METRO E Line
Draft Corridor Plan

Saint Anthony Park Community Council

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E Line Bus Rapid Transit Overview

- Substantial replacement of Route 6, fifth-highest ridership route
- Route 6 ridership remains high, despite nation-wide ridership impact during pandemic
- E Line is fully funded, targeted opening in 2025
- $60 million preliminary budget, to be refined as project advances
Why arterial BRT?

• Provide faster, more reliable, more attractive bus service
• Improve current slow and unreliable transit service
• Address passenger facilities inadequate for the volume of people using them
• Improve the transit experience at stops and on vehicles
**What will METRO BRT stations look like?**

1. **Pylon markers** help riders identify stations from a distance.
2. **Real-time NexTrip signs** provide bus information, and on-demand annunciators speak this information for people with low vision.
3. **Utility boxes** near station areas house necessary communications and electrical equipment (not pictured).
4. **Shelters** provide weather protection and feature push-button, on-demand *heaters* and *shaker lighting*. Shelter sizes will vary based on customer demand (small shown here).
5. **Ticket machines and fare card validators** collect all payment before customers board the bus.
6. **Emergency telephones** provide a direct connection to Metro Transit police. Stations also feature security cameras.
7. **Stations feature trash and recycling containers.**
8. **Platform edges** are marked with a cast-iron textured warning strip to keep passengers safely away from the curb while the bus approaches. Many stations also feature *raised curbs* for easier boarding.
9. **Platform areas** are distinguished by a dark gray concrete pattern.
10. Some stations have *pedestrian-scale light fixtures* to provide a safe, well-lit environment. Fixtures will match existing lights in the surrounding area (not pictured).
11. **Benches at stations** provide a place to sit.
12. **Stations have bike parking.**
Early planning: E Line Corridor Study (2018-2019)

• Evaluated potential terminal and alignment alternatives

• Identified concept station locations and service plan
  - E Line service would run every 10 minutes
  - Local service on Route 6 would run every 20 minutes from Minnesota Drive to downtown via Southdale and Xerxes Avenue

• E Line alignment adopted by Metropolitan Council January 2020
Project schedule

• E Line Corridor Study: 2018 – 2019

• Corridor Plan
  - September 2021: Release Draft Corridor Plan
  - January 2022: Recommended Corridor Plan (Council action to release for public comment)
  - March 2022: Final Corridor Plan (Council action to approve)

• Engineering: Mid-2022 – Late 2023

• Construction: 2024 – 2025

• Start of service: 2025
E Line Draft Corridor Plan

- Planned station locations: Station intersections and location of platforms within each intersection
Core element of Corridor Plan: Station and Platform Locations

- Proposed platform locations developed through site-specific review
- Excludes locations that have been or will be developed in coordination with other projects
- Concept designs will evolve through coordination and engineering

Existing Sheridan & 39th Street Station Area

Proposed Sheridan & 39th Street Station Plan
Planning for stations located within other roadway projects has advanced in coordination with those projects.

Station plans not developed for Corridor Plan for these stations.

Metro Transit is coordinating with the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County through other projects on potential bus-only lanes.
Outreach and engagement strategies

- Public comment period: September 20 – October 31
- Project website (metrottransit.org/e-line-project)
  - Key information and station concepts
  - Draft Corridor Plan
  - Corridor overview video
  - Survey form for feedback on specific stations
- Direct mailing (postcard)
- Email to subscribers and Rider Alerts
- In-person feedback at key bus stops
- Partner with community organizations and neighborhood groups along corridor
- Flyers to post along corridor
- Social media
Next steps and project schedule

• Release Draft Corridor Plan and seek feedback through October 31
• Recommended Corridor Plan (Council action to release for public comment): January 2022
• Final Corridor Plan (Council action to approve): March 2022
• Engineering: Mid-2022 – Late 2023
• Construction: 2024 – 2025
Nearby Station Plans: University & Berry - Existing
Nearby Station Plans: University & Berry - Planned
Planned METRO Network

- E Line is one of several arterial BRT lines planned between now and 2030