



March 22 Construction Kick-off Question & Answer Summary

The following are notes from the question and answer portion of the Penn Avenue Improvements Project Construction Kick-Off on March 22, 2018. We have done our best to capture the questions collected from attendees and provide answers here. You may view the presentation from the meeting on [PDF](#) or [Video](#).

Construction Detour Questions

There was an effort made to minimize overall construction impact, duration, and detour distances throughout the project's construction. Detour routes include: Queen Avenue, Russell Avenue, Sheridan Avenue, Oliver Avenue, and Thomas Avenue.

- Streets that serve as detour routes will have parking restrictions. .
- Detours were determined through a collaboration of the Metro Transit C Line project team, bus operations, City of Minneapolis, and Hennepin County. They have been approved by City of Minneapolis traffic control.
- Temporary bus stops will be set up along detour routes.

Planned Construction Detours

- **Penn & Plymouth Segment** - between Penn & 12th Ave – 14th Ave (Active week of April 9)
Local traffic and bus detours run northbound on Queen Ave, southbound on Russell Ave.
Duration of up to 2 months.
- **Penn & Golden Valley Road Segment** - between Penn & 17th – 21st Ave (Active week of April 16)
Local traffic detours run north on Queen Ave, southbound on Russell Ave. Duration of up to 2 months.
- **Penn & West Broadway Segment** - between Penn & 23rd Ave – 26th Ave
Local Traffic will be detoured to West Broadway Ave and Logan Ave. Duration of up to 6 months.
Bus traffic detours run northbound on Thomas Ave, southbound on Sheridan Ave.
- **26th to Lowry Reconstruction Segment**- between Penn & 26th Ave – Lowry Ave (Active week of April 9)
Local traffic and bus detours run on Queen Ave. Duration of up to 6 months.
- **Penn & 36th Segment** - between 35th - 39th Ave
Local traffic and bus detours run on Queen Ave. Duration of up to 2 months.
- **Penn & 43rd Segment** - between Penn & 42nd Ave – 44th Ave
Local traffic and bus detours run on Oliver Ave
- All truck and through traffic directed to Lyndale Ave N for all construction segments.

Please visit metrotransit.org/penn to view active detours and sign up for the weekly construction bulletin for updates. Detours may change weekly during construction.

I expect more traffic to occur in the alleyways. What will be done with this? Will more stop signs or better stop signs be added? Are alleys accessible for residents on Penn?

Yes, alley access will be maintained for residents and businesses during construction. Alleys will not be utilized by the contractor. Signage will direct local traffic to appropriate detours.

Will 26th remain open?

Yes, 26th Avenue will remain open to through traffic.

Will Route 5 be impacted?

There are no anticipated impacts to Route 5 service due to the Penn Avenue Improvements Project.

How will you let us know when water service will be shut down?

The City of Minneapolis will notify residents 48 hours in advance of a planned water shut downs . Construction bulletins will include descriptions of upcoming work activities and we will try to include warning of water service impacts when possible.

Alley between Penn and Oliver at Golden Valley Road – Will some streets and alleys be repaved because of heavy use?

There is no plan to repave streets or sidewalks outside of the scope of the project.

I have a retaining wall that is on my property that butts up against the sidewalk. What will happen to it?

If you have specific concerns regarding how construction may impact your property, please contact the **Construction Hotline 612-567-4101** or email penn@metrotransit.org.

Generally, construction will be in the public right-of-way. In instances where the project is impacting private property, property owners were notified in advance.

Any damage to private property due to the project will be the responsibility of the contractor. We will be documenting the current condition of construction areas before and after construction.

Did not notice any allowance for bike traffic, Why?

During the [Penn Avenue Vision and Implementation](#) planning process, it was determined to not include a bikeway on Penn Avenue. A bike boulevard is planned for Queen Avenue in the future.

Also, there is no bike-specific detour planned for construction, as Penn Avenue is not a bikeway today.

When will metal detectors be put on public transportation to protect residents?

Currently, there are no plans to add metal detectors to Metro Transit vehicles or facilities. We know that our customers have concerns about personal security. Safety and security is our top priority. C Line rapid bus will bring enhanced security features beyond those available at local route stops. Every station will include: better lighting, security cameras, and an emergency telephone with a 24/7 connection to Metro Transit Police Department.

Approximately 2-3 years ago residents on Penn Avenue were required to make sidewalk repairs. Can we be assured that work will not damage those repairs or create more repair work?

Any damage to sidewalks due to the project would be repaired by the contractor. We will be documenting the current condition of sidewalks prior to the start of construction. If you have any concerns regarding property or sidewalk damage, please contact the **Construction Hotline 612-567-4101** or email penn@metrotransit.org. We ask that you please contact project staff and not attempt to field complaints or questions through construction workers and staff.

Why wasn't Penn selected as the route for Blue Line Extension?

The right of way needs to fit LRT onto Penn would have resulted in a very substantial negative impact to homes and businesses along the corridor as many would need to be acquired. For more information about the Blue Line Extension planning process visit BlueLineExt.org.

Where would be the best connection points from C Line to light rail?

When C Line begins operation in 2019 it will connect to light rail downtown Minneapolis via a short walk to Hennepin or Nicollet stations. In the future C Line will connect to the Blue Line at the Penn Avenue Station and to the Green Line at the Royalston Station.