



May 30, 2019

# POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS PHASE

## Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions.
2. Recap of April Policy Advisory Committee meeting.
3. Station planning process.
4. Public engagement update.
5. Coordination activities.
6. Engineering updates.
7. Public comment.
8. Upcoming activities.
9. Next meeting.

## Recap of April Policy Advisory Committee Meeting

- Updates on:
  - Public engagement activities.
  - Ramsey County Rail Right-of-Way Visioning Framework.
  - Vadnais Sports Center parking study.
  - Engineering and visualizations.
  - Station design.
  - Walkshed and bikeshed analysis.
  - Schedule.

# Rush Line – TOD Framework

Policy Advisory Committee

May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Kathryn Hansen, Senior Project Manager, Transit Oriented Development, Metro Transit

“Walkable, moderate to high density development served by frequent transit service with a mix of housing, retail and employment choices designed to allow people to live and work without need of a personal automobile.”

Source: Metropolitan Council's TOD Strategic Action Plan, 2013

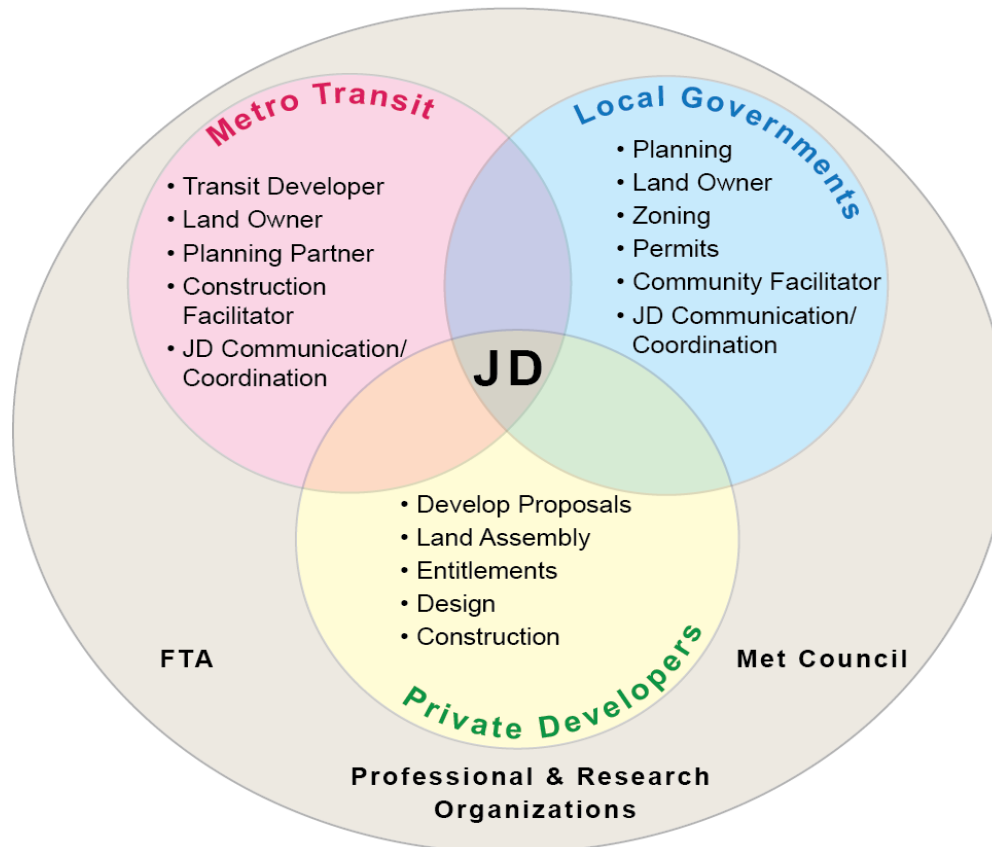
- **Maximize the development impact of transit investments**
  - Community building
- **Support regional economic competitiveness**
  - More people connected to jobs; larger employment pool for employers
- **Advance equity**
  - Housing affordability & good jobs accessible by transit
- **Support a 21st century transportation system**
  - Ridership & revenue



- **Projects**
  - TOD on Council-owned land
- **Programs & Resources**
  - Forums & coordination
  - Website resources
  - Best practices
  - Development Trends Along Transit
- **Partnerships**
  - Work with partner jurisdictions & other stakeholders
  - Tours, talks, panels
  - Grant & plan review



One of 4 featured projects in  
2017 FTA Joint Development  
Guide

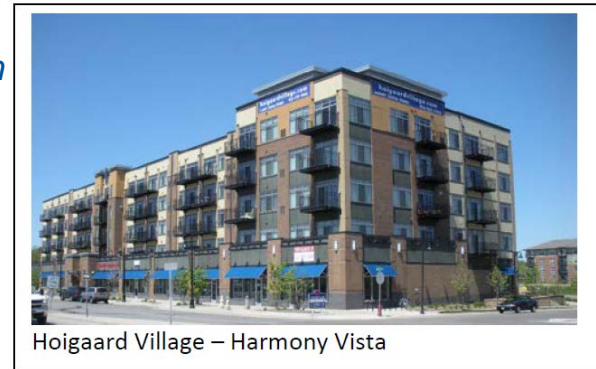




- **Multi-Modal Infrastructure Needs**
  - *Sidewalks, bike paths, bus and appropriate auto connection*
- **Development opportunities identified**
  - *Redevelopment to higher ridership uses, public projects that generate high ridership*
- **Supportive plans, policies and incentives in place**
  - *Form as well as use, zoning, TIF, grants, open space plans, etc.*
- **TOD opportunities marketing plan**
  - *Tailored Information for Likely Users*
  - *Business Community Involvement*



Maple Grove Transit Center



Hoigaard Village – Harmony Vista

# Questions?



[www.metrotransit.org/tod](http://www.metrotransit.org/tod)

# Maplewood North End Vision Plan Coordination



B R T



\*This graphic is a vision plan, and NOT meant to show specific development recommendations or proposals.

LEGEND			
EXISTING BUILDINGS	OFFICE	GREEN SPACE / PARK	ENHANCED CROSSWALK
ENVISIONED DEVELOPMENT	RETAIL / COMMERCIAL	PARKING STRUCTURE	WATER FEATURE
MIXED - RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL	MIXED - RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL	SURFACE PARKING	RUSHLINE BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BR) PROPOSED REFINED ROUTING
RESIDENTIAL	HOTEL	PLAZA	POTENTIAL RUSH LINE BRT STATION

- City-led visioning process.
- Plan area includes the Maplewood Mall Transit Center and St. John's Boulevard stations.
- Coordinating through the issue resolution team and public engagement process.



## Ramsey County and Metropolitan Council Rush Line Tour

- Held on May 28.
- Attendees included county commissioners, Metropolitan Council chair and members, project advisory committee members, area legislators, local elected officials and congressional staff.



Rush Line Tour, May 28

## Recent Public Engagement Activities



Weaver Elementary School Carnival, April 26

- April 25: East Side Freedom Library.
- April 26: Weaver Elementary School Carnival.
- May 2: Business door-knocking at 10<sup>th</sup> and Robert streets.
- May 4: Cinco de Mayo.
- May 7: Weaver Elementary School Parent Information Night.
- May 8 and 9: 10<sup>th</sup> Street station drop-in discussions.
- May 14: Maplewood bike rodeo.
- May 17: Mt. Airy spring event.
- May 29: Maplewood North End open house.

## Public Engagement Themes

- East Side Freedom Library.
  - Interest in art and historic interpretation at stations.
- Weaver Elementary School.
  - Mostly positive or neutral response to the project at the carnival and parents' night.
  - Questions about co-location of BRT and Bruce Vento Trail.



Weaver Elementary School Carnival, April 26

## Public Engagement Themes

- Cinco de Mayo:
  - Support and excitement for the project; talked with many transit riders.
- Maplewood Bike Rodeo:
  - Many parents and kids aware of Rush Line BRT.
  - Concern about how BRT and Bruce Vento trail will co-locate.
  - Confusion on whether it will be BRT or LRT.



Maplewood Bike Rodeo, May 14



## 10th Street Station Engagement

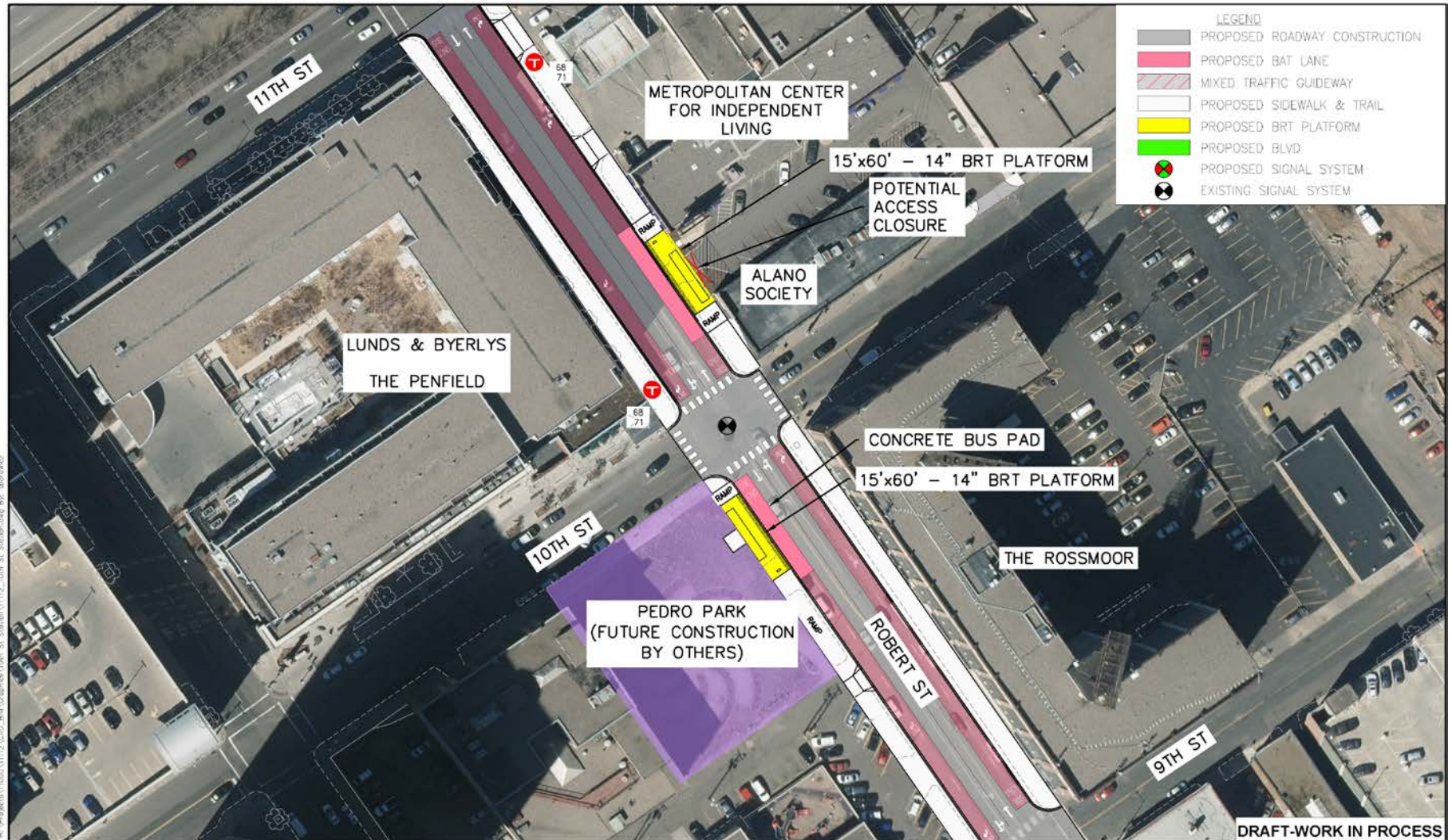
- Some nearby residents have concerns about BRT station near Pedro Park.
- Project staff developed two concepts for the southbound 10th Street platform – far side and near side.



# 10<sup>th</sup> Street Station Far Side Southbound Platform Concept



B R T

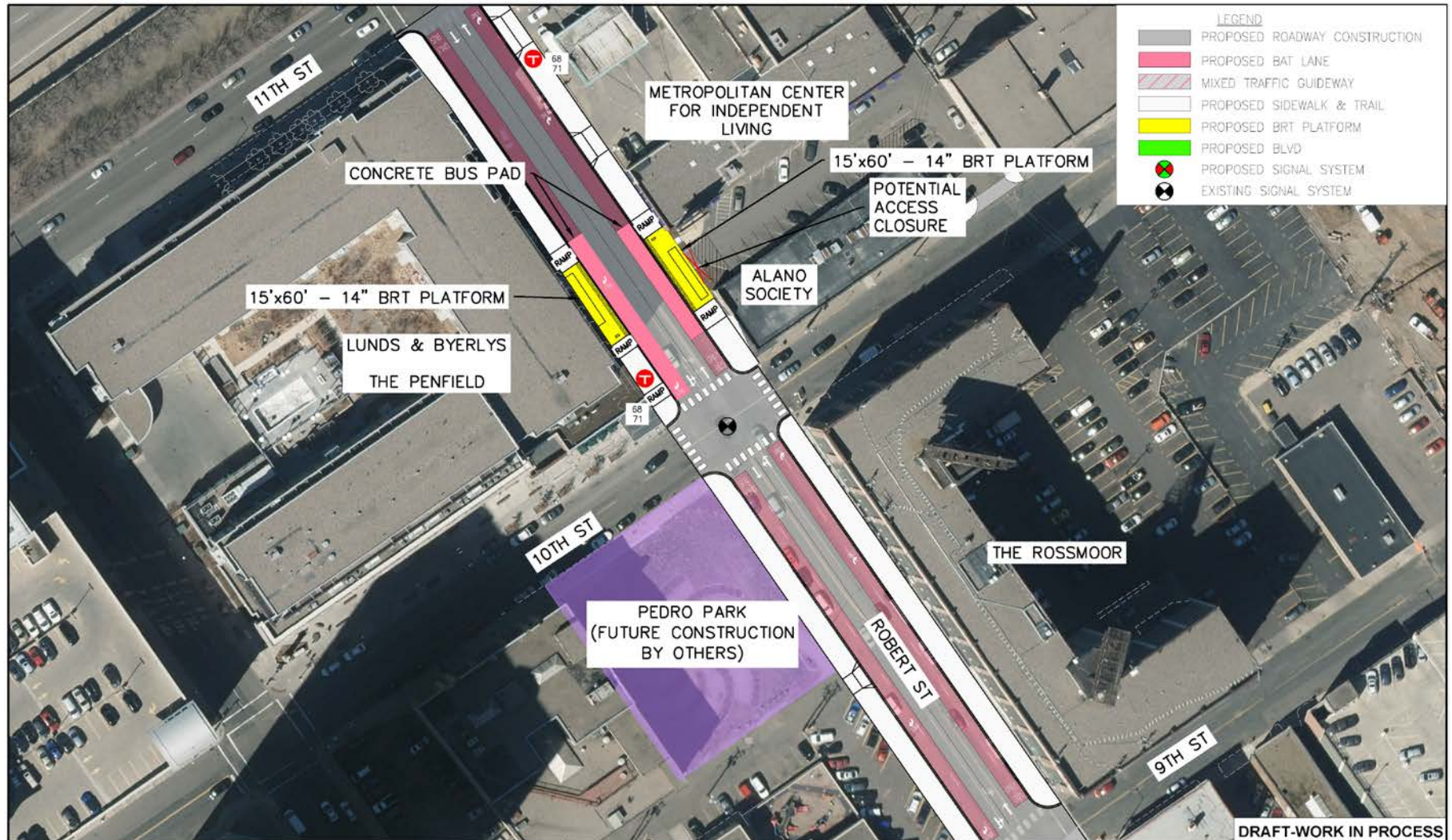




# 10<sup>th</sup> Street Station Near Side Southbound Platform Concept



B R T



## 10<sup>th</sup> Street Station Engagement

- Public engagement activities have included:
  - Drop-in discussions (May 8 and 9).
  - Meetings with Metropolitan Center for Independent Living (May 8), the Penfield (May 24), the Alano Society (May 24) and Lunds & Byerlys (May 28).
- Next steps:
  - Discuss with Saint Paul Issue Resolution Team and Technical Advisory Committee.
  - Additional public engagement.
  - Present recommended location to Policy Advisory Committee in July.



## Upcoming Public Engagement

- Ramsey County Rail Right-of-Way Visioning Framework.
  - Tuesdays on the Trail June 4, 11, 18 and 25.
  - Pop-up at Sun Foods June 6.
  - Pop-up at Eastside YMCA (date to be determined).
  - Hmong residents' event June 26 at Frost Lake Elementary School.
  - Potential engagement at CLUES and Hmong Village.



WaterFest at Lake Phalen, 2018

## Upcoming Public Engagement

- June 1: WaterFest at Phalen Regional Park.
- June 1: Train Day at Union Depot.
- June 20: MnDOT Materials Lab.
- July 25: Environmental Resource Expo (MarketFest) in downtown White Bear Lake.



MarketFest in downtown White Bear Lake, 2018

## Coordination Activities

- Federal Transit Administration.
  - Monthly coordination calls.
- White Bear Lake School District.
  - Multi-agency coordination meeting regarding potential high school consolidation at North Campus.
- Lower Phalen Creek Project and Capitol Region Watershed District.
  - Lower Phalen Creek Feasibility Study identified portions of the creek that could be daylighted.
  - Included an area on Ramsey County property that has been preserved for future transit and adjacent private property (between Arcade Street and Earl Street).

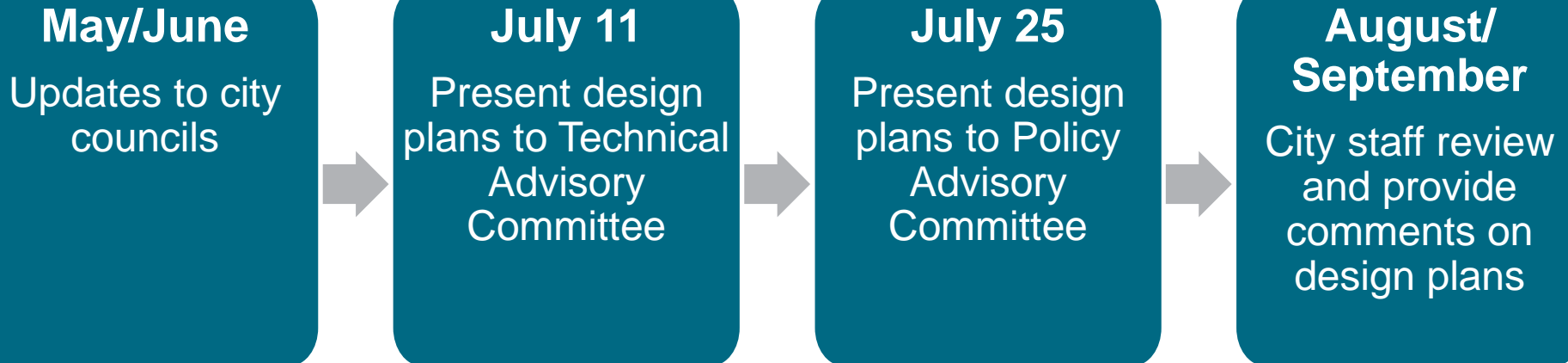
## Coordination Activities

- Lower Phalen Creek Project and Capitol Region Watershed District.
  - Potential accommodations of creek daylighting proposal:
    - Provide infrastructure to convey Lower Phalen Creek water between Arcade and Earl Streets.
    - Construct the Lower Phalen Creek channel between Arcade Street and Neid Lane.
    - Construct stormwater management features between Earl Street and Frank Street that complement the Lower Phalen Creek Project.
  - Continued coordination with Lower Phalen Creek Project and Capitol Region Watershed District.



## Engineering Updates

- Station refinements.
  - Coordinating with issue resolution teams to refine station platform locations.
- City staff review of design plans.





## Public Comment

- When commenting, please:
  - Be respectful.
  - Be brief. Limit comments to three minutes to give others an opportunity to speak.
- Public comments will be included in the Policy Advisory Committee meeting summary.
- The Chair reserves the right to limit an individual's comments if they become redundant, disrespectful or are not relevant to the Rush Line BRT Project.

## Upcoming Activities

- Ongoing public engagement.
- Advance engineering.
  - Develop 15 percent plans.
- Advance environmental analysis.

## Next Policy Advisory Committee Meeting

- Thursday, July 25.
- 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- Maplewood Community Center.
- Rush Line Corridor Task Force will meet after the Policy Advisory Committee at 4:30 p.m.



Thank you!



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