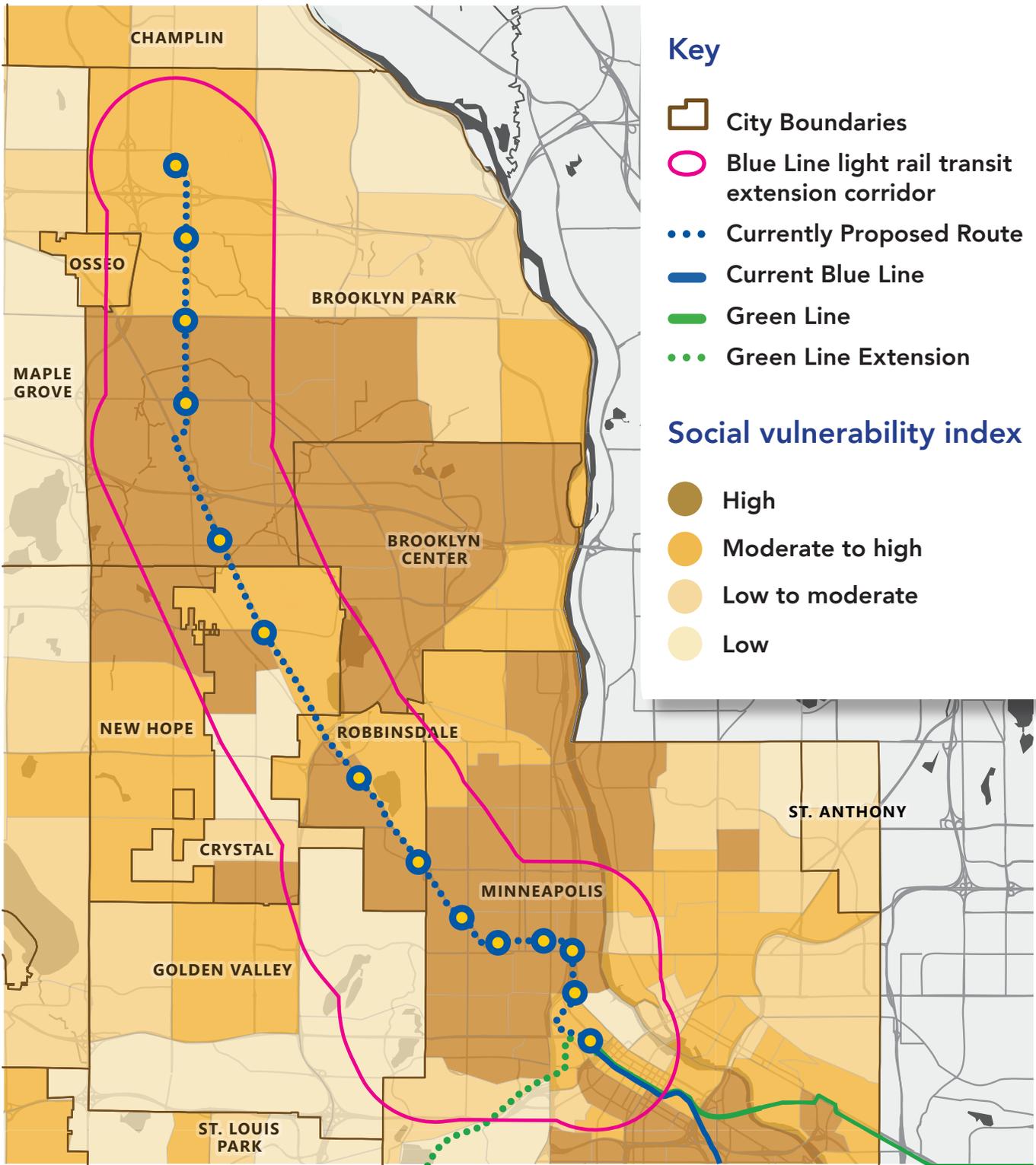




# METRO Blue Line Extension

An investment in Minnesota's  
enduring prosperity

The Blue Line Extension will connect communities, create jobs, and catalyze investment that benefits our entire state for generations to come. As the missing northern leg of the Twin Cities light rail system, it will give thousands of Minnesotans new freedom to travel with dignity and ease. Connecting neighbors and businesses to new opportunities to work, learn, play, heal, and grow, it embodies our shared values and commitment to building a prosperous and resilient future for all Minnesotans.



### Key

- City Boundaries
- Blue Line light rail transit extension corridor
- Currently Proposed Route
- Current Blue Line
- Green Line
- Green Line Extension

### Social vulnerability index

- High
- Moderate to high
- Low to moderate
- Low

**Disclaimer:** This map (i) is furnished "AS IS" with no representation as to completeness or accuracy; (ii) is furnished with no warranty of any kind; and (iii) is not suitable for legal, engineering or surveying purposes. Hennepin County shall not be liable for any damage, injury or loss resulting from this map. Publication date: 8/27/2025. Data Sources: CDC\ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) is created by the Geospatial Research, Analysis and Services Program (GRASP)/CDC.



# Connecting growing vibrant communities

Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Robbinsdale, Minneapolis



13.4 miles



13 stations



\$3.2 billion

## Serving people:

**43,000**

residents within a half-mile of stations

**33%**

under 25

**14%**

zero car households

**60%**

BIPOC

**37%**

low-income

**Corridor growth by 2045:**

**194,000**

new residents

**100,000**

more jobs



## Access to:



**200,000+** jobs within a 15-minute walk of existing and planned stations



**2 Airports**



**5 Hospitals** and healthcare facilities



**55 Schools**

**Major Blue Line job centers:**

Target North Campus

Brooklyn Park Biotech Innovation District

North Memorial Hospital

Kemps

Down Town Minneapolis

Mall of America

MSP Airport



**6** Fortune 500 businesses



**462** retail businesses

# An Economic boost for our neighbors, region, and state

Light Rail Transit provides the greatest return on investment of any transportation infrastructure. It boosts our regional and state GDP, drives investment in housing and commercial development, and helps families and communities build wealth.

## \$13+ billion in economic development along 52 miles of existing and planned LRT routes

LRT generates  
**4 times more**

economic development than high-frequency bus, including BRT

**25%**

of regional development has been in an LRT station area on just 1% of the land area

**36,300**

new multifamily housing units permitted in an LRT station area since 2019

## 10:1 return on investment for Green Line

With \$9.9 billion in economic development invested along the \$947 million Green Line to date, this light rail project has already returned \$10 in economic development and related tax base for every \$1 in capital to build the project. A similar return on investment is anticipated for the Blue Line Extension.

Redeveloped land near the Prospect Park Station saw a **1,500%** increase in tax revenue, while existing homes in the same area saw increased tax revenue of **62%**, slower than the regional average growth of **100%**.





## Increased tax revenue for cities, lower tax burden for residents

**27 times more property tax revenue per acre generated near light rail than an average Twin Cities parcel due to new development**

This revenue funds schools, services and infrastructure, and reduces need for future property tax increases. Because of the expanded tax base from new housing and commercial buildings, existing residents often see reduced relative tax burden.

For reference, property tax revenue along the Green Line has increased by **\$213 million** annually, generating more than **\$3 billion** in new revenue.

## Taxes generated in the Twin Cities urban core support investments throughout the state

The metro region is Minnesota's economic engine. It contributes significantly more to state coffers than it receives back in aid and credits. About 2/3 of all tax revenue for the state is generated here, funding education, healthcare, services, and infrastructure in every part of the state.



# Largest jobs project in the state

Planning, construction, and operation of the Blue Line Extension will create thousands of stable jobs with good wages. By pairing this investment with strategic workforce development programming, hundreds of workers will use this project to launch their careers.

## Green Line Extension jobs

**5,400**  
people working on Green Line Extension through October 2025

**73 of 87**  
Minnesota counties brought home a Green Line Extension paycheck

**\$290 million**  
paid to small businesses

**22%**  
small business participation (exceeding goal of 15%)

**40,000**  
jobs supported directly, indirectly, and induced

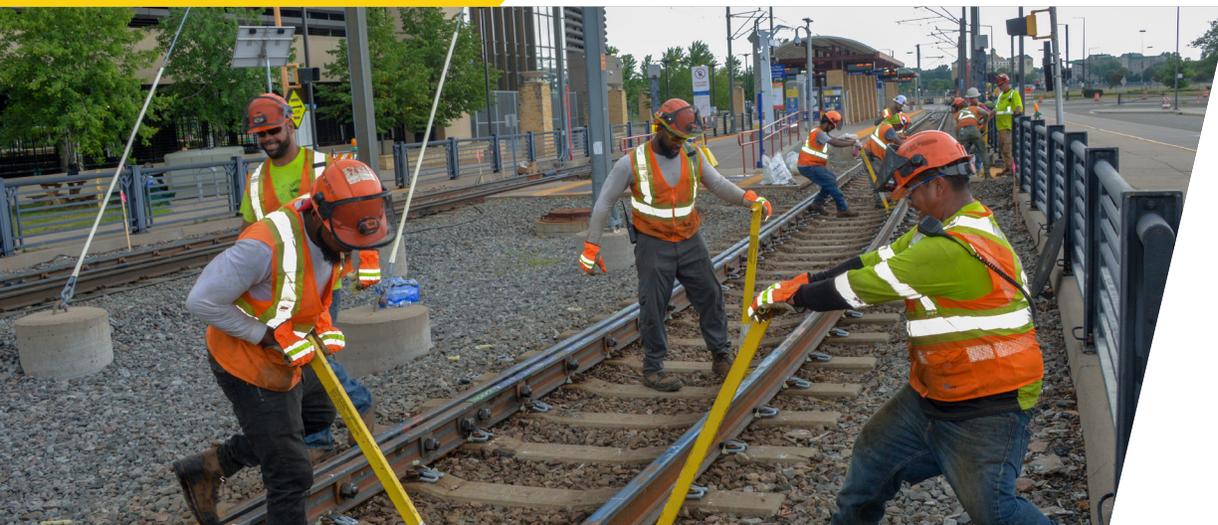
**6,000**  
jobs will be created to build the project

## Connecting working class communities with major job centers

The Blue Line Extension will help solve the mismatch between where workers live and where they can work. It will serve workers by opening new job opportunities and employers by connecting them with a larger potential skilled workforce.

**54,000**  
jobs within a half-mile of planned stations, another 145,000 downtown

**23,000**  
more jobs accessible by transit for corridor residents



# Strong local support

Blue Line Extension corridor cities and partners have been preparing to maximize the investment and growth light rail will bring. Updates to local policies and land use plans will catalyze current and future development.

Investments in local infrastructure have also set the stage for light rail. These changes are already generating significant development interest in the corridor, with multiple projects planned.

## Supported by city leaders

Preliminary design plans for the Blue Line Extension were approved by each city and Hennepin County in 2024, with **33 of 38 elected leaders voting to approve.**



## Transit-friendly zoning changes

All four cities have adopted zoning code changes to support dense and walkable development near stations.

## Comprehensive plan updates

Each city in the corridor has taken action to incorporate station area plans into their individual comprehensive plans.

## Station area planning

The cities of Brooklyn Park, Crystal, and Robbinsdale have completed comprehensive station area planning and are in the process of implementation. Minneapolis received an FTA TOD grant to complete station area planning in 2026.

"We're excited about the growth and investment this project will bring to our city. For many of us, the Blue Line Extension represents a brighter, more connected future. We're looking forward to welcoming new development, connecting residents to better jobs, and supporting small businesses along the way."

**Brooklyn Park Mayor, Hollies Winston**



# METRO Blue Line Extension



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