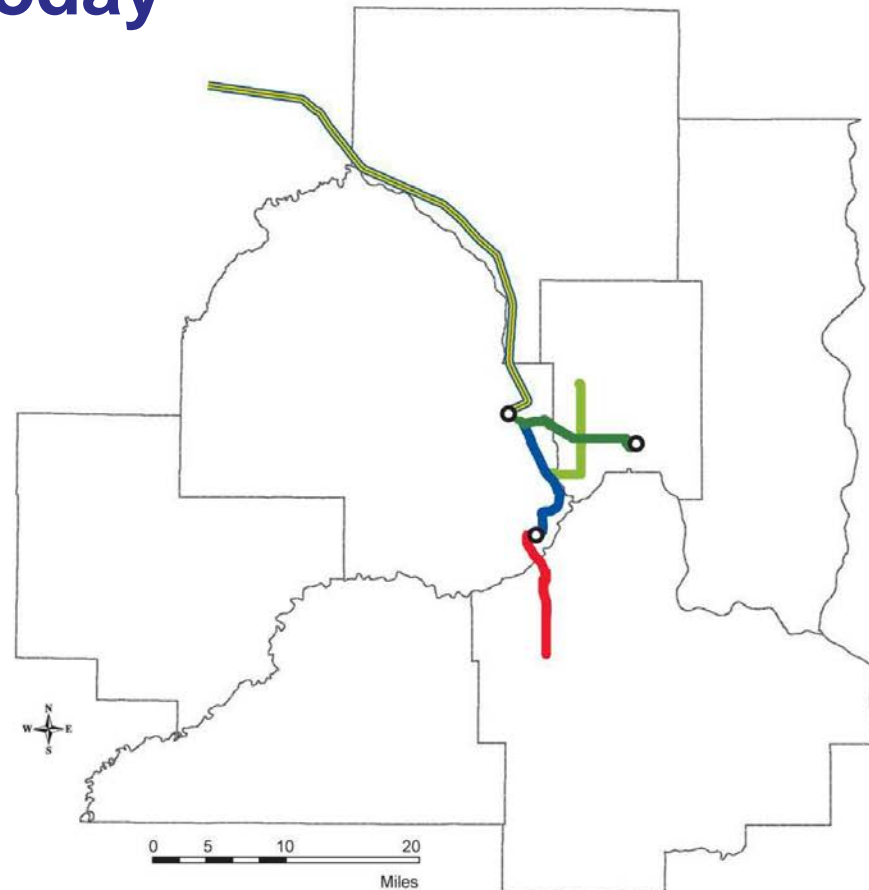


## METRO TRANSIT ANNUAL RIDERSHIP, BY MODE (2004-2018)

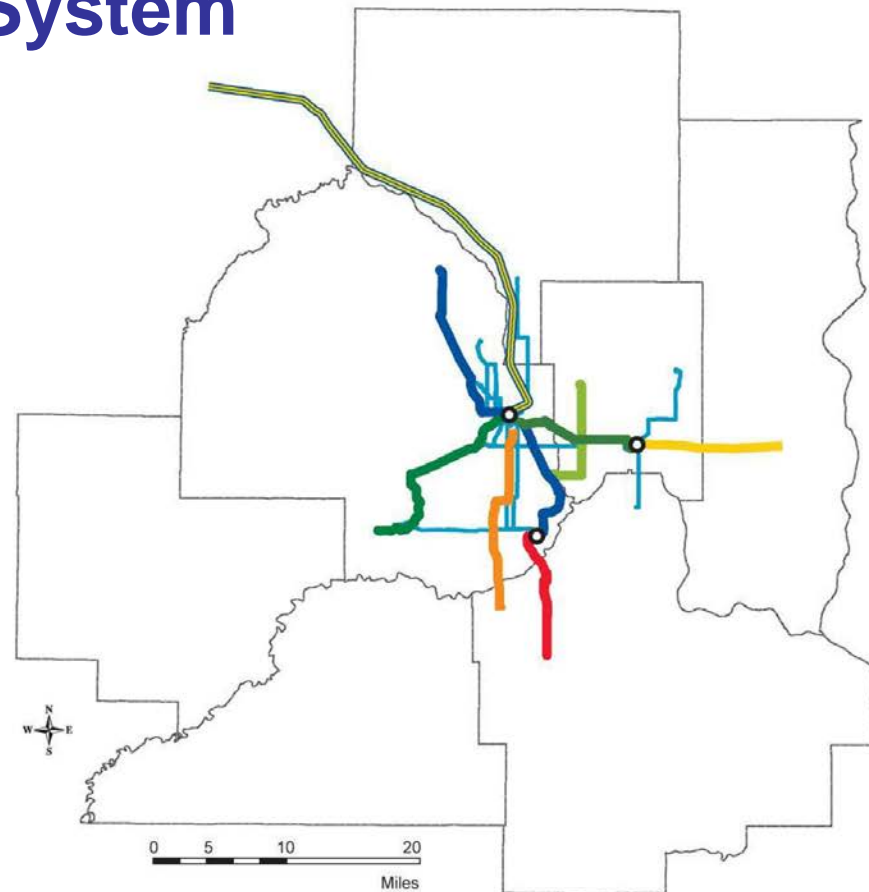
# 80.7 M Rides in 2018



# METRO System Today



# Planned METRO System





# Development Along Transit

Over the past 15 years, 35% of regional development has occurred along high frequency transit corridors

- 43% of Multi-Family Units
- 39% of Commercial Development
- Most along LRT and BRT corridors
- Trend expected to grow

Corridors are only 3% of region's land area



# Challenges and Opportunities

- Sustainable Funding
- Declining Bus Ridership
- Role in Shared Mobility
- Redefining Service Priorities and Values
- Fleet electrification
- Bus operator shortage
- Homelessness





# Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

# Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Projects

## Improved Service



- Increased Frequency
- Limited Stop Service
- Specialized Fleet
- Transit Signal Priority
- Off Board Payment



## Enhanced Facilities



- Substantial stations
- Increased maintenance
- Bus lanes as available
- Strategic grade separations

**Attractive, Reliable and Efficient Service**



# Three types of Bus Rapid Transit Projects



## Arterial BRT

- A Line, C Line
- BRT Station infrastructure
- Primarily in mixed traffic

## Highway BRT

- Orange Line
- FTA Small Starts
- +Online and inline stations
- + Primarily HOV/HOT lanes

## Dedicated BRT

- Gold Line
- FTA New Starts
- +Primarily exclusive BRT guideway

**More similarities than differences**

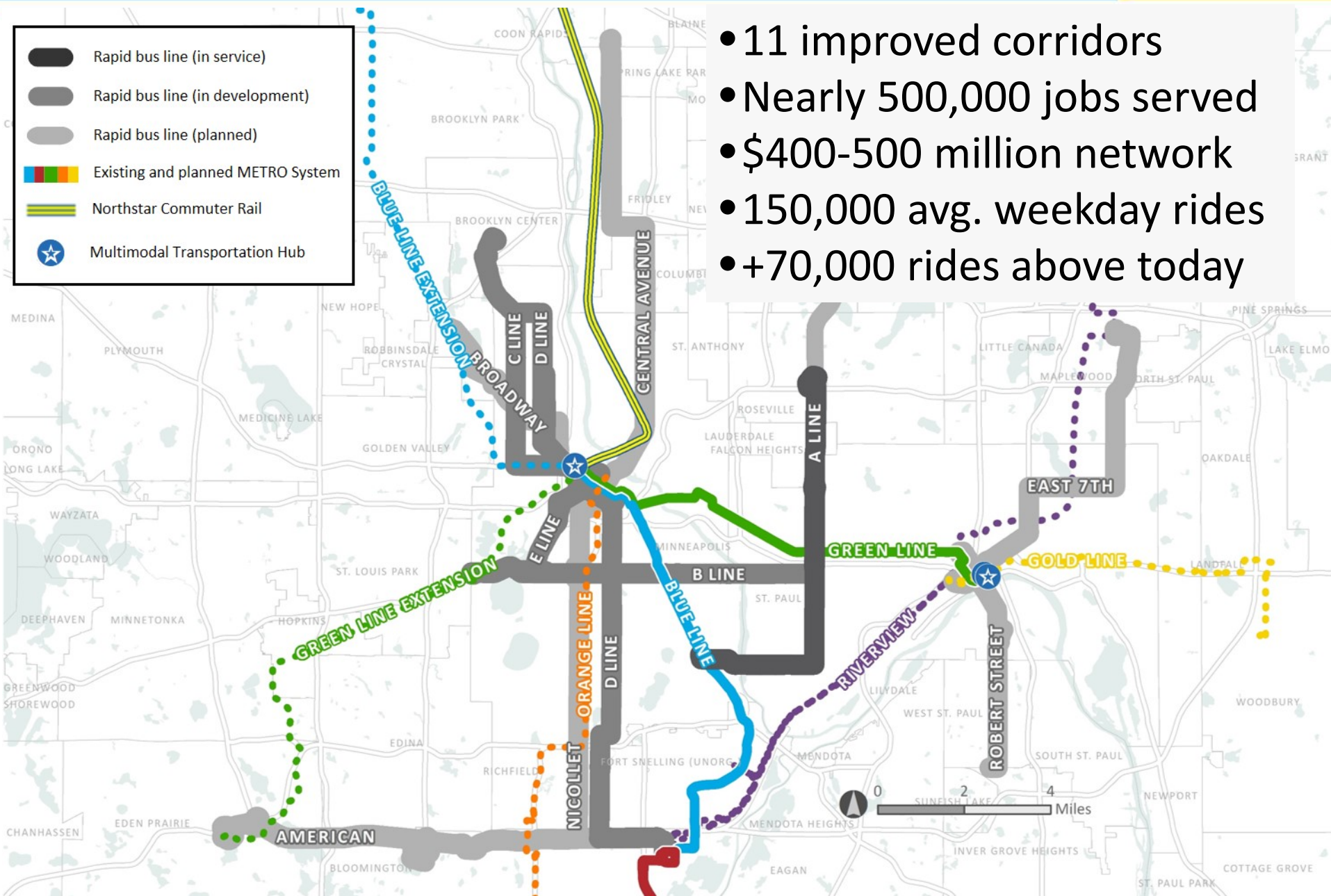


# Arterial BRT



- Rapid bus line (in service)
- Rapid bus line (in development)
- Rapid bus line (planned)
- Existing and planned METRO System
- Northstar Commuter Rail
- Multimodal Transportation Hub

- 11 improved corridors
- Nearly 500,000 jobs served
- \$400-500 million network
- 150,000 avg. weekday rides
- +70,000 rides above today





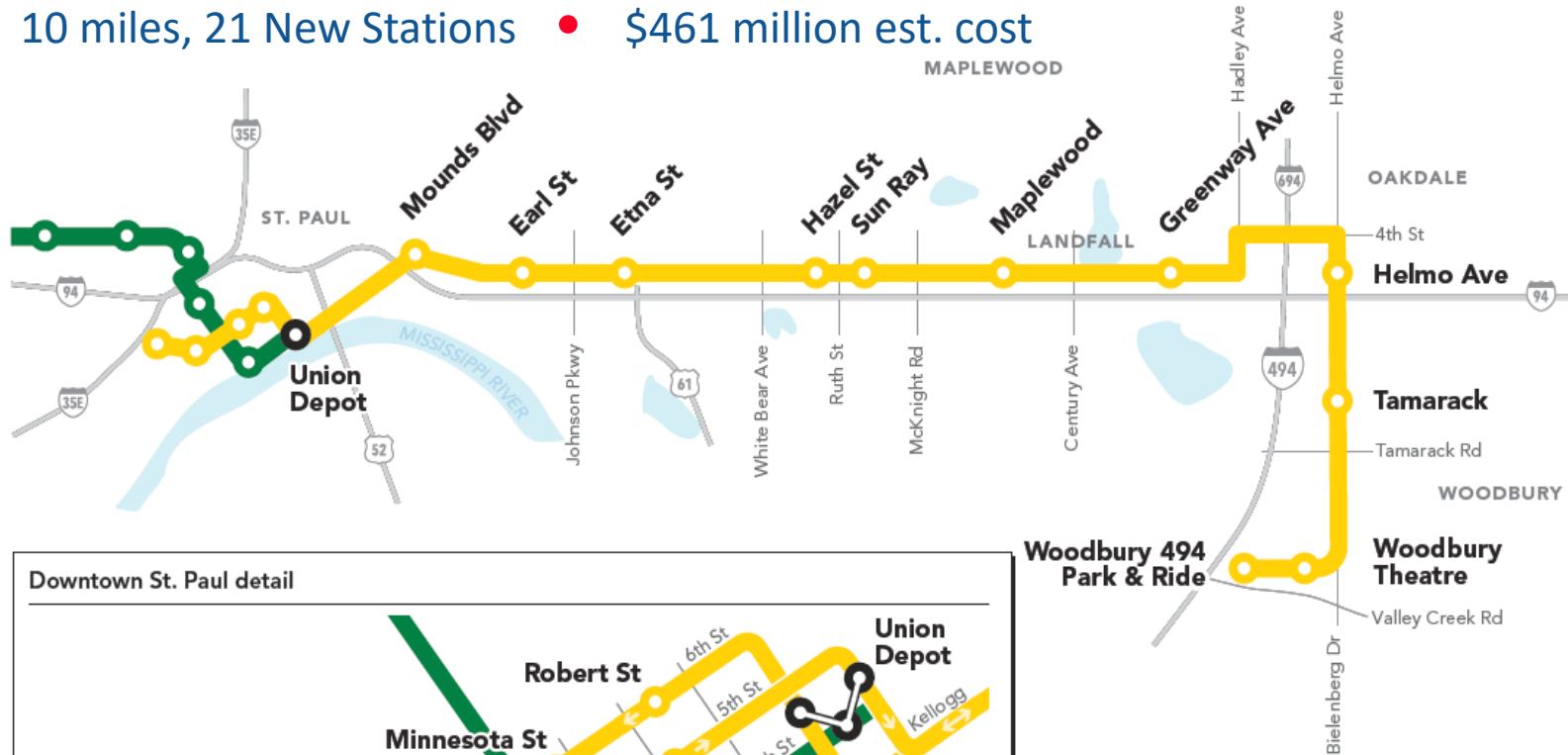


- A Line (Snelling Avenue)      Open 2016  
Ridership up about 40%
- C Line (Penn Avenue)      Opened June 8, 2019
- D Line (Chicago/Fremont)      Engineering  
*Planned operations 2022*
- B Line (Lake/Marshall)      Planning  
*Planned operations 2023*
- E Line (Hennepin Avenue)      Corridor study  
*Planned operations 2024*

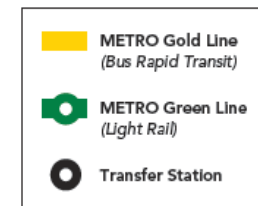
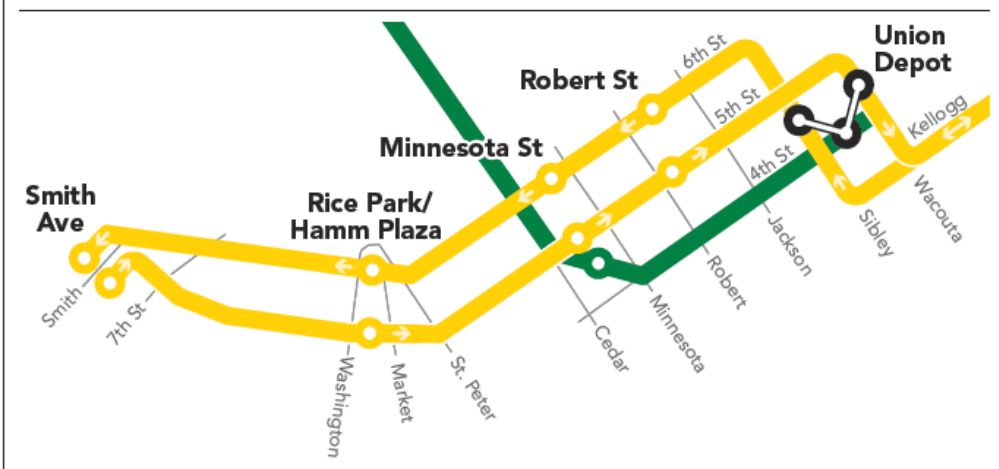


# Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Project

- Dedicated guideway BRT
- 10 miles, 21 New Stations
- FTA New Starts project
- \$461 million est. cost



Downtown St. Paul detail



# METRO Orange Line



- \$150M FTA Small Starts BRT Project
- \$74M Small Starts Grant- June 2019
- Full Construction underway
- Service begins 2021
- 12 stations, 17 miles
- All-day, frequent station-to-station express service
- 14,000 avg. weekday rides on I-35W
- Serves 30,000 jobs outside of downtown Minneapolis



# Lake Street Station

Previous Lake Street Level



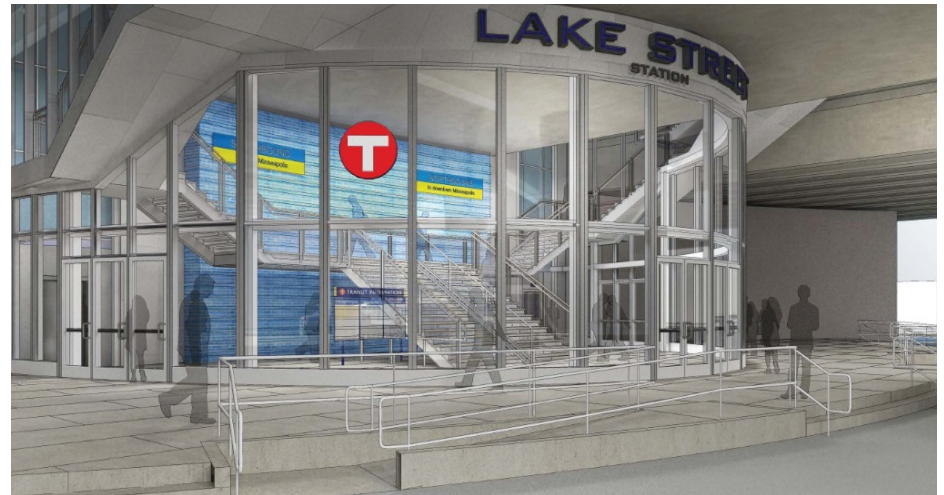
Planned Lake Street Level



Previous Access



Planned Access



# Knox Avenue & 76<sup>th</sup> Street – Typical Station



# Orange Line Development Schedule

Milestone	Date
Project Planning	2013-2014
FTA Small Starts Project Development Began	Nov 2014
Environmental Review Process (FTA DCE)	2015-2016
Request for Rating and FTA Funding	2016
Local Funding Commitments	2016-2017
Early Construction begins (FTA LONP)	2017
FTA Grant Readiness Review/Application	Mar - Aug 2018
FTA Grant Transmittal	Dec 2018
FTA Grant Review and Execution	Dec 2018 - June 2019
Full Construction	June 2019 - Dec 2021
Revenue Operations	Late 2021

- 5 Years- Federal Review/Funding Process

- 21 • 9 Years- Total Implementation Process



# SOUTHWEST

Green Line LRT Extension



EDEN PRAIRIE | MINNETONKA | EDINA | HOPKINS | ST. LOUIS PARK | MINNEAPOLIS

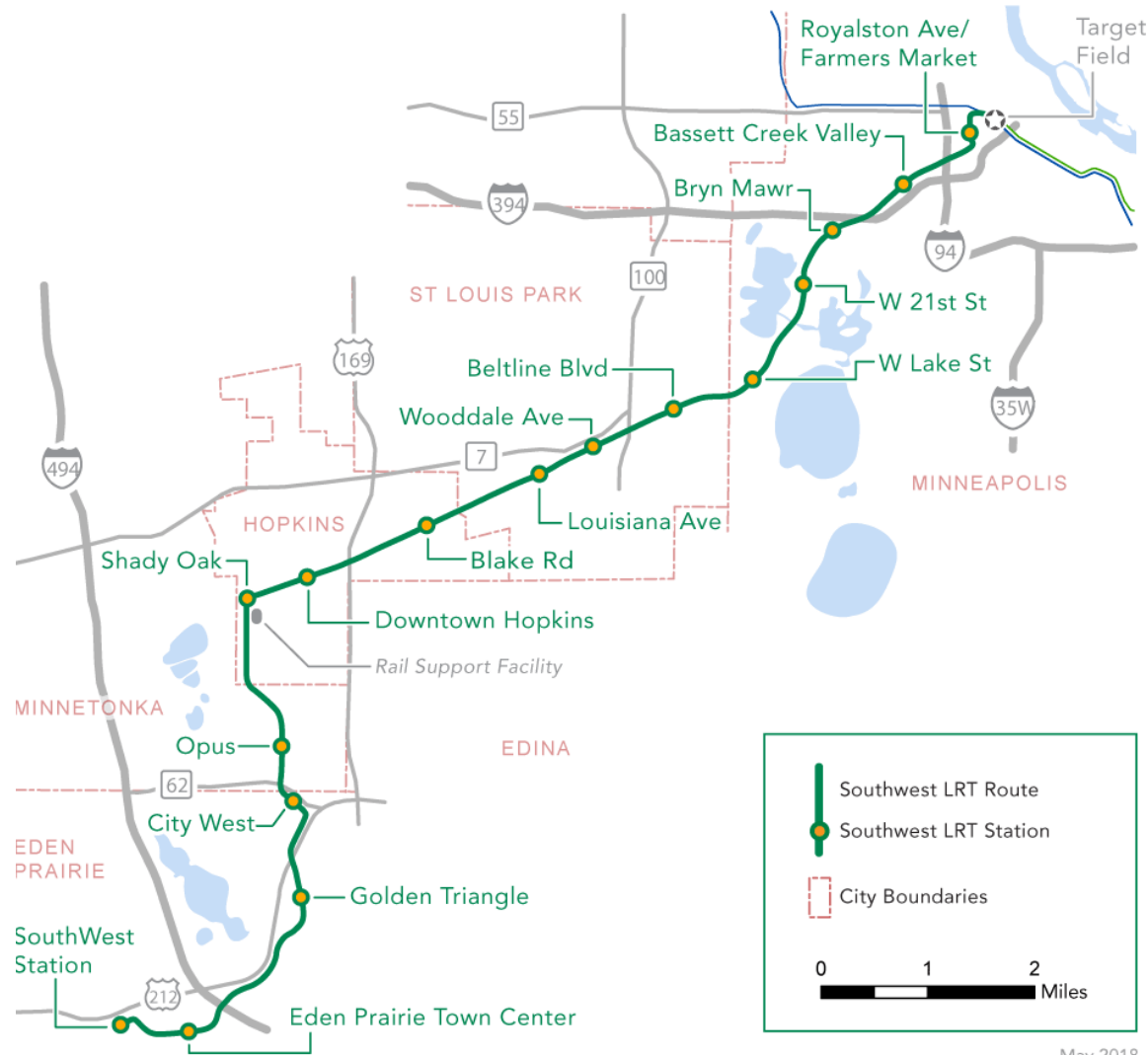
# November 2018: Project Groundbreaking!





# METRO Green Line Extension

- Opening in 2023
- 14.5 miles
- 16 stations
- Will provide single seat trips to downtown Minneapolis, U of M and St. Paul
- Connections to the Airport and Mall of America via the Blue Line



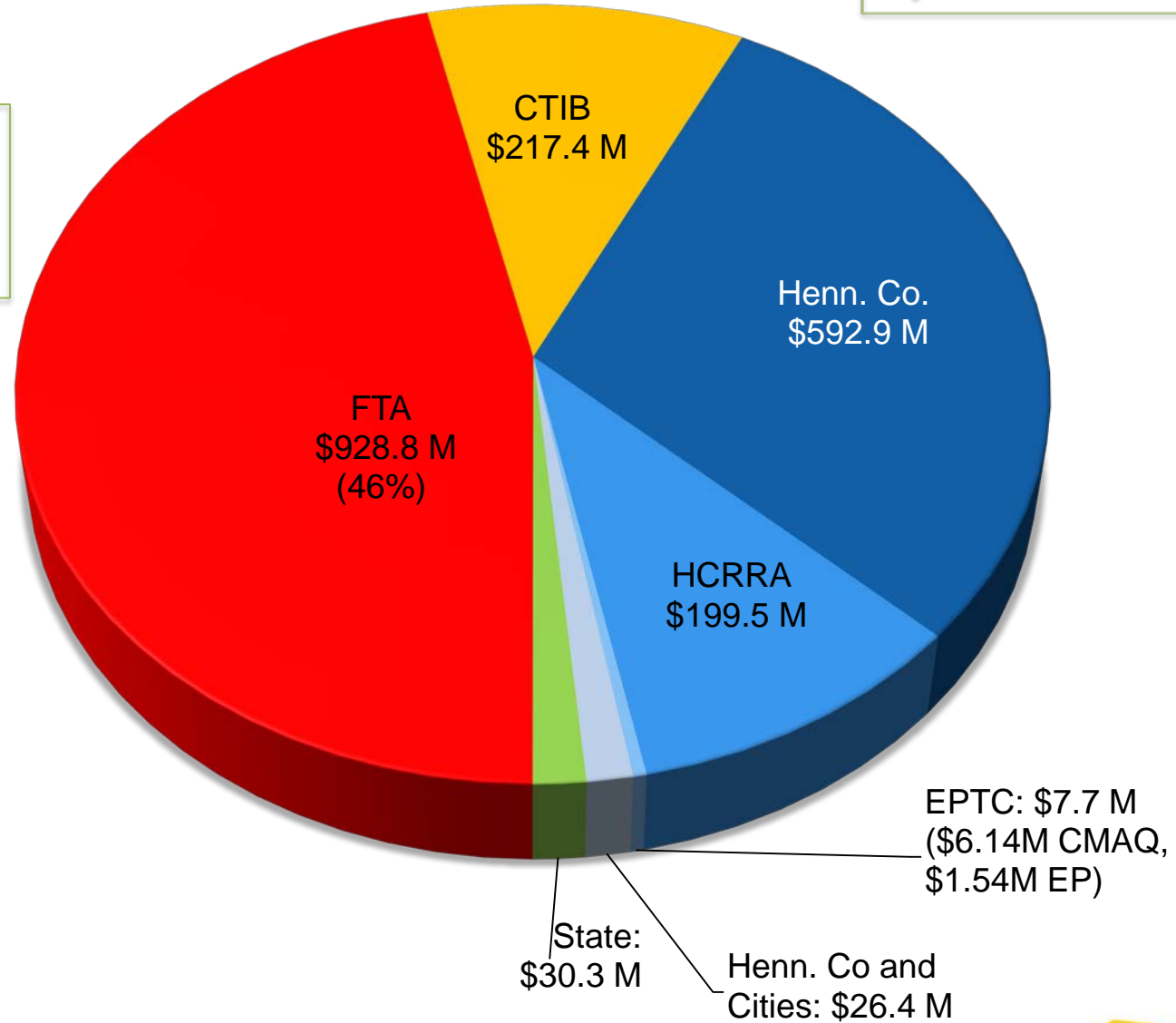
# Overall Project Schedule

	2011-2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Project Development									
Engineering		ROD		AROD					
Construction				LONP	LONP FFGA				
LRV Design, Production & Testing									
Fare Collection Production & Testing									
Integration Testing									
Revenue Operations									

# Funding Sources

**\$2.003 Billion**

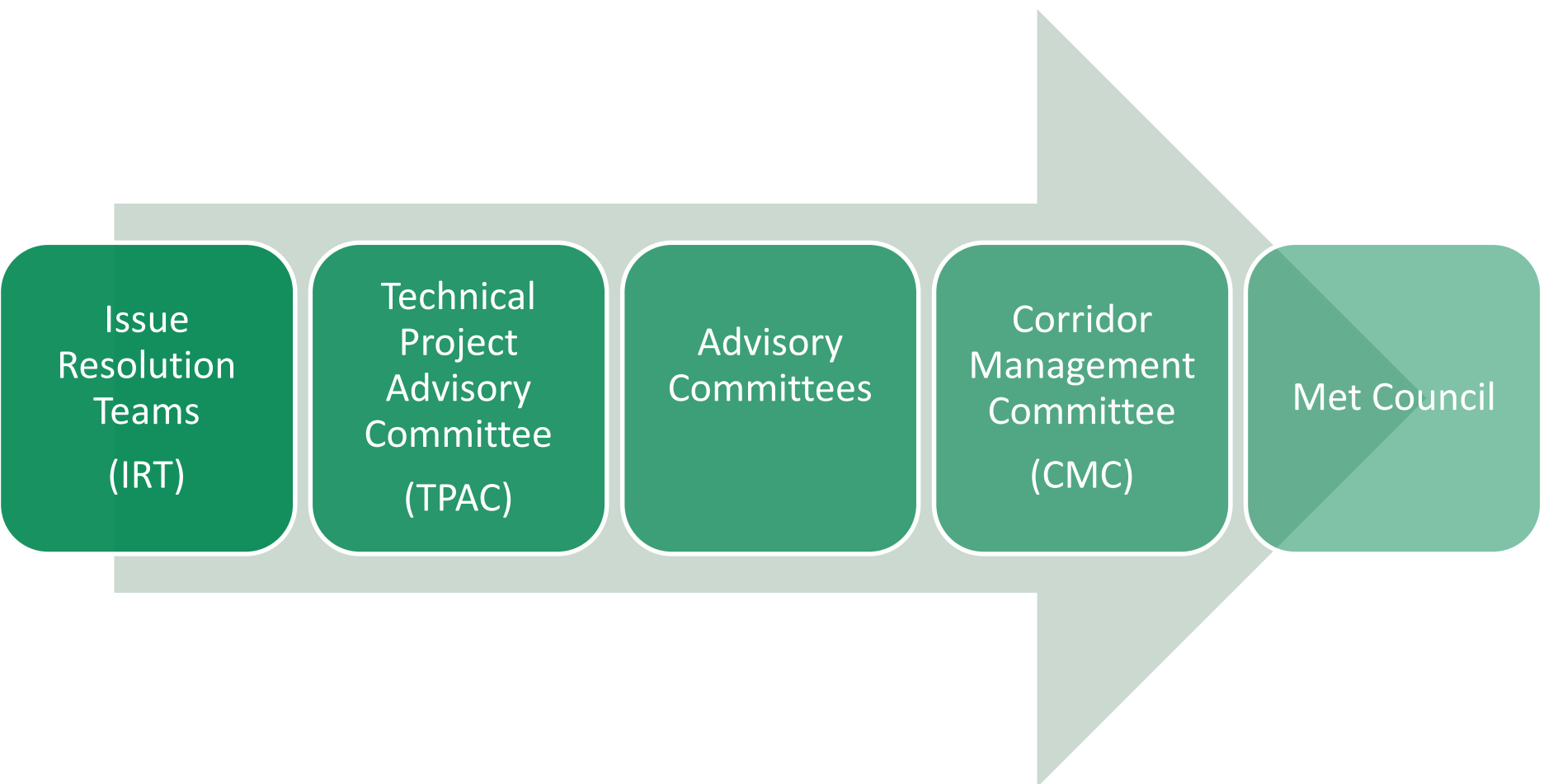
**\$1.074 Billion  
Local Funds  
Committed**



# Local Project Partners

- Hennepin County/Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority
- Cities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, St. Louis Park, Minneapolis
- Minnesota Department of Transportation
- Three Rivers Park District, Minneapolis Park Board
- Riley Purgatory, Nine Mile, Minnehaha, and Bassett Creek Watershed Districts

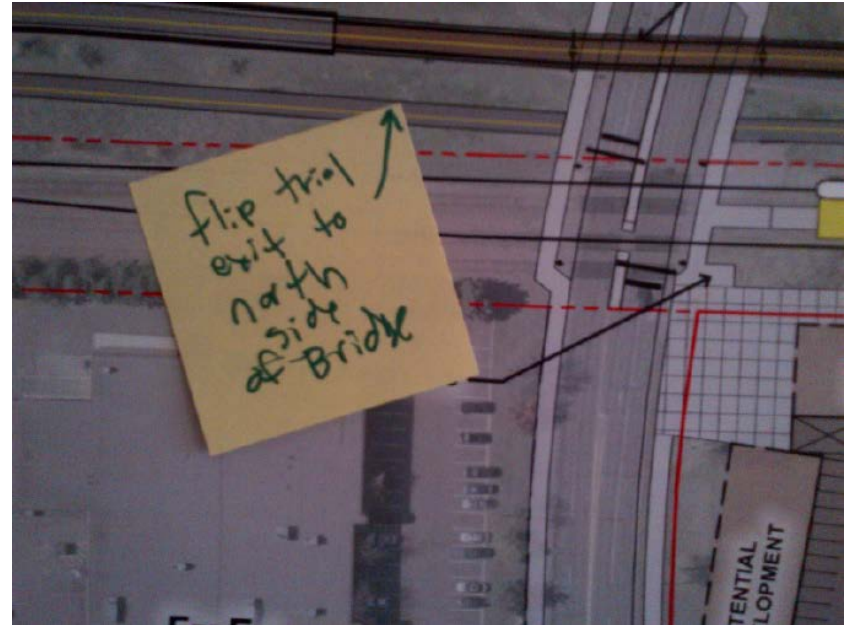
# Decision-Making Process



## Issue Resolution Process



# Business & Community Advisory Committees



Advisory committee  
discussion and input

# Business Advisory Committee Charter

- The purpose of the BAC is to serve as a voice for the community and advise the SWLRT Corridor Management Committee:
  - Provide input on light rail design and engineering topics including station design, parking, multi-modal access to stations
  - Advise on SWLRT communications/outreach strategies
  - Provide input on station area vision and character for development from a community perspective
  - Review and comment on major initiatives/actions of the Hennepin County SWLRT Community Works program
  - Identify potential issues and review strategies to mitigate the impacts of construction on residences and businesses
  - Serve as an information resource and liaison to the greater corridor community and their appointing organization

# BAC Topics of Interest Survey Results

- Station location and community connections
- Land Use
- Tied: Business outreach, transit customer parking, station and platform designs, traffic impacts
- Tied: Lessons learned from Blue and Green Lines, trails/parks/bike facility impacts, transit-oriented-development opportunities

# More Information

Online:

[SWLRT.org](http://SWLRT.org)

Twitter:

[@southwestlrt](https://twitter.com/southwestlrt)

Email:

[SWLRT@metrotransit.org](mailto:SWLRT@metrotransit.org)







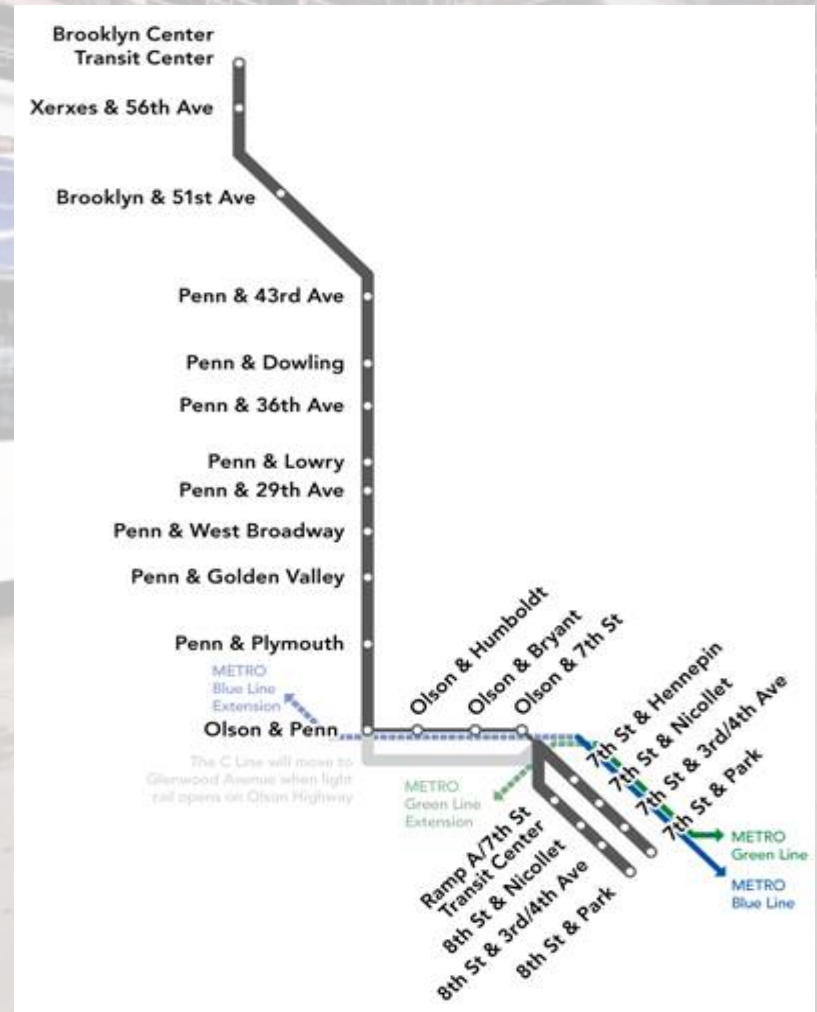
## Brian Funk

Deputy COO – Bus, Metro Transit  
Minneapolis / St. Paul, MN



# C-Line Characteristics and Infrastructure

- Operate 7 days/week in one of Metro Transit's highest ridership corridors
- 17-mile round trip
- 8 Electric and 6 Diesel BRT 60' Buses
- 3 door boarding
- 8 Garage chargers at FTH
- 2 On-route chargers at BCTC
- 100-mile range





- Begin learning immediately
- Partner with New Flyer
- Modify our Workforce Development programs
- Develop pathways
- Find a role for everyone!

