METRO Gold Line BRT
CBAC Meeting
April 23, 2020
CBAC Roles and Responsibilities
Gold Line Committee Structure

- Issue Resolution Teams (IRTs)
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Community and Business Advisory Committee (CBAC)
- Corridor Management Committee (CMC)
- Counties
- Metropolitan Council
CBAC Purpose

• Review and Discuss *Draft* CBAC Charter

• Purpose
  – Serve as a voice for the community
  – Advise the Corridor Management Committee
  – Provide input on design: stations, operations, bike and pedestrian, bus lane locations
  – Serve as information resource and liaison to community
Gold Line Overview
What is Bus Rapid Transit?

**BRT: Exclusive Bus-Only Lanes**

- Specialized bus
- Limited stops
- Runs on own roadway
- Frequent service: All-day; 10-15 min service
- Pre-boarding fare payment
- More green light time
- Operates seven days a week
- Travels with general traffic
- Stations with improved features
Project Partners and Key Staff

• Project Partners
  – Metro Transit, a division of The Metropolitan Council
  – Ramsey County
  – Washington County
  – St. Paul
  – Maplewood
  – Landfall
  – Oakdale
  – Woodbury
  – MnDOT

• Key Staff
  – Christine Beckwith, Project Manager, Metro Transit
  – Lyssa Leitner, Deputy Project Manager, Washington County
  – Ed Sanderson, Design and Construction Lead, MnDOT
  – Liz Jones, Outreach Coordinator, Metro Transit
**Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Project Timeline**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>PROJECT DEVELOPMENT</th>
<th>PREPARE FOR ENG. (6 mos)</th>
<th>ENGINEERING 1-2 Years</th>
<th>CONSTRUCTION 2-3 Years</th>
<th>REVENUE SERVICE 2024</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW</td>
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<td>DESIGN ADVANCEMENT</td>
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<td>ONGOING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT</td>
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**WE ARE HERE**
Federal: Environmental Assessment (EA)
- Report required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

State: Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)
- Discretionary EAW under Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)

Both EA and EAW
- Evaluates beneficial and adverse impacts to resource areas from the project
- Identifies solutions to avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse impacts
- To inform the public and to assist federal and state agencies in their decision-making process
- Received Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in early 2020
Public Outreach & Engagement Approach

- Community events
  - Festivals, fairs, farmers’ markets
- Pop-up’s at community spaces
  - Libraries, grocery stores, apartment complexes
- Individual meetings and presentations to businesses and community organizations
- Regular communications with resident and business property owners
- Project website, e-newsletter, social media, direct mail
  - www.metrotransit.org/gold-line
  - @GoldLineBRT on twitter
• Example of what will be on Gold Line Station platforms
• Image is of a METRO Orange Line Station
Existing BRT Buses, Shelters and Stations
Shelter Design Concept Input
Station Advancement Milestones

- Outreach Activities (Q1/Q2, 2019)
- Station Workshops with DARTs (Q2, 2019)
- CBAC Input (Q2, 2019)
- TAAC Input (Q3, 2019)
- Station Area Design Advancement to inform 30% costs (Q2-Q4, 2019)
- Shelter Concepts (Q1 2020)
Stakeholder and Public Engagement

• Intent was to inform designers of what is important to each community before they started designing
  – Sample questions
    • What opportunities and challenges do you see with the current design?
    • How can the station design best contribute to community mobility and visual quality?
    • What is unique about the context and character of each station area?
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<th>Design Principles</th>
<th>Stakeholder Comments</th>
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<td><strong>Identity</strong></td>
<td>Consistent design between stations</td>
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| **Safety & Comfort**| Well-lit station area  
Protection from wind and rain on all sides  
Heaters and protected seating, specifically for the disabled and elderly  
Consistent platform layout |
| **Connectivity**    | Clear signage and sightlines for pedestrians                                                                                                                                 |
| **Context**         | Natural materials                                                                                                                                 |
| **Resiliency**      | Simple, durable, easily cleaned  
Able to withstand weathering and vandalism  
Simple to clean and touch-up  
Use standard glass size with frit glass pattern  
Light colors show dirt and graffiti |
Today’s Focus – Shelter Input

• Today: Review shelter design concept
  – What are the strengths you see?
  – Do you have any concerns?
  – Did we miss anything?

• Future design advancement:
  – Shelter Material/Color
  – Railings/Fences
  – Platform Pavement
  – Site Furnishings
  – Platform Lighting
  – Landscape

Shelter Concept

Shelter Location

Shelter is one part of the overall shelter site

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Shelter Design: Safety and Security

Security cameras with unobstructed view of platform

Integral LED lighting

Minimize columns and mullions to maximize views from and through the shelter

Multiple entries/exits

Cutaway view of typical shelter
Shelter Design: Weather Protection

- Roof extends over boarding zone
- Heaters
- Weather screens on all four sides of shelter
- Platform heating to aid snow removal

Cutaway view of typical shelter
Shelter Design: Modern and Natural

- Wood ceiling
- Minimal structure
- Clean lines and emphasis on transparency
- Simple geometry

Cutaway view of typical shelter
Shelter Design: Accessibility

Downtown shelter

Standard shelter
Shelter Design
Shelter Design

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Shelter Design

Platform will include additional lighting beyond the shelter
Standing seam metal roofing

- Very durable, low maintenance
- Long history of use in the area, from farm buildings to transit shelters and park buildings
Shelter Design: Materials

Steel structure

- High strength, smaller member sizes, lower material and fabrication costs
- Dark, shop-applied finish - corrosion-resistant, and easily field-repaired
- Color drawn from similar treatments of exposed metal in the vicinity

Discovery Center, Oakdale

Union Station, St. Paul
Shelter Design: Materials

Wood soffit

- Adds an element of warmth, natural environment
- Relates to many local landmarks
- Design of wood slats allows concealment and integration of conduits and lighting
• What are the strengths you see?
• Do you have any concerns?
• Did we miss anything?
For more information:
www.metrotransit.org/gold-line-project

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