



Community and Business Advisory Committee

Meeting #2 | September 13, 2022

Today's Topics

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Housekeeping
- Community and Business Advisory Committee Charter and Co-Chairs
 - Charter Confirmation
 - Co-Chairs Confirmation
- Purple Line BRT Project Updates and Discussion Items
 - Station Area Planning (SAP)
 - Arcade Street Station
 - BRT Route Modification Study (RMS)
- Additional Q&A
- Next Steps and Meeting

Welcome and Introductions

Liz Jones | Purple Line Community Engagement Lead

Housekeeping

- Virtual meetings
 - Camera
 - Microphone (muted when not speaking)
 - Raise hand (if you have a question)
 - Chat (feel free to ask questions in the chat)
- Recordings
- Folder of materials
- Contact information sharing

Committee Charter and Co-Chairs

Liz Jones | Purple Line Community Engagement Lead

Committee Charter & Co-chairs

- Purpose

- Serve as a voice for the corridor residential and business communities and advise the CMC.
- Serve as an information resource and liaison to the greater corridor community.
- Advise on communications and outreach strategies related to the Project.
- Provide input on project design and engineering topics including but not limited to station design, parking, and biking and walking access to stations.
- Identify potential issues and strategies to mitigate the impacts of construction and operation on residences and businesses.

- Leadership/Co-Chairs

- Ianni Houmas, Ramsey County at-large/St. Paul business representative
- Laurie Malone, Maplewood resident

Purple Line BRT Project Updates

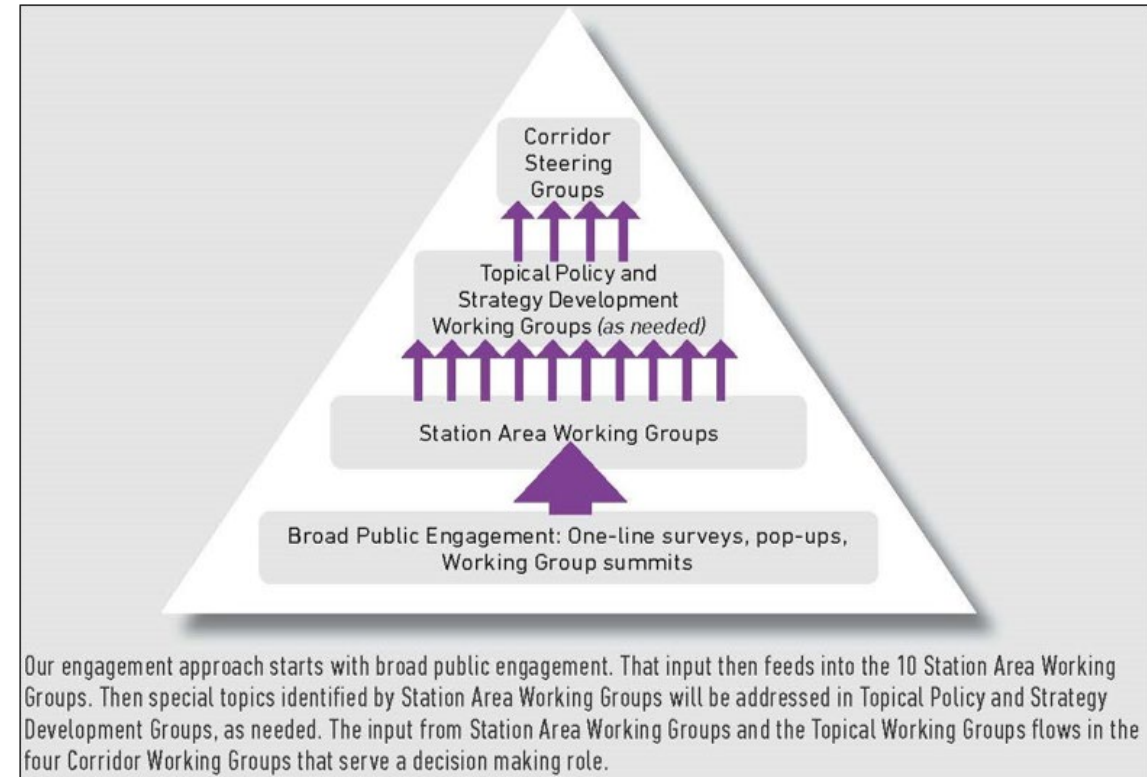
Station Area Planning (SAP)

Jerome Benner | Purple Line SAP Team, NEOO Partners

Station Area Planning (1/2)

Potential CBAC Involvement in Station Area Planning (SAP):

- Station Area Working Groups – help recruit participants by sharing forthcoming application with your network of organizations and individuals
- Apply to be a participant in a Station Area Working Group in your neighborhood – will meet three times in 2023
- Participate in Station Area Working Group Summits – workshops open to the public
- Participate in on-line engagement and pop-ups
- Receive updates at future CBAC meetings



Station Area Planning (2/2)

- Station Area Working Groups Recruitment
 - Applications are open for SAP working groups in St. Paul
 - August 2022 – October 2022: Recruitment period for St. Paul stations
 - Fall/winter 2022: recruit remaining station area working groups
 - Contact Jerome with SAP working group questions: Jerome@neoopartners.com

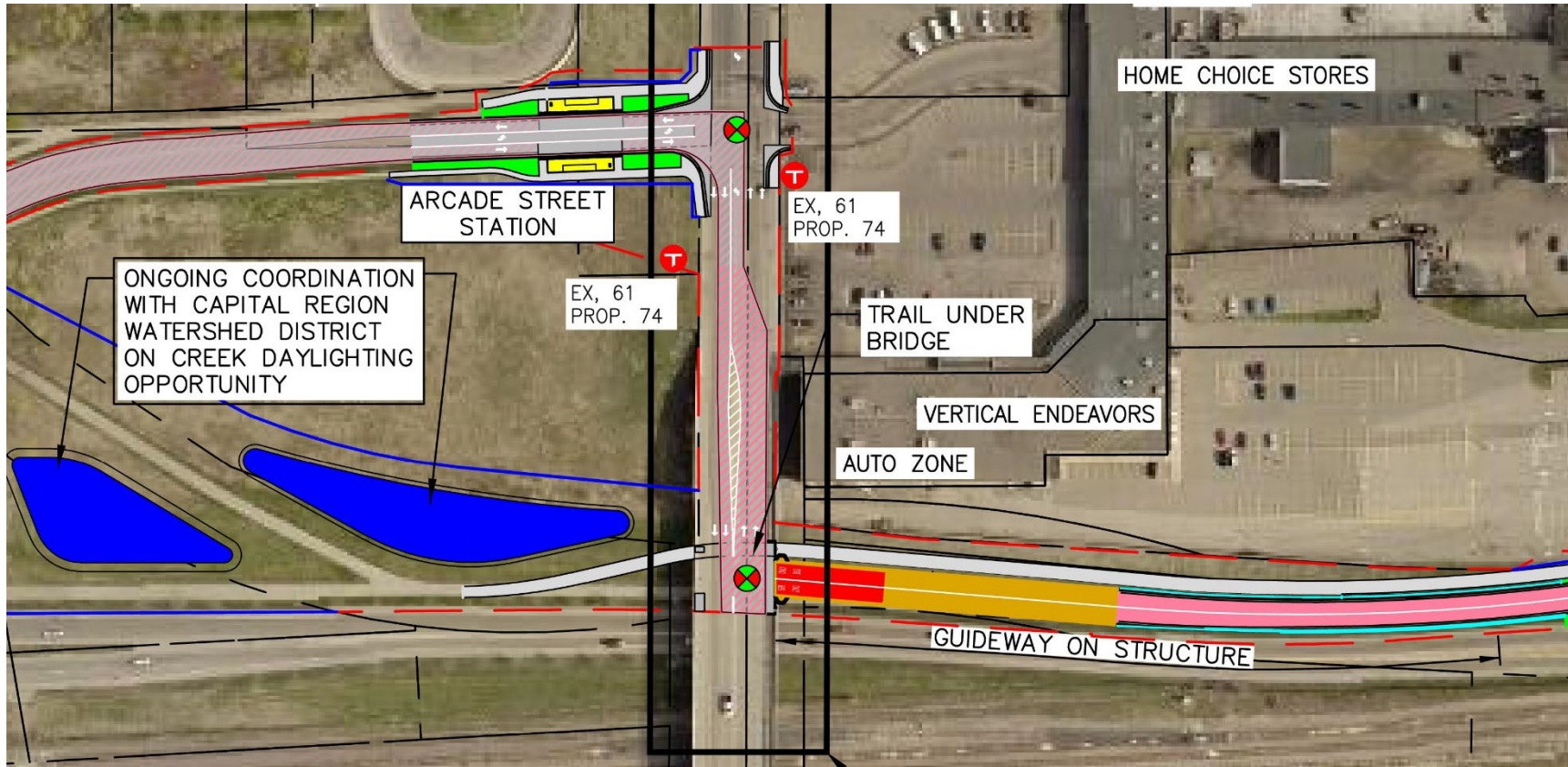


Arcade Street Station

Sara Pflaum | Purple Line Engineering & Design Manager

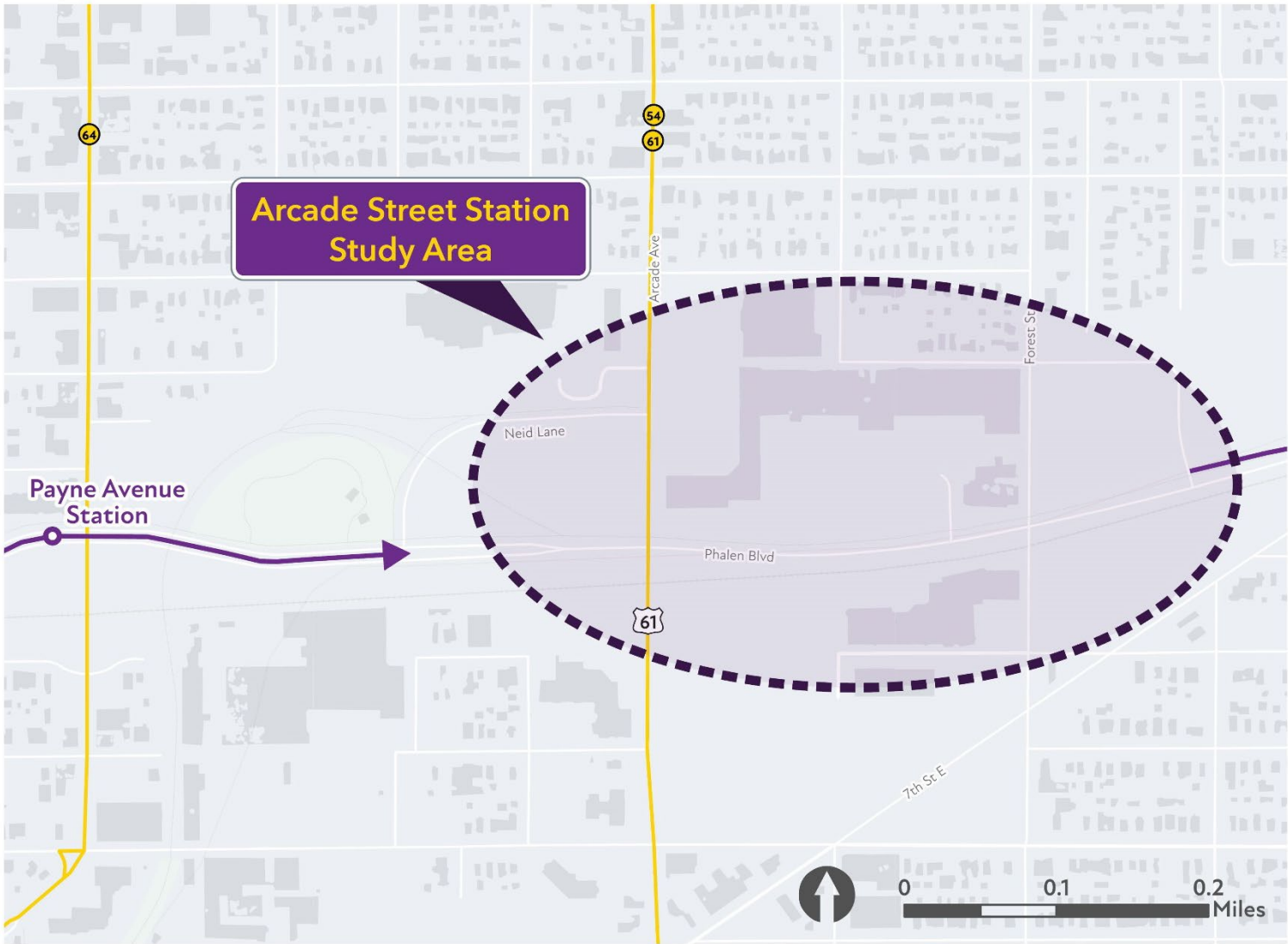
Liz Jones | Purple Line Community Engagement Lead

Arcade Street Station Options Evaluation



Options were requested to mitigate concern of pedestrians / cyclists using the dedicated guideway ramp to access the Bruce Vento Trail from Arcade, and concerns about winter maintenance of the grade of the ramp connection.

Arcade St Station Options Study Area



Arcade Street Station Evaluation Criteria for Station Location Options

- Increase Transit Use
- Implementable Project
- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Sustainable Transit Options
- Enhances Regional Connectivity
- Supports Local Vision

Arcade Street Station Evaluation and Engagement Timeline

- Summer – Technical Evaluation and Identification of Station Location Options
- Mid September – mid October: Public Review and Comment Period
- Late October – early November: Share with Project Committees and Collect Feedback
- January: New Arcade Street Station Location Confirmed

Arcade St. Station Outreach and Engagement (1/4)

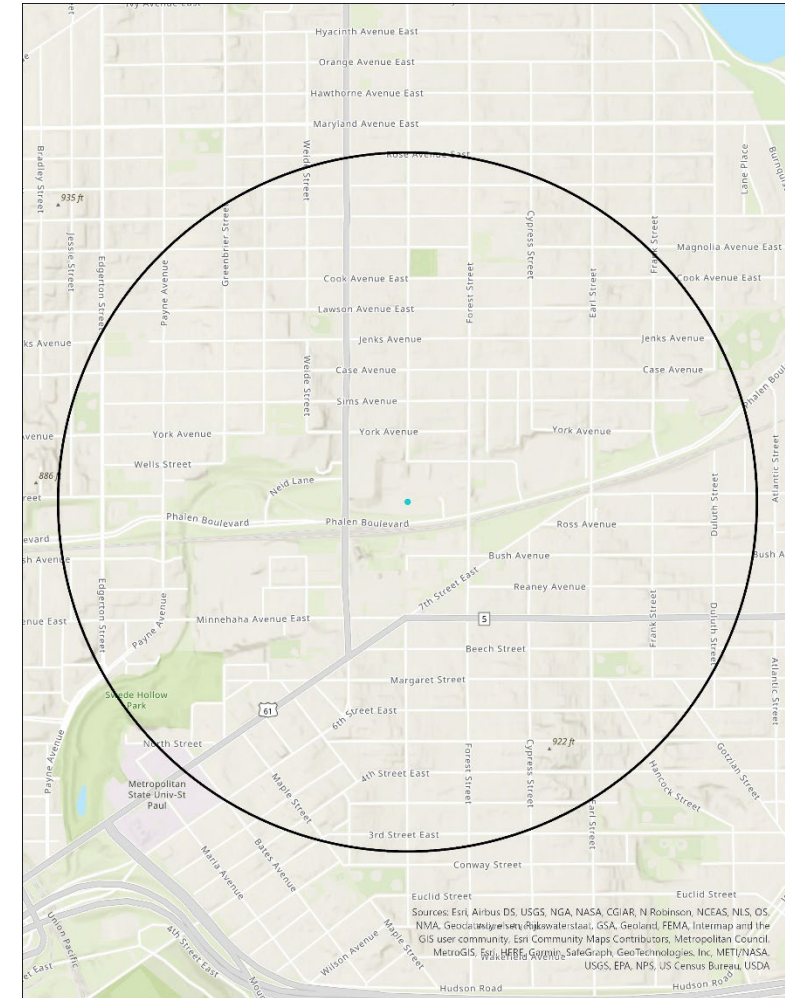
- *Goal is for targeted neighborhood-scale engagement with broader east St. Paul and corridor outreach*
- Preliminary engagement- before going live with options
 - Conversation with city of St. Paul staff to confirm outreach and engagement approach
 - Conversation with St. Paul Councilmember Nelsie Yang to review and obtain feedback on design options and outreach/engagement approach
 - Meet with Seegar Square property owner
 - Pop-up at St. Paul Eastside YMCA
- Outreach and engagement period- 3 or 4 options (depending on preliminary conversations)

Arcade St. Station Outreach and Engagement (2/4)

- Outreach and engagement period
 - Mailing
 - Survey
 - Website, newsletter and targeted social media
 - Open house and pop-up events
 - St. Paul Eastside YMCA
 - Apartment complexes/multi-family housing
 - Sun World Supermarket in Seegar Square Shopping Center
 - Hmong Village
 - Transit stops
 - Community organization presentations
 - Payne-Phalen Community Council
 - Individual property owner/stakeholder meetings

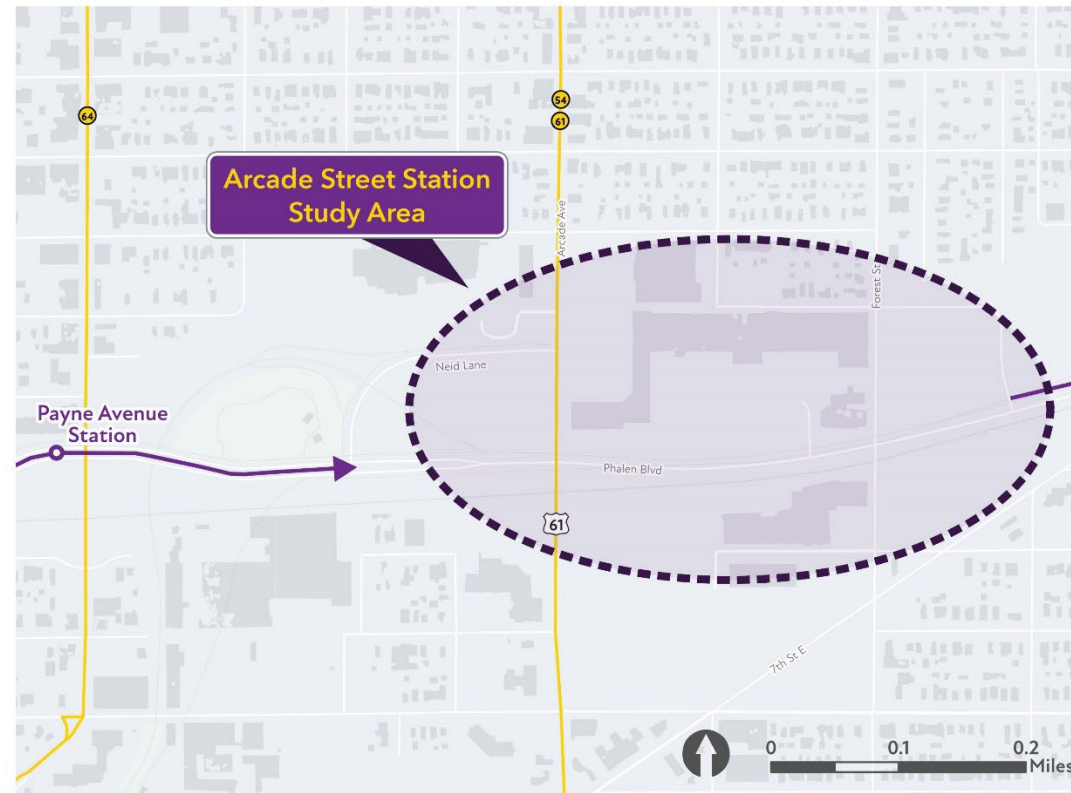
Arcade St. Station Outreach and Engagement (3/4)

- Postcard mailer
 - 1 mile radius around station location options
 - Includes all ½ mile walkshed analysis properties
 - 3,980 parcels



Arcade St. Station Outreach and Engagement (4/4)

ARCADE STREET STATION STUDY AREA

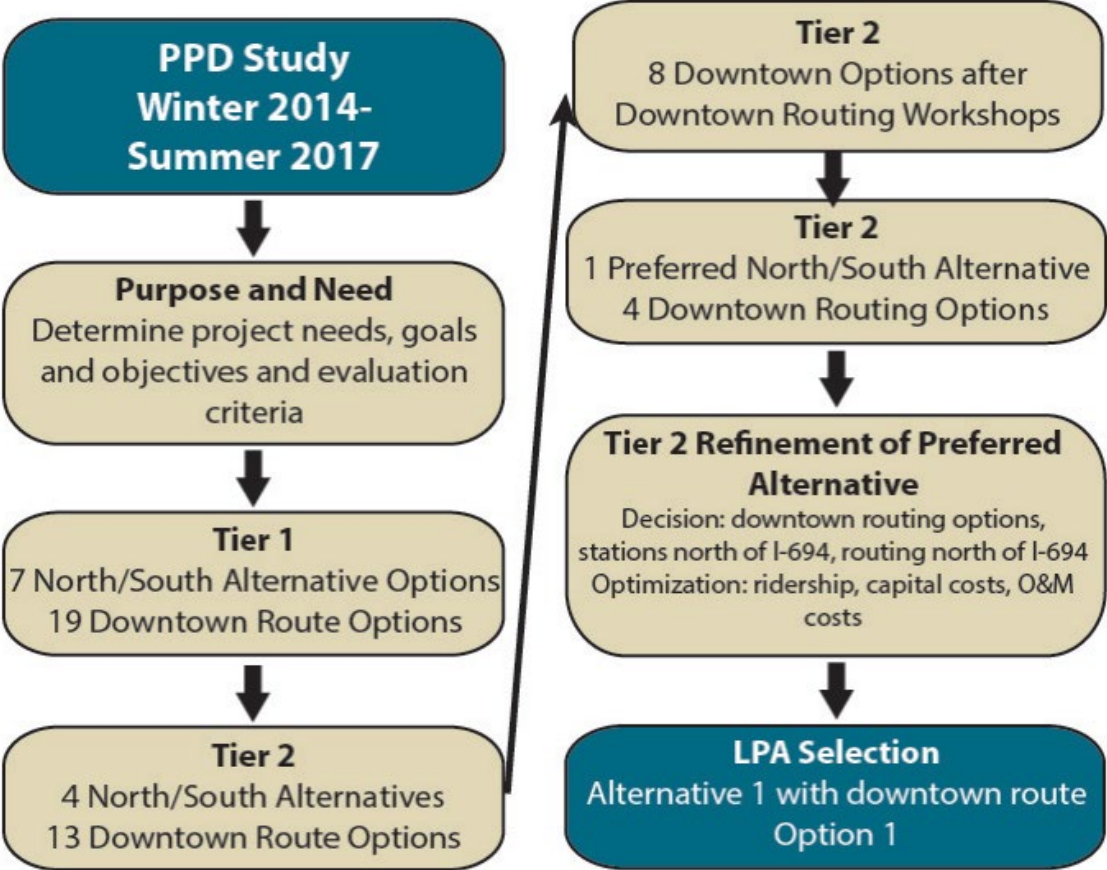


BRT Route Modification Study (RMS) Update & Next Steps

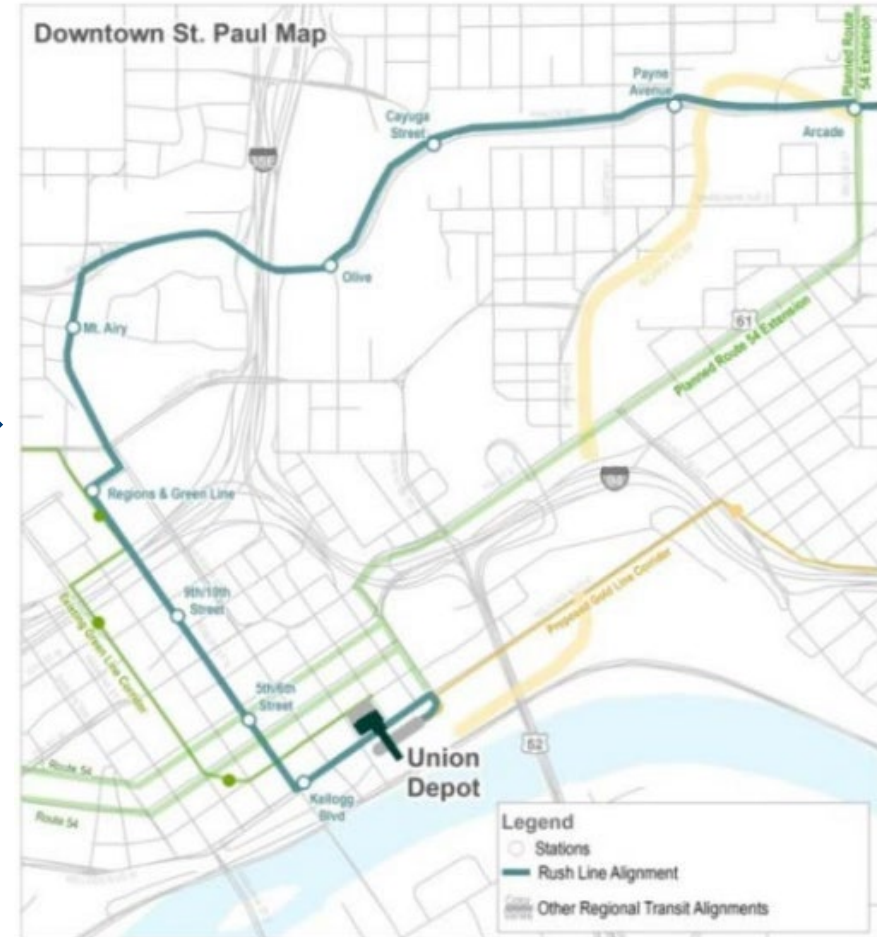
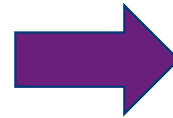
Jim Gersema | Purple Line Consultant Design Manager

Craig Lamothe | Purple Line Project Manager

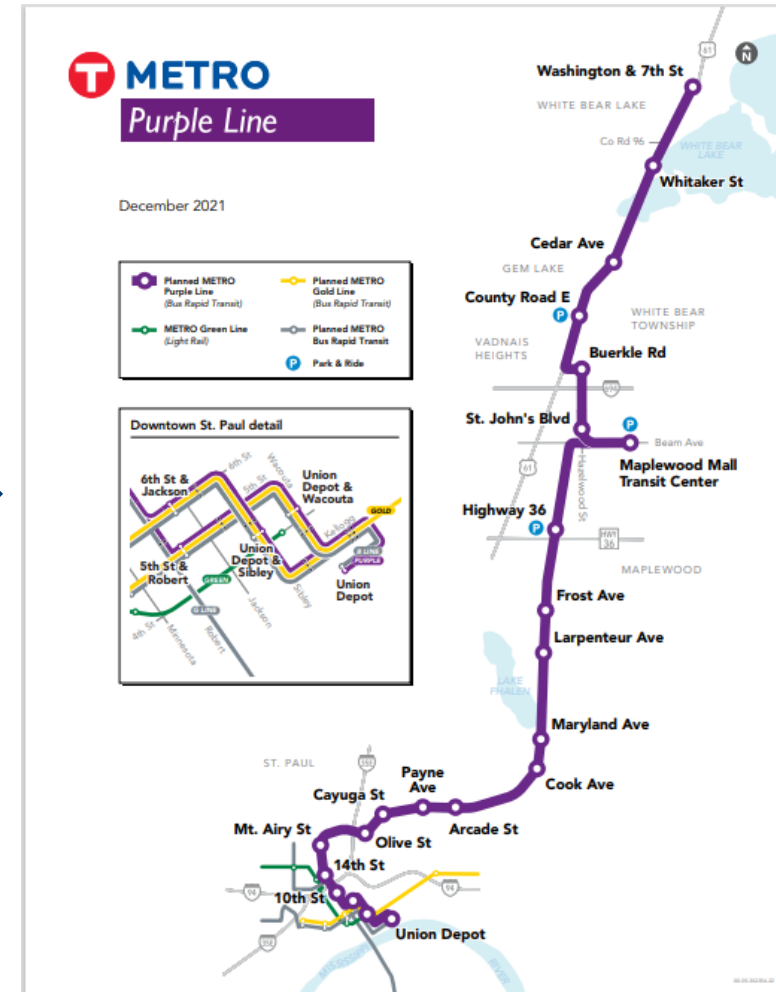
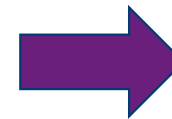
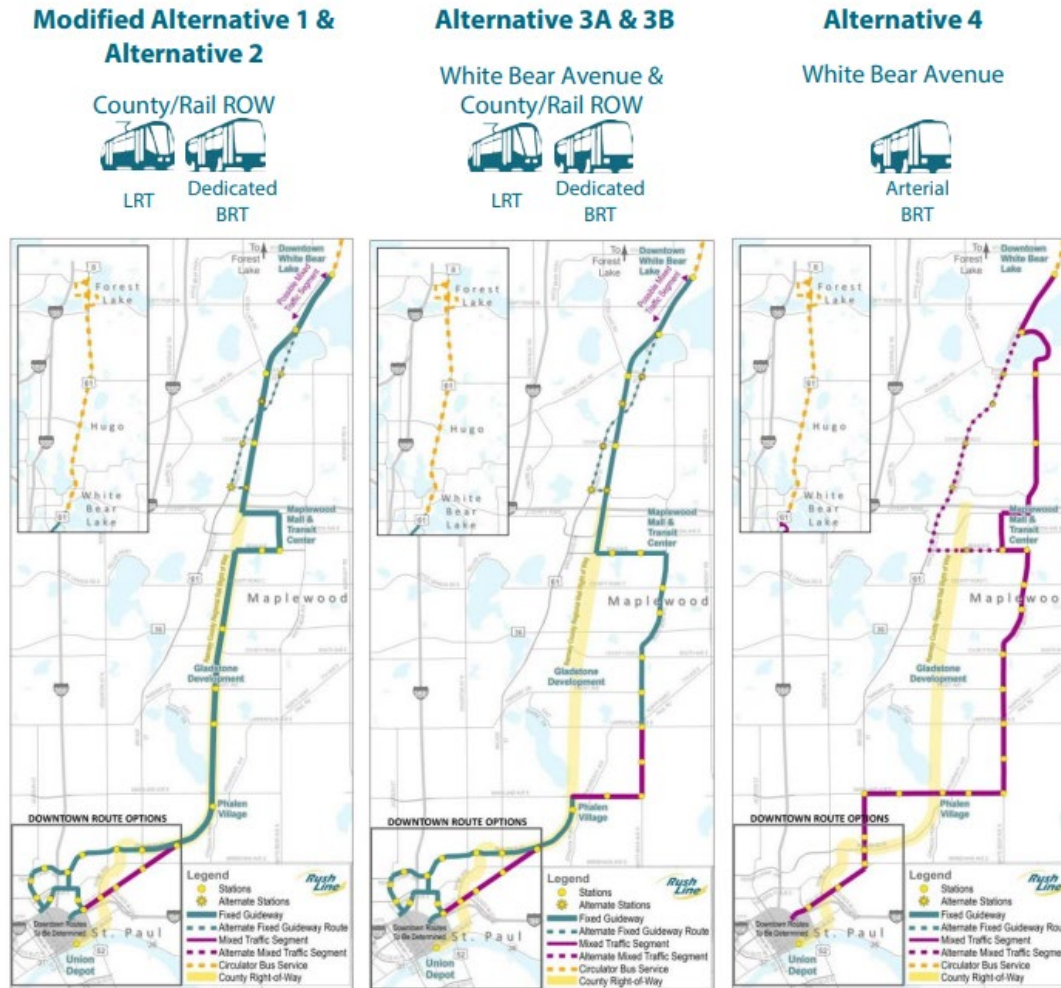
Overview of Previously Studied Routes



Tier 2 - Downtown Alternatives to LPA



Tier 2 – Stations North of I-694 Alternatives to LPA



Potential BRT Route Modifications

- End the BRT line in Vadnais Heights between Highway 61 and Interstate 35E in the vicinity of County Road E or Willow Lake Boulevard

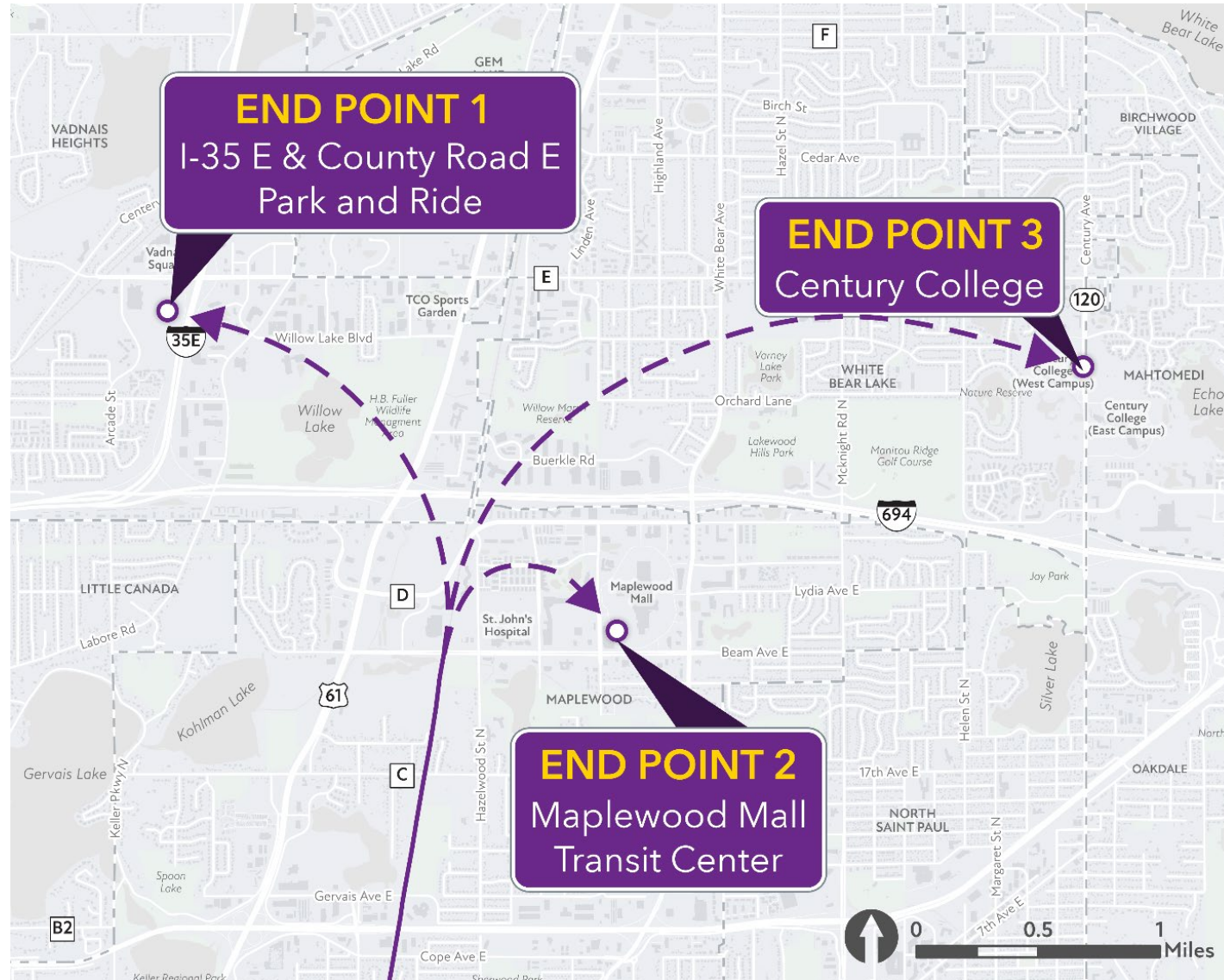
OR

- End the BRT line at Maplewood Mall Transit Center

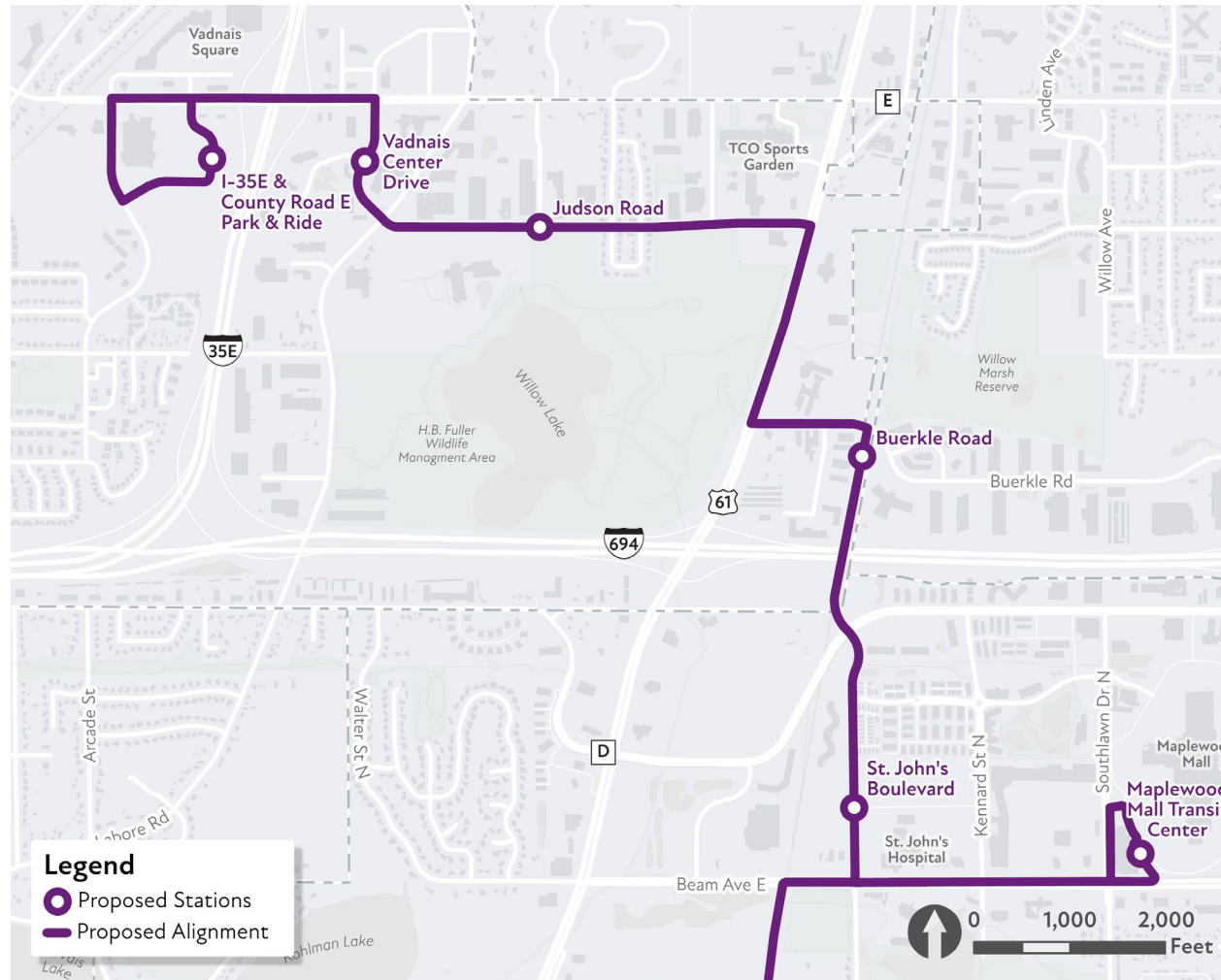
OR

- End the BRT line at Century College in White Bear Lake or Mahtomedi

Route Modification End Point Options

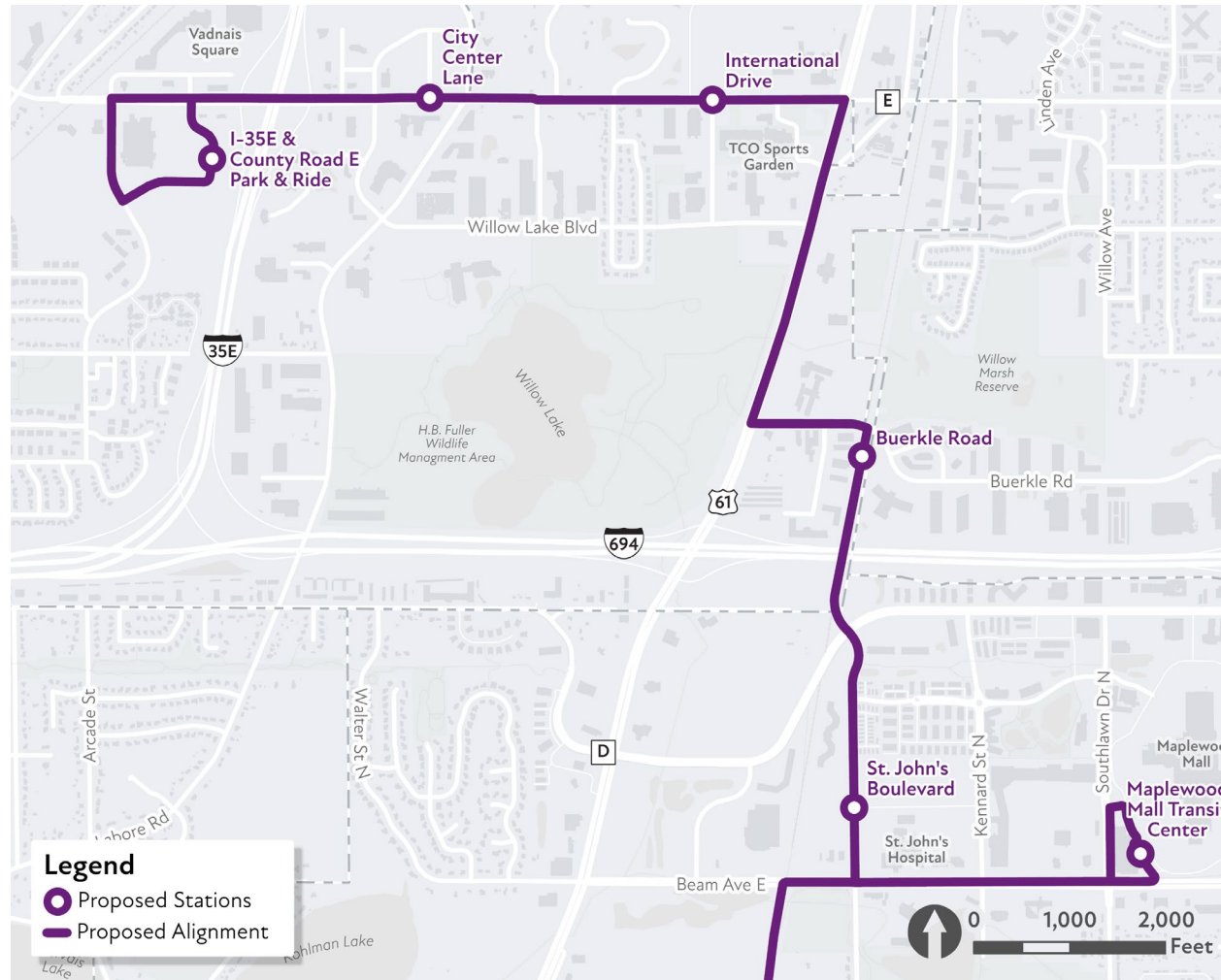


Route Modification Advanced for Technical Evaluation – End Point 1A, I-35E Park and Ride at CR E



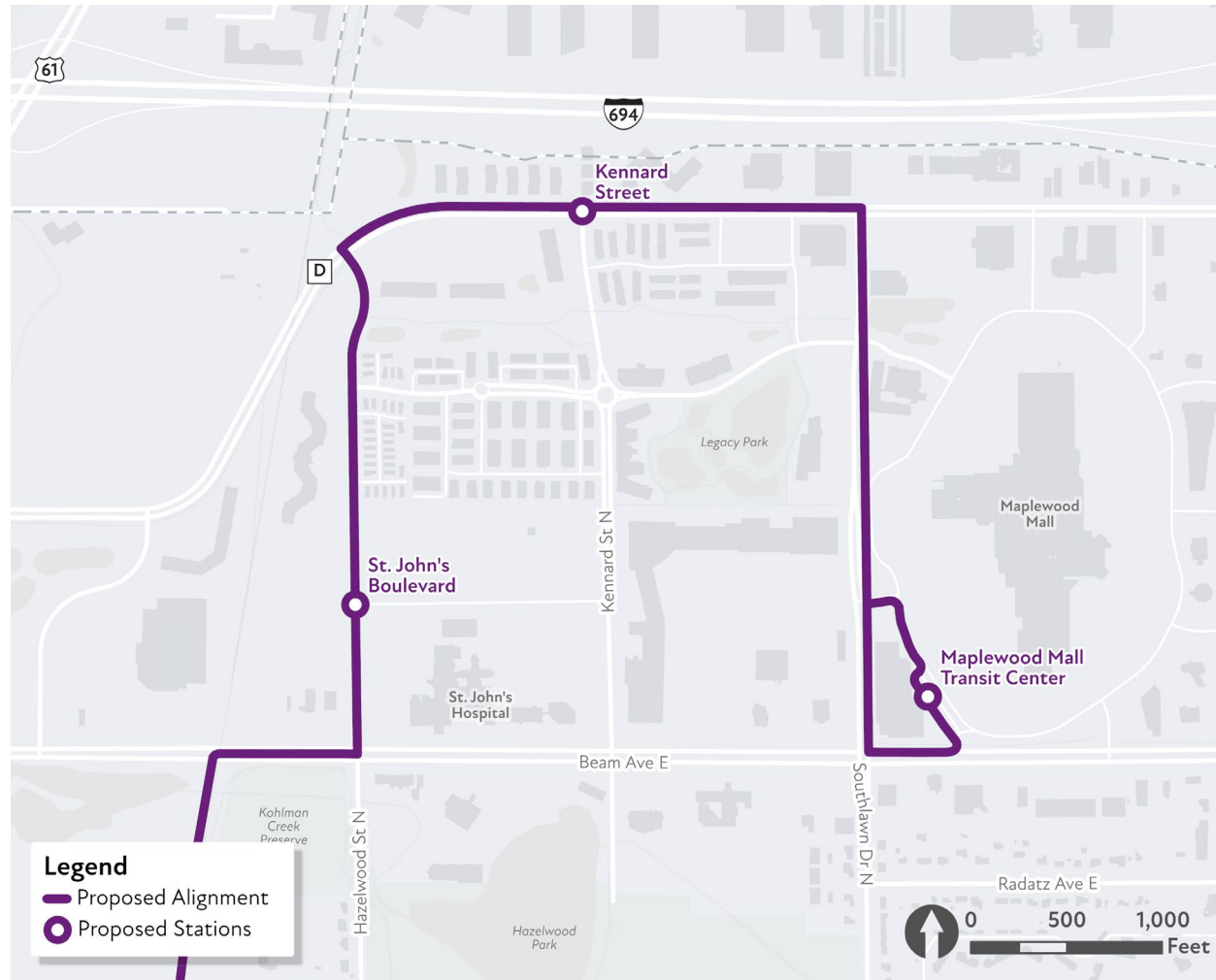
- End at I-35E Park and Ride at CR E with routing along Willow Lake Blvd, and CR E.
- New Stations
 - Judson Rd at Willow Lake Blvd
 - Vadnais Center Dr at Willow Lake Blvd

Route Modification Advanced for Technical Evaluation – End Point 1B, Maplewood Mall Transit Center



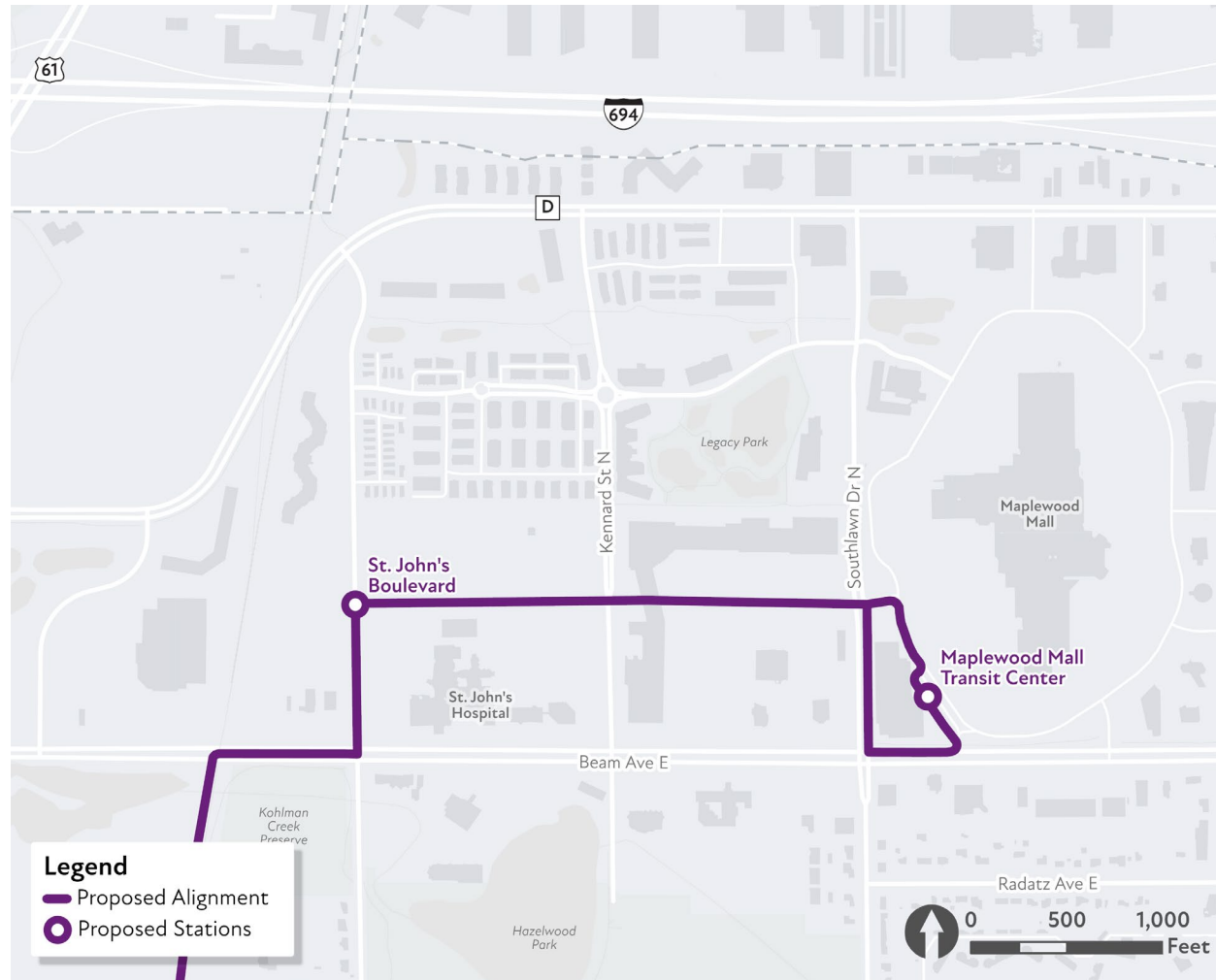
- End at I-35E Park and Ride at CR E with routing along CR E.
- New Stations
 - International Dr at CR E
 - City Center Ln at CR E

Route Modification Advanced for Technical Evaluation – End Point 2A, Maplewood Mall Transit Center



- End at Maplewood Mall Transit Center with routing along Hazelwood St., Co. Rd. D, and Southlawn Dr.
- New Stations
 - Kennard St at CR D

Route Modification Advanced for Technical Evaluation – End Point 2B, Maplewood Mall Transit Center



- End at Maplewood Mall Transit Center with routing along St. Johns Blvd.
- Potential relocation of St. Johns Blvd station

Route Modification Advanced for Technical Evaluation – End Point 3A, Century College



- End at Century College with a terminal Station near the intersection of Woodland Dr and Century Ave with routing along White Bear Ave, I-694 and Century Ave
- New Stations
 - Woodlyn Ave at White Bear Ave
 - Long Lake Rd at County Line Rd (Hwy 120)
 - Century College

Route Modification Advanced for Technical Evaluation – End Point 3B, Century College



- End at Century College with a terminal Station near the intersection of Woodland Dr and Century Ave with routing along White Bear Ave, I-694 and Century Ave
- New Stations
 - Woodlyn Ave at White Bear Ave
 - Long Lake Rd at County Line Rd (Hwy 120)
 - Century College

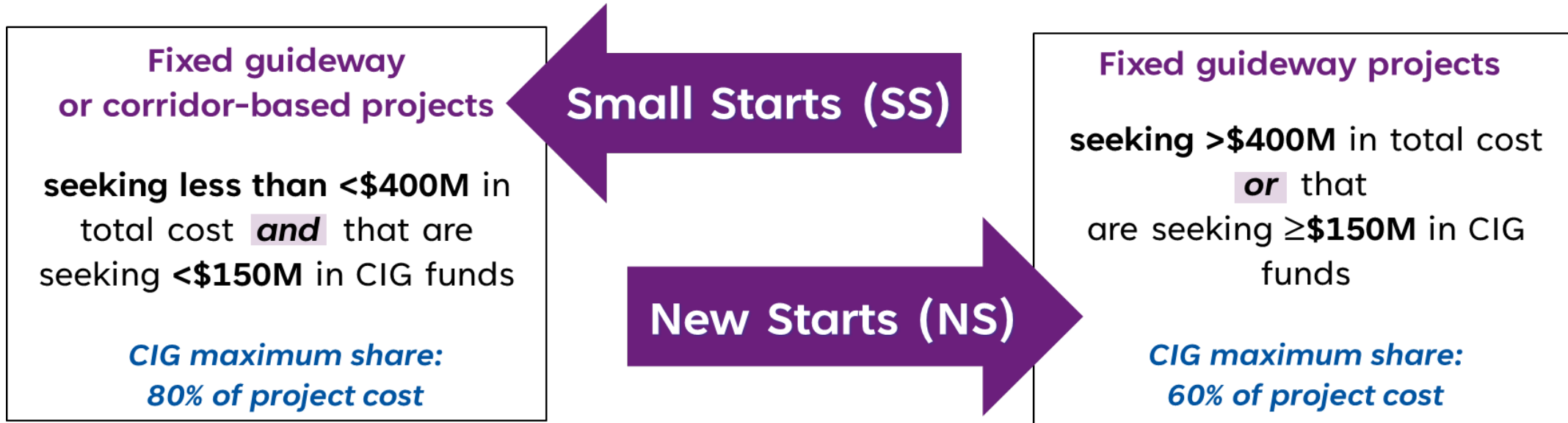
A Focus on Improving the Project Rating

- Still very early in the federal process; No federal funding decisions or federal evaluation of the project have occurred.
- Commitment of federal funding is at least 1 ½ years away.
- Additional work is needed to position the project for a federally qualifying medium rating.
- Staff will evaluate potential:
 - Scope changes to lower capital costs;
 - Service plan adjustments to lower operating costs;
 - Transit network adjustments to increase ridership; and
 - Adjustments to non-ridership and non-cost related criteria.

Federal Transit Administration's Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program

- Each type of CIG project has a unique set of requirements in the law, with some similarities among them.
- To be eligible to receive a CIG construction grant, all proposed projects must go through a multi-year, multi-step development process outlined in the law.
- FTA is required to evaluate and rate CIG projects on statutorily defined project justification and local financial commitment criteria that differ by project type, and **a project must receive at least a “Medium”** overall rating to advance through the steps in the process and receive a construction grant award.

FTA Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Projects

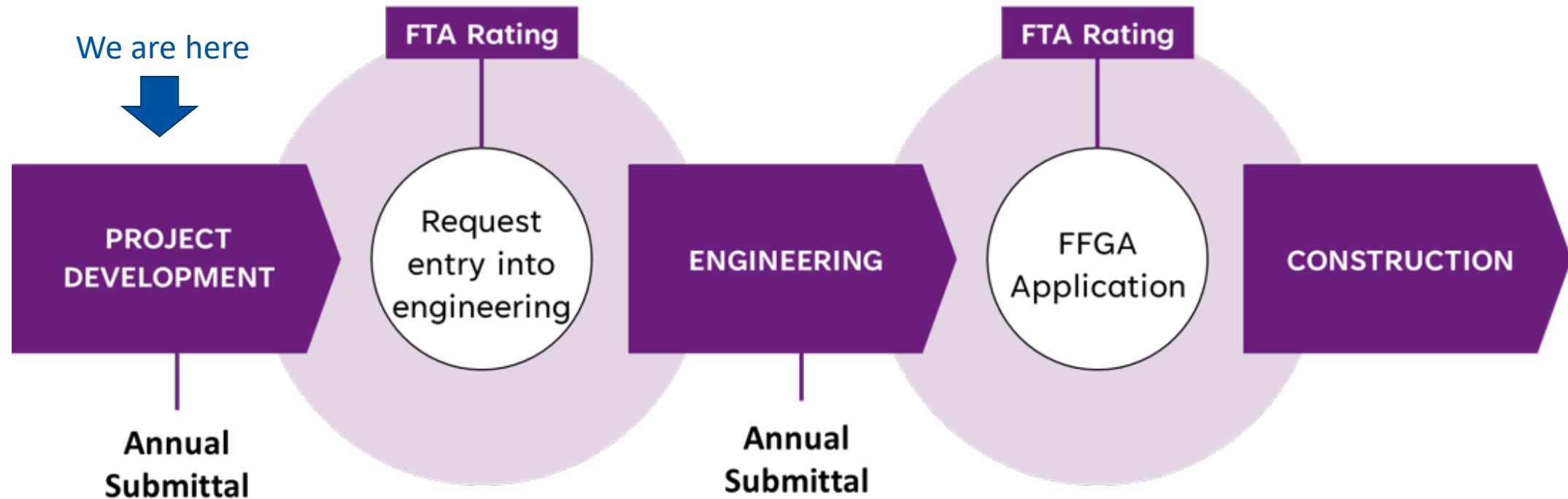


- Orange Line (BRT)
- F Line (BRT)

- Blue Line (LRT)
- Northstar (Commuter Rail)
- Green Line (LRT)
- Green Line Ext. (LRT)
- Blue Line Ext. (LRT)
- Gold Line (BRT)
- Purple Line (BRT)

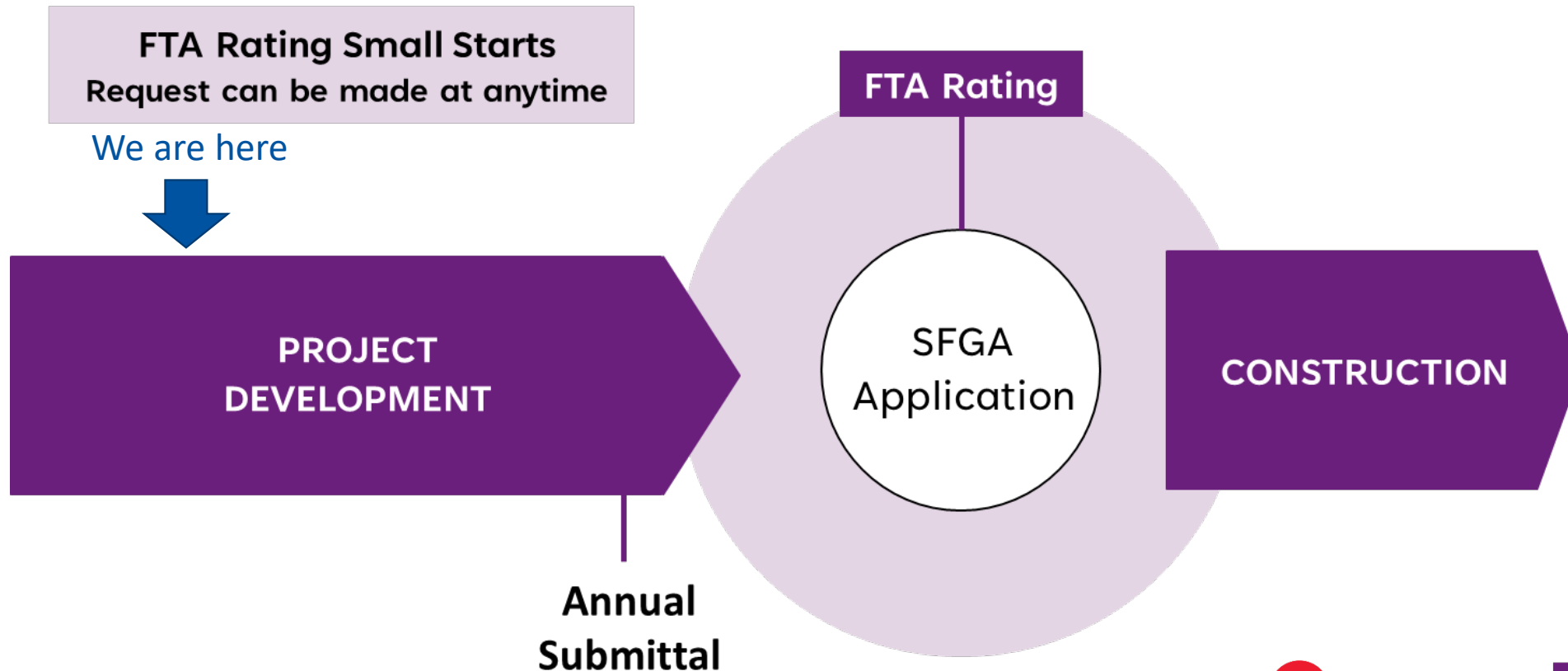
When does FTA rate New Starts projects?

- FTA evaluates and rates New Starts projects at **two** milestones
- Project sponsor may seek FTA's evaluation and rating up to annually

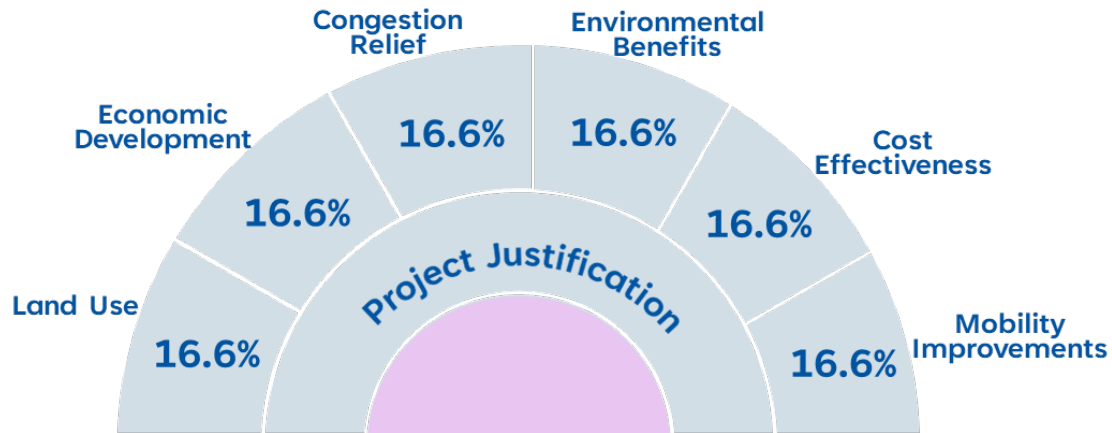


When does FTA rate Small Starts Projects?

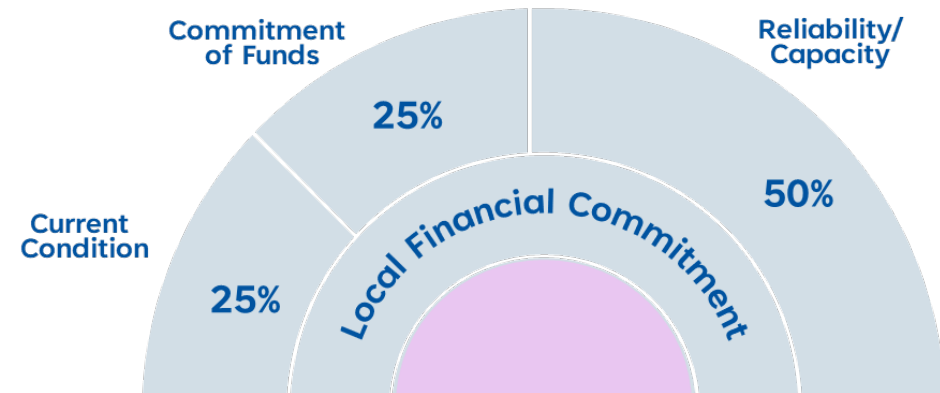
- FTA evaluates and rates Small Starts projects at **one** milestone
- Project sponsor may seek FTA's evaluation and rating up to annually



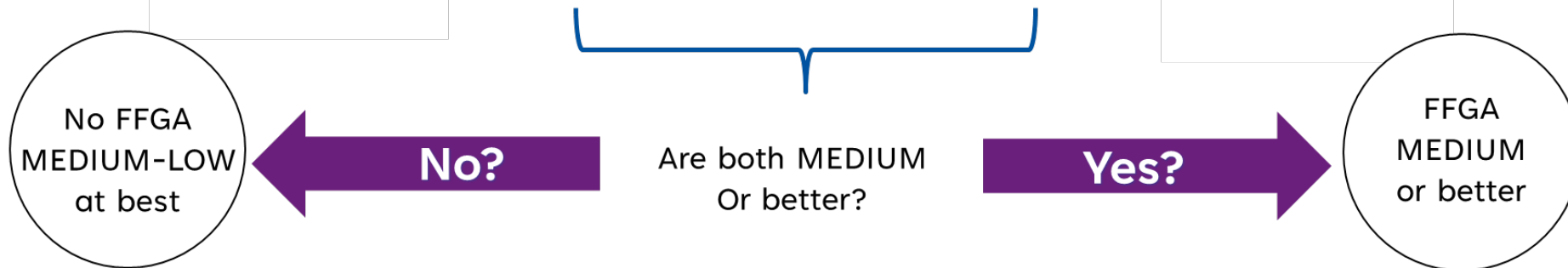
Project Rating



Project Justification



Local Financial Commitment



Route Modification Technical Evaluation Rollout

- Technical Evaluation Results Complete
 - Early November
- Public Review and Comment Period
 - Mid-November - December
- Revised Locally Preferred Alternative Recommendation (selection of new Purple Line route)
 - January 2023

Other Questions?

Next Steps and Meetings

Liz Jones | Purple Line Community Engagement Lead

CMC Meeting Look Ahead

Date	Agenda
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome new CMC members: Mahtomedi and Community & Business Advisory Committee (CBAC) co-chairs• Route Modification Study Update• Arcade St. Station Options• Purple Line Connector Update
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CBAC meeting report• Review technical evaluation results before Public Comment Period
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review public feedback from the Public Comment Period• Make a recommendation on the Locally Preferred Alternative

Upcoming CBAC Meetings

- Format: Virtual (in-person options TBD)
- Next meeting:
 - November
 - Review route options for each route end point
 - Provide feedback on route options and end points
- Subsequent meetings:
 - January
 - Review public feedback on route options and end points

Contact Us

For more information:

www.metrotransit.org/purple-line-project

[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) @PurpleLineBRT

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Thank You!

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