



METRO E Line Draft Corridor Plan

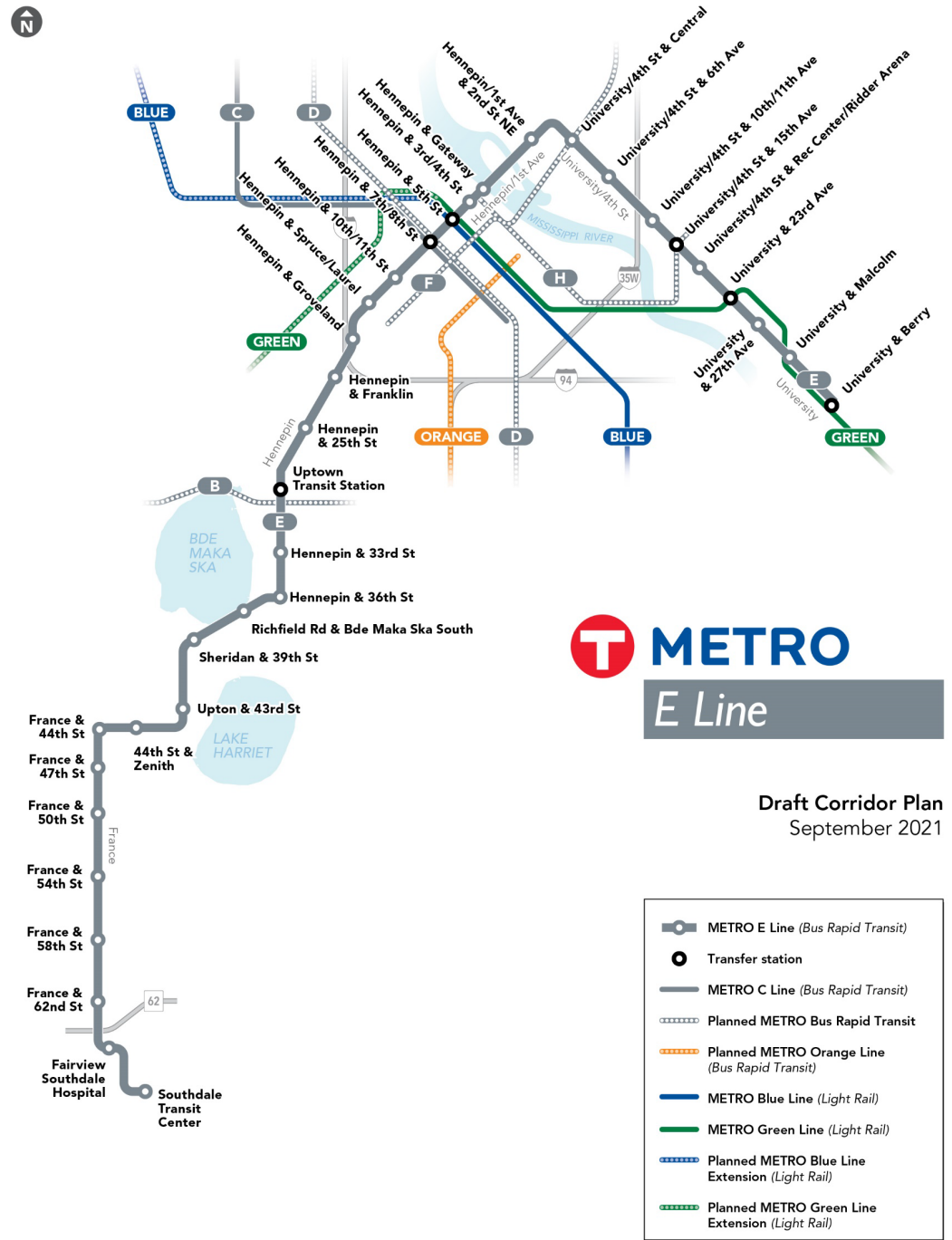
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Sierra Club Land Use &
Transportation Committee, 10/4/2021

E Line Bus Rapid Transit Overview

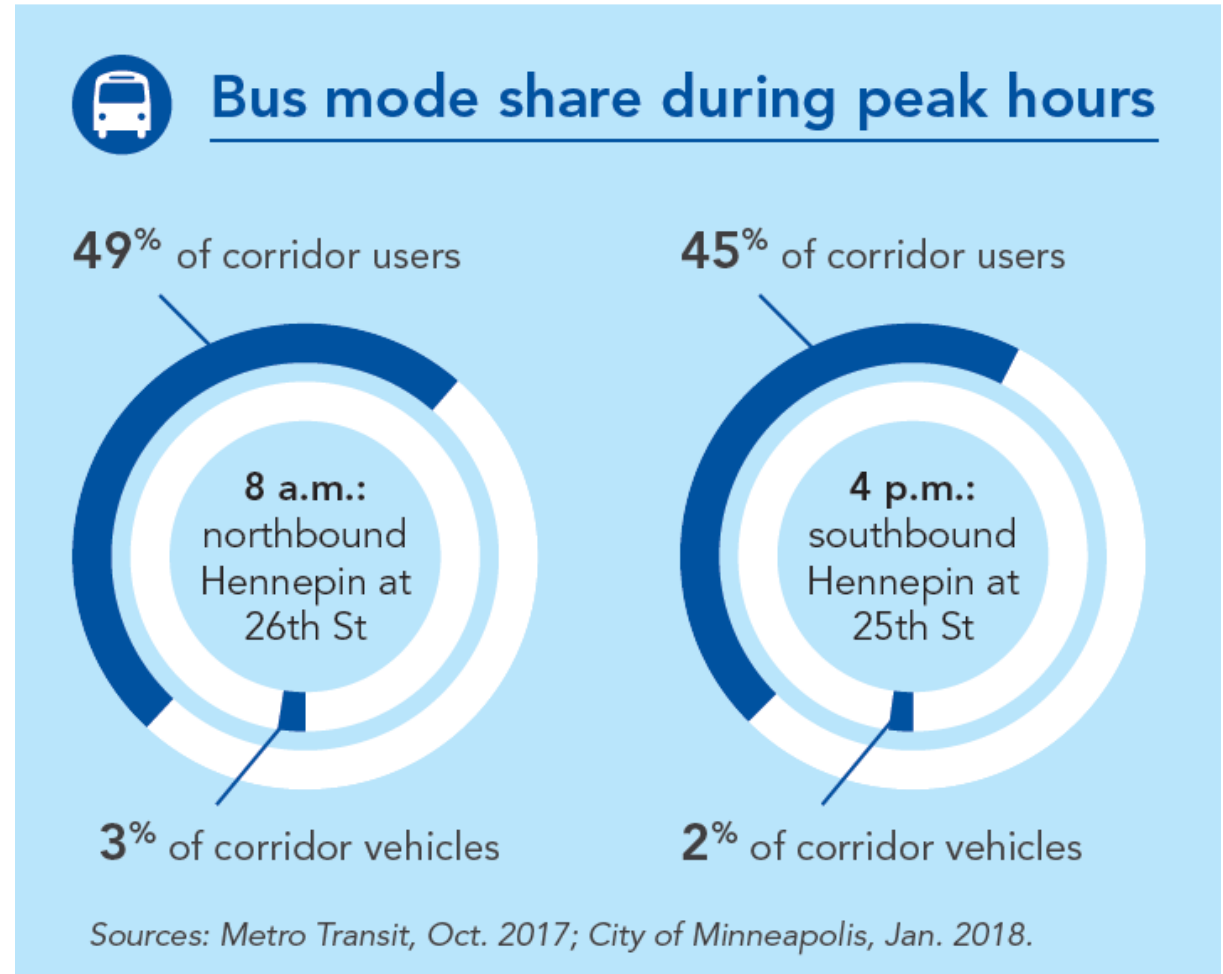
- Substantial replacement of Route 6, fifth-highest ridership route
- Route 6 ridership remains high, despite nation-wide ridership impact during pandemic
- E Line is fully funded, targeted opening in 2025
- \$60 million preliminary budget, to be refined as project advances



Draft Corridor Plan
September 2021

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?



- A** Pylon markers help riders identify stations from a distance.
- B** Real-time NexTrip signs provide bus information, and on-demand annunciators speak this information for people with low vision.
- C** Utility boxes near station areas house necessary communications and electrical equipment. (not pictured)
- D** Shelters provide weather protection and feature push-button, on-demand heaters and shelter lighting. Shelter sizes will vary based on customer demand (small shown here).

- E** Ticket machines and fare card validators collect all payment before customers board the bus.
- F** Emergency telephones provide a direct connection to Metro Transit police. Stations also feature security cameras.
- G** Stations feature trash and recycling containers.
- H** 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.

- I** Platform areas are distinguished by a dark gray concrete pattern.
- J** 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)
- K** Benches at stations provide a place to sit.
- L** 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



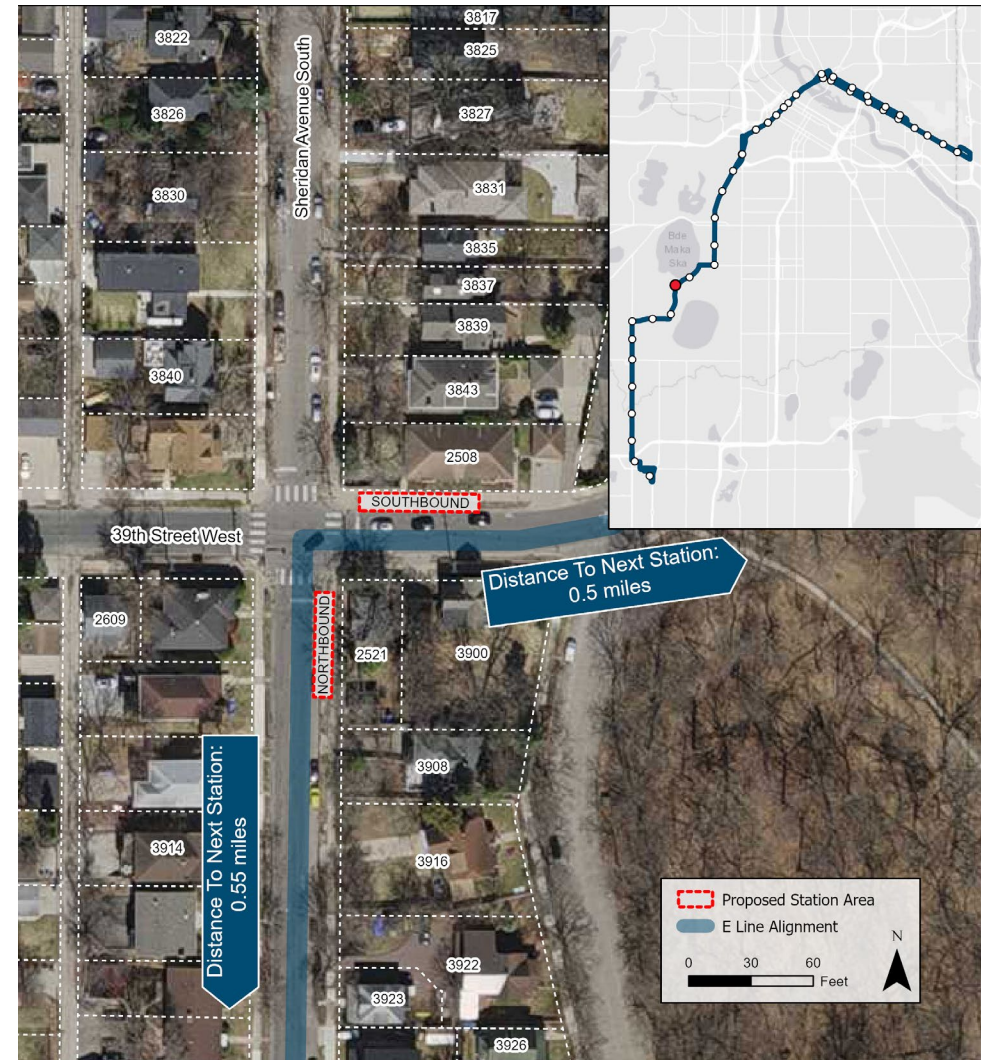
Project schedule

- 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

Proposed Platform Locations at Sheridan & 39th Street



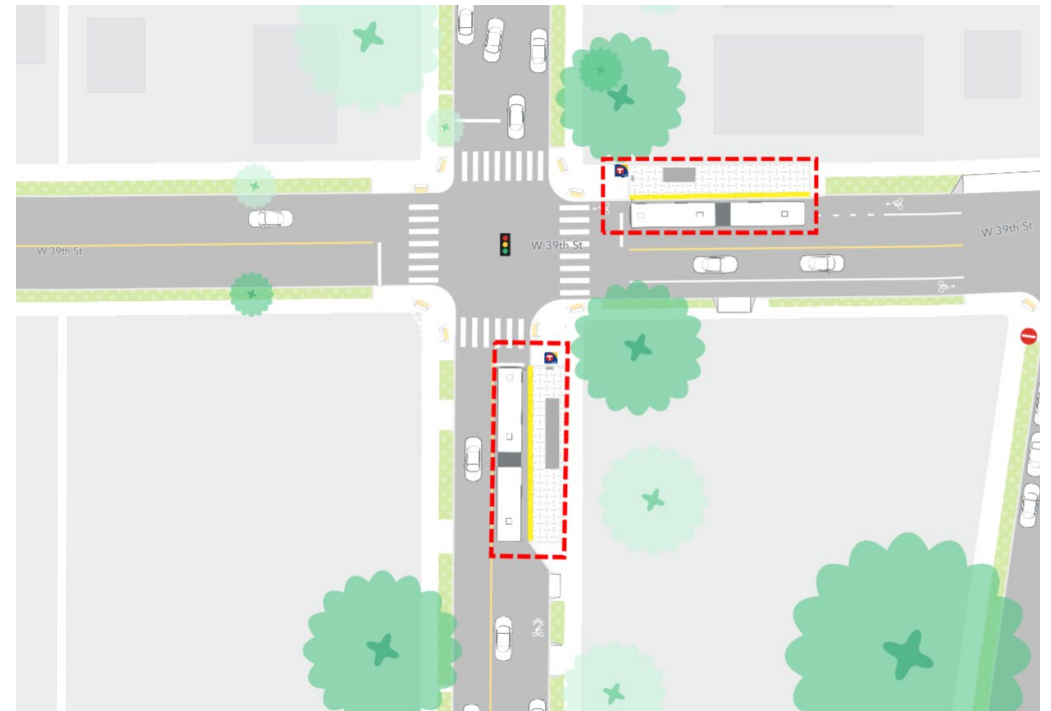
Core element of Corridor Plan: Station and Platform Locations

- 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

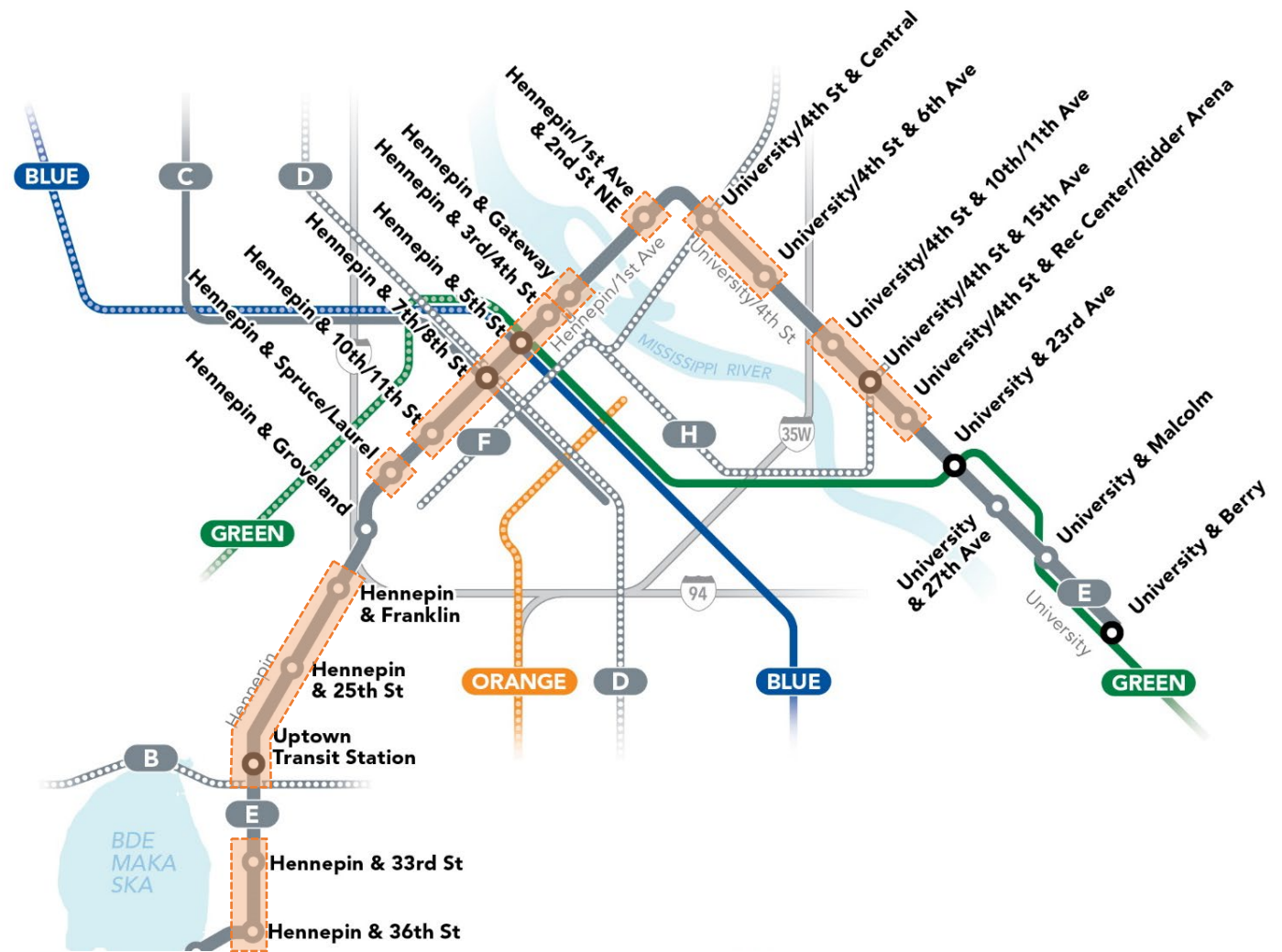


Proposed Sheridan & 39th Street Station Plan



E Line coordination with other projects

- 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 (metrotransit.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
- Open for service: 2025

Review the corridor plan and provide comment

- Review the draft corridor plan and provide comments at metrotransit.org/e-line-corridor-plan