



Community & Business Advisory Committee

Meeting #6 | December 6, 2023

Welcome & Introductions

Liz Jones | Outreach and Engagement Lead

Today's Topics

- 1) Welcome & Introductions
- 2) BRT Route Modification Study Phase II Update
 - a) Proposed Station Locations
 - b) Design Concepts Preview – Typical Cross Sections and Plan Preview
 - c) Evaluation Process
 - d) Northern Endpoint Options
- 3) Community Outreach & Engagement Update
- 4) CBAC Meetings
- 5) Q & A
- 6) Next Steps & Meetings

Housekeeping

- Virtual meeting etiquette
 - Camera on
 - Microphone (muted when not speaking)
 - Raise hand (if you have a question)
 - Chat (feel free to ask questions in the chat)
- Meeting is being recorded
- Meeting agendas, summaries, and presentation materials are posted on the project website at metrotransit.org/purple-line-project-committees

New CBAC Members

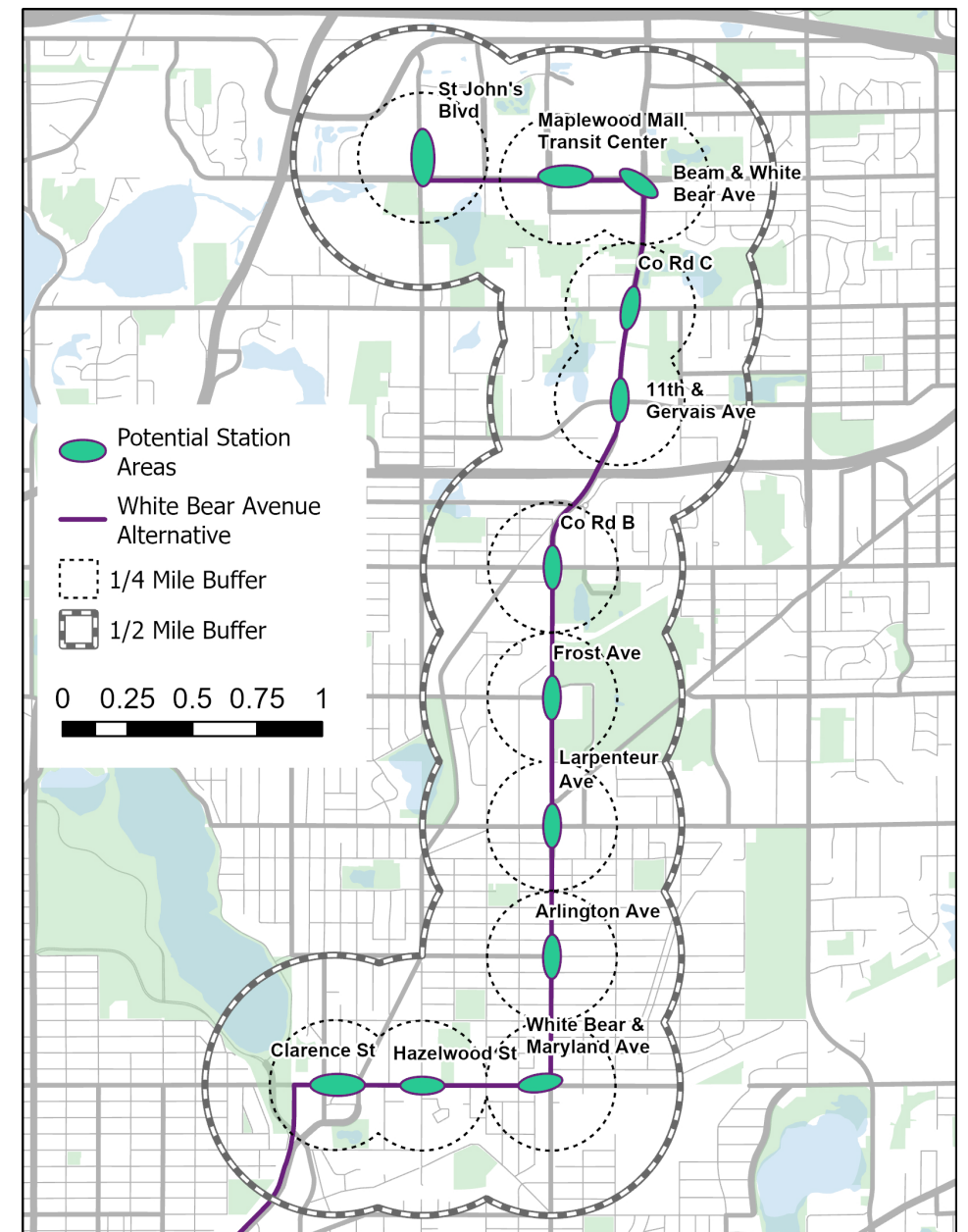
- Torin Gustafson – Maplewood Resident
- Patrick Horan – Maplewood Resident
- Nengshy Vang – St. Paul Business
- Alberto Bertomeu – St. Paul Business
- Felicia Anderson – St. Paul Resident
- Leah Gayle – St. Paul Resident

Route Modification Study Phase II Update

Craig Lamothe | Purple Line Project Manager

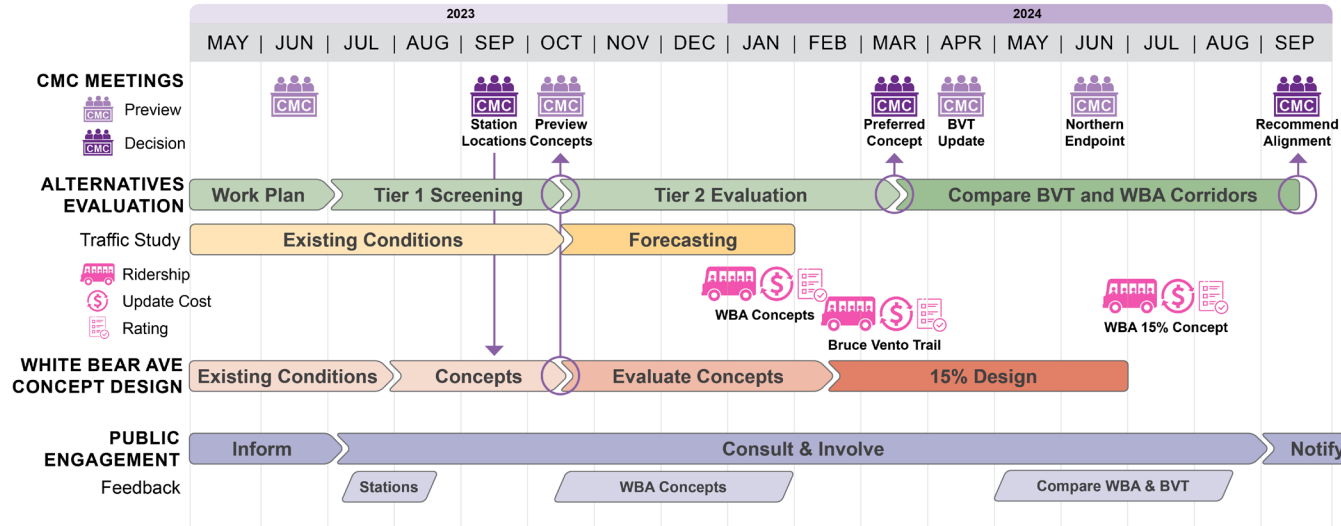
Proposed Station Locations

- In September, CMC concurred with project staff recommendation to advance 12 proposed Purple Line BRT station locations
 - ½ mile station spacing provides reasonable 5-minute walk access coverage throughout most of the corridor
 - Most station locations are current Route 54 stops
 - Stations along Maryland Ave to be shared with H Line BRT
- Original proposed station at Larpenteur Ave likely to move to Idaho Ave

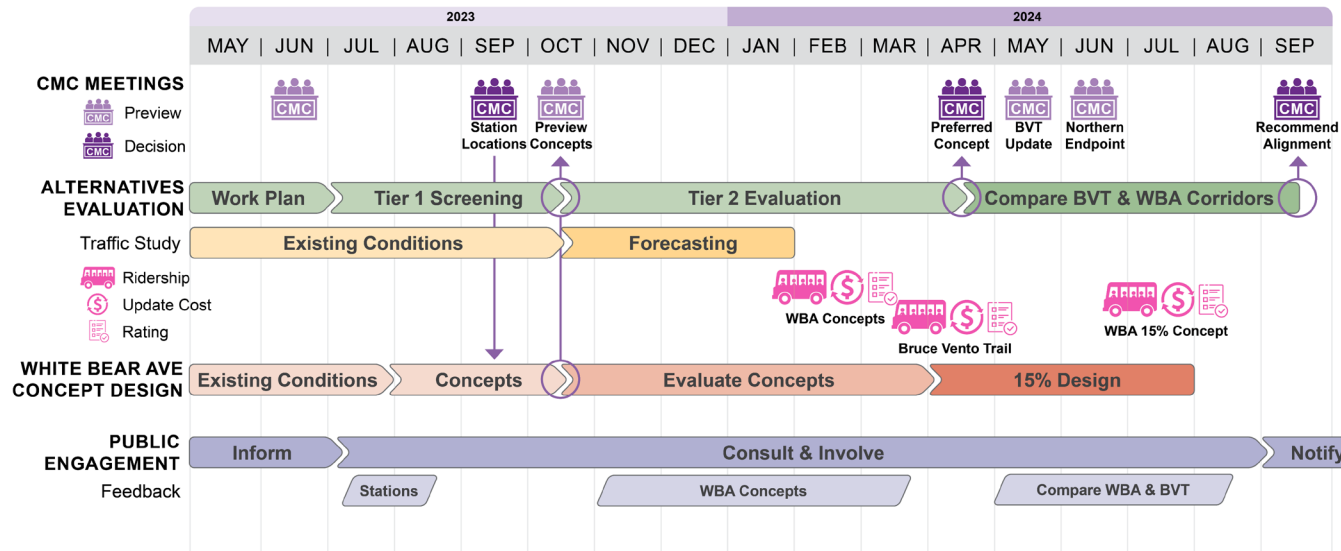


RMS Phase II Schedule Change

Original

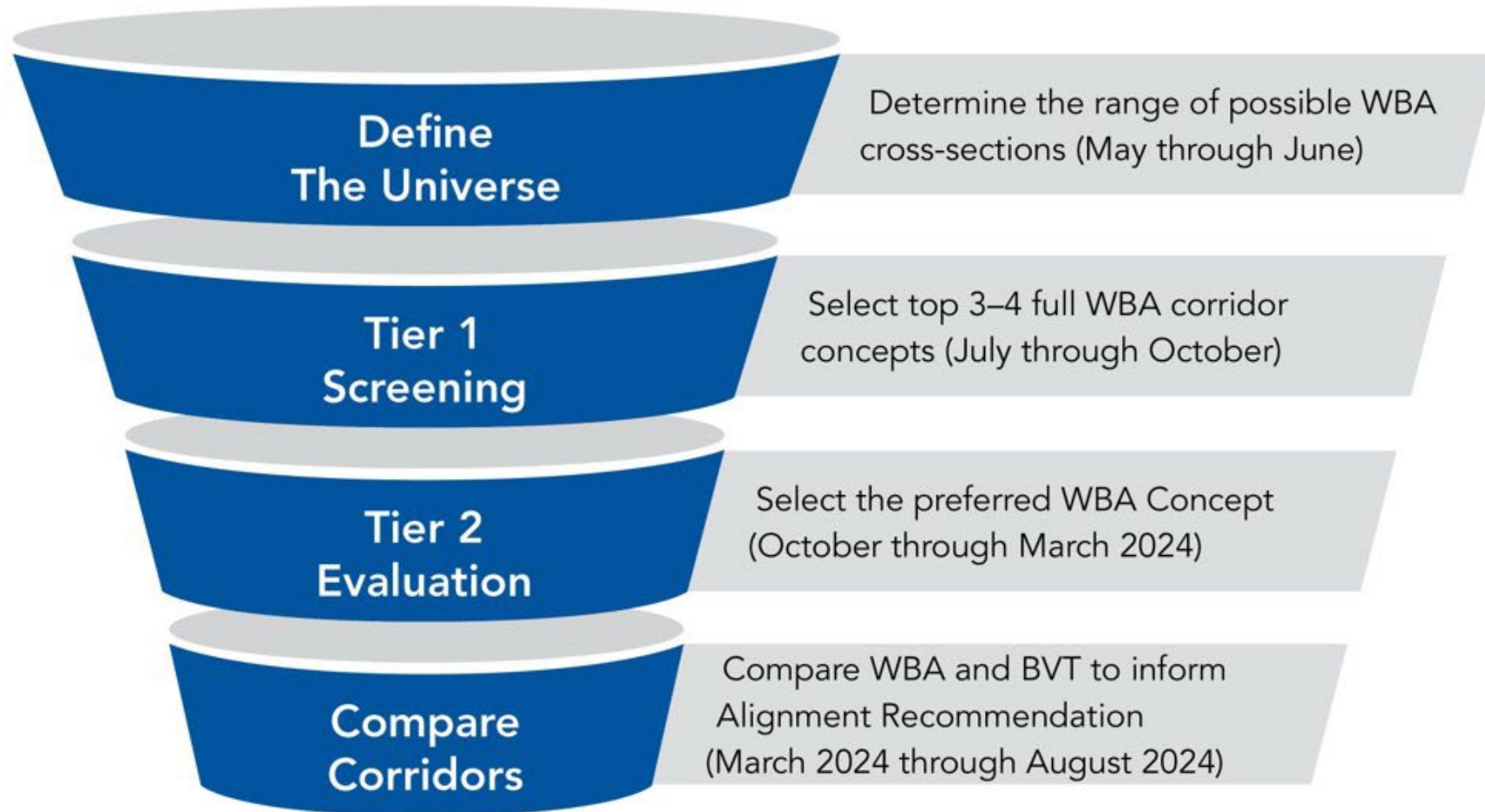


Updated

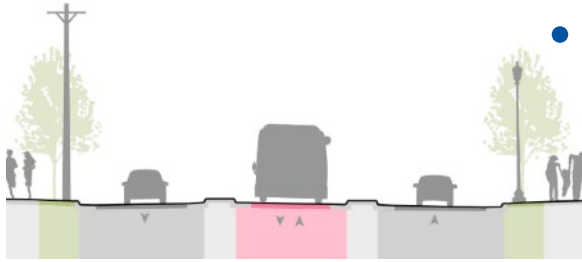


- 1 month push to Preferred Concept from March to April
- No push to Recommended Alignment (September)
- Likely no more float

Identification and Evaluation of Options

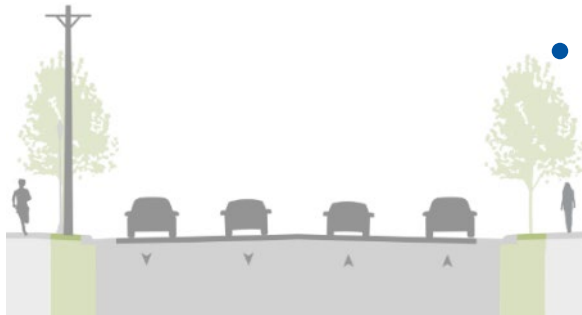


Options NOT Advanced to Tier 1 Screening



- Reversible or Bi-Directional

- Advantages are duplicated by Semi-Exclusive, 3-Lane Section with Single Transit Lane
- Does not work operationally if utilized for longer distances within segments as it constrains throughput capacity needed for high-frequency service
- Creates safety concerns and confusion as it requires signaling the traffic lane to control the transit lane directionality



- Mixed Traffic (may still be used for transitions)

- 50% Dedicated Requirement not met if used in more than 1 segment
- Does not meet our criteria for exclusive or semi-exclusive guideway

Tier 1 Criteria



Concept Dimensions

- Meets minimum dimensions acceptable to agencies
- Continuity of guideway configuration from segment to segment



Property Impacts

- Preliminary Total and Partial right of way takes
- Preliminary total right of way takes



Public Needs

- Addresses needs of the transit users, business owners and residents as understood through engagement to date



Agency Support



Safety

- Potential to address ped, bike, concerns



Station Access

- Pedestrian access to stations



Traffic Operations

- Meets minimum "reasonableness"






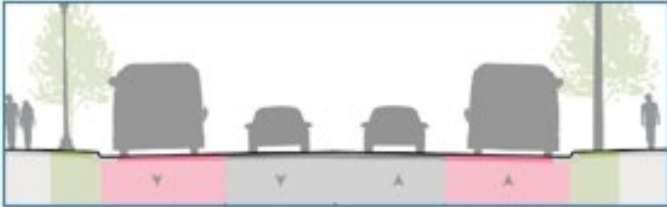
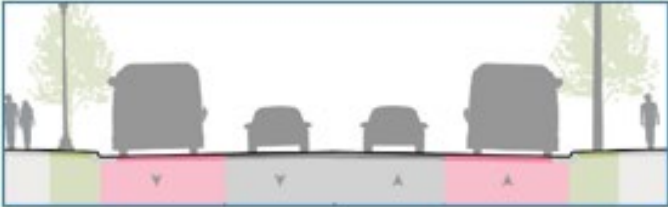




Transit Operations

- Ability to manage access conflicts along the guideway
- Supports planned local bus network and other connecting transit service along guideway and at stations
- Preliminary assessment of maintenance requirements






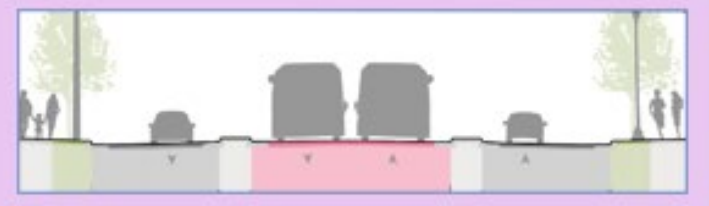
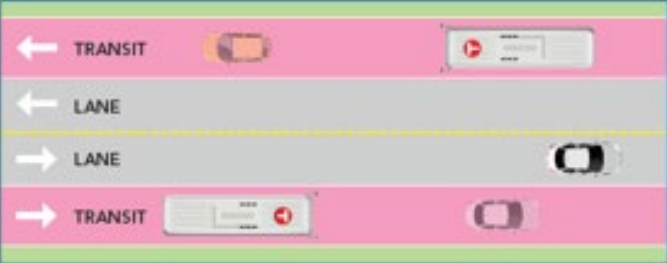


Tier 1 Screening Results: Key Differentiators

- Transition from side-running to center-running
- Potential right of way impacts based on proposed cross-sections
- Right-in/right-out property access
- Right-in/right-out local roadway access
- Reliability of transit lane
- Pedestrian safety at local street access










Semi-Exclusive, Side-Running Transit Lanes Throughout

	Maryland Ave	White Bear Ave – South	White Bear Ave – North
Existing			
Cross-Section			
Plan View			





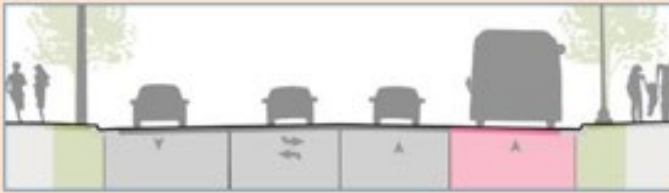




Semi-Exclusive, Side-Running & Center Dedicated Transit Lanes

	Maryland Ave	White Bear Ave – South	White Bear Ave – North
Existing			
Cross-Section			
Plan View			

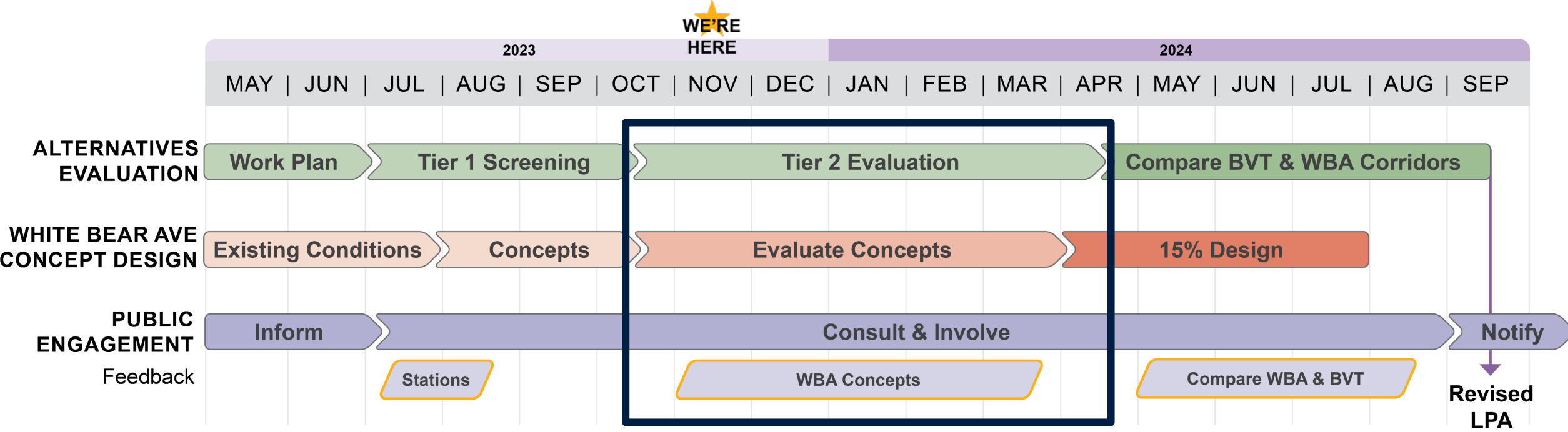
3 Lane Roadway with 1 Transit Lane & Center Dedicated Transit Lanes

	Maryland Ave	White Bear Ave – South	White Bear Ave – North
Existing			
Cross-Section			
Plan View			

3 Lane Roadway with 1 Transit Lane & Semi-Exclusive, Side-Running Transit Lanes

	Maryland Ave	White Bear Ave – South	White Bear Ave – North
Existing			
Cross-Section			
Plan View			

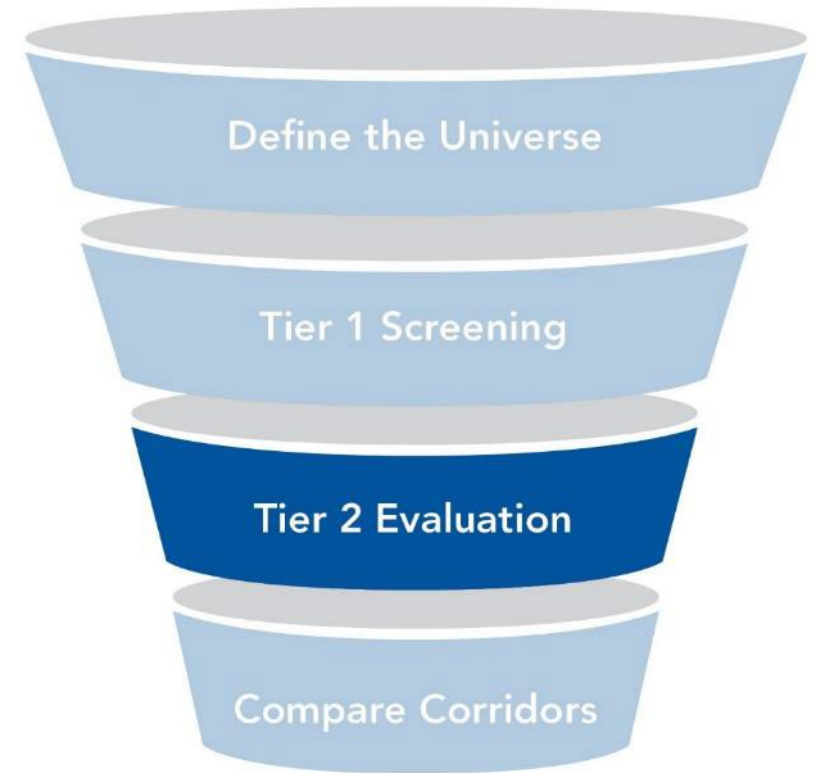
Tier 2 Evaluation Schedule



Next Steps: Tier 2 Evaluation Criteria

-  **Concept Dimensions**
-  **Property Impacts**
-  **Station Access**
-  **Transit Operations**
-  **Traffic Operations**
-  **Pedestrian Access**

-  **Public Support**
-  **Parking Impacts**
-  **Cost**
-  **Ridership**
-  **CIG Program Rating**



Next Steps: Tier 2 Design Concepts

- Winter 2023
 - Design preliminary layouts for each option with project partners
 - Ridership
 - Cost estimate
 - Safety analysis
 - Traffic analysis
 - Evaluation of options
- Q1 2024
 - Estimate rating for funding eligibility
 - Community engagement on preliminary layouts

Next Steps: Tier 2 Community Outreach & Engagement

- Winter 2023/Spring 2024
 - Meetings with Community Groups and individual stakeholders
- Early 2024
 - Community Open Houses
 - Meetings with community groups and individual stakeholders
 - Workshop with Maplewood City Council
 - Workshop with Saint Paul Planning Commission Transportation Committee



Community Outreach & Engagement Update

Colin Owens | Associate Community Outreach Coordinator

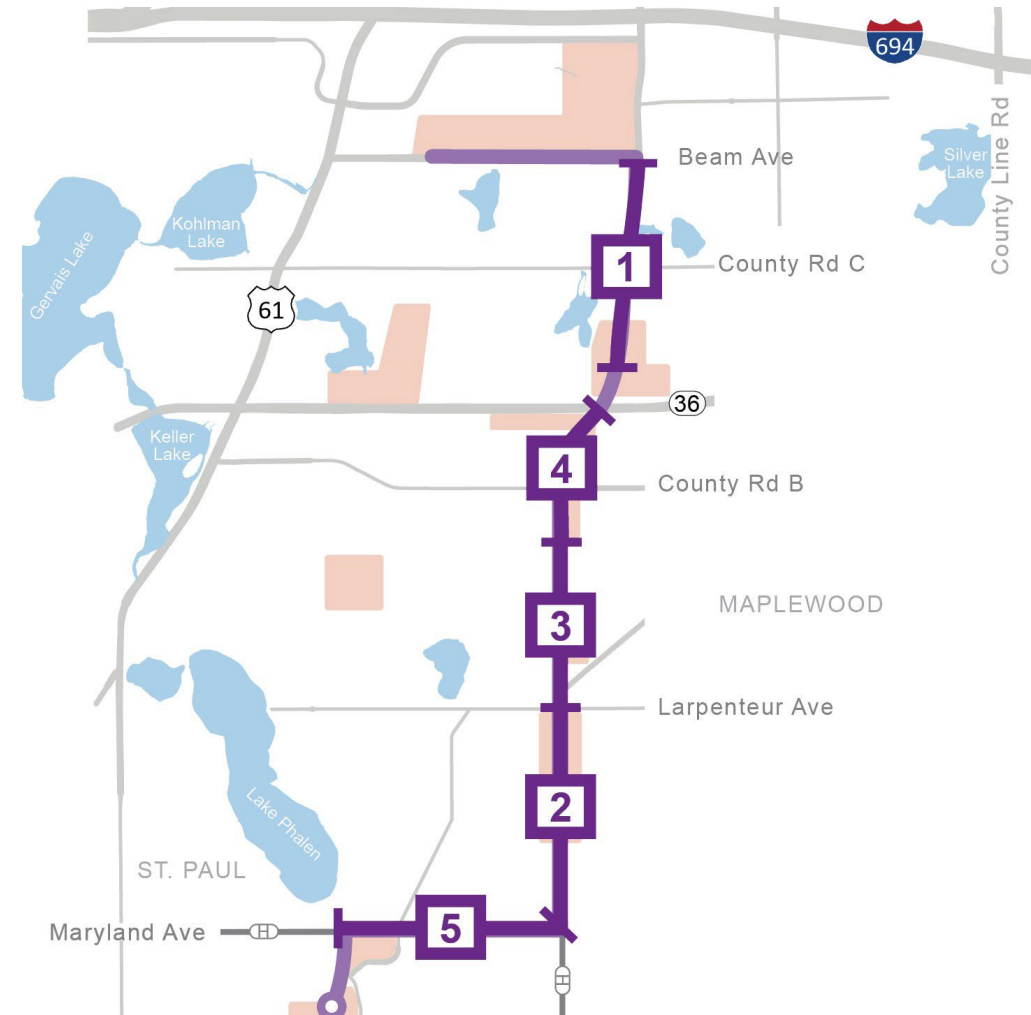
Recent Outreach & Engagement Activities

- Iowa Hi-Rise engagement
- Ramsey County Service Center and Ames Lake pop up's
- M Health Fairview St. John's engagement
- Friends of the Parks and Trails of St. Paul and Ramsey County presentation
- Canvassing
- Maryland and White Bear Ave Community and Business Advisory Committee (CBAC) recruitment



Corridor Walk/Roll Events

- Hosted (50) participants over 6 “corridor walk/roll” events in October to discuss what’s working well today and what could be improved.
- Opportunity to discuss design considerations and constraints while viewing the corridor.
- Each “walk” covered a 1-mile section of the corridor and focused on key points of interest among participants.



Corridor Walk/Roll Feedback



- **Station Amenities**

- Heated enclosures
- Public restroom at Maplewood Transit Center
- Real time arrival
- Off-bus ticket vending

- **Reliable buses**

- Reliability of buses arriving when they say they will, is preferred over frequency of buses

- **Nature**

- Questions about wildlife corridor plans
- Request for native plants and tree equity along the corridor



- **Safety**

- Question about homeless encampments impacting decision making when selecting station locations
- Concern about criminal behavior on buses and at stations
- Concern about accessibility for blind/disabled community members
- Safer pedestrian crossings at non-signalized intersections

- **Accessibility to White Bear Ave**

- Provides access to shops, restaurants, doctors, etc.

Feedback from Recent Iowa Hi-Rise Engagement

- Support and advocacy for moving the station closer to Iowa Hi-Rise
- Support for pedestrian safety improvements
- Many transit users, including Metro Mobility
 - Going to downtown Saint Paul, Sun Ray Shopping Center, North on White Bear, and more
 - Concerns about safety/comfort on transit, existing speed and reliability
- Support for improved transit service and amenities
- Support for greater accessibility for those with disabilities and elder population

Q1 2024 Engagement and Media Push

- Next engagement comment period (Q1 2024)
- 3 community events (2 in-person, 1 virtual)
- Notifications:
 - Work with community-based media channels
 - Newsletter, social media, postcard
 - Committees and project partners



Upcoming Engagement Activities

- Conduct individual and group meetings with key stakeholders about corridor concepts and evaluation process
- Attend community events and conduct pop-ups
- Host “workshop” meeting format for community members and key stakeholders
- Begin informing key stakeholders about property impacts
- Canvassing and door-knocking
- Media and notice push for Q1 2024 Engagement

Recent / Upcoming Community Events and Stakeholder Meetings

Date	Event Name	Location	Time
Dec. 5, 2023	Meeting with Gloryville	Virtual	11a-noon
Dec. 19, 2023	White Bear Avenue Bus. Assoc.	Virtual	4:30p-6:30p
Jan. 3, 2024	District 2 Council Meeting / Virtual Corridor Tour	Hybrid	6:30p-8:00p
Jan. 22, 2024	St Paul Planning Commission Transportation	In-person	4:30p-6:00p
Feb. 20, 2024	White Bear Avenue Bus. Assoc.	In-person	4:30p-6:30p
Feb. 21, 2024	District 2 Council Meeting	In-person	6:00p-8:00p

Upcoming CBAC Meetings

Liz Jones | Outreach and Engagement Lead

CBAC Meeting Look Ahead

Date	Tentative Agenda Topics
Feb 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comment period for Tier 2 analysis and layout options• Arcade Station update
March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recommendation for the Preferred Roadway & Transit Design Option for White Bear, Maryland, and Beam Avenues
April 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparison of the Bruce Vento Regional Trail Collocation and the White Bear Avenue Route Alternatives
Spring 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Potential Review of Alternate Northern End Points
Summer 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recommendation for the Revised Locally Preferred Alternative

Q & A

Next Steps & Meetings

Liz Jones | Outreach and Engagement Lead

CMC Upcoming Topics

Date	Agenda Topics
January 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Larpenteur/Idaho Ave station shift• Introduction of White Bear Ave layout options• Update on northern end alignment options
February 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arcade Street Update
April 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparison of the Bruce Vento Regional Trail Collocation and the White Bear Avenue Route Alternatives
Spring 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Potential Review of Alternate Northern End Points
Summer 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recommendation for the Revised Locally Preferred Alternative

Contact Us

For more information:

www.metrotransit.org/purple-line-project

[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) @PurpleLineBRT

Craig Lamothe

Project Manager

(651) 602-1978

craig.lamothe@metrotransit.org

Liz Jones

Community Outreach & Engagement Lead

(651) 602-1977

elizabeth.jones@metrotransit.org