



Blue Line Extension Handbook

Learn more: yourblueline.org

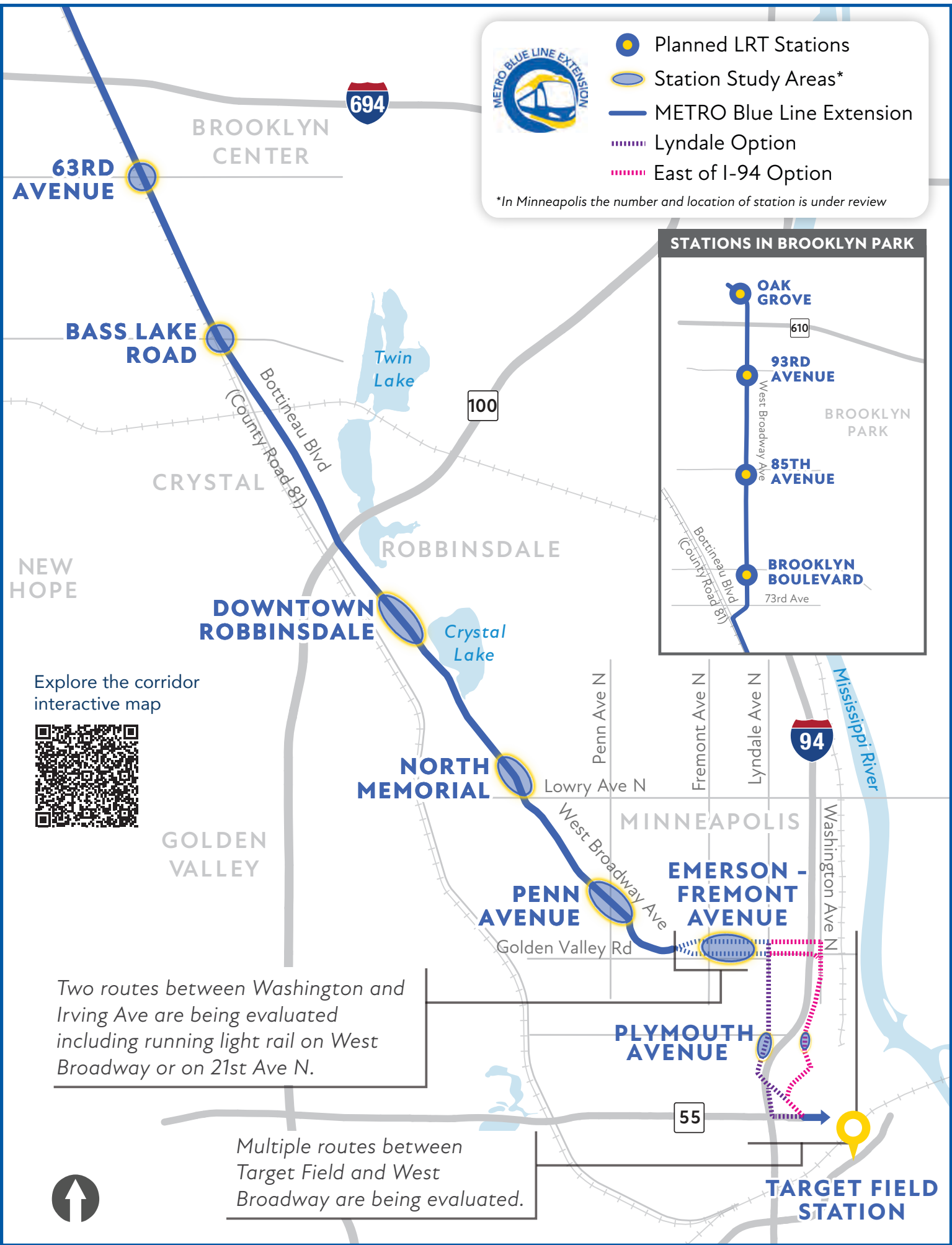




- Planned LRT Stations
- Station Study Areas*
- METRO Blue Line Extension
- Lyndale Option
- East of I-94 Option

*In Minneapolis the number and location of station is under review

STATIONS IN BROOKLYN PARK



Explore the corridor interactive map



Two routes between Washington and Irving Ave are being evaluated including running light rail on West Broadway or on 21st Ave N.

Multiple routes between Target Field and West Broadway are being evaluated.





The Blue Line Extension

The Blue Line Extension will run from downtown Minneapolis to Brooklyn Park, connecting some of our region's most diverse communities and transit reliant residents to jobs, education, and opportunities.

After over a century of disinvestment, racial covenants, and redlining, we have a duty to ensure that existing residents, small businesses, and cultural institutions are both engaged in and able to benefit from the increased public and private development occurring in their neighborhoods.

By advancing robust anti-displacement and community wealth building strategies alongside the light rail project, we aim to set a national standard for how projects of this scale can leverage existing community assets to maximize community and economic benefits to existing residents, businesses and communities.



Brooklyn Park

Opportunity gateway

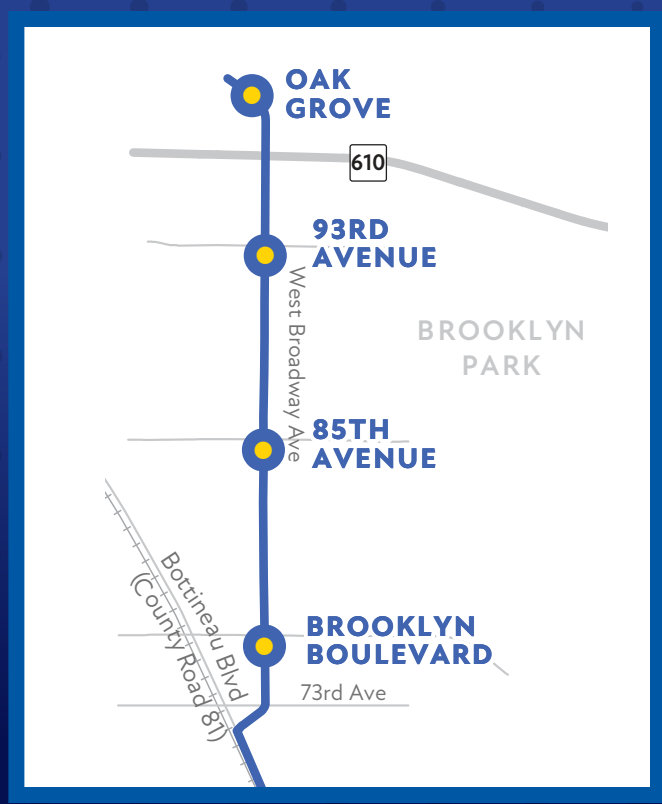
The Blue Line Extension will open new opportunities for education, employment, and business growth. Brooklyn Park offers regional employment and education destinations that are complemented by a thriving immigrant-owned business community and a future arts and cultural center at the north end of the route.

Community voice

“The Northwest suburbs are home to a thriving network of immigrant business owners. The Blue Line Extension presents a rare opportunity to support these businesses, which in turn builds community wealth, creates local jobs, and contributes to the strength, resiliency, and health of Blue Line communities.”



Jackson George
Executive Director, LIBA-Diaspora
Honorary Consul to the Republic of Liberia



Destinations:

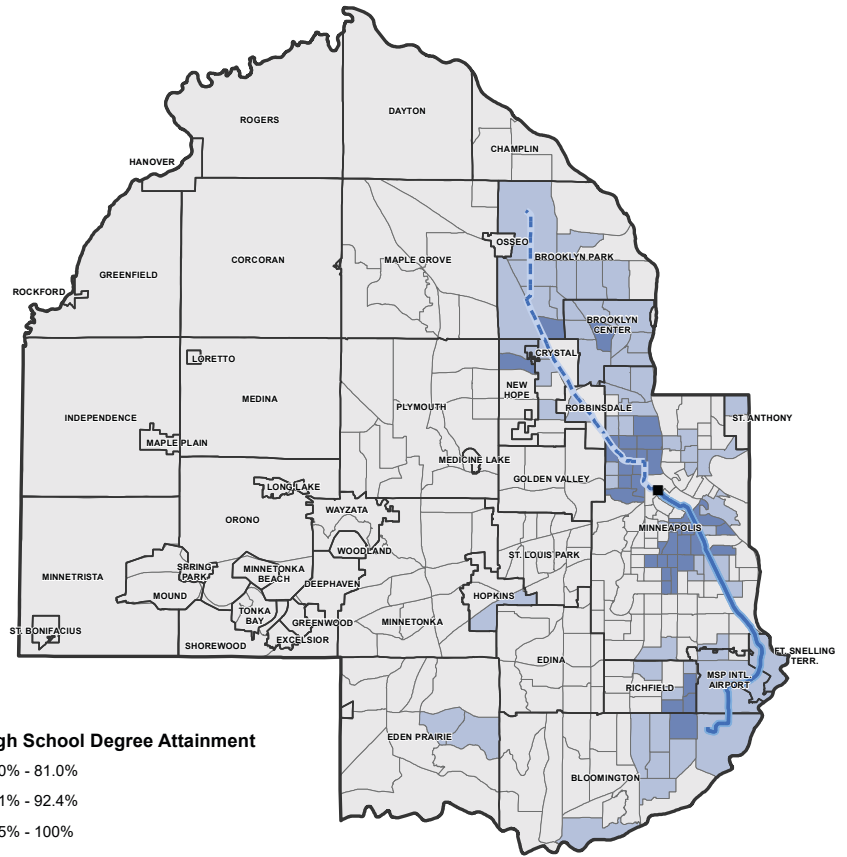
- North Hennepin Community College
- Hennepin County Brooklyn Park Library
- The future Center for Innovation and the Arts
- Immigrant-owned businesses and commercial centers
- Major employment centers like Target North Campus at Oak Grove



Equity impact

Improving access to schools, training, and employment opportunities will unlock potential in a corridor with high rates of people over the age of 25 without a high school degree and some of the lowest household incomes in the region.

Connect people to jobs and education



Light Rail Transit

- Target Field Station
- Blue Line (Existing)
- - - Blue Line Extension (Proposed)

Adult High School Degree Attainment

- 57.0% - 81.0%
- 81.1% - 92.4%
- 92.5% - 100%

Anti-displacement opportunities



Florence Karp has grown her business, Afric Sauce, in Brooklyn Park with the help of Hennepin County business support programs like Elevate Business.

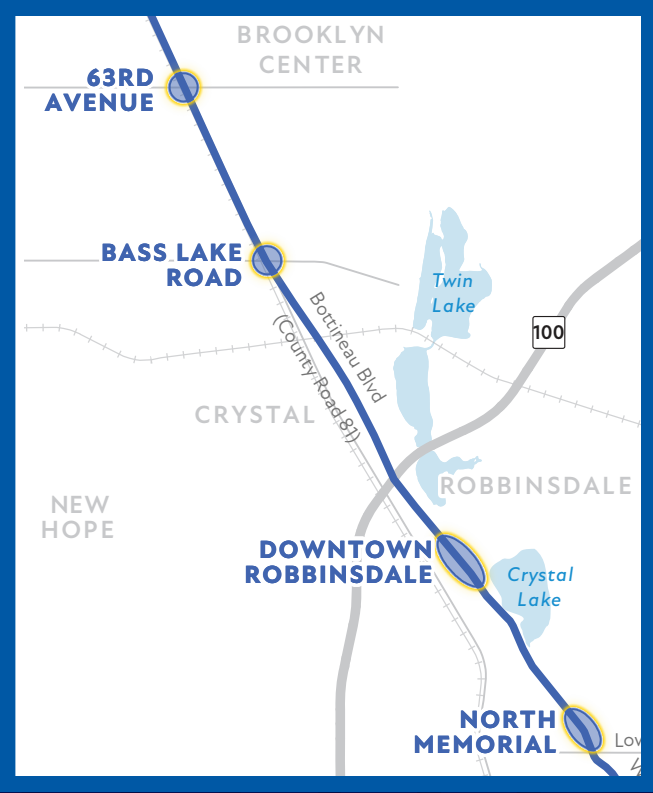
- Preserve and grow immigrant owned businesses
- Preserve and grow affordable multi-family housing options



Crystal

Where neighborhoods and business meet

Connecting to Crystal means more people can access, experience and enjoy the recent public investments that are refashioning a new community-oriented town center district near the future Bass Lake Road station. A recent redesign of Bass Lake Road enhanced the streetscape for pedestrians and businesses, and the new Becker Park has become a destination for neighbors and visitors to come together.



Community voice

“As a business and property owner in Crystal, I’m very excited to have the light rail station so close to our spot. It will turn this into more of a shopping center district. It will change the face of the area substantially. I think you’re going to get an influx of people who like the convenience of light rail.”



Steve Negaard
owner of Nokomis Shoe Shop

Destinations:

- Bass Lake Road business district
- Becker Park
- Crystal Airport



Equity impact

Connecting neighborhoods with a range of affordable housing options to the transit network will create strong foundations on which residents can build stable lives in areas with high rates of housing cost burden and a history of systemic redlining and racist covenants.

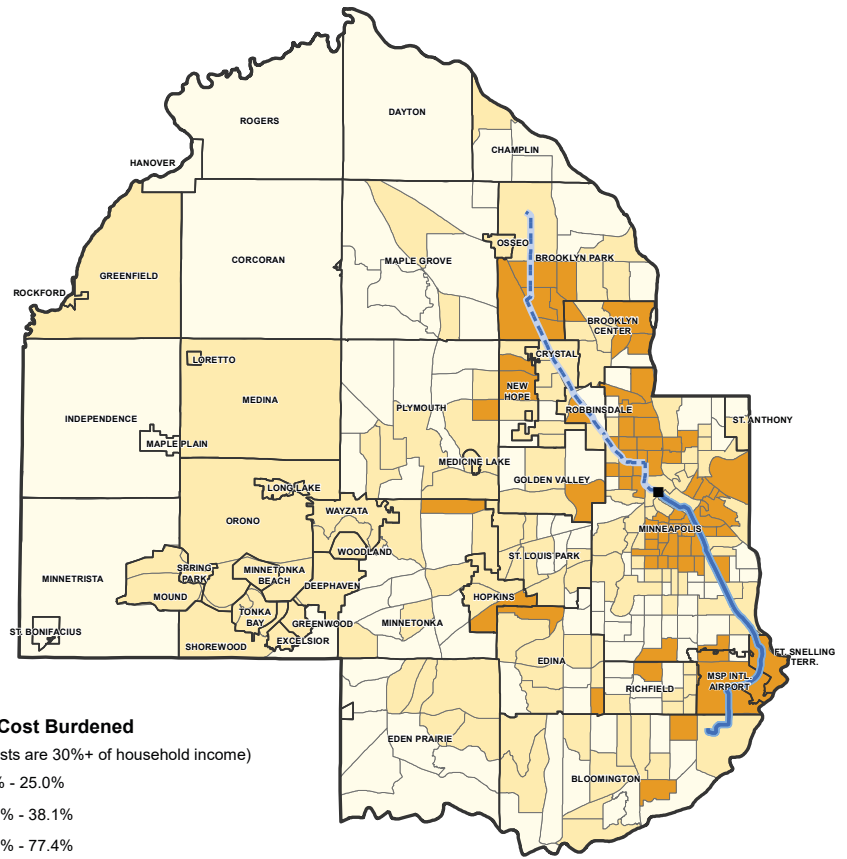
Increase access to affordable housing

Light Rail Transit

- Target Field Station
- Blue Line (Existing)
- Blue Line Extension (Proposed)

Housing Cost Burdened

- (Housing costs are 30%+ of household income)
- 0.0% - 25.0%
 - 25.1% - 38.1%
 - 38.2% - 77.4%



Anti-displacement opportunities



- Preserve existing affordable homeownership opportunities
- Increase supply of affordable multifamily rental housing
- Support businesses before, during, and after construction

Existing affordable single-family home stock in corridor cities like Crystal provide opportunities for families to build wealth through homeownership.



Robbinsdale

Small-town charm in the big city's backyard

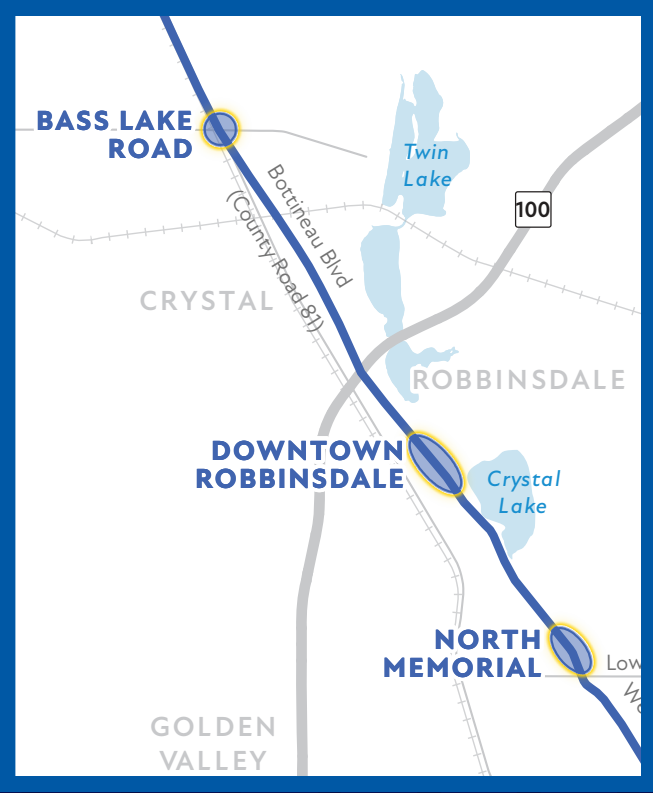
Robbinsdale offers a small-town feel with idyllic shopping districts, local restaurants, parks and trails. The Blue Line knits together multiple commercial nodes and the historic Main Street. Having North Memorial Medical Center on the line offers a new connection for its 6,000 current and future employees and improved regional access to world-class health care.

Community voice

"Robbinsdale wants to know more about the Blue Line Extension and how it will impact our community. For some, there is excitement around how we can shape the project for our future. Others have trepidation about this change and want to better understand the possibilities."



Jason Greenberg, Robbinsdale resident, Co-Chair of Blue Line Extension Community Advisory Committee



Destinations:

- Robbinsdale Town Center
- Historic Main Street
- Travail Kitchen and Amusements
- Wicked Wort Brewing Company
- Robbinsdale City Hall
- Connections to parks and open spaces
- North Memorial Medical Center



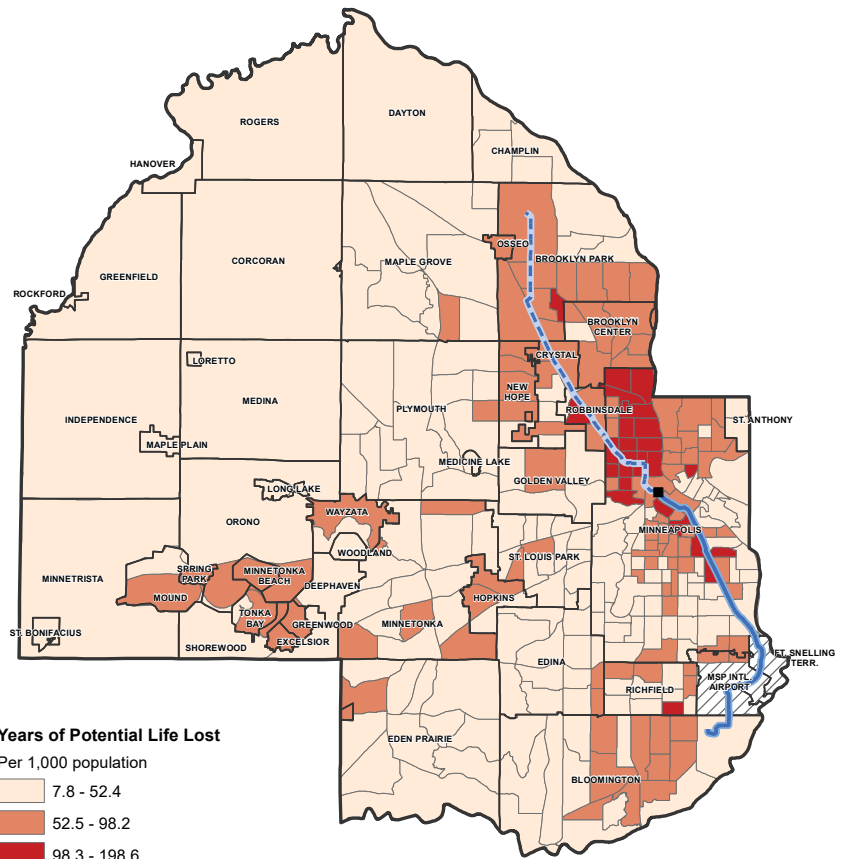
Equity impact

Connecting people to quality health care and providing clean, active transportation choices will serve as a lifeline for well-being in a corridor where residents are more likely to experience premature death and are more likely to be hospitalized for COPD.

Improve public health and reduce pollution

- Light Rail Transit**
- Target Field Station
 - Blue Line (Existing)
 - Blue Line Extension (Proposed)

- Years of Potential Life Lost**
Per 1,000 population
- 7.8 - 52.4
 - 52.5 - 98.2
 - 98.3 - 198.6
 - Data Not Available



Anti-displacement opportunities



- Guide development potential to increase supply of affordable multifamily housing near stations
- Preserve and grow existing local businesses and affordable commercial space

Access to safe, stable, affordable housing served by the Blue Line Extension will change the trajectory of people's lives, transforming what's possible for thousands of residents and families.



North Minneapolis — West Broadway

The Northside's cultural and commercial heart

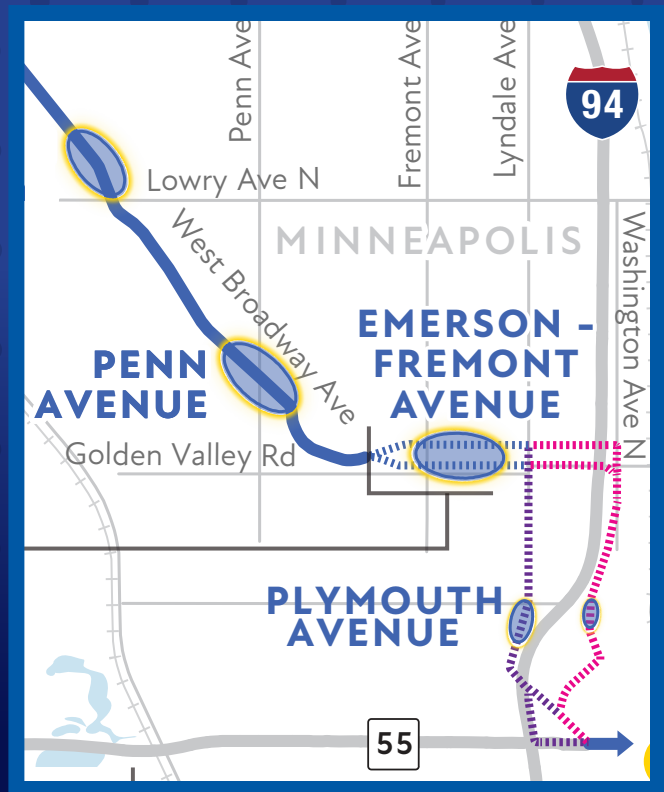
West Broadway is a main artery of North Minneapolis, home to iconic Northside institutions and beloved Black-owned businesses. Light rail presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to invest in the places, people, and businesses that define the Northside.

Community voice

"This project could be an opportunity to make real progress on community priorities. We want progress, but we don't want to be pushed out either. How are you going to make good on promises to use this investment to help our community build wealth in place, create opportunities for community ownership, and maximize benefits for the Northside?"



KB Brown, owner of Wolfpack Productions, 2038B, West Broadway Avenue



Destinations:

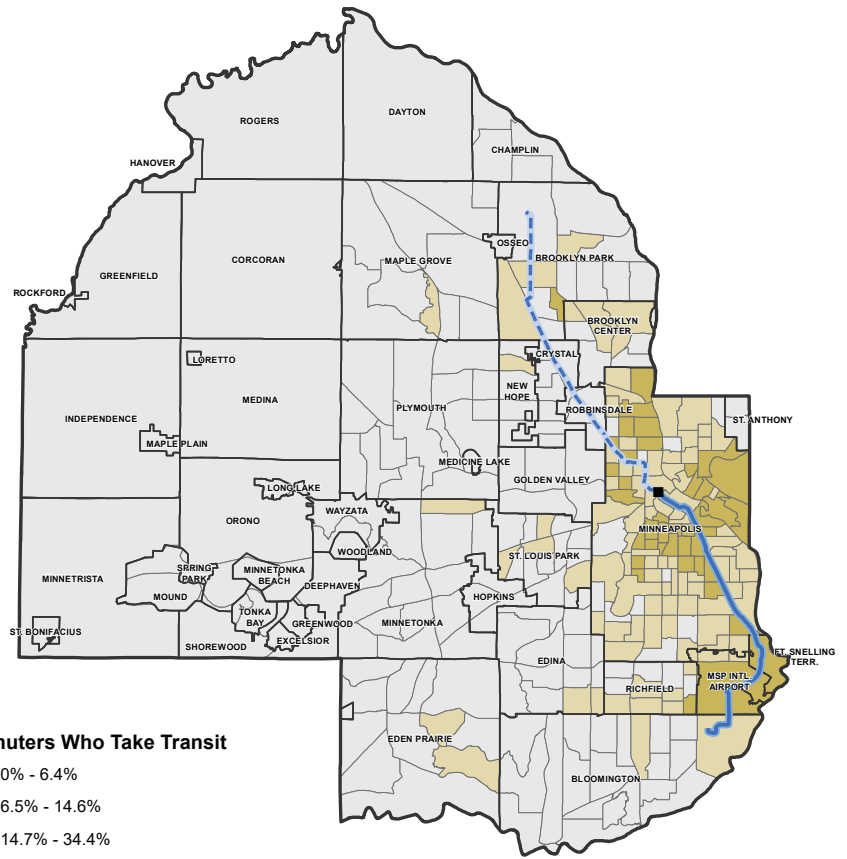
- Capri Theater
- Juxtaposition Arts
- North High School
- North Commons Water Park
- Lucy Laney Elementary School
- Jerry Gamble Boys & Girls Club
- Harold Mezile North Community YMCA
- Minneapolis Public Schools headquarters



Equity impact

Light rail will connect people to opportunities and key destinations in communities of color with high numbers of people who use transit to meet daily needs.

Serve communities of color and people who rely on transit



Light Rail Transit

- Target Field Station
- Blue Line (Existing)
- - - Blue Line Extension (Proposed)

Commuters Who Take Transit

- 0% - 6.4%
- 6.5% - 14.6%
- 14.7% - 34.4%

Anti-displacement opportunities



Kenya McKnight (pictured above at her property on West Broadway Avenue with the Black Women's Wealth Alliance) is a local business and economic development leader, founder of the Black Women's Wealth Alliance, and North Minneapolis resident of 38 years. She also serves on the Blue Line Extension Business Advisory Committee.

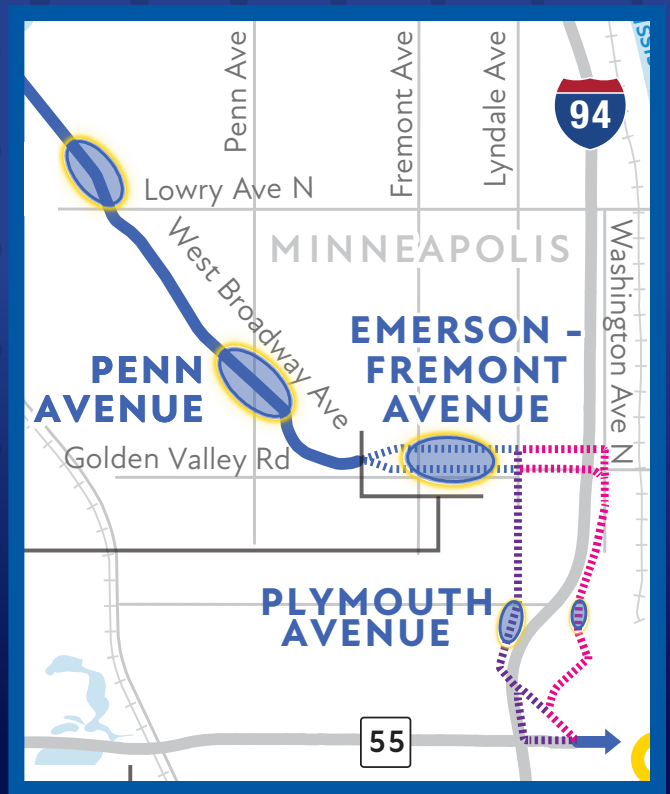
- Work with local developers and local leaders to advance community visions of growth and development
- Preserve existing affordable housing and business space
- Create opportunities for local ownership of commercial spaces
- Maximize opportunities for communities to build wealth in place



North Minneapolis — Plymouth and Lyndale

Supporting world-class investment in health and community

The future V3 Center is planned to start construction at the corner of Plymouth and Lyndale avenues in the fall of 2022, bringing a world-class health and community center to North Minneapolis. Light rail can help drive and support investments like V3 in communities throughout the corridor, building opportunities for residents and communities.



Community voice

“The V3 Center will be a North Minneapolis asset and world-class regional destination. With the Blue Line Extension project just feet from our doorway, both projects can work together to address systemic racism and bring economic vitality and social transformation to our neighborhood and state.”



Erika Binger
V3 Coach, Executive Director, Founder

Destinations:

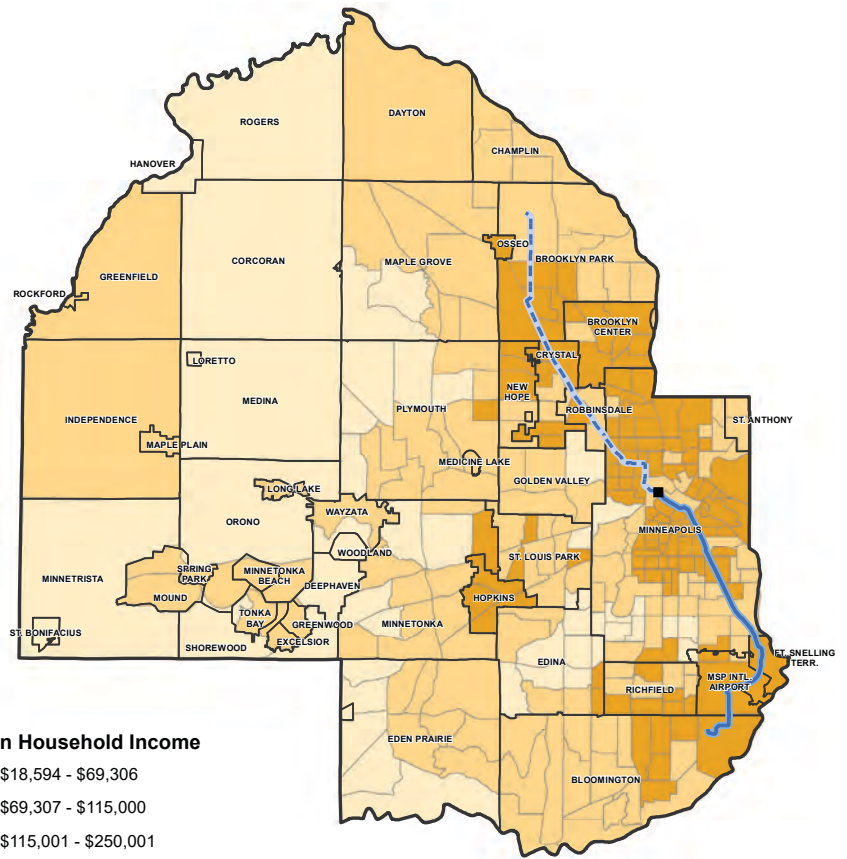
- V3 Center
- North Minneapolis Service Center
- Senior public housing
- Masjid El Amin



Equity impact

The Blue Line Extension will create opportunities for residents and communities to build wealth in place by driving investment in community visions for economic development in a corridor with low household incomes.

Help communities build wealth in place



Light Rail Transit

- Target Field Station
- Blue Line (Existing)
- - - Blue Line Extension (Proposed)

Median Household Income

- \$18,594 - \$69,306
- \$69,307 - \$115,000
- \$115,001 - \$250,001

Anti-displacement opportunities



- Preserve nearby naturally occurring and subsidized multifamily affordable housing, including senior public housing
- Guide future development to align with community visions for growth and opportunity creation

The Blue Line Extension will increase mobility for residents of Lyndale Manor, 600 18th Avenue North, a critical senior public housing building.



Thank you for your support!

The Blue Line Extension is a rare opportunity to bring transformational investment and mobility to some of our state's most diverse and transit reliant communities. We hope you'll support efforts to deliver this project for corridor residents, the Twin Cities region, and the State of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Irene Fernando, Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority Chair, Commissioner, District 2

Jeff Lunde, Hennepin County Commissioner, District 1

Charles Zelle, Metropolitan Council Chair

Reva Chamblis, Metropolitan Council Member, District 2

John Pacheco Jr., Metropolitan Council Member, District 6

Robert Lilligren, Metropolitan Council Member, District 7

Special thanks to our speakers and hosts

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Metro Transit, Director of Transit Systems Design
and Engineering

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Brooklyn Park
Director of Community Development

Jackson George

LIBA-Diaspora, Executive Director

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Crystal, City Planner

John Pacheco Jr.

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Wilson's Image Barbers & Stylists
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Terry Austin

Northside Economic Opportunity Network,
Community Engagement Manager

C Terrence Anderson

Center for Urban and Regional Affairs
Director of Community-Based Research

Erika Binger

V3, Coach, Executive Director, Founder

Come see how we're engaging and fostering
community dialogue online at yourblueline.org

