



METRO E Line Draft Corridor Plan

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Lowry Hill East Neighborhood
Association, 10/13/2021

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



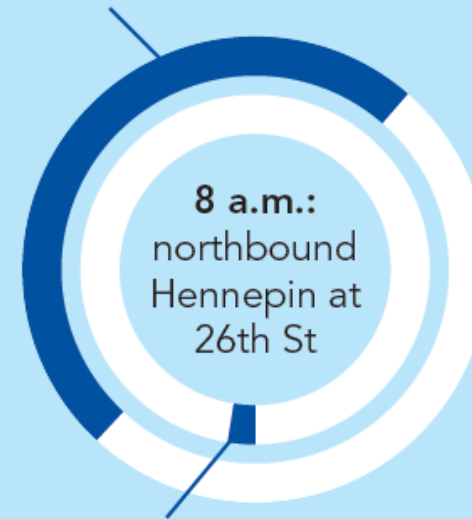
Why arterial BRT?

- 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



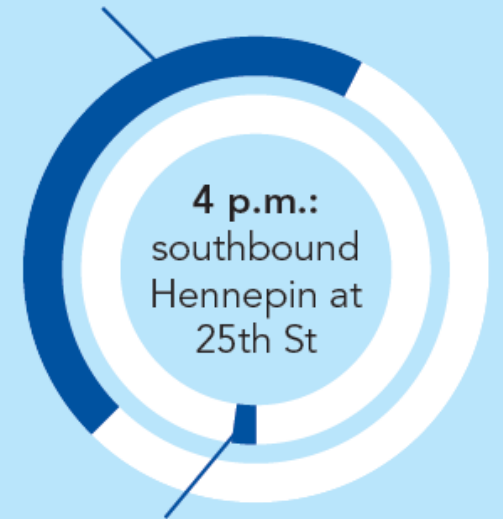
Bus mode share during peak hours

49% of corridor users



3% of corridor vehicles

45% of corridor users



2% of corridor vehicles

Sources: Metro Transit, Oct. 2017; City of Minneapolis, Jan. 2018.

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)

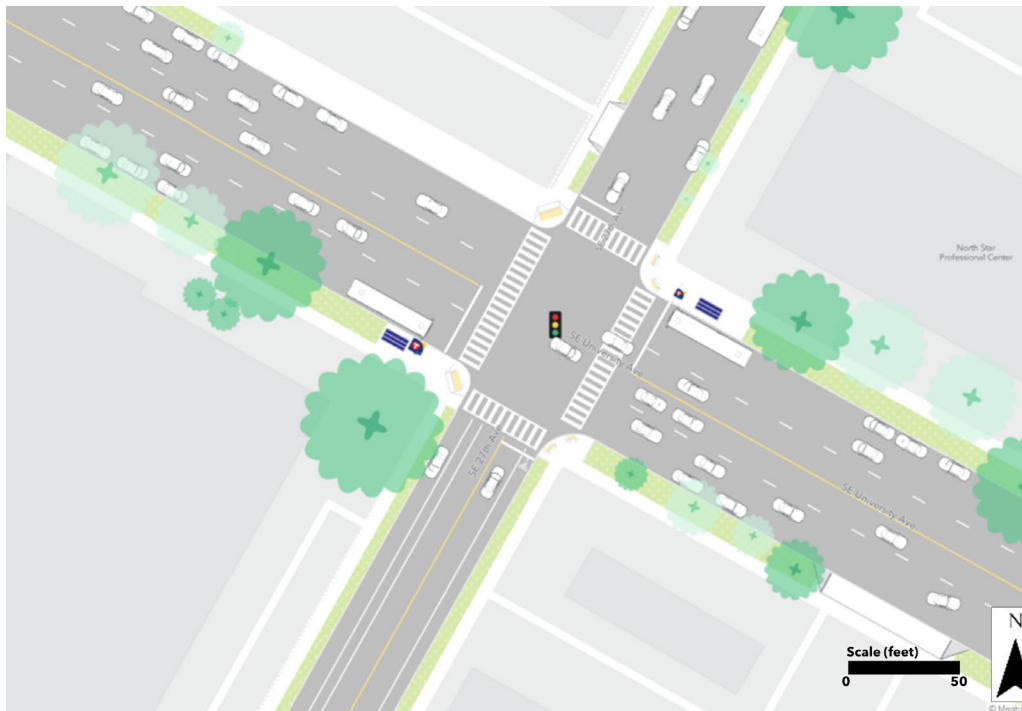
- Evaluated potential terminal and alignment alternatives
- Rider and community engagement
 - Community Advisory Committee
 - Open houses
 - Online survey with interactive map
 - Door knocking and meeting riders at stops
 - Meetings with neighborhoods
 - Communications to riders and community through established channels
- E Line alignment adopted by Metropolitan Council January 2020



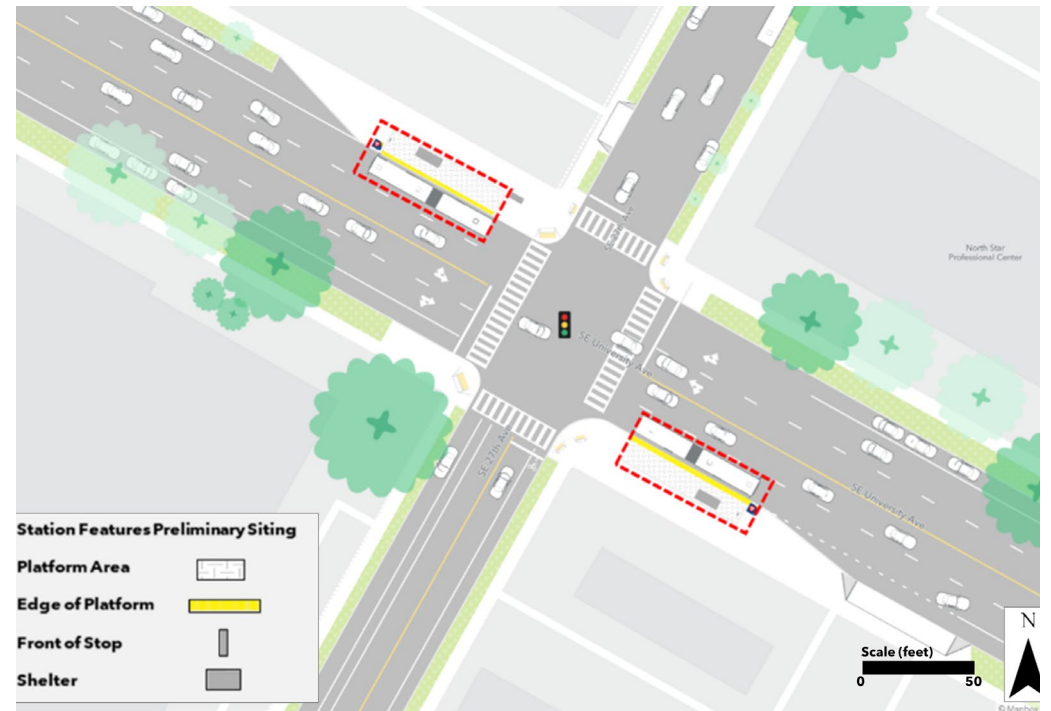
E Line Draft Corridor Plan: Station and Platform Locations

- 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

Existing University & 27th Avenue Station Area



Proposed University & 27th Avenue Station Plan



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