



# METRO Blue Line Extension

Minnesota's next light rail

# 2026 Update

*Minneapolis ↔ Robbinsdale ↔ Crystal ↔ Brooklyn Park*

The METRO Blue Line Extension Light Rail Transit line will provide fast, frequent, all-day service to northwest metro communities, providing a one-seat ride to downtown Minneapolis, MSP Airport and Mall of America, connecting vibrant destinations and communities along the way.

In 2026, the project team will continue engaging with residents and businesses as this generational transit investment moves forward with the feedback collected in the previous year.

## Design and engineering

- Complete 90% design by summer and 100% design by fall
- Finalize station and landscaping designs with the help of Cultural Placekeeping themes and community feedback
- Issue a Request for Qualifications for the major construction contract package

## Addressing project impacts

- Begin implementing strategies to address project impacts as identified in the Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement
- Develop initial construction phasing approach for maintaining access during construction
- Begin right-of-way purchasing and relocation process
- Continue to develop anti-displacement resources
- Advance BLE workforce development initiatives

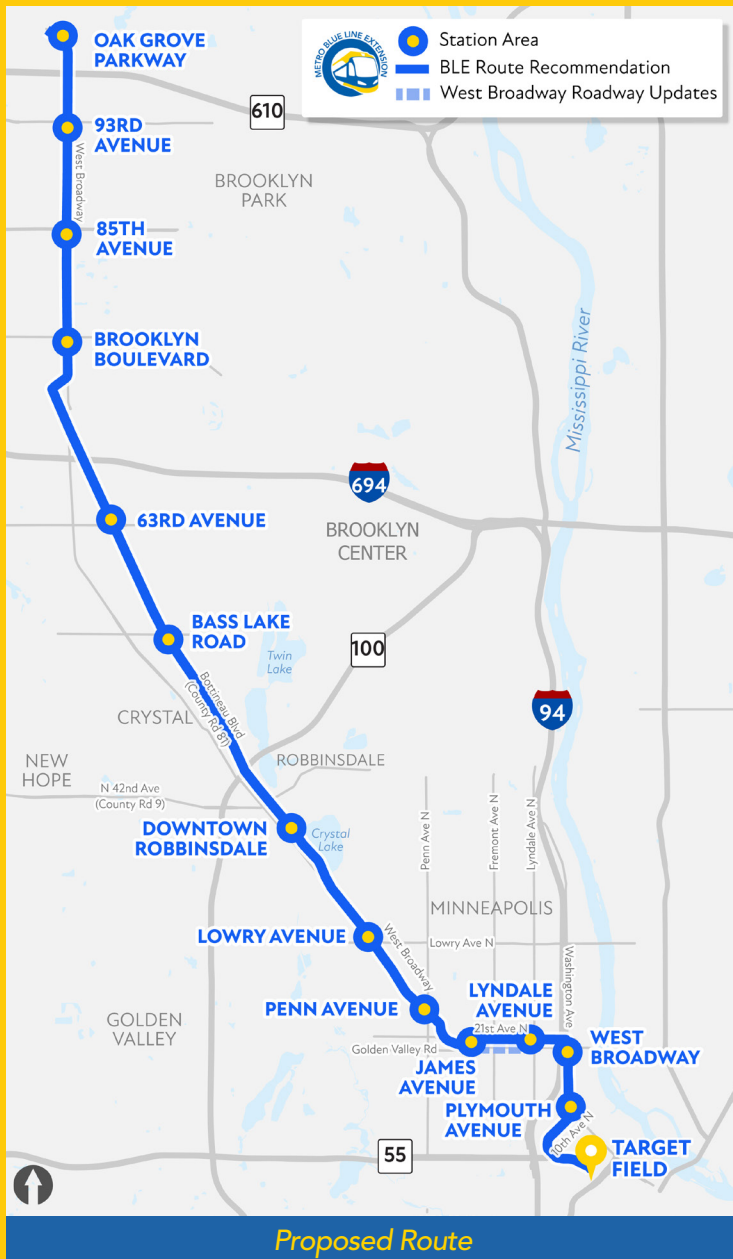
## Outreach and engagement

- Continue direct outreach to businesses and property owners to prepare for construction
- Collect feedback on station design, landscaping plans, and 90% design plans
- Engage community as strategies are designed to support businesses and residents through construction

## Federal process

- Finalize FTA Risk Assessment
- Apply for federal Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA)





## 2025 marked by deep engagement, major milestones

The BLE project worked closely with community to achieve several major milestones in 2025:

- Completed federal environmental review with publication of the Amended Record of Decision
- Incorporated support for businesses and communities impacted by construction into the project
- Published 60% design plans with community and partner input
- Redesigned the Lowry Avenue station in response to community and partner feedback
- Advanced station design through the Cultural Placekeeping Community Working group to visually represent cultural themes of the corridor



## Stay Connected

For project questions or to invite us to an event, contact: [bleoutreach@metrotransit.org](mailto:bleoutreach@metrotransit.org)

- Blue\_Line\_Extension
- METROBlueLineExtention
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Visit [BlueLineExt.org](http://BlueLineExt.org) for more information, to sign-up for the project newsletter, and share your comments/questions on our interactive map.

