METRO E Line
Draft Corridor Plan

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Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, 10/12/2021
E Line Bus Rapid Transit Overview

- Substantial replacement of Route 6, fifth-highest ridership route (remains high during pandemic)
- E Line is fully funded with $60 million preliminary budget, to be refined as project advances
- Construction targeted to begin in 2024 with targeted opening in 2025
- E Line planned service every 10 minutes for most of the day
Why arterial BRT?

- Provide faster, more reliable, more attractive bus service
- Address passenger facilities inadequate for the volume of people using them
- Improve the transit experience and comfort for riders at stops and on vehicles

Bus mode share during peak hours

- 8 a.m.: northbound Hennepin at 26th St
  - 49% of corridor users
  - 3% of corridor vehicles

- 4 p.m.: southbound Hennepin at 25th St
  - 45% of corridor users
  - 2% of corridor vehicles

Improving the existing transit experience

France Avenue & Sunnyside

Hennepin Avenue & Franklin
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

• Rider and community engagement
  - Community Advisory Committee
  - Open houses
  - Online survey with interactive map
  - Door knocking and meeting riders at stops
  - Meetings with neighborhoods
  - Communications to riders and community through established channels

• E Line alignment adopted by Metropolitan Council January 2020
E Line Draft 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
Draft Plan 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 bus stops and on buses
- Partner with community organizations and neighborhood groups along corridor
- Flyers to post along corridor
- Social media
Corridor Plan next steps

• Draft Corridor Plan:
  - Seeking public comment September 20 – October 31

• Recommended Corridor Plan:
  - Targeting public comment period in February 2022

• Final Corridor Plan:
  - Metropolitan Council action to approve in March 2022
Review the corridor plan and provide comment

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