

Policy Advisory Committee Meeting #1

TH55 Transit Study

March 2025

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Overview of the Transit Study
 - Purpose
 - Tasks
 - Schedule
- PAC Roles and Responsibilities
- Project Goals and Objectives
- Next PAC Meeting



Welcome and Introductions

Meeting Participants

Policy Advisory Committee

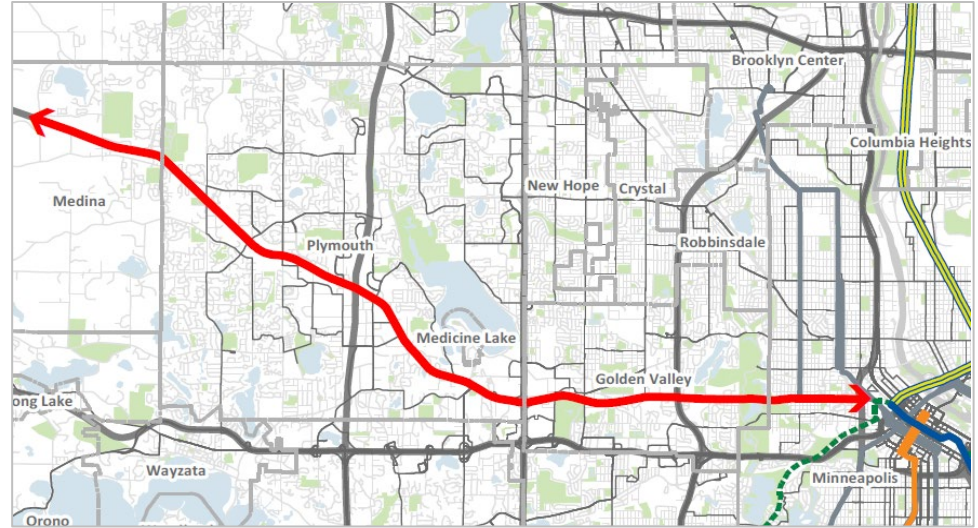
Judy Johnson	Metropolitan Council
Anjuli Cameron	Metropolitan Council
Yassin Osman	Metropolitan Council
Irene Fernando	Hennepin County
Kevin Anderson	Hennepin County
Jeremiah Ellison	City of Minneapolis
Gillian Rosenquist	City of Golden Valley
Roslyn Harmon	City of Golden Valley
Jeffry Wosje	City of Plymouth
Todd Albers	City of Medina
Ryan Wilson	MnDOT

Project Management Team

Ryan Heath (Metro Transit)
Max Wilson (Hennepin County)
SRF Consulting Group
Kimley-Horn Associates
Rani Engineering

Overview of the Transit Study

- Study enhanced transit in TH55 corridor between downtown Minneapolis and Medina
- Draft goals and objectives developed by study team and TAC for approval by PAC



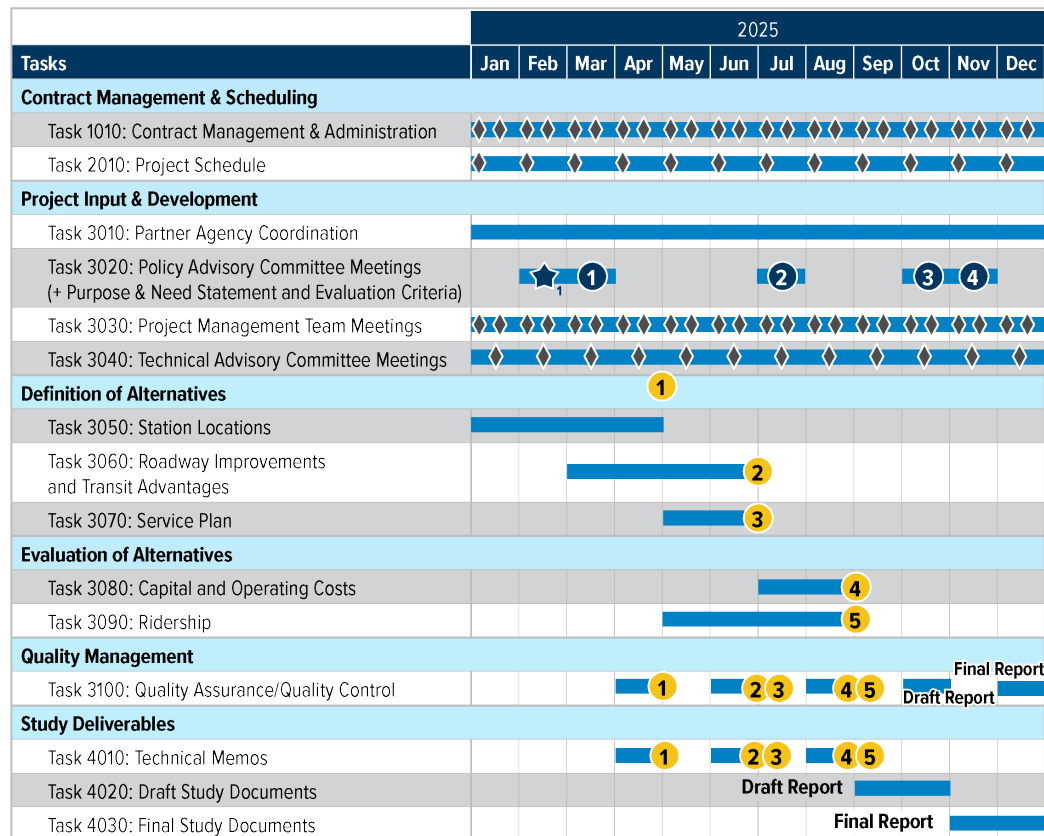
Alternatives to Evaluate

- Option 1: No build. Retain existing transit service in the corridor.
- Option 2: Highway bus rapid transit (BRT) between downtown Minneapolis and Medina.
- Option 3: Highway BRT between downtown Minneapolis and Plymouth.
- Option 4: Limited stop bus route 757 between downtown Minneapolis and Plymouth.

Products of Evaluation

- Station locations and service plans
- Preliminary geometric layouts and cost estimates
- Capital and operating costs
- Ridership estimates for near and horizon years

Study Schedule



- 1 Technical Memo #1: Station Locations and Typical Station Development
- 2 Technical Memo #2: Roadway Improvements and Transit Advantages
- 3 Technical Memo #3: Service Plan
- 4 Technical Memo #4: Capital and Operating Costs
- 5 Technical Memo #5: Ridership Methods and Results

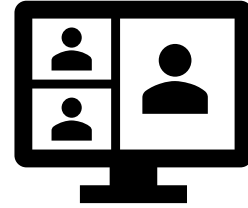
- 1 PAC Meeting #1: Study Scope & Schedule; Purpose & Need and Evaluation Framework
- 2 PAC Meeting #2: Alternatives Definitions
- 3 PAC Meeting #3: Evaluation Results and Recommendation; Study Decision
- 4 PAC Meeting #4: Study Decision (if needed)

★ Value-added task: Preparation of the purpose and need statement would begin after the existing conditions information (prepared as part of Task 3050) is available.

PAC Roles and Responsibilities

Meeting Schedule

- 3-4 meetings during study period
- March - December 2025



Direct the Study and Recommend Next Steps



- Approve goals, objectives, and evaluation criteria
- Comment on and approve alternatives recommended by the TAC for evaluation
- Review evaluation results and recommend next steps

Project Goals and Objectives

Overview

- **Establish a vision** for the project and what success looks like
- **Guide the planning process**
- Guide the development of **BRT alternatives**
- **Inform the evaluation framework** to be completed with the alternative analysis
- Enhance **transparency** of decision-making

For Example: Goals guide the type of BRT studied



Arterial BRT

Operates in mixed traffic on local roads with some bus-only lanes

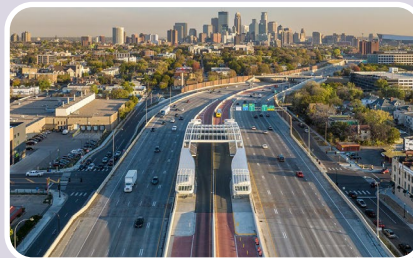
Lettered Lines (A Line, C Line, etc.)



Guideway BRT

Primarily operates in exclusive bus lanes on existing or new roadways

Gold Line & Purple Line



Highway BRT

Primarily operates in dedicated carpool/transit lanes

Orange Line & Red Line

Typical BRT Stations



- 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** 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).
- D** Ticket machines and fare card readers collect all payment before customers board the bus.

- E** Emergency telephones provide a direct connection to Metro Transit police. Stations also feature **security cameras**.
- F** Stations feature **trash and recycling** containers.
- G** 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.
- H** Platform areas are distinguished by a dark gray concrete pattern.

- I** Benches at stations provide a place to sit.
- J** Most stations have **bike parking**.

Some stations have pedestrian-scale **light fixtures** to provide a safe, well-lit environment.

At some stations, **railings** separate the platform from the sidewalk.

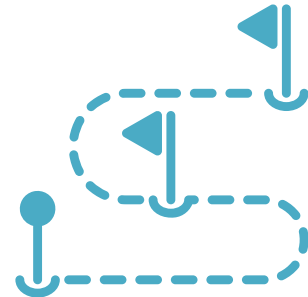
Access & Mobility

Mobility

- **How far you are able to travel** in a given amount of time
- *Ex. Traveling 5 miles in a 30 min travel time*

Access

- Your ability to **easily reach desired destinations** and services
- *Ex. Reaching 5,000 jobs in a 30 min travel time*



Draft Project Goals (1/2)

GOAL	POTENTIAL CRITERIA
Improve transit access to activity centers and destinations	Regional job and activity centers served
Improve transit access to jobs and residences between downtown Minneapolis and suburban communities	Residents and jobs served, types of jobs, growth anticipated
Improve suburb to suburb transit access	Travel time, service frequencies, differences from current route(s)
Identify improvements that benefit people who rely on transit	Zero car households, low incomes, lower-wage jobs, people of color, youth, different abilities served
Improve access to the regional transit network	Connections to regional routes

Draft Project Goals (2/2)

GOAL	POTENTIAL CRITERIA
Leverage existing/planned economic development and areas of opportunity for transit-oriented development	Number of viable development/redevelopment parcels (vacant/undeveloped lots or buildings); known plans for new development or redevelopment; transit-supportive zoning
Improved station amenities and enhanced customer experience	Accessibility; integration with other routes/modes (easy transfers)
Leverage other infrastructure projects and studies to advance transit	Alignment with other projects and studies

Next PAC Meeting

- Spring 2025
 - Propose Tuesday, April 29 10:30-12 in person
 - Golden Valley City Hall
- Review three service alternatives (BRT 1, BRT 2, Route 757)
 - Station locations
 - Service plans