



Network Now Framework: 2026 Amendment

Transportation Committee | August 24, 2026



Agenda

- Metro Transit Forward
- Existing Network Now Framework
- Proposed 2026 Amendment
 - Amendment Process
 - Overview of Proposed Changes
- Metro Micro
- Public Engagement



Our Mission: We connect people, strengthen communities, and improve lives by delivering high-quality public transportation.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Employees

We value employees and continuously improve how we attract, retain, develop, and support our workforce.

Experience

We provide a consistently safe, clean, and welcoming experience on our system.

Service

We offer service that is convenient, reliable, and environmentally sustainable.

ADVANCING METRO TRANSIT FORWARD IN 2026 WILL MEAN:



Building
ridership



Increasing employee,
rider, and community
satisfaction



Preparing for a flawless
Green Line Extension
launch in 2027

Existing Network Now Framework

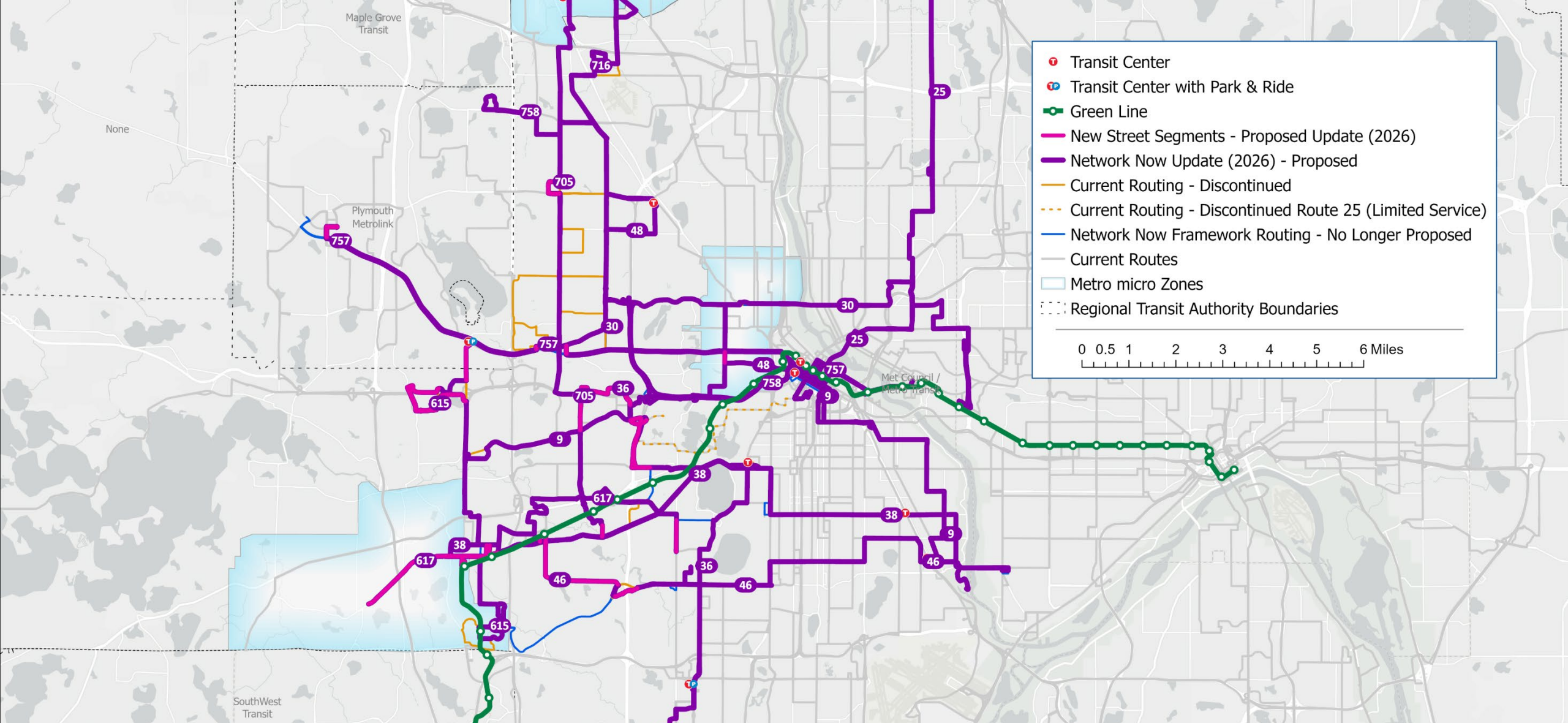
- Council policy guidance on Metro Transit's service improvements to grow ridership, enhance mobility, and meet travel needs
- Approximately 50% of the service increase on the framework has been implemented



- Adapt service to changes in transit markets and travel patterns.
- Prepare for new METRO and high-frequency routes.
- Maintain the reliability of scheduled service consistently over time.
- Build on success to grow ridership, adding service where people use transit the most.
- Provide access to opportunities and services with a focus on advancing equity and reducing regional disparities.

2026 Network Now Amendment

- Why amend the framework?
 - Further development of corridor plans
 - Green Line Extension Connecting Bus Service
 - Highway 55 Corridor Service and Connecting Routes
 - Advance Network Now principles and apply lessons learned
 - Review implementation timeline consistent with resources
 - Targeting completing in 2028
- Process:
 - ☒ **June:** Develop draft changes
 - ☒ **July:** Meet with partner cities and counties to review draft changes
 - August 24:** Transportation Committee information item
 - August 25–October 4:** Engage riders & community
 - Late 2026:** Request Metropolitan Council endorsement

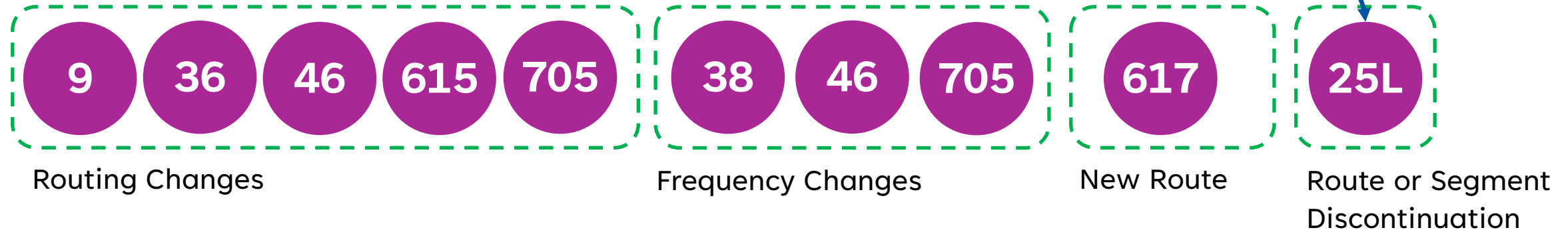


Overview Map of Proposed Changes

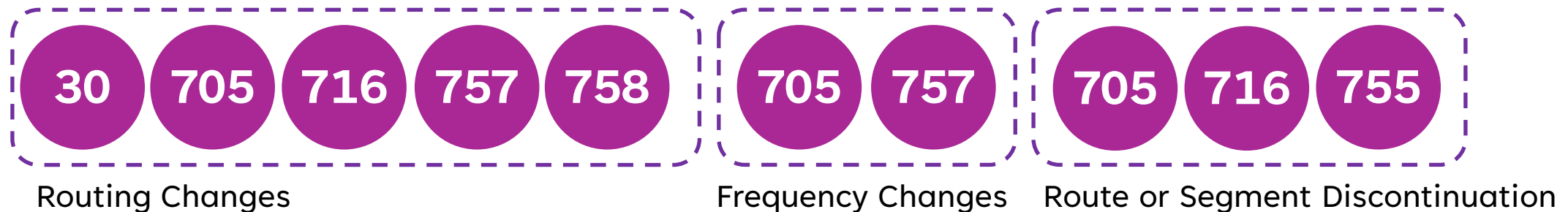
2026 Network Now Amendment

Proposed Route Modifications

Green Line Extension

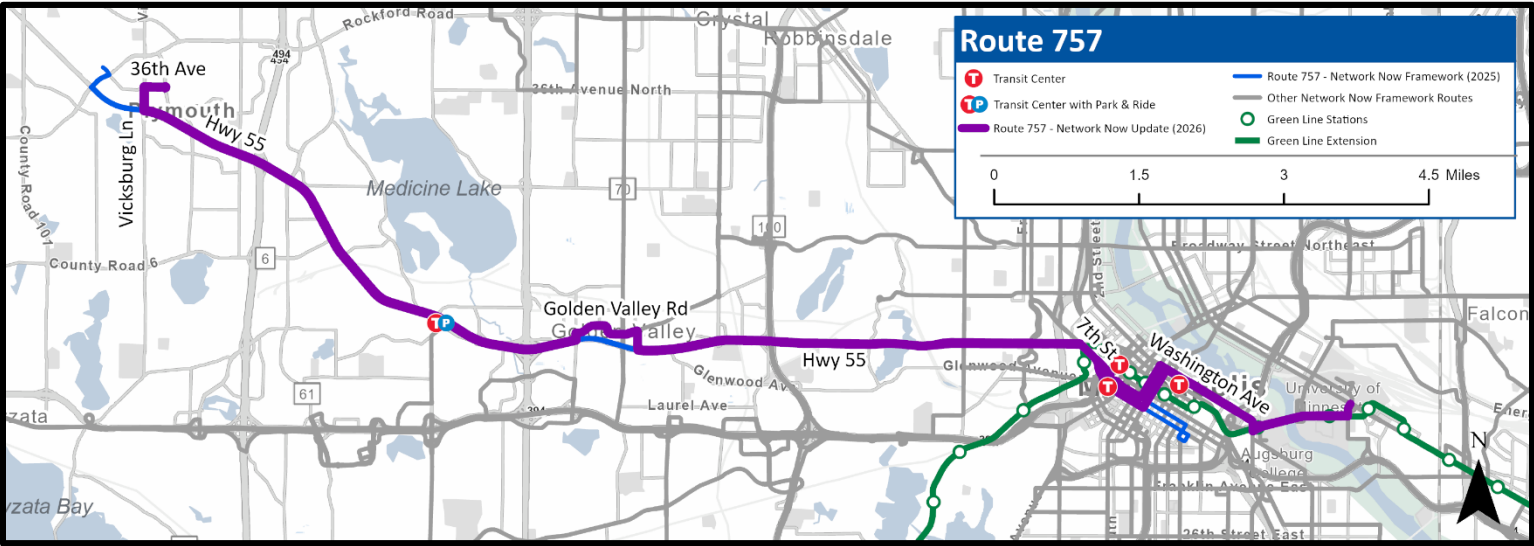


Highway 55



Plan highlight: Route 757

- Highway 55 Transit Study outcome
- End at Plymouth City Center
- Connect to Golden Valley Rd/Winnetka Ave
- Hourly trips to U of M on weekdays



Planned Schedule

	Rush Hour			Midday		Evening			Night		
Wk	-	30	30	-	30	30	-	30	30	-	30
Sat	-	-	30	-	-	30	-	-	30	-	30
Sun	-	-	30	-	-	30	-	-	30	-	30

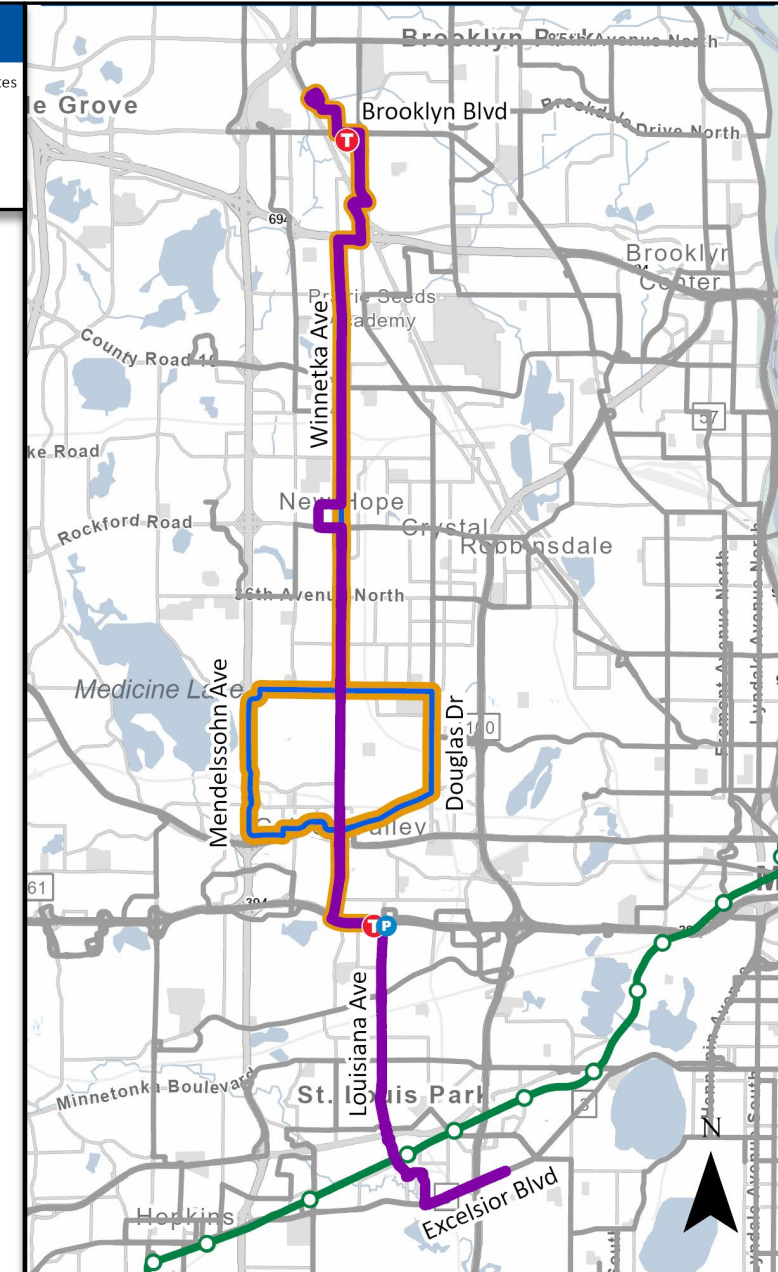
Current Network Now Framework (2025) Network Now Update (2026)

Plan highlight: Route 705

- Streamline route, removing two branches to increase legibility and provide faster service for more riders
- Connect to Green Line and Highway 55
- Key destinations: Starlite Transit Center, Hy-Vee in New Hope, Methodist Hospital and HealthPartners in Saint Louis Park

Route 705

 Transit Center	 Other Network Now Framework Routes
 Transit Center with Park & Ride	 Current Route 705
 Route 705 - Network Now Update (2026)	 Green Line Stations
 Route 705 - Network Now Framework (2025)	 Green Line Extension



Planned Schedule

	Rush Hour			Midday			Evening			Night		
Wk	60	60	30	60	60	30	60	60	30	-	-	30
Sat	-	-	30	-	-	30	-	-	30	-	-	30
Sun	-	-	30	-	-	30	-	-	30	-	-	30

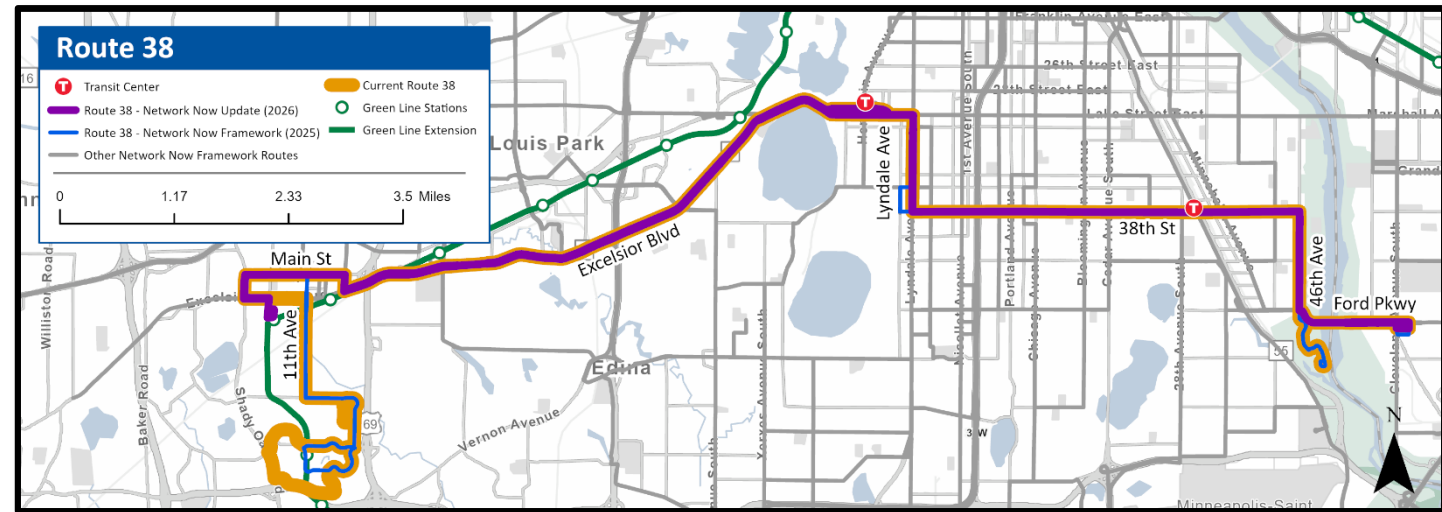
Current

Network Now Framework (2025)

Network Now Update (2026)

Plan highlight: Route 38

- End at Shady Oak Station for reliability and operator facilities
 - Opus served by Route 615
- Simplify east end branches for legibility, improved service
 - All trips serve Highland Park
 - Veteran's Home served by Route 46
- Key destinations: downtown Hopkins, Uptown, Highland Park, 38th St Station



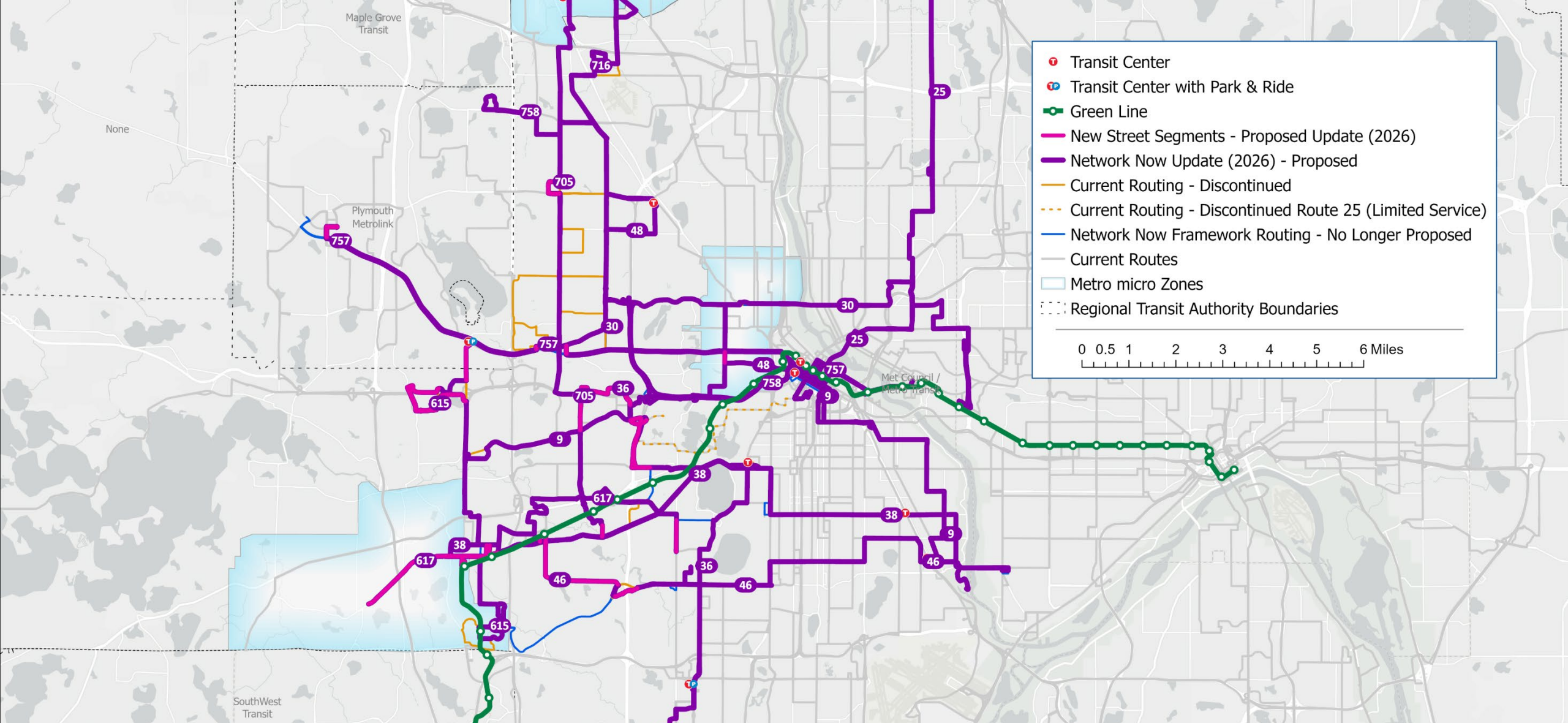
Planned Schedule

	Rush Hour			Midday			Evening			Night		
Wk	30	15	20	30	30	20	30	30	20	30	30	20 - 30
Sat	30	30	20	30	30	20	30	30	20	30	30	20 - 30
Sun	30	30	20	30	30	20	30	30	20	30	30	20 - 30

Current

Network Now Framework (2025)

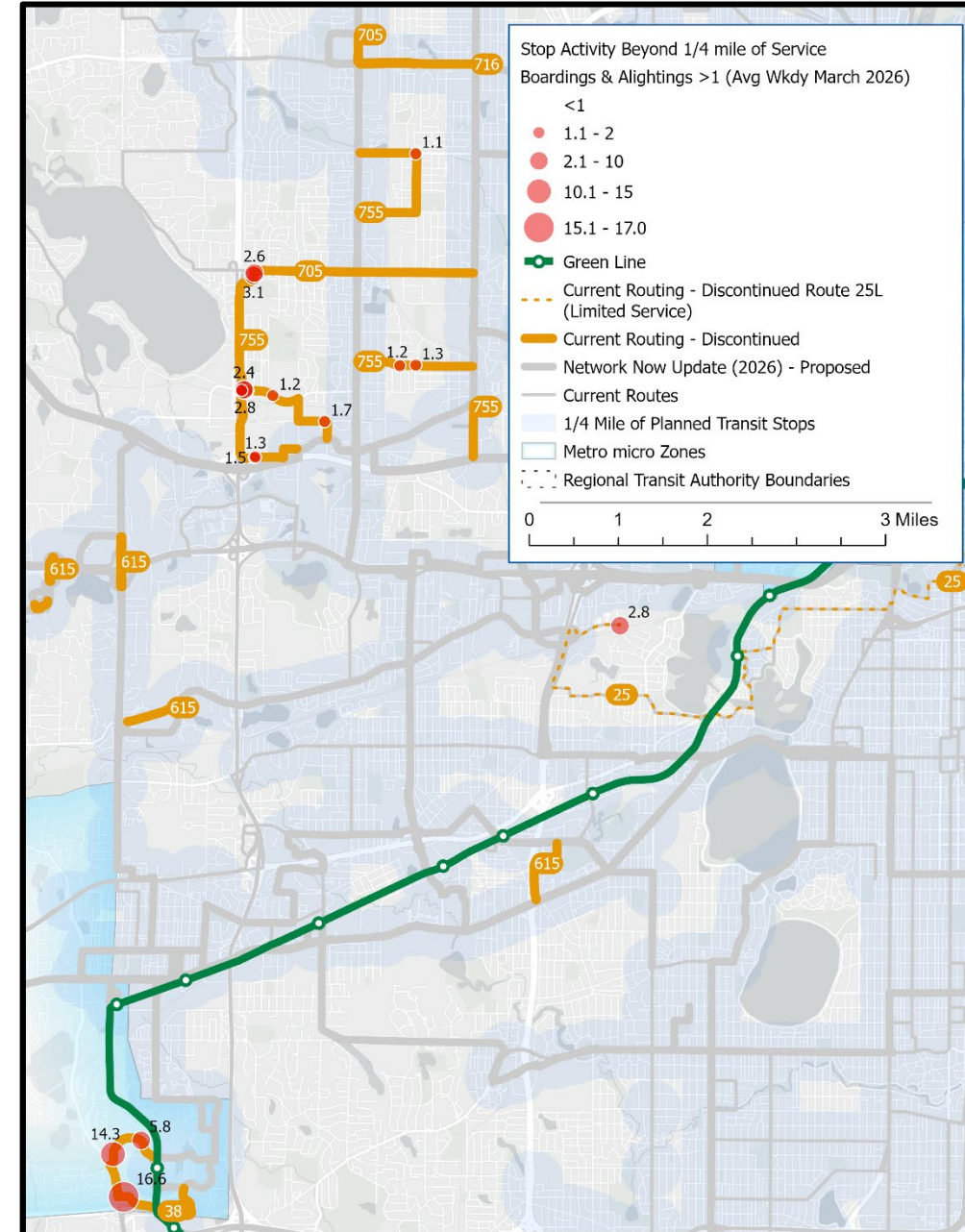
Network Now Update (2026)



Overview Map of Proposed Changes

2026 Network Now Amendment Discontinued Segments

- Some street segments are proposed to no longer have transit service
- With amendment, 23 average daily riders would be more than a 5-minute walk from alternative transit service
- Targeted engagement to reach affected riders



2026 Network Now Amendment

Key Outcomes

Adapt to change & Build on success

- More travel options for customers with **increased frequency**
- Additional **evening and weekend service**

Prepare for new METRO lines

- **New routes and increased service** connecting to Green Line west of downtown Minneapolis
- **70% more** connecting trips **on weekends** over previous plans

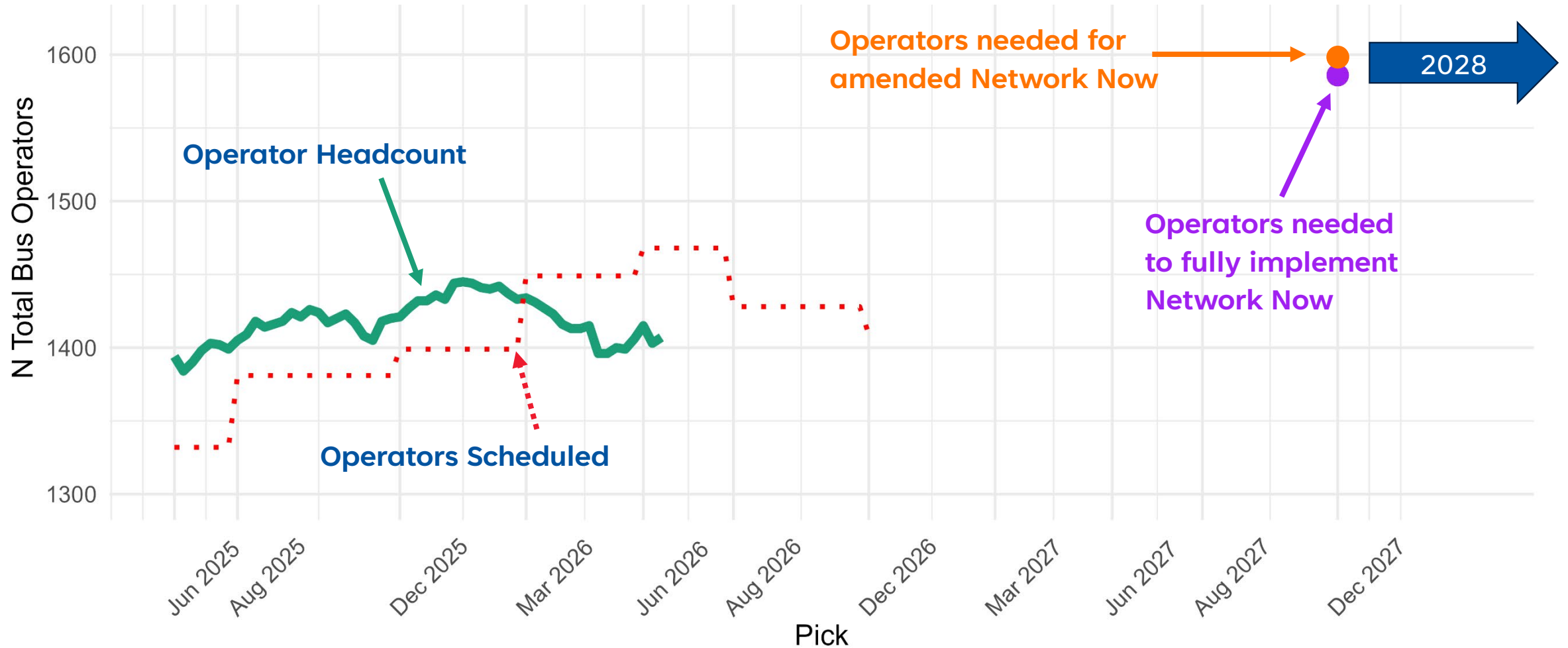
Maintain service reliability

- **Legible, easy to understand routes** with fewer branches and complex patterns
- Streamlined routes make it **easier to deliver reliable service**

Increase access to opportunities

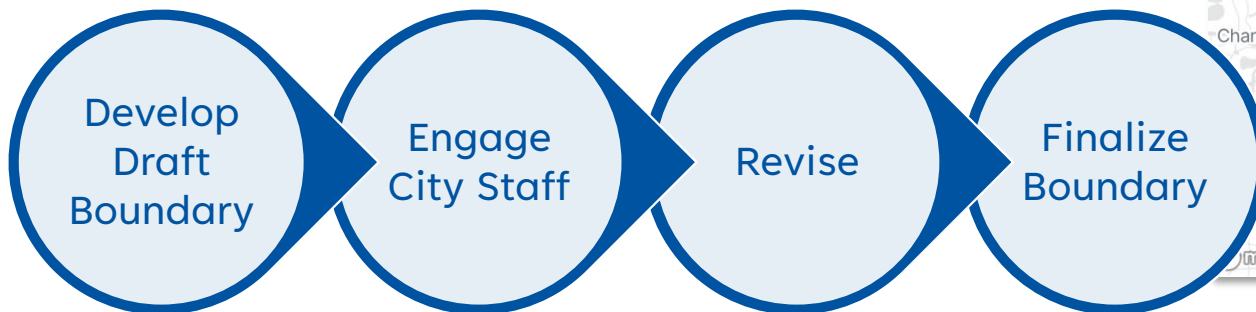
- **14,000** additional people with **access to all-day service** with 30-minute frequency or better

Targeting 2028 completion and continuing to evaluate



Metro micro

- New zones anchor transit centers, and provide access in areas difficult to serve with traditional fixed route
- North Minneapolis, Minnetonka area zones will connect with Green Line
- Parallel process for developing and revising boundaries



- Fixed Resources
- Key Considerations

- Evaluate Alternatives
- Document Trade-offs
- Recommend Best Option

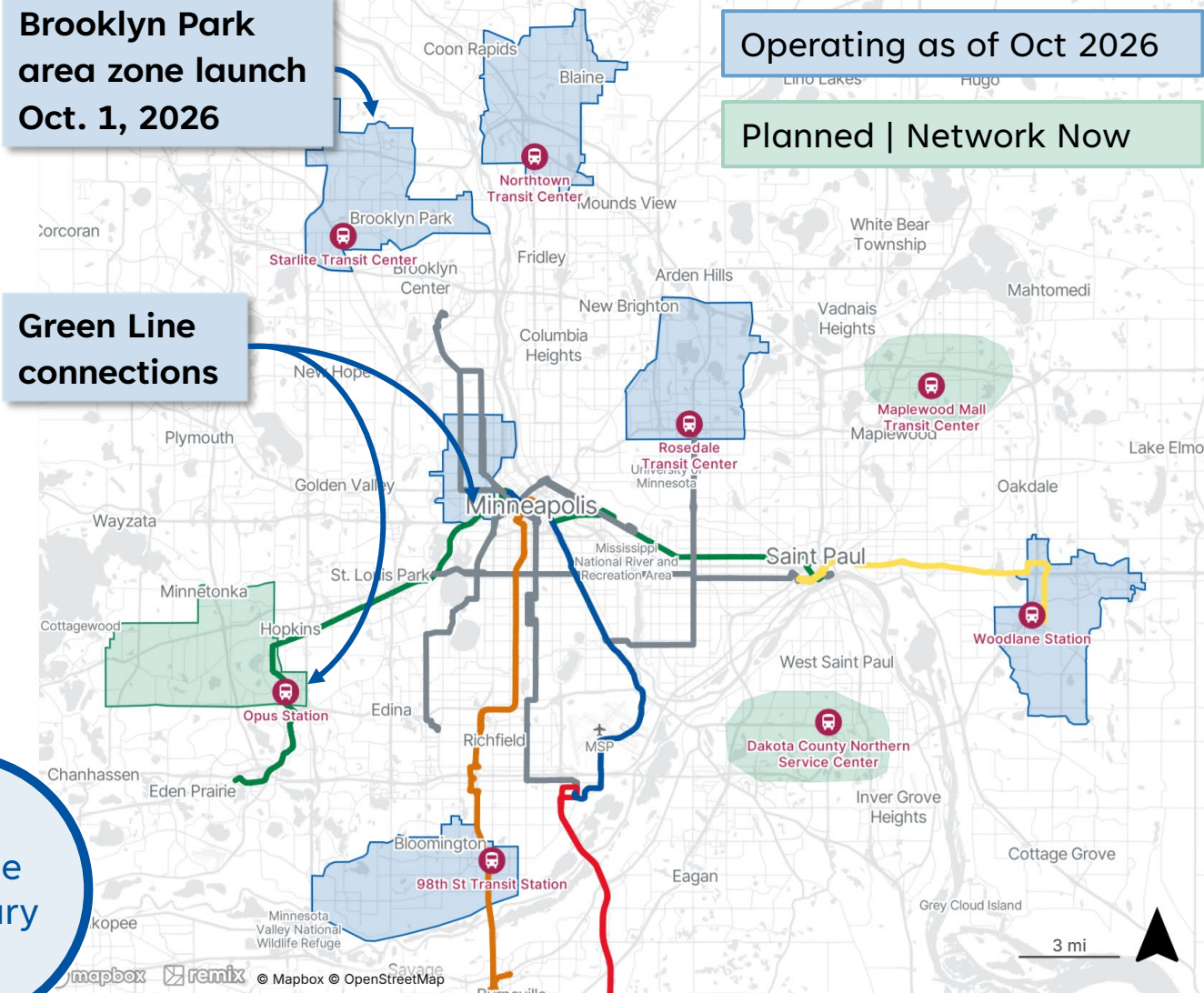
- Monitor and revise after 6-8 months of implementation

Brooklyn Park area zone launch Oct. 1, 2026

Operating as of Oct 2026

Planned | Network Now

Green Line connections



Public Engagement & Next Steps

- August 25 – October 4: Website live, feedback period
 - Four community meetings (one virtual)
 - Outreach + communications with riders and community
 - Tabling and presentations at community events
 - Transit onboard outreach
 - 9/2 TAAC meeting
 - 9/2 GLE Corridor Management Committee meeting
- November: Advance business item for Council endorsement
 - 11/9 Transportation Committee, 11/18 Council



metrotransit.org/network-now