METRO Orange Line Update
TAB Technical Advisory Committee
May 6, 2015

Charles Carlson & Christina Morrison
BRT/Small Starts Project Office
Project Facts

- LPA adopted in 2010
- Project Plan Update adopted in 2014
- 17 miles, 11 stations
- Major accessibility improvements
- 2040 Daily Ridership: 26,500
  - 11,400 on BRT
  - 15,100 on 35W Express routes
2014 Accomplishments

• Developed and adopted Orange Line Project Plan Update
• Advanced I-35W & Lake Street Station to 60% design completion
• Entered FTA Small Starts Project Development
• Secured $18 million, including full funding for Project Development
Project Scope

• 11 Stations
  – 10 at-grade, 1 grade-separated
  – 6 Online, 1.5 Inline, 3.5 Offline

• Guideway
  – New Knox Avenue transitway
  – Downtown Access
  – Use MnPASS and transit-only shoulders

• Technology & Branding
  – All off-board fare collection

• Service & Fleet
  – 20 hours, 7 days/week
  – 3-door METRO BRT buses
Knox Avenue: Development-Oriented Transit

- Station along Knox Avenue
- New connection under 494 for transit, bikes, and peds
- Potential for new park & ride (TBD)
- Uses existing ramps
Orange Line Budget

- Total Capital Cost: $150M (2017 $)
- Funds secured: $18M (12%)
- Local share discussion underway
- Financial Plan to be completed by 9/1
Project Development Budget

- Total Cost: $10M
- $6M CTIB committed (60%)
- $4M local match
  - $2-3M 2014 State Appropriation/Bonds
  - Up to $2M Metro Transit funds committed Nov. 2014
    - $200,000 authorized
    - $1.8M Formula (TIP amendment)
Coordinate

- Project Development
- Fleet
- Ticket vending machines
- 66th Street Station
- 98th Street Station
- Burnsville Transit Station improvements
- Minor downtown station improvements
- Guideway improvements $30-40M

Lake Street Transit Station $50-60M

I-35W/Lake Transit Access Project
- Highway ramps
- Highway bridge replacement
- Bike/ped connections
- Concurrent construction

Transitway & stations $50-60M

I-494/35W Project
- I-494/35W flyover
- Highway and Access improvements
- Independent Project on Future Timeline

Coordination LED BY METRO TRANSIT

Led by MNDOT

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# Project Schedule

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Work Program

• Begin Small Starts Project Development
• NEPA: Documented Categorical Exclusion
• RFP for Orange Line PD/Engineering
• Key design issues:
  • Burnsville terminus
  • Knox Avenue alignment/cross section
  • Downtown access improvements
• 2040 ridership forecasting with Red Line IPU
• Financial Plan
• RFP for Lake Street Station Final Design
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