METRO Orange Line BRT Update

DCRRA
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I-35W South Corridor

• Minnesota’s busiest commuter highway
  – 210,000+ average vehicles at most congested point (Lake Street)
  – Daily bottleneck for freight and commuters

• Most heavily-traveled express bus corridor
  – 14,000 bus riders each weekday on 26 routes
  – Several stations already operational

• Orange Line builds on success
  – Improve access to jobs
  – Catalyze planned development
  – Better serve all-day, evening, and weekend markets
Orange Line Station Progress in 2013

- MARQ2
- LAKE
- 46TH
- 66TH
- AMERICAN
- 98TH
- BURNSVILLE
Lake Street: Engineering
66th Street: Conceptual Design
American Boulevard: Planning

17,000 RESIDENTS
13,400 JOBS

12,800 RESIDENTS
13,100 JOBS

4,600 RESIDENTS
8,100 JOBS

EXISTING ROUTE 535

KNOX AVENUE OPTION

I-35W OPTION

MORE ACCESS

FASTER SERVICE
American Boulevard: Planning

- NEW CONNECTION UNDER 494 FOR TRANSIT, BIKES, AND PEDS
- STATIONS ALONG KNOX AVENUE
- NEW PARK & RIDE (LOCATION TBD)
- USES EXISTING RAMPS
98th Street: Conceptual Design
Burnsville Transit Station: Operations/Expansion
Existing Facilities
Existing Destinations

HEART OF THE CITY DEVELOPMENT
Project Development in **2014 - 2015**

- **MARQ2**
  - Planning:
  - Concept Design:
  - Engineering: 
  - Final Design:
  - Construction:
  - Operation:

- **LAKE**
  - Planning:
  - Concept Design:
  - Engineering: 
  - Final Design:
  - Construction:
  - Operation:

- **46TH**
  - Planning:
  - Concept Design:
  - Engineering: 
  - Final Design:
  - Construction:
  - Operation:

- **66TH**
  - Planning:
  - Concept Design:
  - Engineering: 
  - Final Design:
  - Construction:
  - Operation:

- **AMERICAN**
  - Planning:
  - Concept Design:
  - Engineering: 
  - Final Design:
  - Construction:
  - Operation:

- **98TH**
  - Planning:
  - Concept Design:
  - Engineering: 
  - Final Design:
  - Construction:
  - Operation:

- **BURNSVILLE**
  - Planning:
  - Concept Design:
  - Engineering: 
  - Final Design:
  - Construction:
  - Operation:
Engineering/Final Design in 2015 - 2016

- MARQ2
- LAKE
- 46TH
- 66TH
- AMERICAN
- 98TH
- BURNSVILLE
Construction from 2017 - 2019

- MARQ2
- LAKE
- 46TH
- 66TH
- AMERICAN
- 98TH
- BURNSVILLE
Begin Service in 2019

- MARQ2
- LAKE
- 46TH
- 66TH
- AMERICAN
- 98TH
- BURNSVILLE
Decision-Making Process

Policy Makers & Funding Partners (coordinated with 35W Solutions Alliance)
- City Councils and Planning Commissions
- County Boards
- MVTA Board
- I-35W/Lake Policy Makers
- 494 Corridor Commission

Public Input
- Transit rider surveys
- Targeted outreach at major destinations
- General input through mail, phone, website, social media, and TMOs
- Presence at city and community events

Orange Line Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

I-35W/Lake Transit Access Project TAC
Metro Transit Working Group
I-494/35W Vision Layout TAC
Public Engagement

- Existing community events
  - Concurrent planning & city projects
  - Chambers of Commerce
  - Commuter fairs
  - City Council & Planning Commission meetings
  - Neighborhood events & festivals
Public Engagement

• Existing Riders
  – 2013 Orange Line Rider Survey

• Web, Social Media, and News
  – E-newsletter, website, Twitter, facebook, local papers
Costs

- **Total Project Cost:** $150M

- **Governor recommended in capital budget**
  - $7M GO Bonds
  - Just under half of total state contribution

- **Local share participation to be identified**
  - Green Line model: split 10% local share between counties based on project length
Next Steps

• Project Plan Update draft
  – Refinement of LPA/2030 TPP Update adopted 2009
  – Release for public comment end Q1 2014
  – Adopt Q2 of 2014

• Initiate Orange Line NEPA & apply to FTA Small Starts Project Development mid-2014

• Coordinating Orange Line Phase II scoping with Red Line Phase II planning
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