



Meeting Title: Orange Line TAC – Meeting #1

Date: 5/3/13

Time: 8:30 – 10 am

Room: Chambers at Metro Transit, 560 6th Ave North, Minneapolis

Meeting called by: Christina Morrison, BRT/Small Starts Project Office

Attendees:

Agenda Topics

1. Introductions & Past Involvement (15 min)
2. Orange Line overview presentation & discussion (30 min)
 - a. Project Plan Update scope & timeline
3. Project Purpose exercise (20 min)
4. Proposed public process & committee structure (15 minutes)
 - a. Tentative TAC schedule
5. Around the table (10 min)

Notes



METRO Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit



Christina Morrison, Senior Planner
Metro Transit
BRT/Small Starts Project Office

May 3, 2013

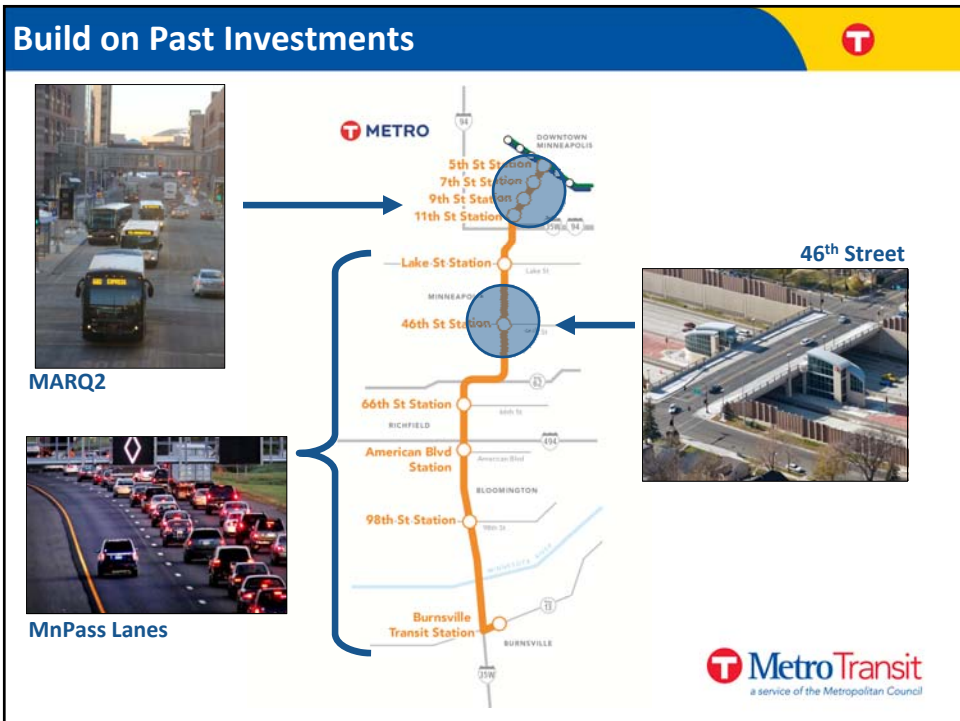
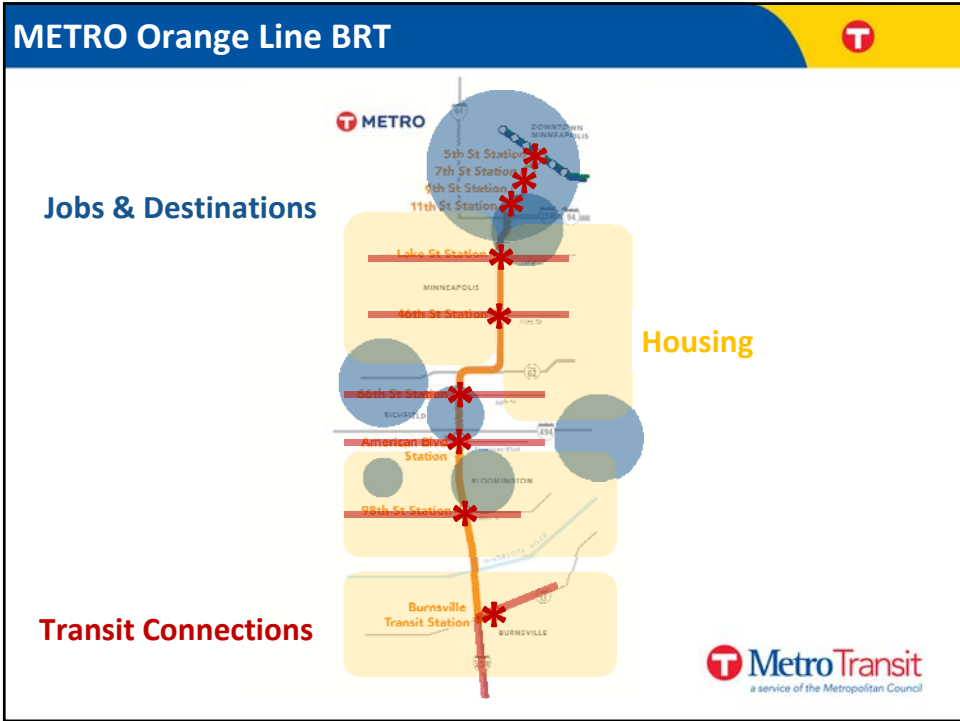


Why BRT?



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Improve Capacity of Existing Facilities

66th Street

Burnsville Transit Station

98th Street

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The diagram shows a vertical map of Metro Transit lines. The orange line (METRO) runs from Downtown Minneapolis down to Burnsville. Stations marked include 5th St, 7th St, 9th St, 11th St, Lake St, 46th St, 66th St, American Blvd, 98th St, and Burnsville Transit Station. Blue circles highlight the 66th St, 98th St, and Burnsville Transit Station areas. Arrows point from these circles to corresponding photographs of bus shelters and the station building.

Catalyze Planned Projects

494/35W Interchange

35W Lake Transit/Access Project

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The diagram shows the same vertical map of Metro Transit lines as above. Blue circles highlight the Lake St Station and American Blvd Station areas. Arrows point from these circles to an aerial map of the 494/35W interchange and an architectural rendering of a transit access project at Lake St.

Improve Fleet and Service



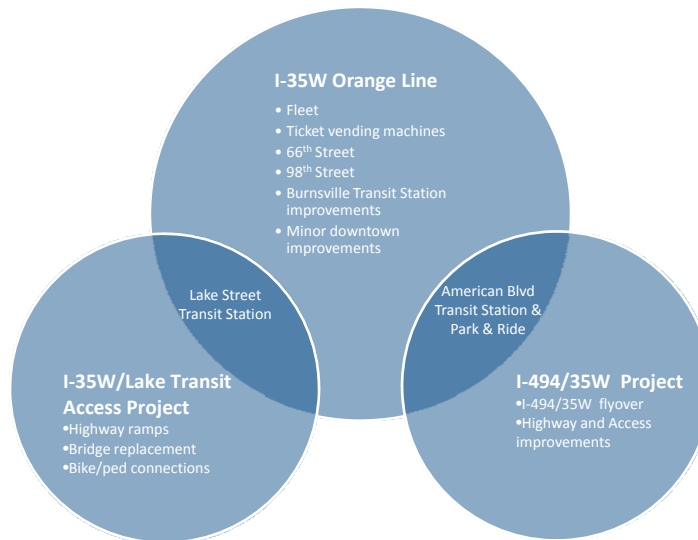
- New vehicles for station-to-station service
- Low floor, multi-door boarding
- New station-to-station service
- Explore transit advantages on 11th and 12th Streets in downtown



Project Coordination




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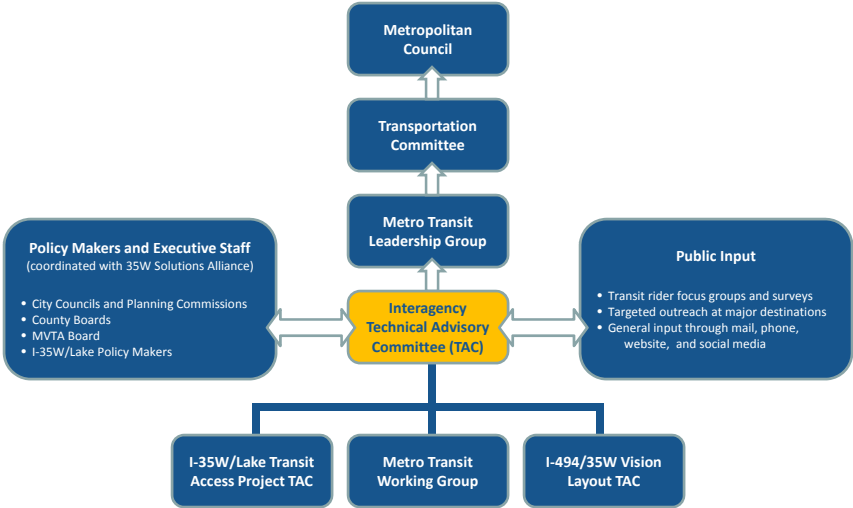
Project Plan Update T 9

	2013 Goals
1	Document previous planning
2	Determine environmental (NEPA) path
3	Develop existing conditions report
4	Compile demographic & land use information
5	Review transit service planning
6	Forecast ridership
7	Create conceptual design for 66 th , 98 th & BTS
8	Develop project scope, budget & timeline
9	Define implementation roles & responsibilities
10	Scope Orange Line Phase II




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Public Involvement T

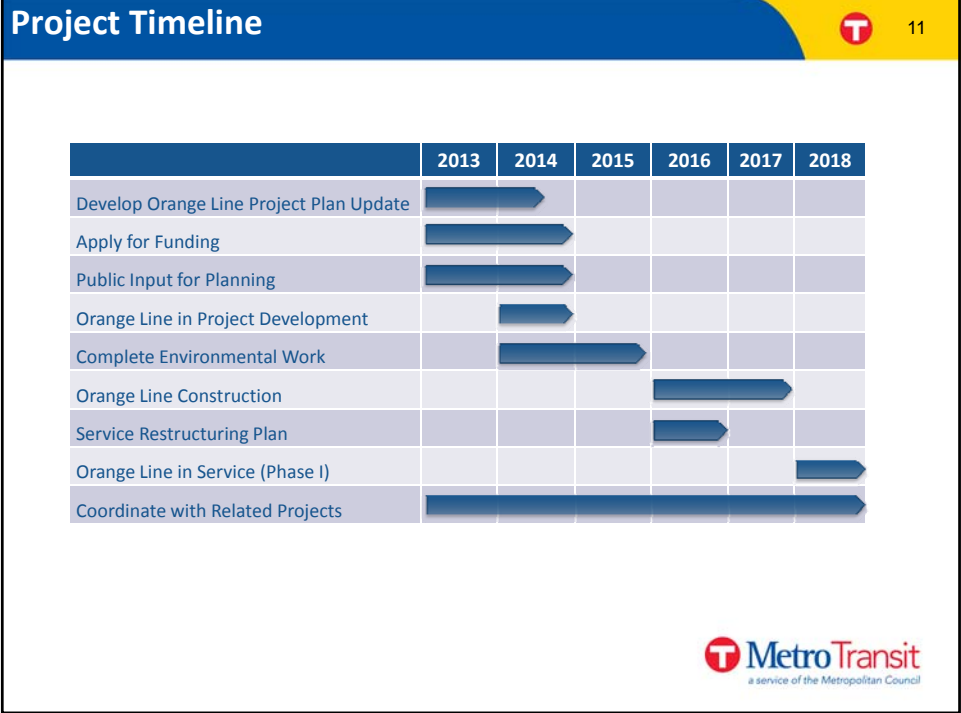


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graph TD
    MC[Metropolitan Council] <--> TC[Transportation Committee]
    TC <--> MTLG[Metro Transit Leadership Group]
    MTLG <--> ITAC[Interagency Technical Advisory Committee TAC]
    ITAC <--> PMES[Policy Makers and Executive Staff]
    ITAC <--> PI[Public Input]
    ITAC --> I35W[I-35W/Lake Transit Access Project TAC]
    ITAC --> MTWG[Metro Transit Working Group]
    ITAC --> I494[I-494/35W Vision Layout TAC]
    
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METRO Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit T



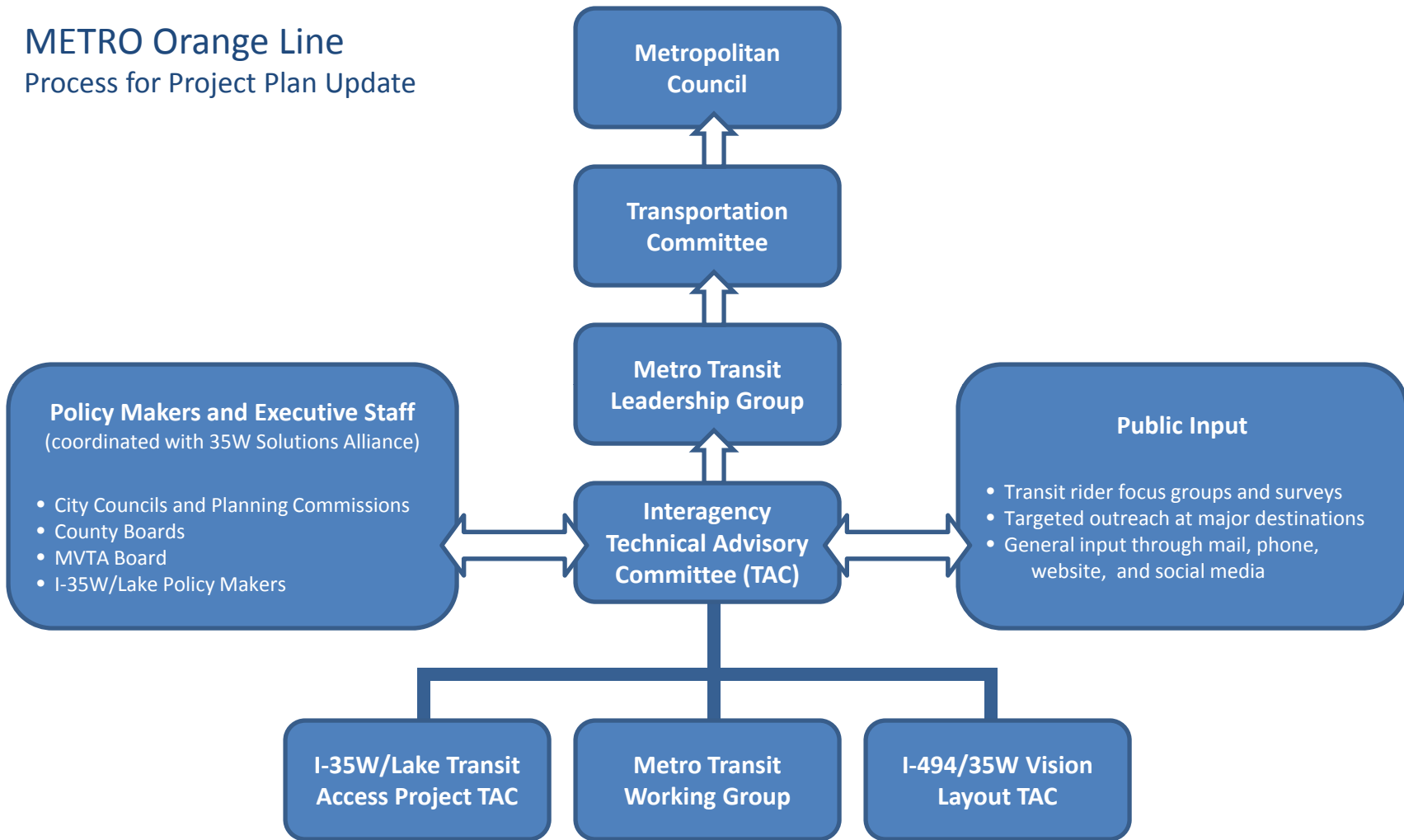


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METRO Orange Line Process for Project Plan Update





METRO Orange Line Project Plan Update: Technical Advisory Committee

The [METRO Orange Line](#) is a planned Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line from Downtown Minneapolis to Burnsville. BRT is a term applied to a variety of transit systems using buses to provide faster, more attractive service than an ordinary bus route. Often this is achieved by making improvements to existing station and roadway infrastructure, vehicles, technology, and scheduling. METRO Orange Line will use Marquette Avenue and 2nd Avenue transit advantages through Downtown Minneapolis, and will provide frequent, limited-stop service to upgraded stations at Lake Street, 46th Street, 66th Street, American Boulevard, 98th Street, and Burnsville Transit Station. The second phase of the project is planned to extend service and improvements to Burnsville Center and Lakeville.

In 2013, Metro Transit will update the project plan for the Orange Line, engaging community members, employers, institutions, and other stakeholders. This process will replace the traditional Alternatives Analysis study, which is no longer required under the MAP-21 federal transportation bill. The Project Plan Update is scheduled to be completed in November 2013.

Purpose

The Orange Line Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will provide guidance, review work deliverables, and advise in the resolution of technical issues. The group will consist of interagency staff from the Metropolitan Council, Metro Transit, each county and city, MnDOT, and MVTA. Expertise in the group will include engineering, transportation and transit planning, transit operations, and land use planning.

TAC members will have early and frequent input into the Project Plan Update, influencing critical components and project scope as it moves toward a federal funding application in 2014. Members will represent interests of their respective agencies and provide guidance to policy makers on which solutions and designs are the most technically feasible. The TAC will advise the Metropolitan Council, incorporating input from the general public and policy makers.

Meetings

The group will meet five times in 2013, tentatively focusing on the following topics:

- April or May: Scope of work, proposed public process and committee structure, corridor work to date
- June/July: Existing conditions report, demographic and land use information, first draft of station designs
- August: Preliminary service planning, second draft of station designs, phase II scoping
- September/October: Estimated costs, maintenance needs, project timeline, ridership forecasts
- November: Final version of Project Plan Update, implementation roles

Meetings will be held at Metro Transit at 560 6th Avenue North in Minneapolis, and will be one to two hours in length.