# The METRO B Line

### Faster transit is coming to the Route 21 corridor

Construction of the METRO B Line bus rapid transit project is scheduled to begin in spring 2023. The B Line will substantially replace Route 21 with faster, frequent, and all-day service. This 12-mile line will connect neighborhoods and destinations in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Bus rapid transit is a package of transit enhancements that adds up to a faster trip and an improved experience.

The B Line will help deliver more equitable service in a corridor that has some of the region's highest ridership, even during the pandemic.

#### A faster trip

The goal of the B Line is to make service approximately 20% faster. Here's how:

- Buses make fewer stops, significantly speeding up travel time.
- Ticket machines at stations allow customers to purchase tickets before boarding with cash or credit.

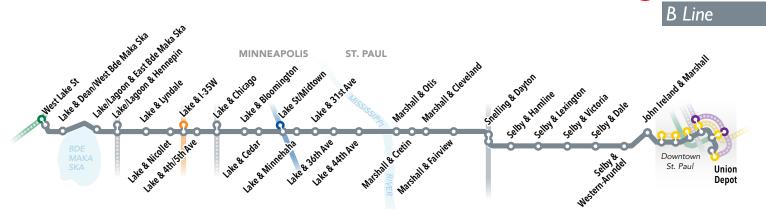
- Low-floor buses and raised curbs at stations, plus wider bus doors and boarding from the front and back, speed up boarding.
- Extending the curb at stations saves time; buses can merge more easily into traffic after serving a station.
- Signal priority and bus-only lanes in key locations allow buses to keep moving.

#### Improved transit experience

Enhanced shelters at BRT stations provide protection from the weather and a safe, comfortable and convenient customer waiting space. Features include:

- Bike racks
- Information about the route, transit system and surrounding area
- Security cameras and emergency phones
- Enhanced lighting
- Push-button heating

#### View a detailed map at metrotransit.org/b-line-project



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#### Project Schedule (subject to change)

• 2020	• 2021-2023	• Spring 2023	• Spring 2024	• 2024
Project station locations approved	Design of stations and other improvements	Construction starts east of Hiawatha Avenue	Construction starts west of Hiawatha Avenue	Anticipated opening of the B Line

## What to expect from construction

Metro Transit thanks residents, businesses and customers for their patience as crews work to get the B Line ready for an anticipated launch in late 2024. Construction may have periods of street closures and detours, sidewalk closures, and intermittent noise. People should anticipate the following impacts:

- Construction at each station intersection will generally include new road and sidewalk sections, changes to traffic signals, and installation of new shelters and other station features.
- Pedestrian and signal improvements will be constructed at an additional 50+ intersections.
- Some locations will also include utility work and pedestrian or bikeway improvements.
- To improve pavement conditions, there will be street resurfacing on Lake Street and Lagoon Avenue.
- To improve transit speed and reliability, bus-only lanes will be implemented on portions of Lake Street, Lagoon Avenue and Marshall Avenue.
- Crews will install underground conduit for a fiber optic network along the length of the corridor to link technology at stations.
- In Minneapolis, construction will be staged to allow two-way traffic flow on Lake Street at all times, as well as allow traffic flow in the Lake & Lagoon sections of Uptown.
- In St. Paul, construction on Marshall Avenue will be staged to allow two-way traffic flow at all times. On Selby Avenue, intersections will be fully closed to auto traffic for about a month with additional lane restrictions for longer time periods.
- Outreach staff will communicate with residents, businesses, and property owners within one block prior to construction starting at each new location.
- Sidewalk access will be maintained on at least one side of construction zones at all times.
- Pedestrian access to homes and businesses will be maintained.
- Buses will experience detours during construction. Up-to-date information can be found at metrotransit.org/alerts. <u>Subscribe to Rider Alerts</u> to keep up to date with bus detours and temporary stop locations.

#### Stay informed

For general project information: metrotransit.org/b-line-project

For the latest information on bus route detours: sign up for Rider Alerts at metrotransit.org/alerts

For the latest information on construction: sign up for <u>B Line update emails</u>

# Contact us with concerns, questions

**Construction hotline:** 651-356-6995

**Outreach email:** BLine@metrotransit.org

**Need Interpreter?** Español, Hmoob, Soomaali, Oromoo, Karen

- Call 612-373-3333, Select Option 2
- Say what language: Español, Hmoob, Soomaali, Oromoo, Karen

