

# Blue Line LRT Extension

HENNEPIN COUNTY  
MINNESOTA

## Support \$20 million in state bonding for the METRO Blue Line extension local funding commitment

### Improve regional transit

Hennepin County, the Metropolitan Council and the cities of Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park, are advancing the planned METRO Blue Line Extension (Bottineau) light rail transit project. This line is expected to serve 27,000 riders per day by 2030 and will connect communities northwest of downtown Minneapolis to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, the Mall of America and the expanding Twin Cities transit network.

To keep the project on time and on budget, Hennepin County requests \$20 million in state funds for preliminary engineering and/or final design activities.

### State funding commitment needed during 2017 session to avoid delays

The Federal Transit Administration needs to see that all local funding commitments are secured prior to recommending the project receive over \$750 million in federal funding. The full local funding commitment must be secured by the end of the 2017 legislative session to avoid schedule delays and cost increases.

For the project development phase, the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) contributed \$27.6 million, the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) contributed \$17.4 million and the State of Minnesota contributed \$1 million. Both CTIB and Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority HCRRA have made a commitment for their funding shares of the entire project.

## Contacts

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## Website

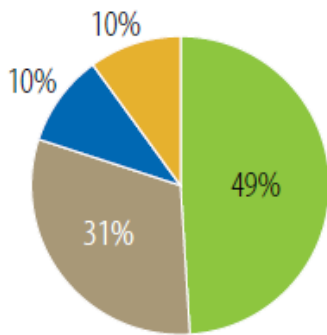
[www.BlueLineExt.org](http://www.BlueLineExt.org)

 @BlueLineExt

## Create a single line from Mall of America to Brooklyn Park

The METRO Blue Line Extension spans approximately 13 miles and adds 11 stations from downtown Minneapolis to the northwest suburbs. Once complete, it will create a 25-mile line from Mall of America to Brooklyn Park. The line will connect to:

- Target Field Station
- Existing LRT on the METRO Green Line and future LRT on the METRO Green Line Extension (Southwest)
- Northstar commuter rail line and local and express bus routes



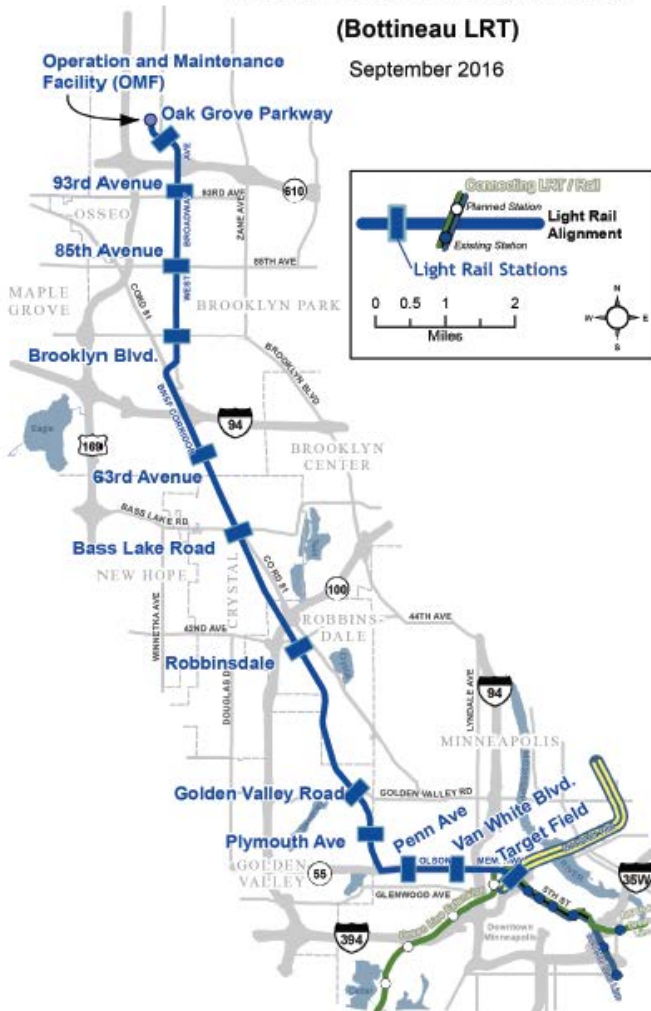
Total estimated project cost \$1.536 billion (2019 dollars)

- 49% Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
- 31% Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB)
- 10% Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA)
- 10% State of Minnesota

### METRO Blue Line Extension

(Bottineau LRT)

September 2016



### Current Timeline

- 2014** August: Federal Transit Administration approved the Blue Line Extension to enter the project development phase. The Metropolitan Council became the project lead after transfer of responsible government unit status from Hennepin County.
- 2016** Final Environmental Impact Statement published and project development completed.
- 2018-2020** Heavy construction (anticipated).
- 2021** Begin passenger service (anticipated).

