

Metropolitan Council's Role in Regional Transportation

House Transportation Committee
February 2, 2015

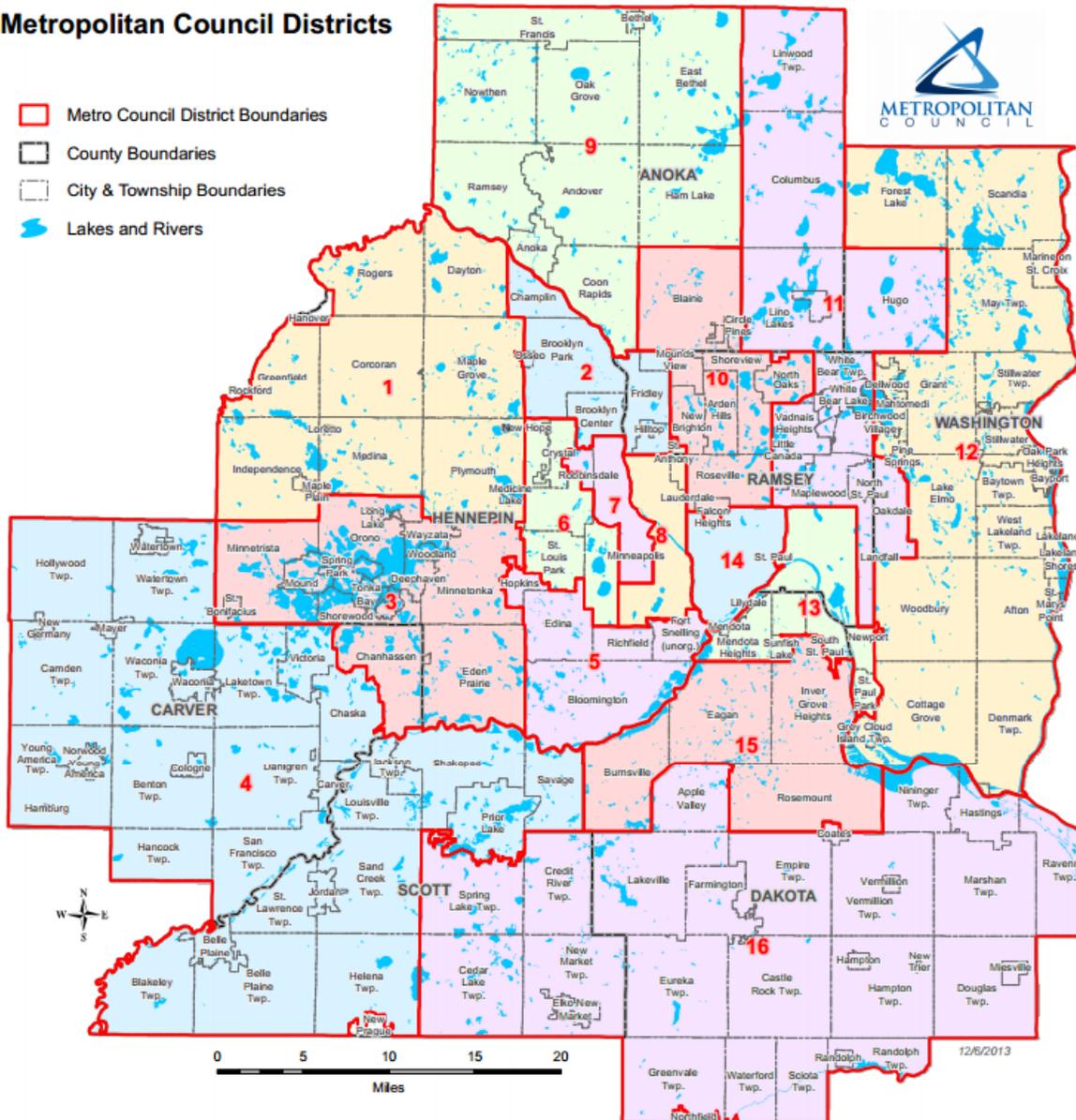


Who we are

- Created in 1967 to plan for the orderly growth of the seven-county metro area
- 17 members appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor
- 16 members represent geographic districts across the region
- Chair serves at large

Metropolitan Council Districts and Members

Metropolitan Council Districts



1. Katie Rodriguez
2. Lona Schreiber
3. Jennifer Munt
4. Gary Van Eyll
5. Steve Elkins
6. James Brimeyer
7. Gary L. Cunningham
8. (open)
9. Edward Reynoso
10. Marie McCarthy
11. Sandy Rummel
12. Harry Melander
13. Richard Kramer
14. Jon Commers
15. Steven T. Chávez
16. Wendy Wulff



Metropolitan Council's Role in Transportation

Transit Operations

- Provide, contract for, and coordinate metropolitan transit operations (bus and rail)
- Provide financial assistance to local transit providers

Planning

- Designated as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization or "MPO"
- Long-range transportation planning and shorter term federal funds programming



Transit Operations



Regional Transit Services

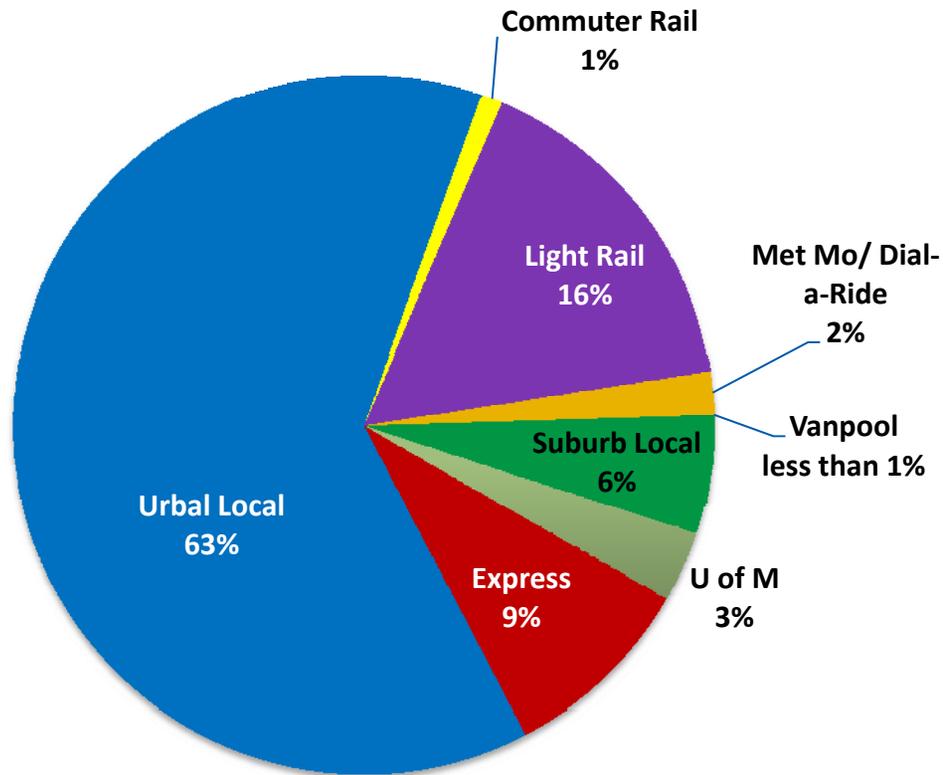
Metropolitan Council

- Bus Regular Route
- METRO Blue Line and METRO Green Line LRT
- METRO Red Line BRT
- Northstar Commuter Rail
- Regional Support and Rideshare services
- Metro Mobility
- Contracted Bus Regular Route
- Transit Link Dial-a-Ride
- Metro Vanpool

Suburban Transit Providers (Opt Outs)

- Bus Regular Route and dial-a-ride

2014 Regional Transit Ridership



97.5 million rides per year

Bus system accounts for **83%** of regional ridership

Regional Transit Service Performance

2012 System Statistics

| Service Type | Subsidy per Passenger | Productivity (Pass. per Hour) | Fare Recovery |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Urban Local | \$2.49 | 44.6 | 26.4% |
| Suburban Local | \$4.21 | 21.0 | 17.9% |
| Express | \$3.10 | 36.3 | 42.5% |
| Light Rail | \$1.56 | 197.8 | 38.7% |
| Commuter Rail | \$13.73 | 233.7 | 21.1% |
| Metro Mobility/ADA* | \$26.40 | 1.81 | 12.9% |
| Dial-a-Ride | \$18.17 | 2.90 | 12.5% |

***Required by federal and state law**

Does not include U of M routes because they do not collect fares.

Reflects net operating costs.

Metro Transit



Metro Transit

- 2014 rides = **84.5 million**
- 2015 goal = 87.5 million rides
- About 90% of region's regular route transit ridership
- 3,176 employees
- **15th largest transit system in America based on ridership**



Metro Transit Customers

- **80%** of trips for work and school
- **40%** of downtown Minneapolis workers use transit
- **69%** of customers have cars but choose transit
- **45%** of LRT riders, **25%** of bus riders have household incomes above \$50,000
- **95%** of customers fully satisfied with service
- **9 in 10** customers are likely to recommend service



Metro Transit Partnerships

- 34,565 Metropass holders, 288 employers, 12M rides
 - Employer subsidies earn corporate tax benefits, recruitment advantages
- School Pass Programs
 - U of M (U-Pass), 4.7M rides
 - College Pass, 37 colleges, 2.8 M rides
 - Student Pass, 42 high schools, 3.5M rides
- State Fair - 517,000 rides



Metro Transit's Go Greener Initiative

- Building system retrofits are now saving \$1.25M/yr
- 60% reduction in natural gas use 2008-2012
- 19% reduction in electricity use 2008-2012
- 80kW of solar installed, up to 2,800kW in future
- Bus fuel efficiency increased by 15% since 2008
- Hybrid buses = 15% of fleet
- 16.5% decrease in CO2 equivalent emissions since 2008
- Future wayside capture of 15% of LRT propulsion power
- All Electric Bus Demonstration Spring 2015



Metro Transit Service Enhancements 2014

- New Park & Rides & Express Service
 - Hwy 610 & Noble Ave
 - I-35E at County Rd E and County Rd 14
 - Hwy 65 at Paul Parkway
- Green Line LRT surpasses ridership goal
- New bus service connects
 - Green Line, North Minneapolis, U of M, St. Paul
- 15 yr bus Service Improvement Plan drafted
- A Line BRT project approved
- 35W South Orange Line enters project development



Bus

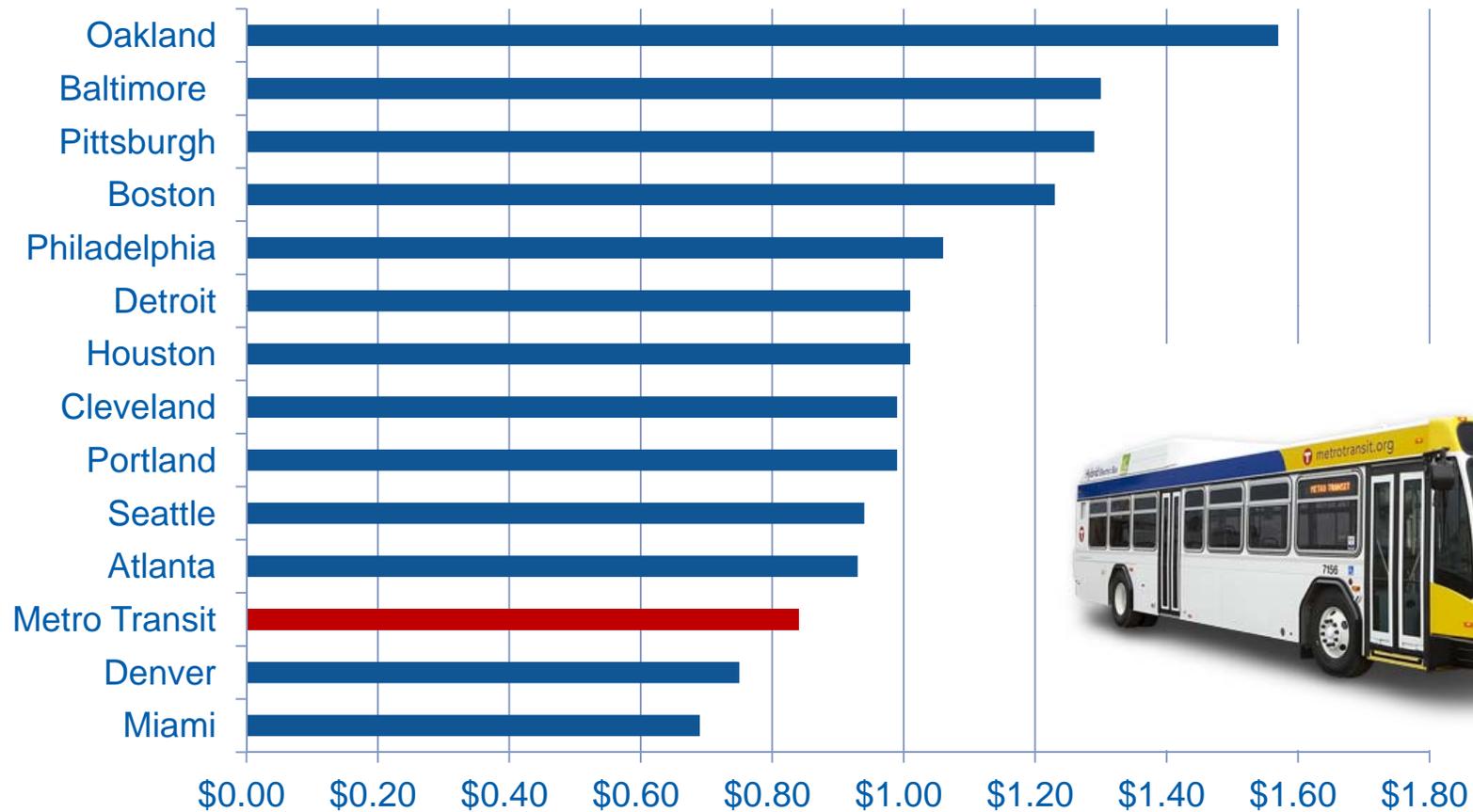
Bus Operations

Regular Route Bus—base bus system.

Express Bus—bus service with limited stops. Routes are longer, typically designed for commuters.

Bus Rapid Transit—bus service similar to light rail on major road ways.

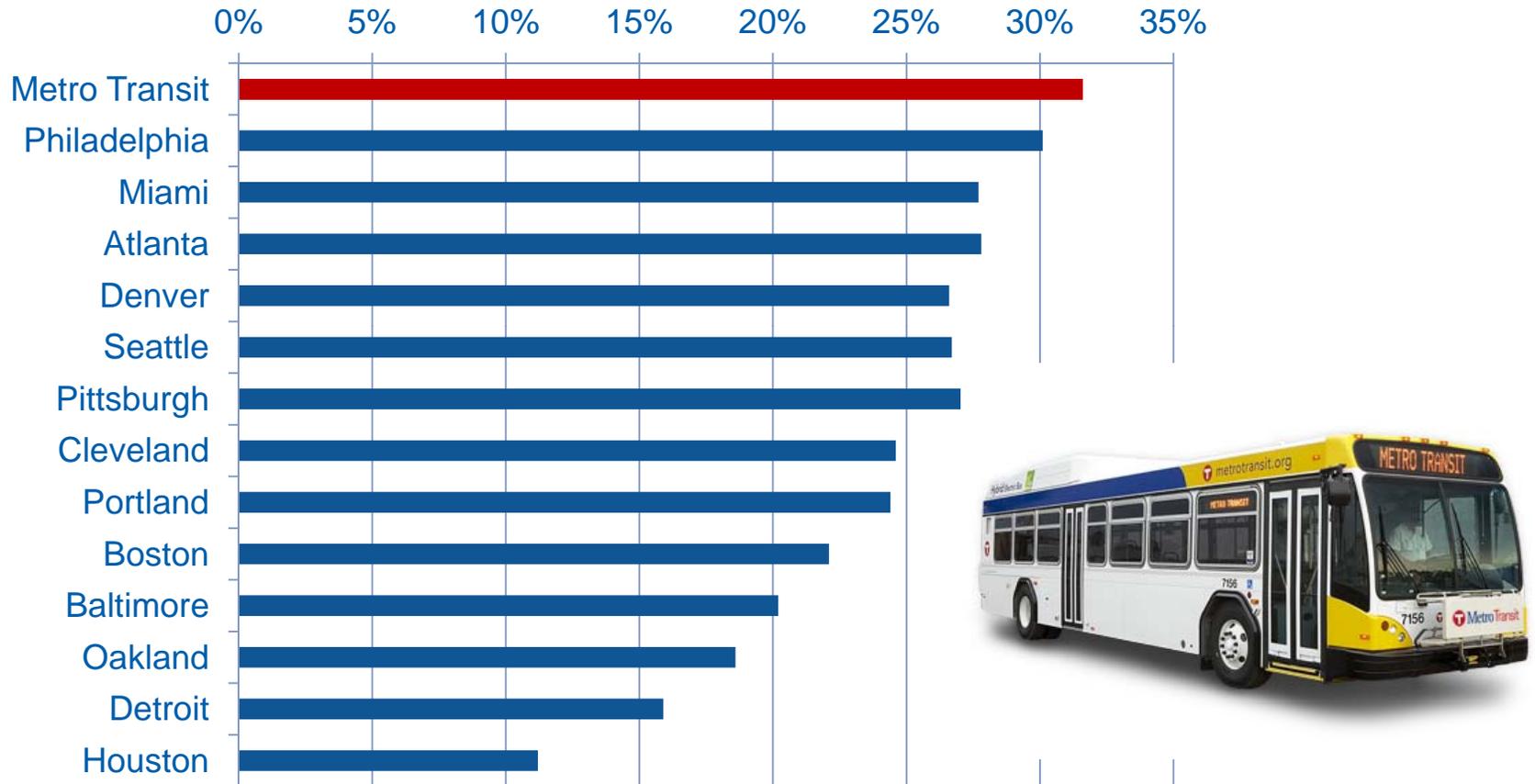
BUS: Operating Expense Per Passenger Mile



- **Twin Cities = \$0.84; peer average is 26% higher**



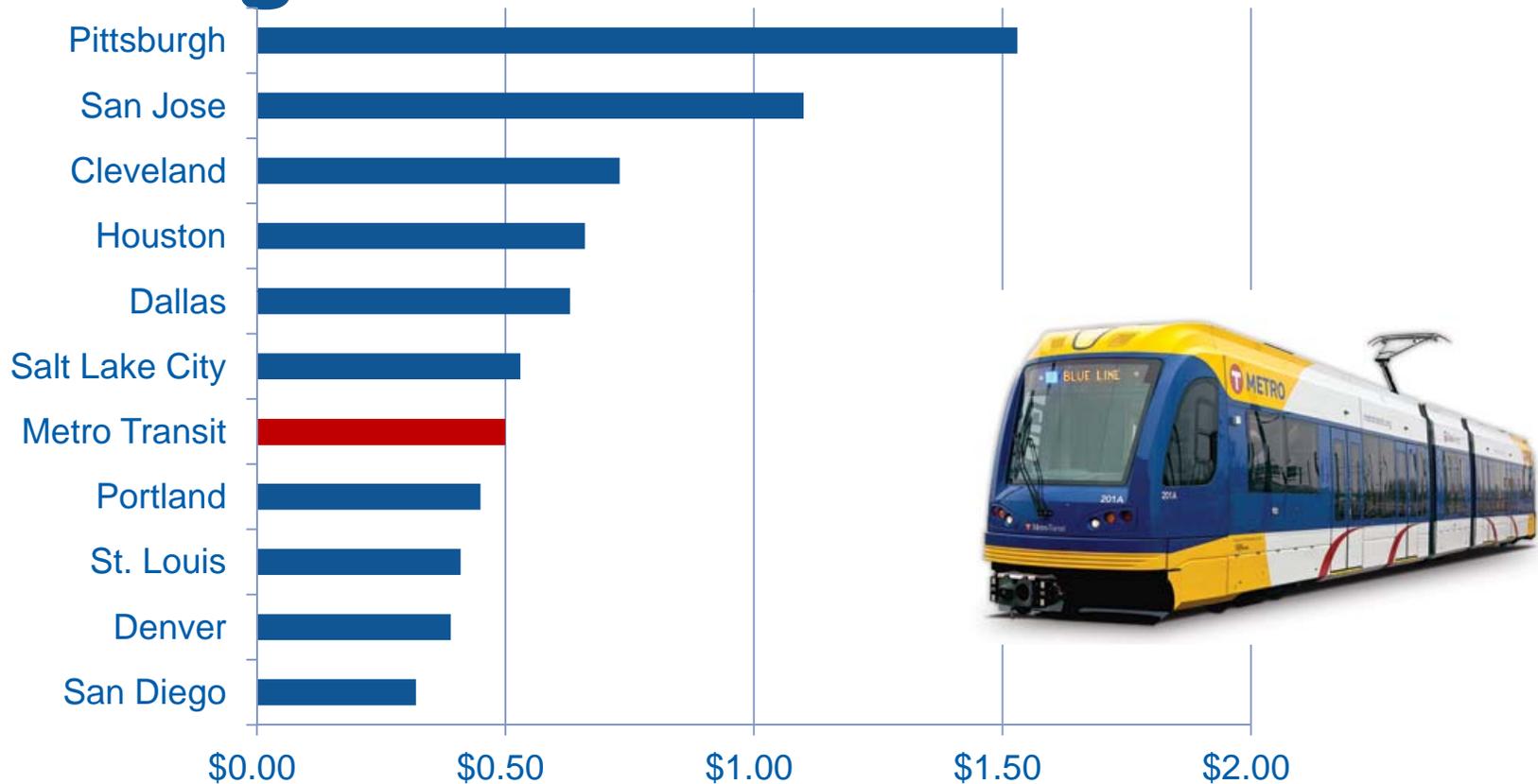
BUS: Farebox Recovery Ratio



- **Percentage of operating expenses covered by fares**

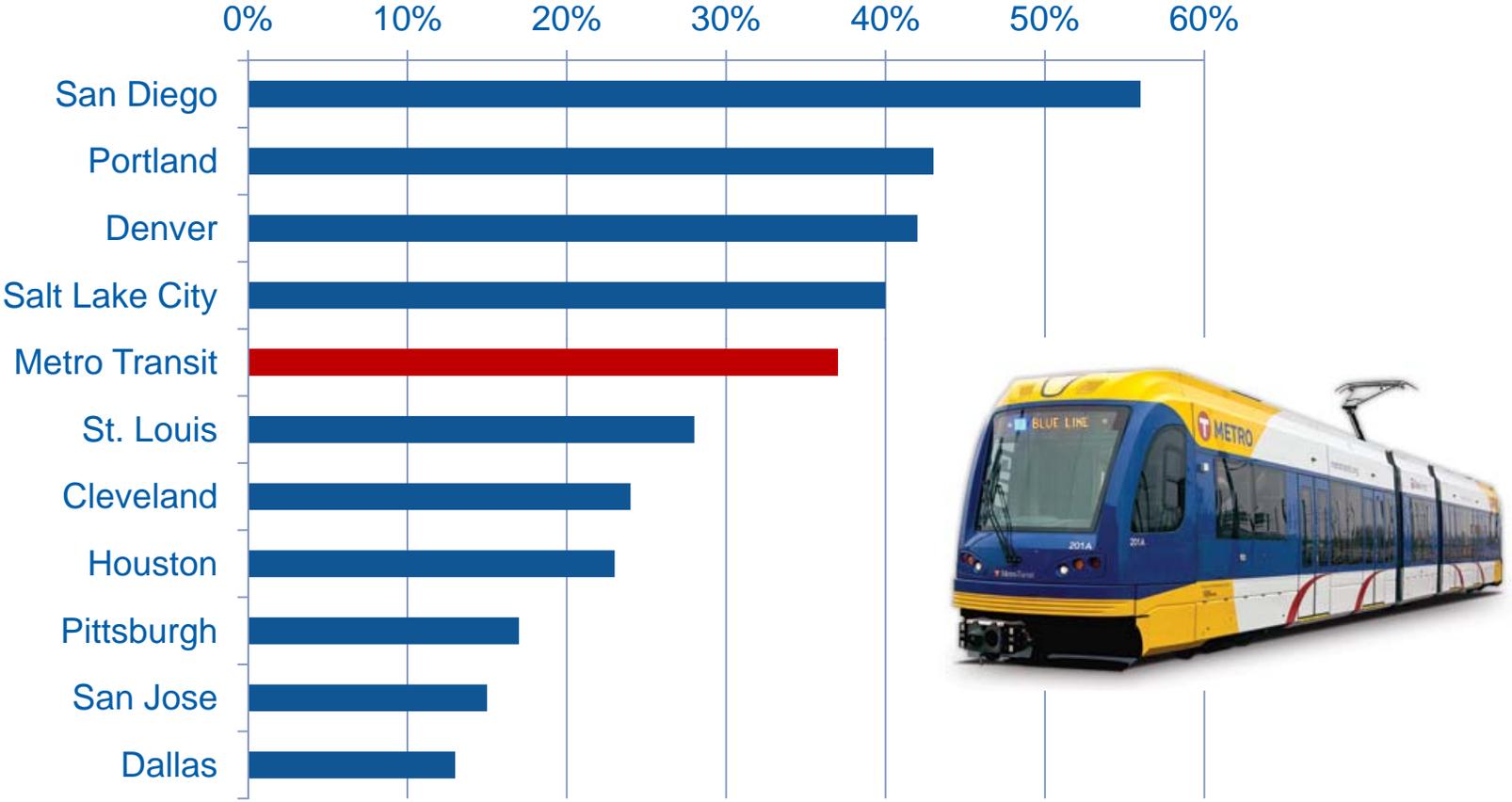
Light Rail Transit

LRT: Operating Expense Per Passenger Mile



- **Twin Cities = \$0.50; 35% lower than peer average**

LRT: Farebox Recovery Ratio



- Percentage of operating expenses covered by fares



METRO Blue Line (Hiawatha)

- **Over 100 million rides** since opening in 2004; 9.5 M rides in 2014
- **Total construction cost:** \$715.3 M
- **Annual operating cost:** \$32.1M
- **2012 Farebox Recovery:** 38.7%
- **2012 Subsidy per passenger:** \$1.56

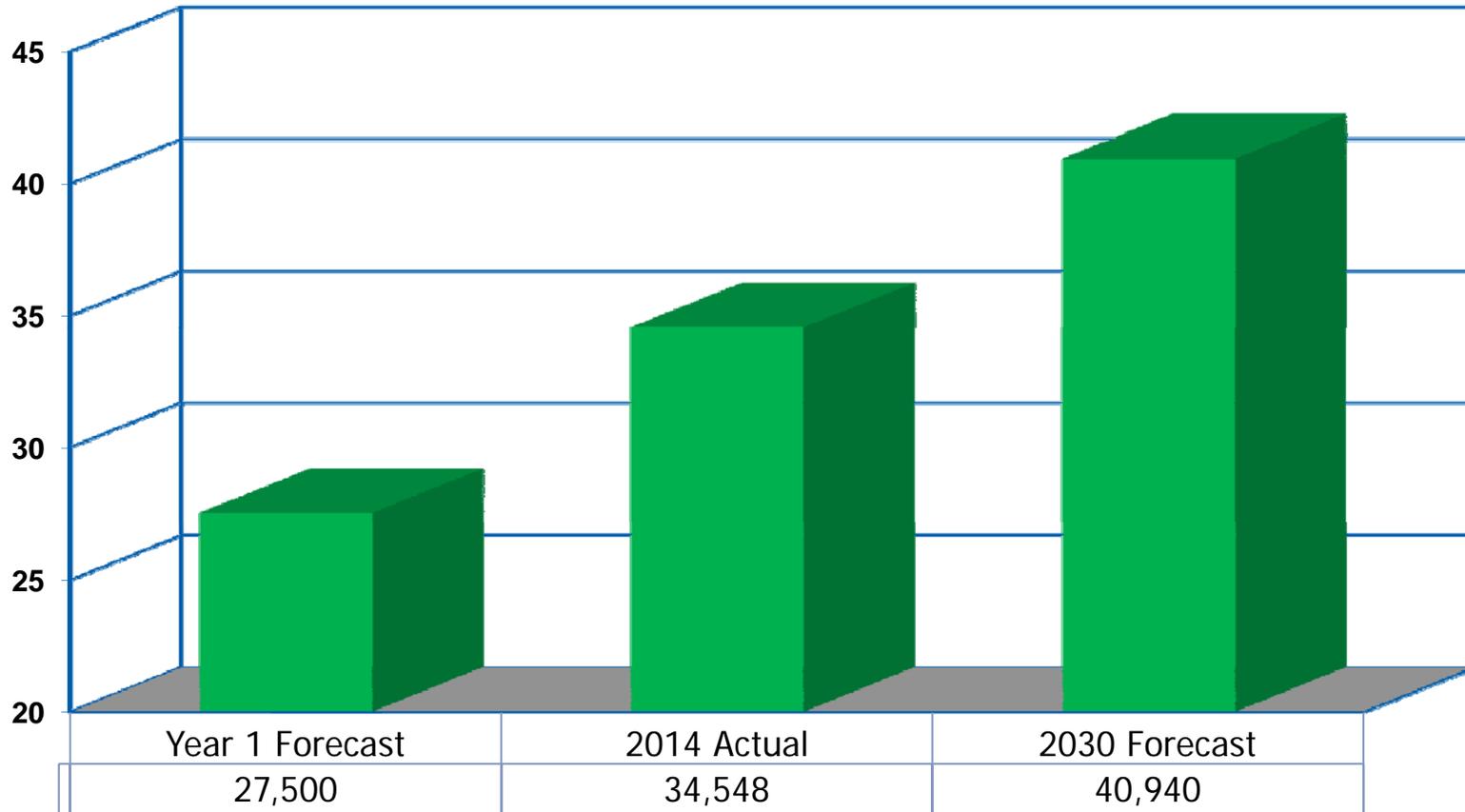


METRO Green Line (Central Corridor)

- **Over 6.5 million rides** since opening in June 2014
- **Total construction cost:** \$957 million
- **Jobs Created:** 5,500 construction workers
- **Annual operating cost:** \$35.3M
- **2015 first full year of revenue operations**



Green Line Average Weekday Ridership



December 2014 ridership YTD of 6.5M

Commuter Rail

Northstar Commuter Rail



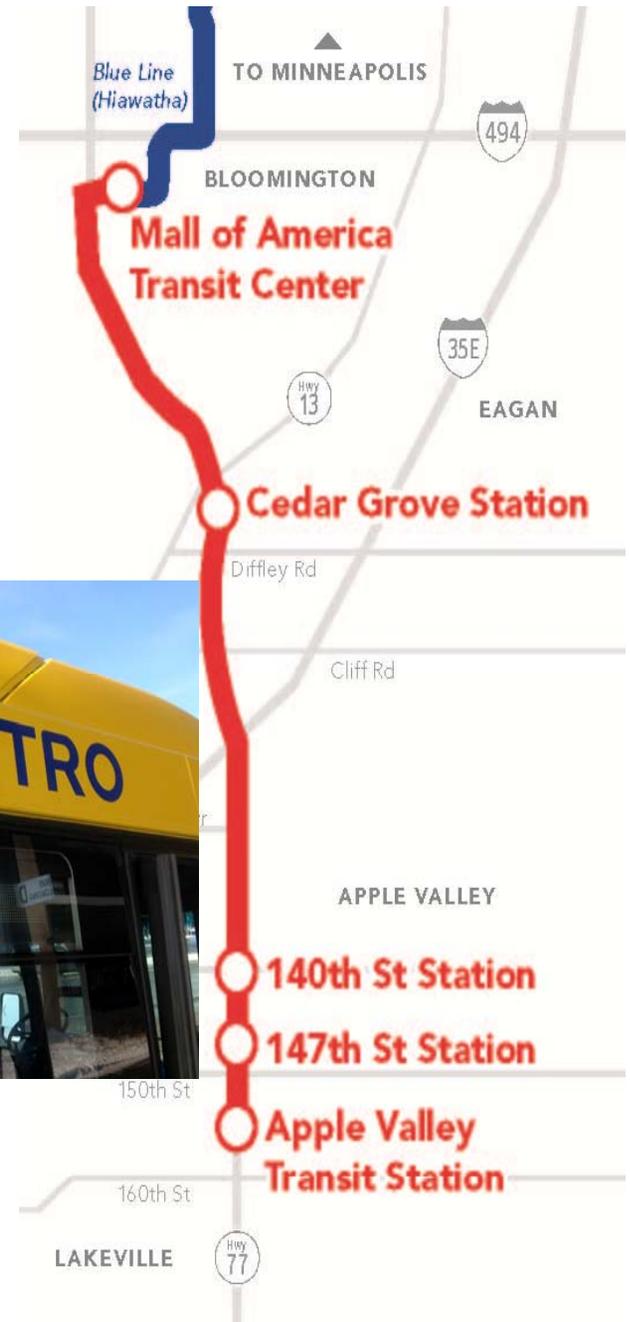
- **2014 Ridership:** 721,000 rides
- **Total Cost with Ramsey and Fridley Stations:** \$347.6M
- **Annual operating cost:** \$17.6 M
- **2012 Farebox recovery:** 21.1%
- **2012 Subsidy per passenger:** \$13.73



Bus Rapid Transit

METRO Red Line Bus Rapid Transit

- Service began in June 2013
- 2014 Ridership: 266,000
- Total construction cost: \$112M (\$57M roadway)
- Annual operating cost: \$3.2M (2014 budget)
- Council contracts operations to MVTA



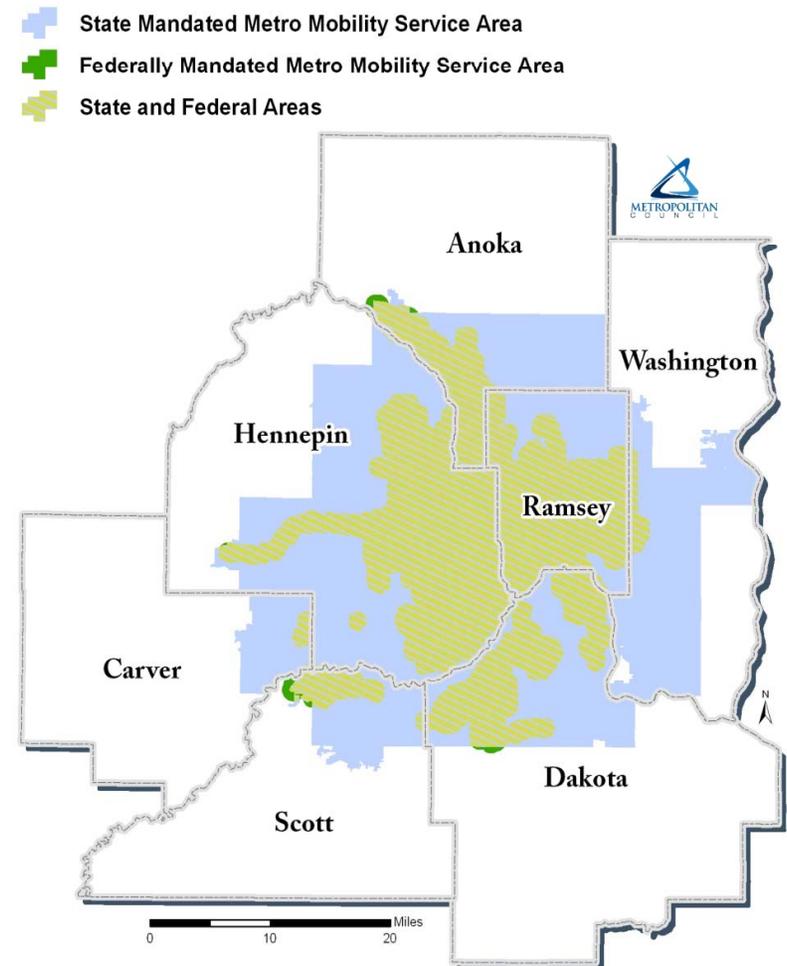
Additional Transit Services

Metropolitan Transportation Services

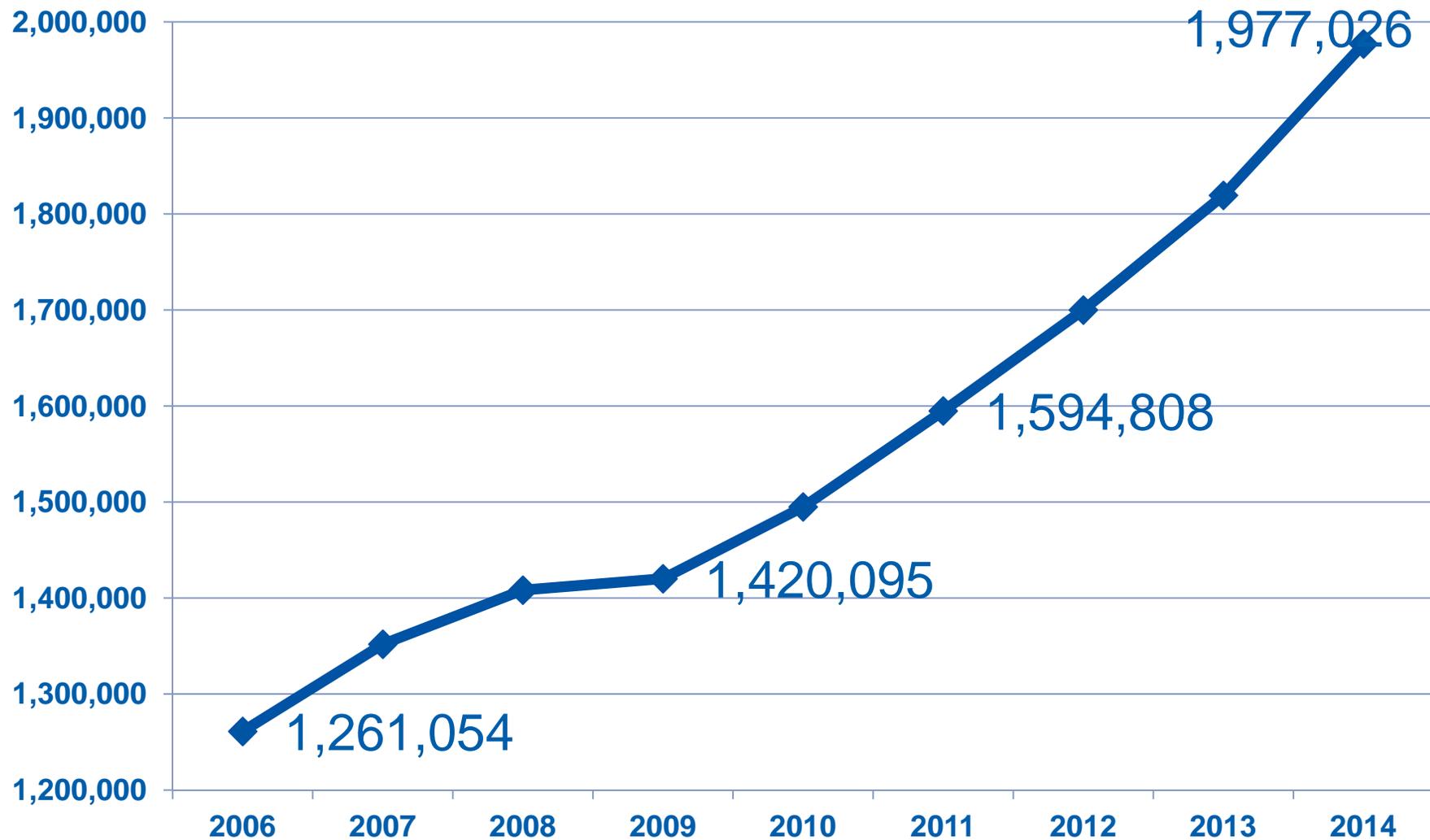
- MTS has both Transportation Planning and Transit Operations functions
- Transit Operations includes:
 - Contracted Regular Route
 - Metro Mobility/ADA Services
 - Transit Link Dial-a-Ride
 - Metro Vanpool
- MTS provides pass-through funding to Suburban Transit Providers (STPs)

Metro Mobility/ADA

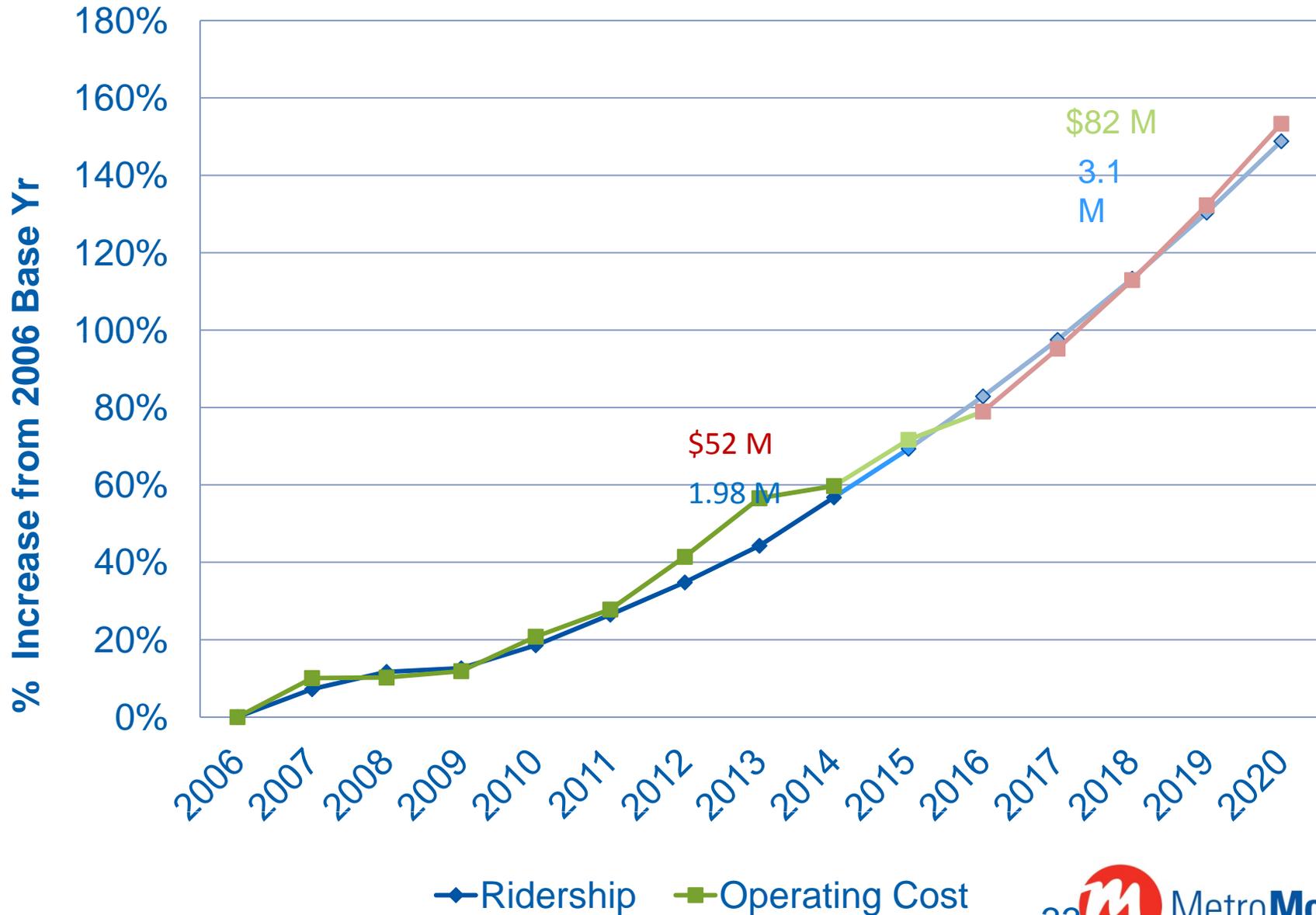
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires transit service for persons who cannot use regular route due to disabilities
- Door through door dial-a-ride service for eligible persons in locations & times comparable to regular route local service
- 2012 Subsidy per passenger: \$26.40
- 2012 Farebox Recovery: 12.9%



Metro Mobility Ridership 2006-2014

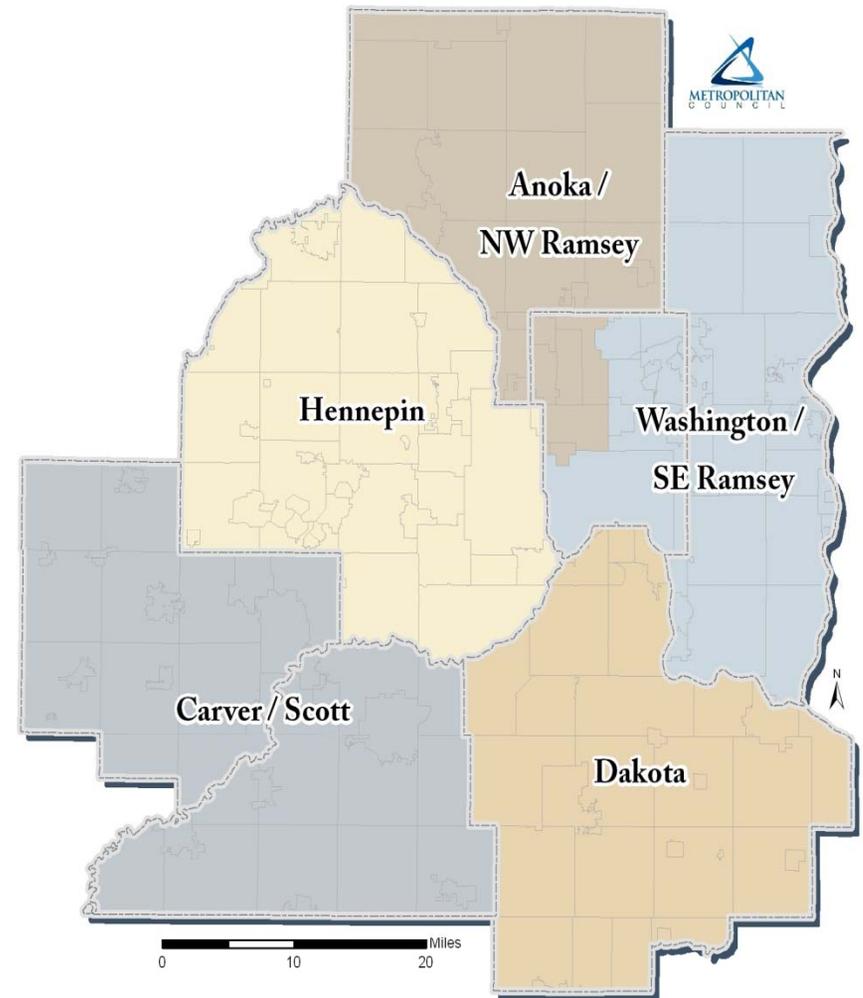


Metro Mobility Ridership, Operating Costs



Transit Link Dial-a-Ride

- General public dial- a-ride offering a transit solution where regular route is not available
- Five service area contractors coordinate with regular route and Metro Mobility
- 2014 ridership: 336,000
- 2012 Subsidy per passenger: \$18.17
- 2012 Farebox Recovery: 12.5%

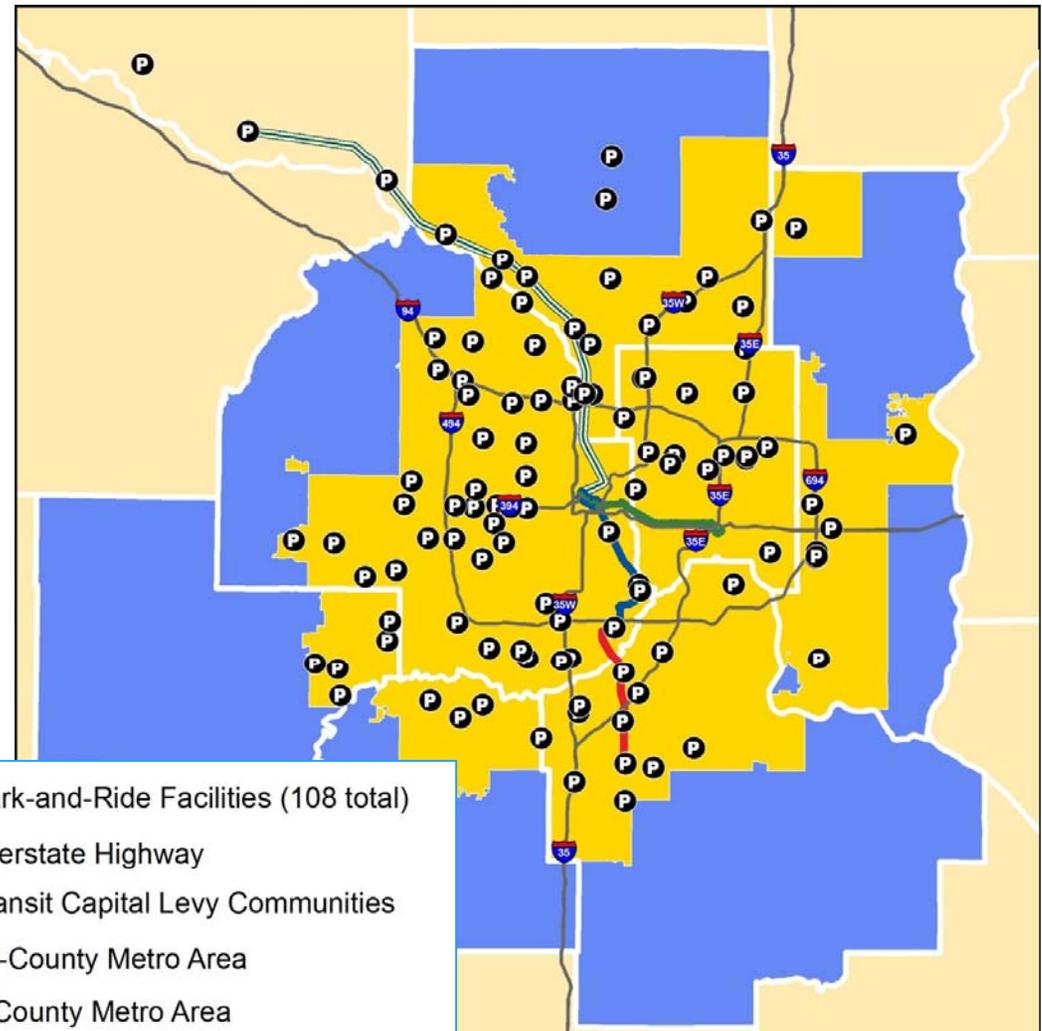


Regional Park-and-Ride System

32,000 total spaces

Many large park and rides full:

- Highway 61 & Lower Afton Road
- Apple Valley Transit Station
- Guardian Angels (Oakdale)
- Maple Grove Transit Station
- South Bloomington Transit Center
- Woodbury Theatre



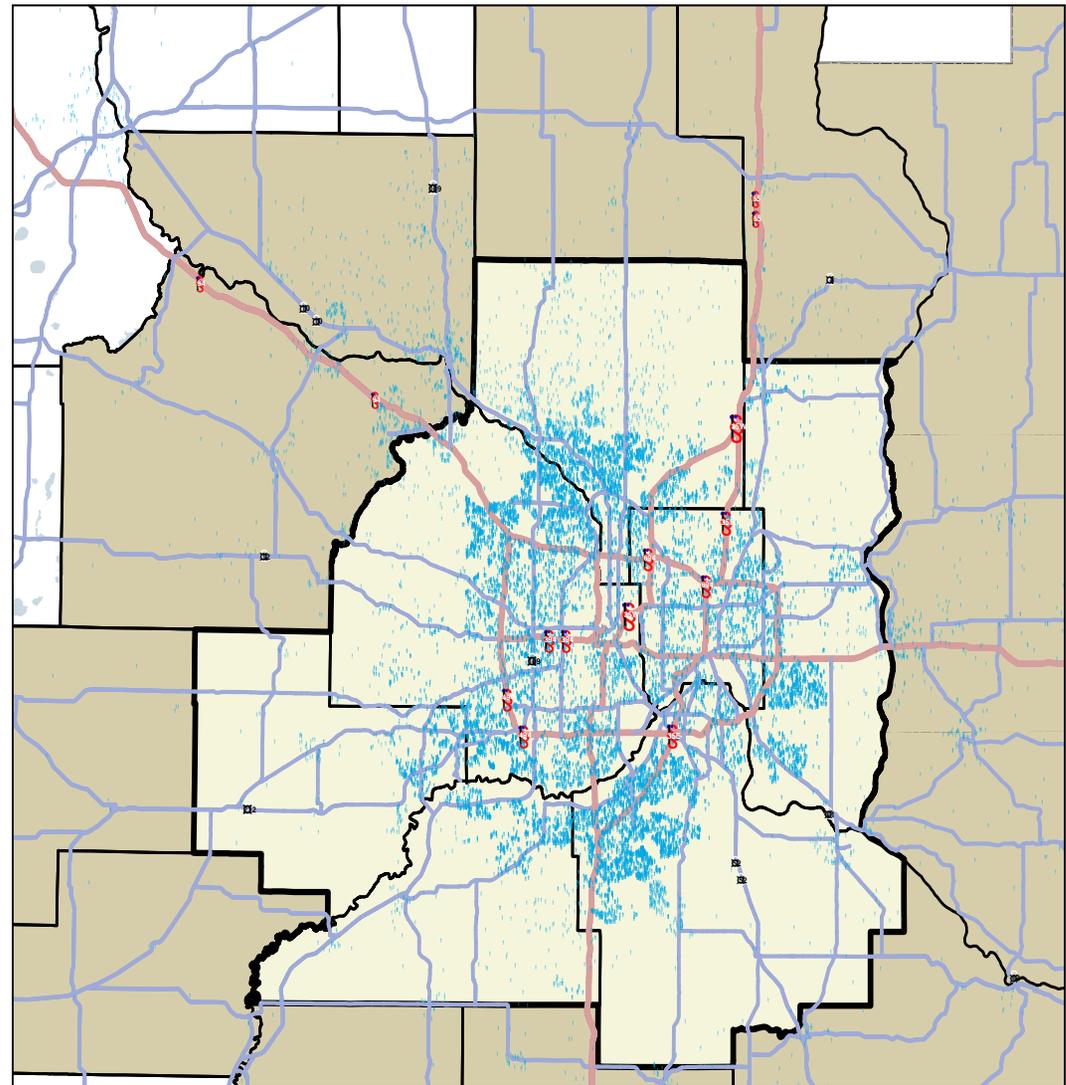
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|--|--------------------------------------|
| | Park-and-Ride Facilities (108 total) |
| | Interstate Highway |
| | Transit Capital Levy Communities |
| | 19-County Metro Area |
| | 7-County Metro Area |
| | Blue Line |
| | Green Line |
| | Northstar Line |
| | Red Line |



Park & Ride Usage

14.5% of park-and-ride users are from outside of the 7-County Metro area

Sept.-Oct. 2012 Survey Data



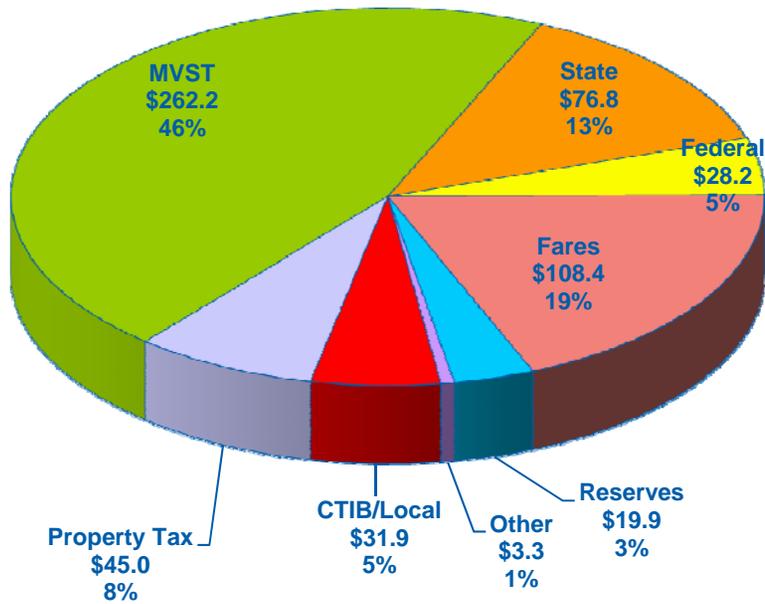
Transit Funding

Transit Operating Funding Sources

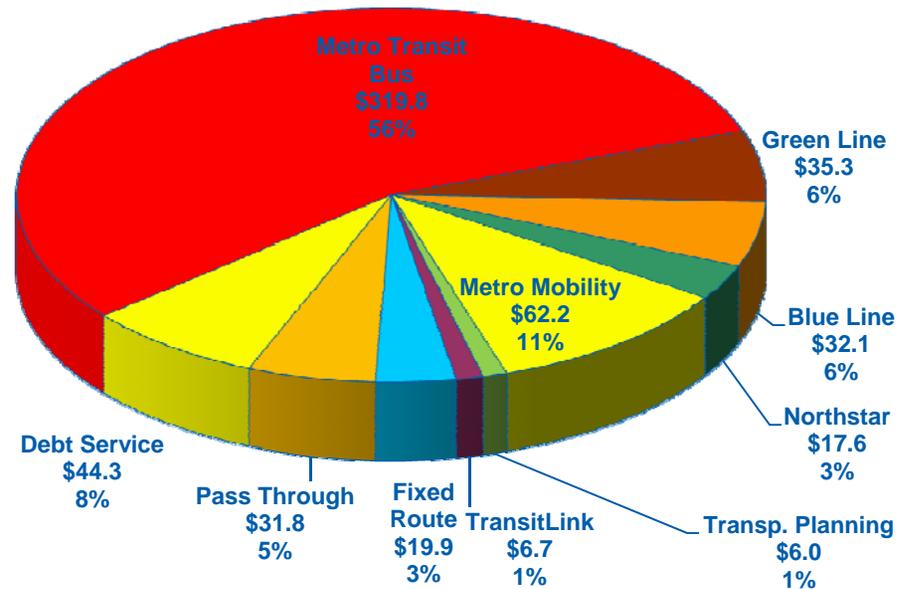
- **Motor Vehicle Sales Tax (MVST)**
Metropolitan area transit receives 36% of statewide MVST
- **State General Fund**
Legislatively appropriated for bus and rail operations
- **Federal Funds**
Formula capital funds used for preventive maintenance in operating budget
- **Fares**
Passenger fares from all services
- **Local and Other**
CTIB transitway operating funds
Advertising and other revenue

CY 2015 Transportation Operating Budget

Revenue
\$575.7M



Expenses
\$575.7M



Transit Capital Funding Sources

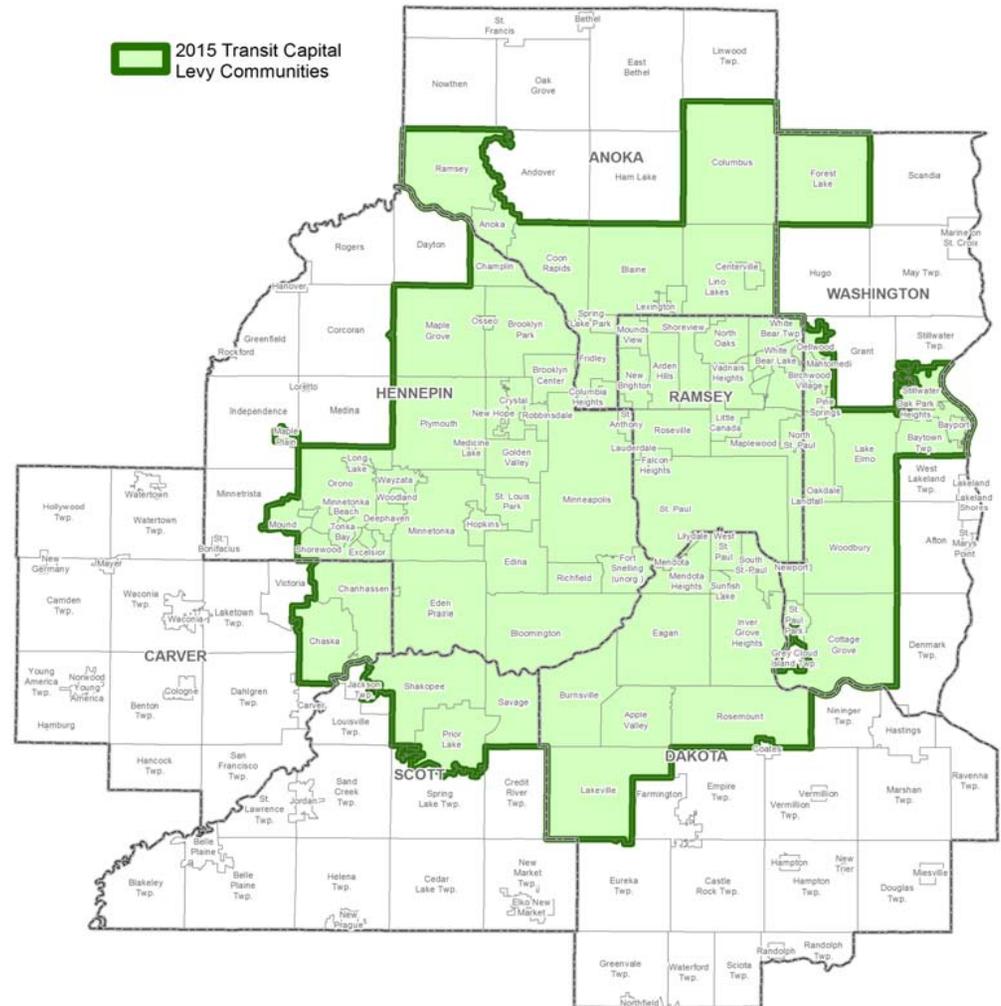
- State bonds
- Regional Transit Capital
- Federal Funds
- CTIB Sales Tax
- Regional Rail Authorities/Other Local

Regional Transit Capital

- Source of capital funds for basic transit system
- Legislature authorizes the sale of bonds
- Debt service paid with property taxes levied by Council
- Levy paid by Transit Capital Levy Communities

Transit Capital Levy Communities

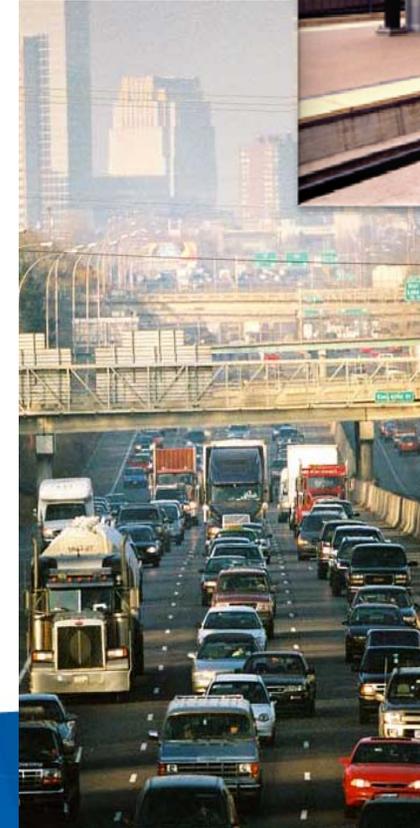
Seven County Metro Area
January 2015



Transportation Planning

Transportation Planning Activities

- Highway Planning
- Transit Planning
- Airport Planning
- Freight Planning
- Travel Forecasting
- Corridor Studies



MPO Functions

- **Perform federal and state mandated planning**
 - Long-range: Transportation Policy Plan (TPP)
 - Short-range: Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 - Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
 - Major transportation studies
- **Allocate federal funds** through competitive solicitation overseen by Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)
- **Coordinate planning activities** with MnDOT, transit operators, MAC, and local governments
- **Ensure public input** in planning and federal funds programming

Transportation Advisory Board

- Comprised of 33 members (M.S. 473.196):
 - Elected officials from cities and counties
 - Staff from state agencies
 - Citizens
- Fulfills requirements that local elected officials participate in selecting federally-funded projects
- TAB recommends projects, Council concurs/denies



2040 Transportation Policy Plan

- Council updates the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) every 4 years
- 2040 TPP adopted by the Metropolitan Council in January 2015
- TPP addresses a variety of modes
 - Highways
 - Transit
 - Non-motorized (Bicycling / Pedestrian)
 - Freight
 - Aviation



METROPOLITAN
C O U N C I L