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Blue Line/Riverview Connection Study

Virtual Open House #1, March 31, 2022

Blue Line/Riverview Connection Study

Discussion Question

- Respond in chatbox while you wait for the meeting to begin

If you had a reliable transit option available, where would you take it?


Welcome
Bienvenue
Willkommen
Bine Ati Venit
Shalom
Dobrodosli
Aloha
Aloxar
Salve
Kaabo
Herzlich
Namaste
Hoan Nghenh
Mu Amuhezwi
Marhaban
Accueillir
Toivottaa
Baruch Haba
Maeva
Croeso
Hos Geldiniz
Mauya
E Komo Mai
Merhaba
Ongietorri
Isten Hozta
Croesawu
Goscic
Benvingut
Sanna Dazuwa
Welkom
Bonvenon
Greet
Menerima
Velkommen
Malipayeng Pagabot
Shalom
Talitali Fiefia
Mire Se Vjen
Albergar
Tervetuloa
Accipere
Mabuhay
Velkomin
Woezor
Aloxar
Aloha
Bienvenius
Recoger
Acollir
Ennidos
Witajcie
Bon Bini
Irasshaimase
Bonavinuta
Failte
Recoger
Youkoso
Bon Juntu
Hospedar
Degemer Mat
Huan Ying Guang Lin
Isten Hozta
Dobrodosli
Kalos Orisate
Wolkom
Acollir
Aloha
Baruch Haba
Valkommen
Tere Tulemast
Bienveni
Bine Ati Venit
Tikilluarit
Irasshaimase
Dobredojde
Laipni Ludzam
Ghini Vinishi
Ontvangen
Uvitani
Herzlich
Ahlan Wa Sahlan
Marhaban
Gratus Mihi Venis
Raxim Itegez
Yindii Ton Rap
Tikilluarit

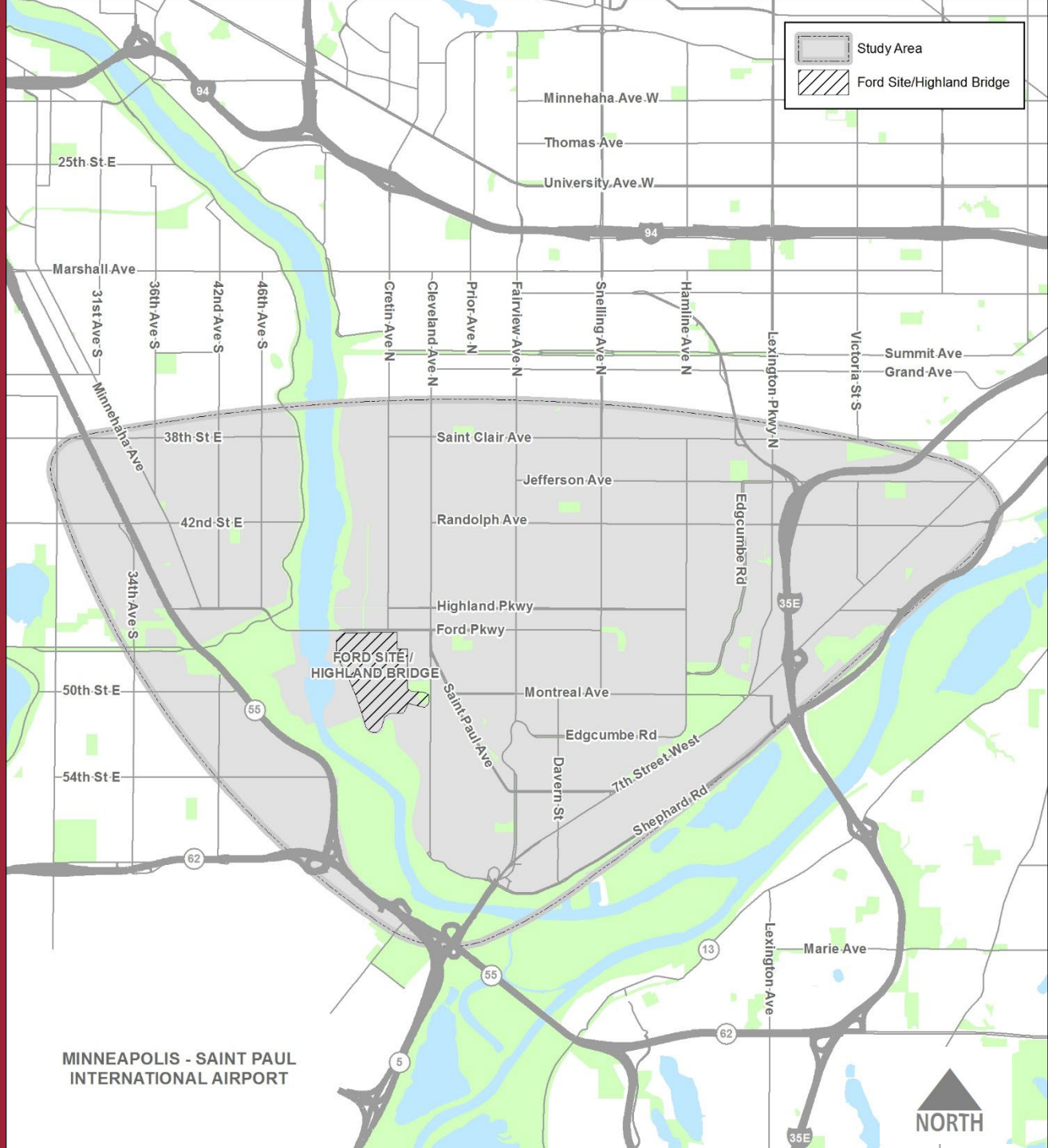
Land Acknowledgement

Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy to making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land since time immemorial. Truth and acknowledgment are critical to building mutual respect and connection across all barriers of heritage and difference.

We are standing on the ancestral lands of the Dakota People. We want to acknowledge the Ojibwe, the Ho Chunk and the other nations of people who also called this place home. We pay respects to their elders past and present. Please take a moment to consider the treaties made by the tribal nations that entitle non-Native people to live and work on traditional Native lands. Consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today. And please join us in uncovering such truths at any and all public events.

The acknowledgment given in the USDAC Honor Native Land Guide - edited to reflect Minnesota tribes. In review with SIA and endorsed by Shannon Geshick, Executive Director Minnesota Indian Affairs Council.

Project Study Area



Meeting Purpose

Introduce the study, goals, work to-date, and receive initial input

Tonight's Agenda

- Introductions
- Study purpose and overview
- Existing and future conditions
- Ways to get involved
- What's next?
- Q&A

Study led by Ramsey County

RAMSEY COUNTY

In partnership with…

SAINT PAUL MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Hennepin

Minneapolis City of Lakes

Metro Transit

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Study Purpose

Study Purpose

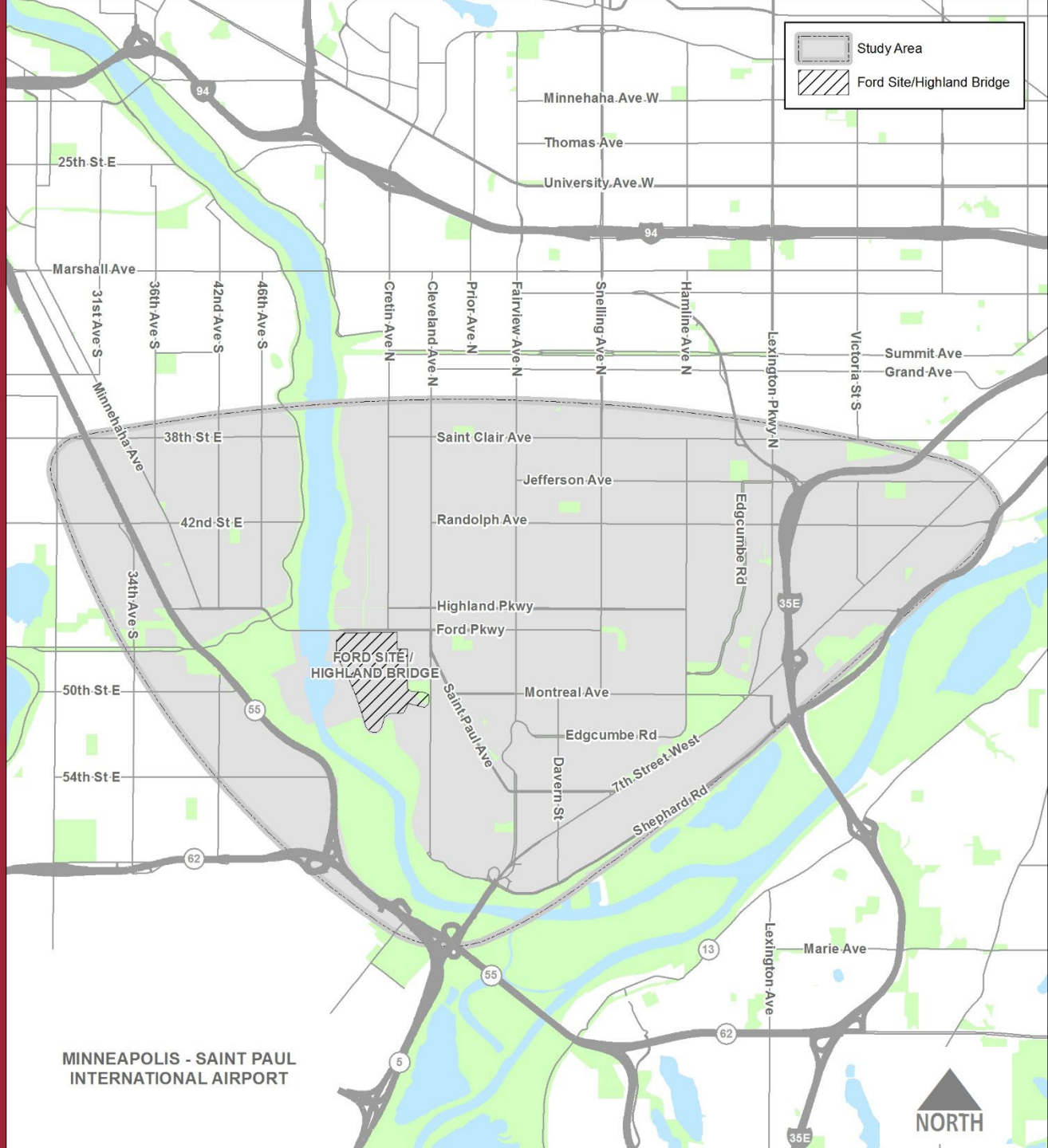
What?

Ramsey County will be developing a transit vision for the Study Area that provides recommendations for transit service over multiple time frames (0-5 yrs, 6-10 yrs, 10+ years)

Why?

Ramsey County is following through on its commitment to study transit options in the greater Highland Park area of St. Paul

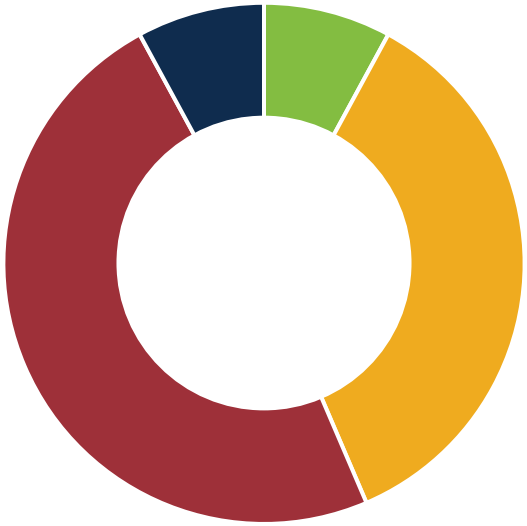
Project Study Area



WE ASKED...

*How do you **get to and from** the greater Highland area?*

YOU RESPONDED...



*How do you **get around in** the greater Highland area?*

39 total responses

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Study Overview

Study Tasks

- Analyze existing conditions and future scenarios
- Identify and evaluate transit options over multiple time frames
- Develop implementation plan
- Engage with the public throughout study

What Types of Transit will be considered?

- Local bus service restructuring (e.g. frequency, minor route changes)
- New bus transit service routes and connections (e.g. Arterial Bus Rapid Transit, local bus)

Study Timeline

Nov – Feb 2022

Study existing conditions and future scenarios

Mar – Jun 2022 ★

Develop the purpose and the need for the and establish criteria for evaluating different transit solutions

Jul – Sep 2022 ★

Identify potential transit solutions for the area

Oct – Dec 2022 ★

Use criteria to evaluate potential transit solutions

Jan – May 2023

Finish the plan for implementation and finalize the study

★ Key engagement opportunity

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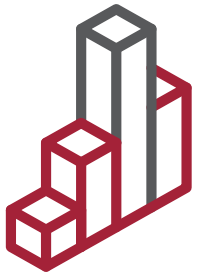
Existing and Future Conditions

COVID-19 and
Travel Behavior

Baseline
Socio-economic
conditions

Transit Service
Analysis



Existing and Future Conditions

Study Area Characteristics

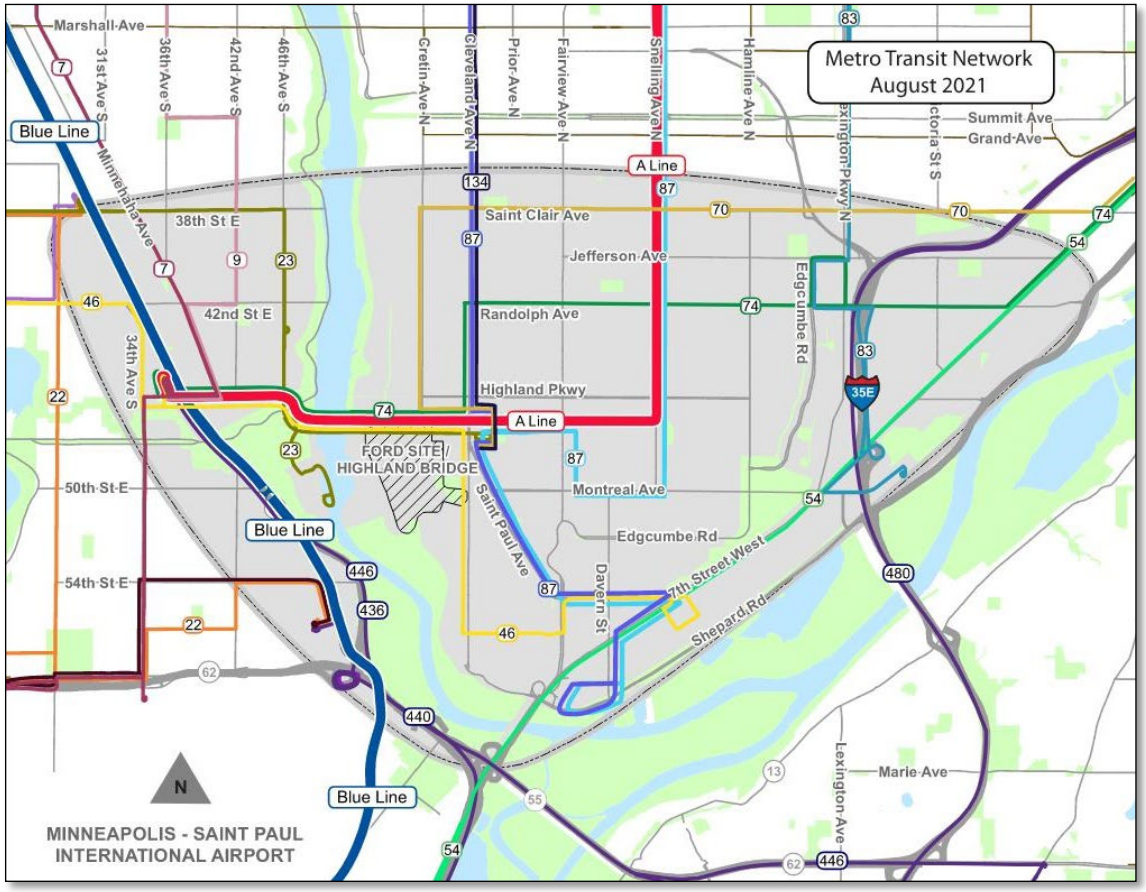
Characteristics Analyzed

- Population Density
- Job Density
- Black, Indigenous and People of Color Density
- Income Level
- Zero car households
- Persons with a Disability
- Population under 18
- Population over age of 64

Data Source

- American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, 2015-2019

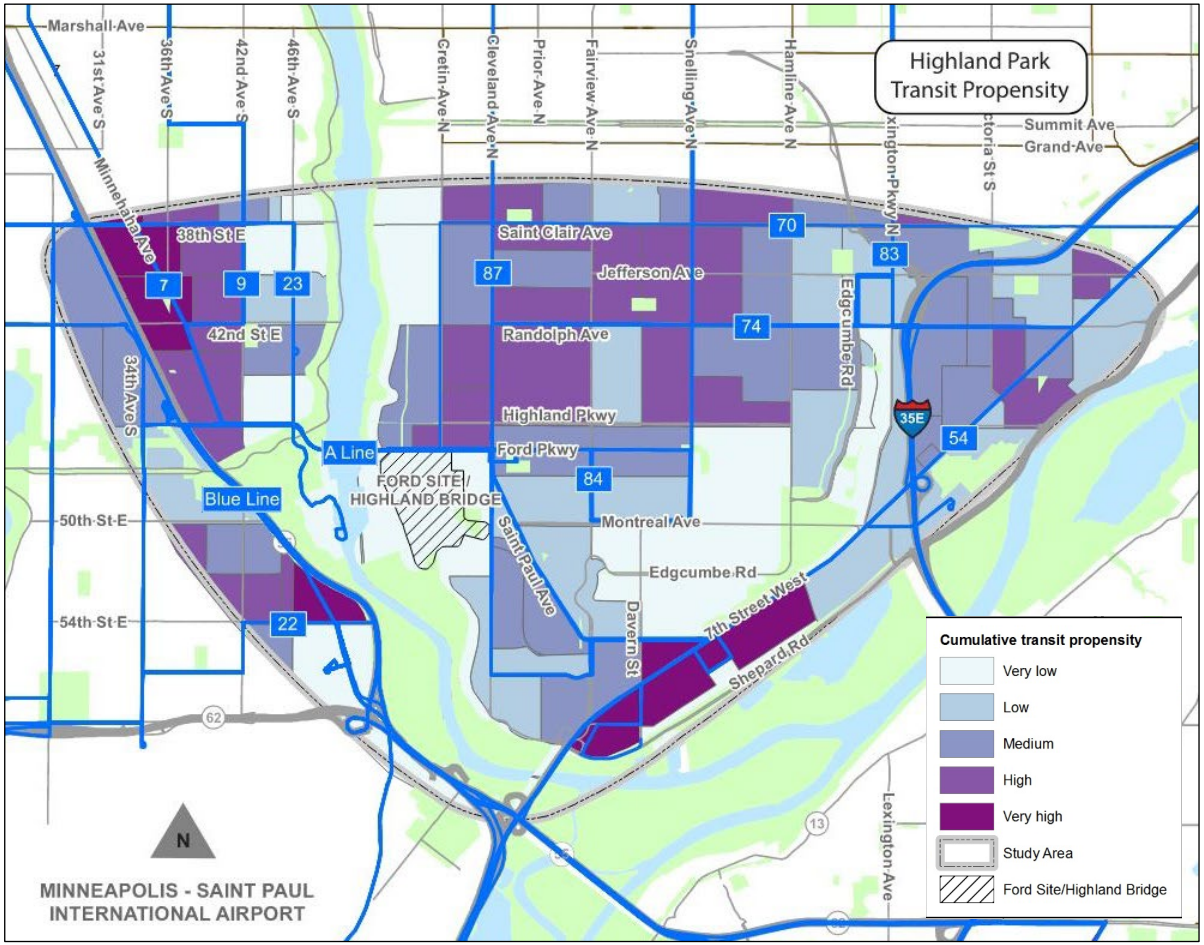
Study Area & Transit Network



Who is most likely to use transit?

The ***socio-demographic characteristics***, collectively, are indicators for how likely people are to use and/or rely on transit. We call this “transit propensity”.

Highland Park Transit Propensity Levels



Transit Network Analysis

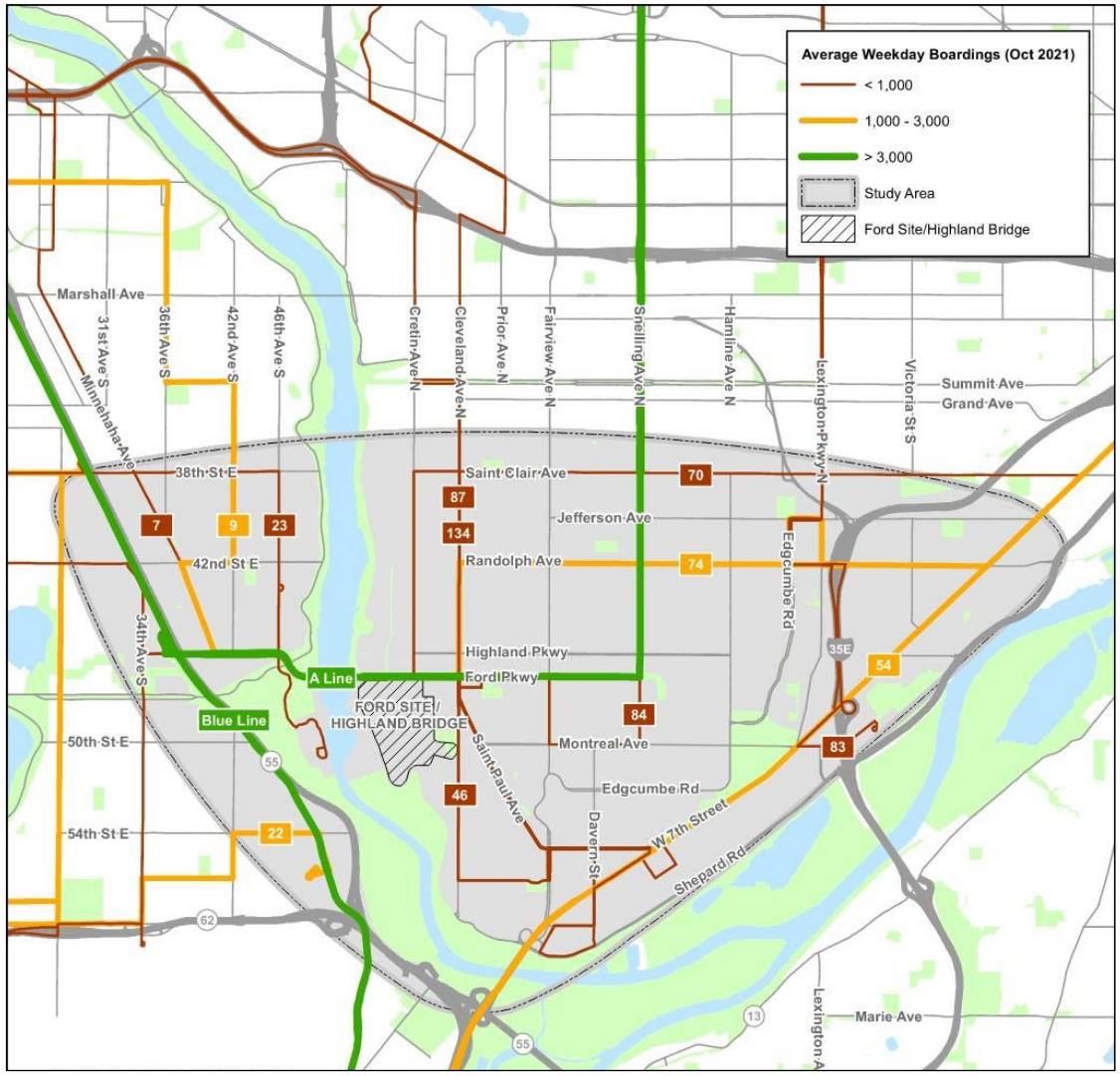
Characteristics Analyzed

- Route Ridership
- Stop Level Activity
- Walk Access to Transit
- Employment Opportunities via Transit

Data Sources

- Metro Transit Data Analysis
- GIS & Urban Footprint Spatial Analysis

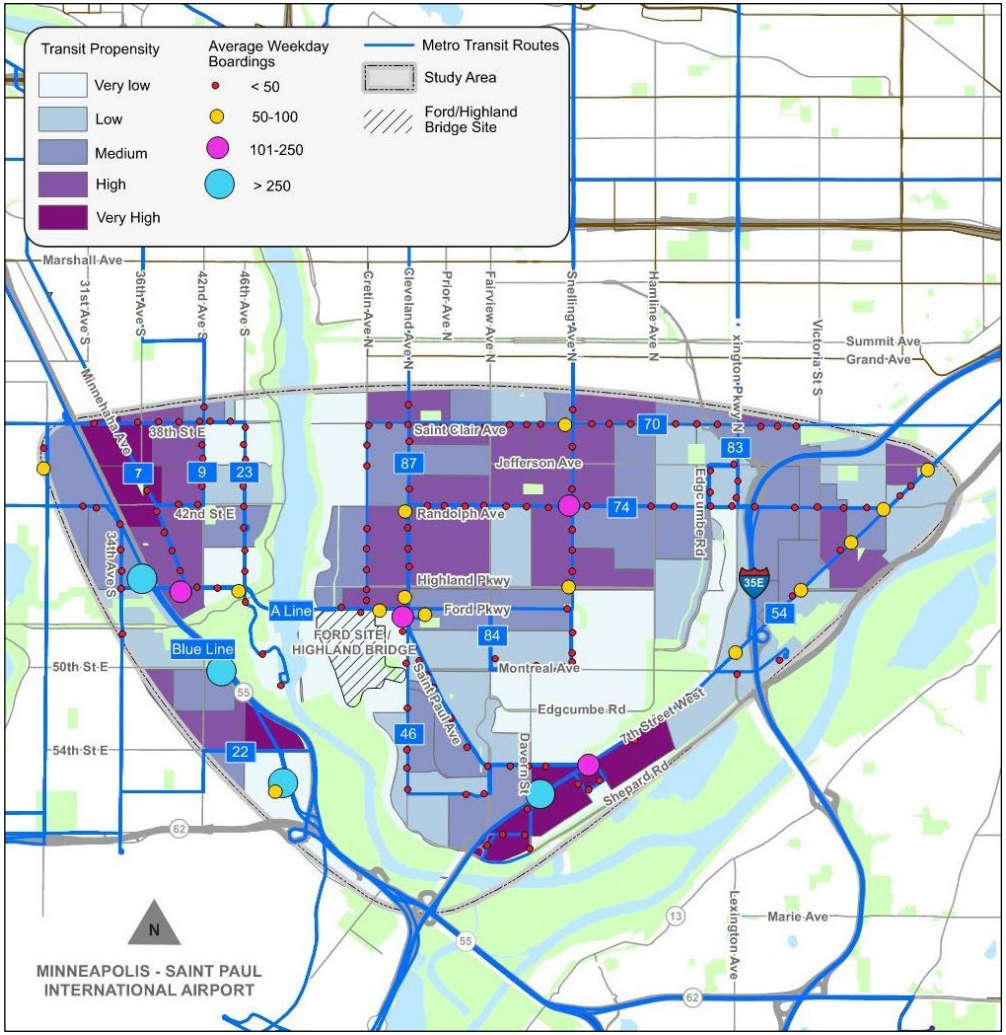
Metro Transit Route Performance



Key Takeaway #1

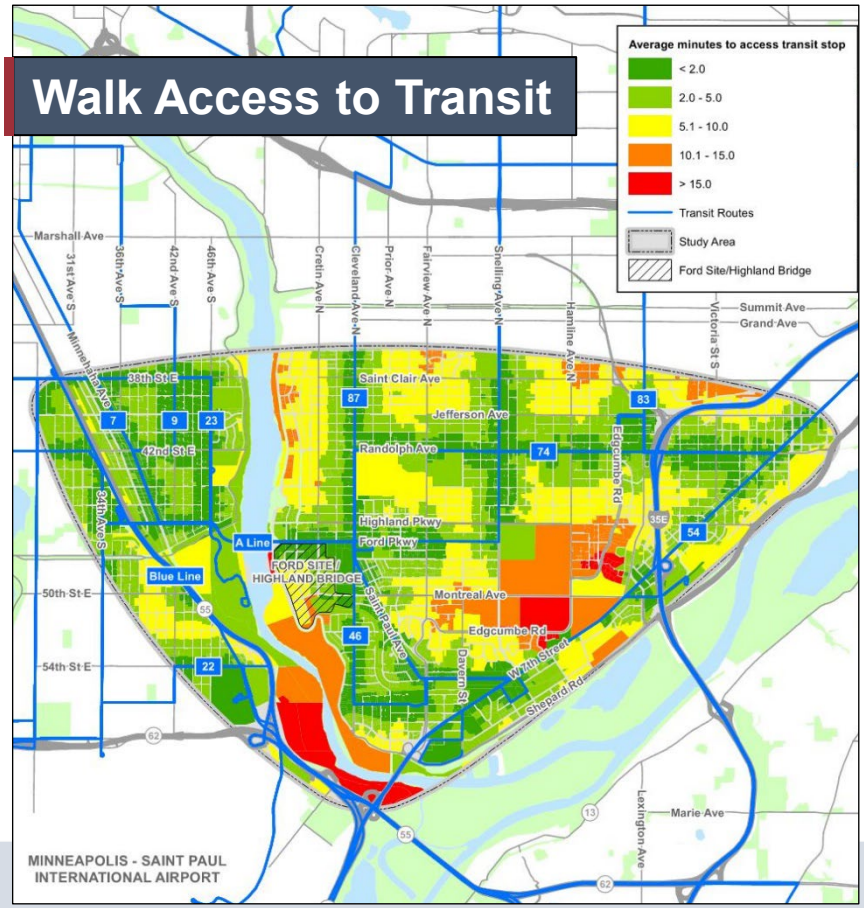
Transit demand from those who are most likely to use it aligns with available service

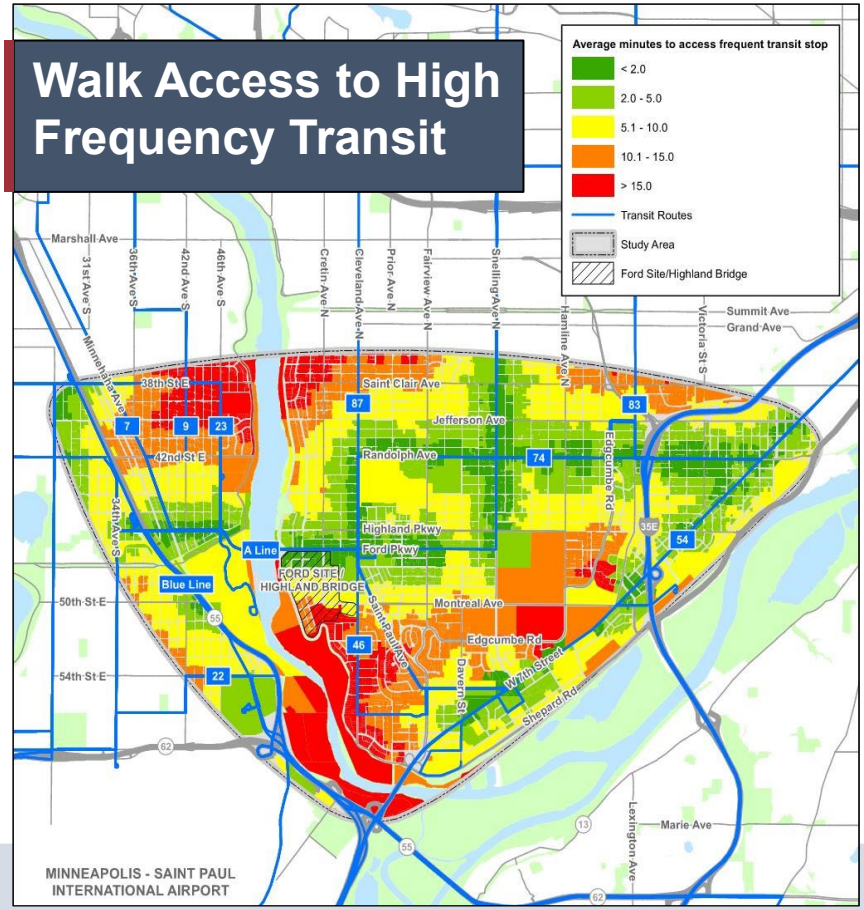
Transit Propensity & Stop Activity



Key Takeaway #2

High Frequency transit service is not quickly accessible by walking in some parts of the Study Area





"High Frequency" means service every 15 minutes or less throughout most of the day on weekdays and Saturdays.

Key Takeaway #3

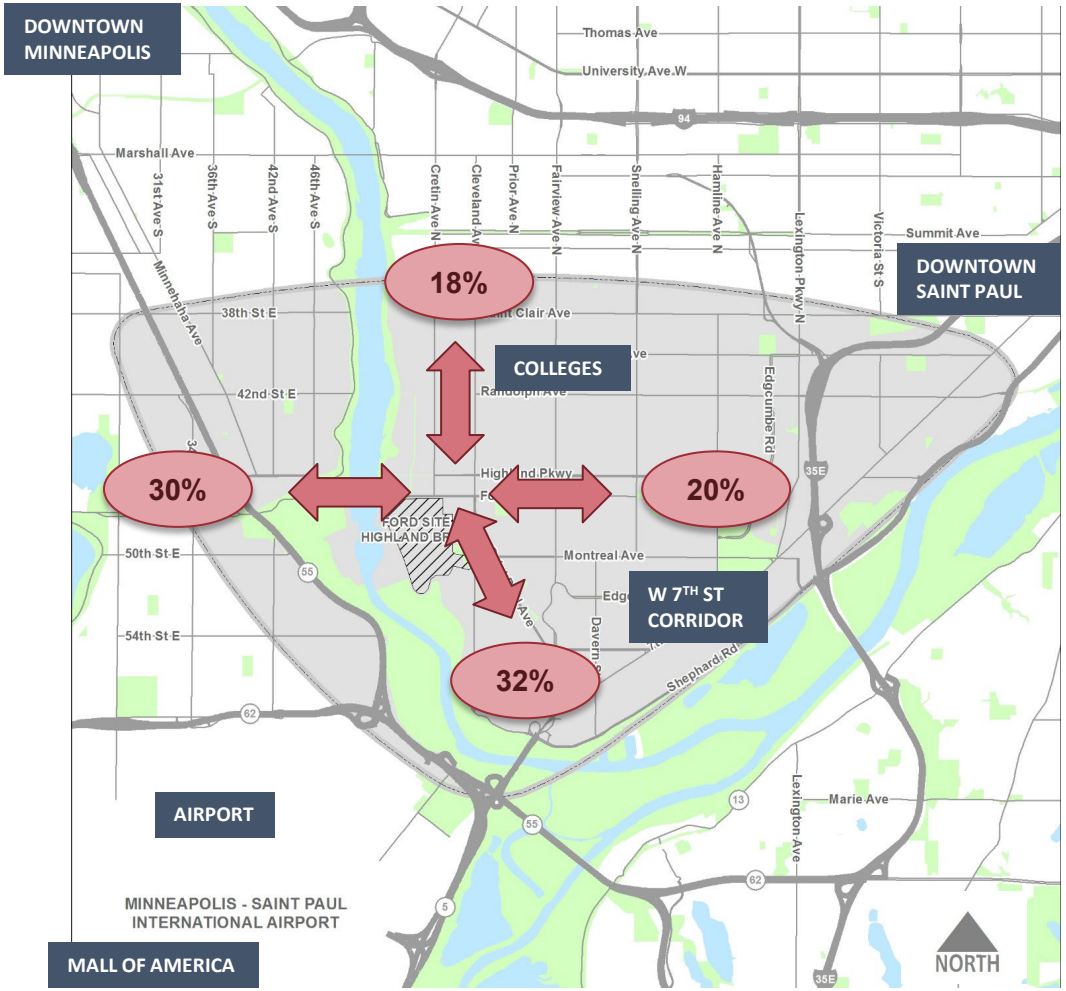
Anticipated increases in population density, job density, and changes in land use will increase transit demand in the future, especially at the Highland Bridge Site

HIGHLAND BRIDGE SITE ANTICIPATED GROWTH:

- **+ 800** jobs (by 2030)
- **+ 3,800** housing units
- **+ 265,000** s.f. office
- **+ 50,000** s.f. civic space
- **+ 150,000** s.f. retail
- **+ 75,000** s.f. medical
- **+ 55 acres** of public areas and green space

Left source: https://www.ryancompanies.com/project/highland-bridge-ford-site-redevelopment
Right image source: https://highlandbridge.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2021/10/10-18-21-Community-Meeting-1.pdf

Trip Flows to/from Highland Bridge (Existing)



Key Takeaways

- Flows are for all modes of travel
- Many trips go either west or southwest
- Crossing to the west, most trip head north or west, not south
- Average trip length was over 9 miles
- Future scenario flows not anticipated to change significantly

Trip flows determined from data in the Ford Site AUAR, Twin Cities 4-Step Model, Replica, and Met Council Travel Behavior Inventory

When and how will this affect transit?

- Most of the Highland Bridge site will be in use by **2030**
- **10% of trips** to and from the Highland Bridge site anticipated to be on transit and will bring additional transit demand compared to today

Future Transit Demand

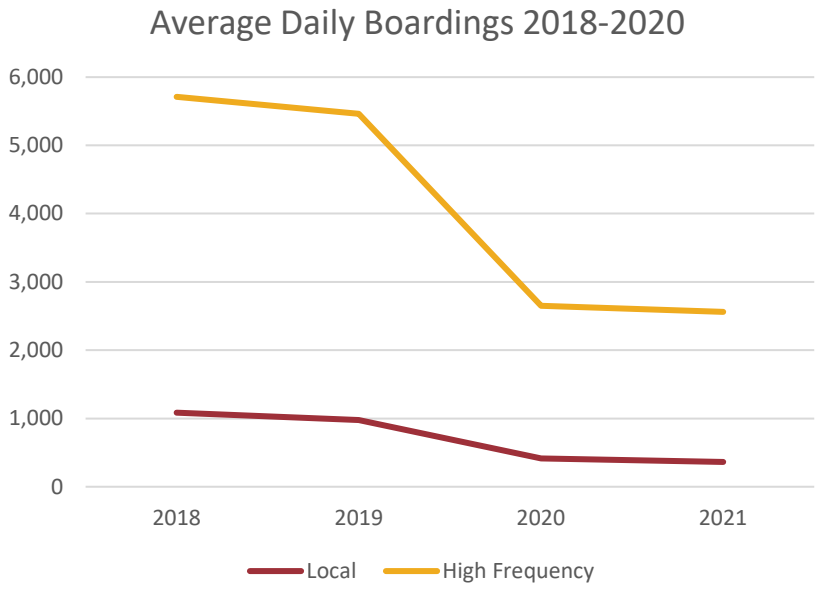
Year	Additional Transit Trips	That's like adding…
2025	2,100	18 full 60-ft buses
2030	4,000	33 full 60-ft buses
2040	4,500	38 full 60-ft buses

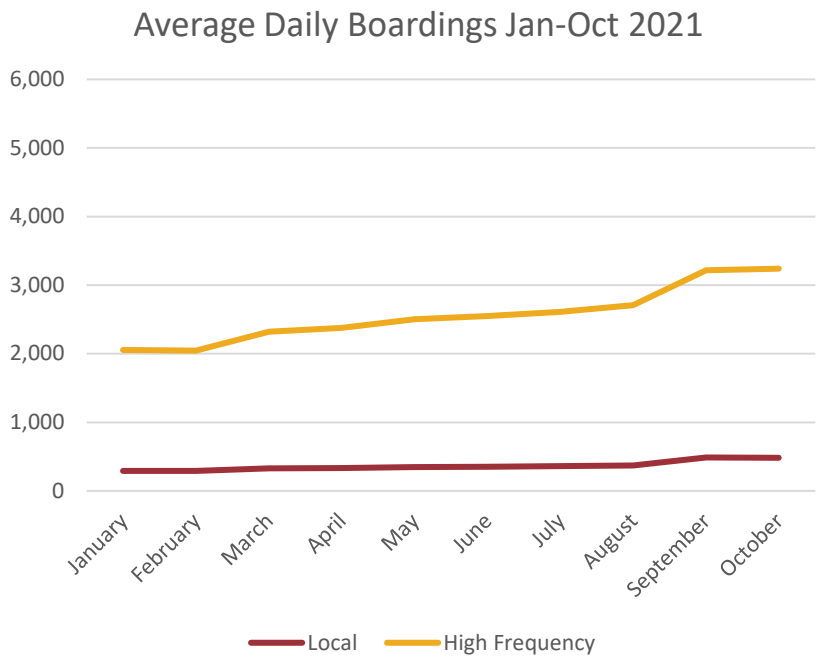
Key Takeaway #4

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how people use transit in the Twin Cities

- Riders have returned more quickly to High Frequency routes (like the A Line) compared to local bus routes
- Rise in all-day, all-purpose trip types versus work commutes

Steady recovery in Study Area on High Frequency routes





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Ways to Get Involved

Study Engagement Timeline

Phase 1
Spring 2022

Share your input on issues and needs:
Virtual Open House – March
Pop-up Event – April
Interactive Comment Map

Phase 2
Late Summer 2022

Share your input on solutions and future scenarios:
Open House
Pop-up Event

Phase 3
Winter 2022/2023

Learn about the results of the evaluation and next steps:
Open House
Pop-up Event

Neighborhood Artists

- The team, led by Forecast Public Arts, hosted an open call for an artist connected to the study area
- Artists Carrie Thompson and Rhea Boese-Colond recently joined the team
- Goal to meet people where they are and build relationships with community members through hands-on impactful interactions
- Stay tuned for first event this spring!

Ways To Get Involved

- Provide feedback on the comment map/survey (find on study website)
- Email us:
  - info@bluelineriverviewconnection.com
- Check out the study website:
  - Ramseycounty.us/BlueLineRiverviewStudy
- Stay tuned for the upcoming pop-up event and next open house

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What's Next?

Upcoming Study Activities

1. Collecting and synthesizing public feedback on issues and needs in the Study Area to develop a Purpose and Need statement
2. Developing evaluation criteria to compare transit options
3. Developing transit options

Discussion Question

- Respond in chatbox

If you had a reliable transit option available, where would you take it?

Q&A

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Type questions into the chat-box or raise your hand if you want to ask verbally

Thank You!

- Contact Information and Study Resources:
  - info@bluelineriverviewconnection.com
  - Ramseycounty.us/BlueLineRiverviewStudy