

# Station Plan: Olson Memorial Highway Stations

The C Line will run on Olson Memorial Highway between Penn Avenue and 7th Street North. The limited-stop C Line will serve three stations in this segment, planned for the near-term as temporary upgrades to existing bus stop locations.

- Olson & Penn
- Olson & Humboldt
- Olson & Bryant

These stations are planned to be temporary because they will be displaced when Blue Line Extension light rail construction begins. The Blue Line Extension light rail project, currently in development, will construct light rail along Olson Memorial Highway, with construction anticipated from 2018 to 2020. Service on the line is scheduled to begin in 2021.

The C Line will travel on the same portion of Olson Memorial Highway prior to the start of Blue Line Extension construction. See Figure 1 for additional information. Any permanent BRT stations on Olson built prior to Blue Line Extension light rail construction would be completely removed during a reconstruction of Olson Memorial Highway for light rail operations. As a result, permanent C Line investments cannot be built at this time.

Figure 1: Blue Line Extension and C Line Olson Memorial Highway Alignment



Source: METRO Blue Line Extension Minneapolis Open House Presentation, 07.29.2015

Pre-light rail C Line operations on Olson Memorial Highway are planned to utilize temporary station improvements at existing bus stops to support near-term BRT operations and be easily moved when displaced by expected Blue Line Extension construction beginning as early as 2018. Existing shelter structures, boarding areas, and curb lines will remain in place for C Line service. Additional equipment will be installed at bus stops to support C Line operations.

## Long-Term East-West Alignment Study: Olson Highway and Glenwood Avenue

Metro Transit is committed to identifying the best long-term location for C Line BRT and local bus service after LRT service on the Blue Line Extension begins in 2021. Although it will serve a very different area than the C Line north and west of Olson, the Blue Line Extension will significantly increase transit access along Olson Memorial Highway.

Many stakeholders have questioned whether Glenwood Avenue could be an appropriate east-west alternative to Olson Memorial Highway for the C Line between Penn Avenue and downtown Minneapolis. Additional study regarding a BRT concept on Glenwood Avenue is necessary to determine its feasibility as a long-term option.

This study will occur in 2016, and will recommend permanent station locations for the C Line, either on Olson Highway or Glenwood Avenue. Permanent station locations, either on Olson Memorial Highway or Glenwood Avenue, will move through an additional station plan approval process. Stations would be implemented in a second phase of C Line construction, coordinated with light rail and other road construction in the area.

Figure 2: Station Layout – Olson Memorial Highway Stations

