## **Network Next Project Update**

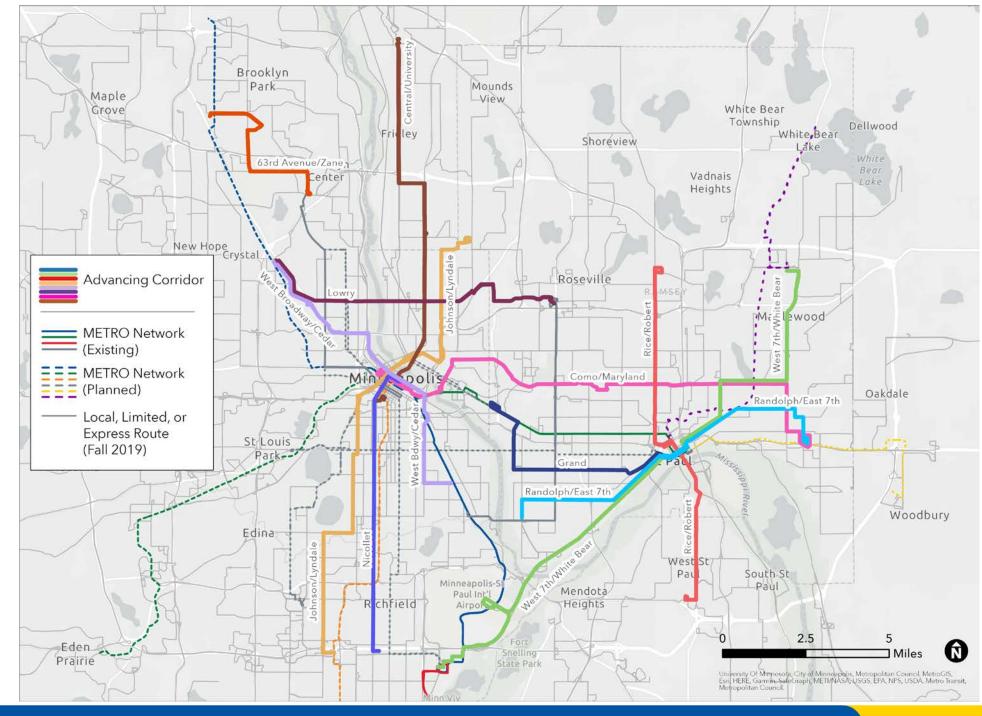
Transportation Advisory Board October 21, 2020

Katie Roth, Assistant Director, BRT Projects Robin Caufman, Director, Administration



### 11 Potential Arterial BRT Corridors

- 63rd/Zane
- Central
- Como/Maryland
- Grand
- Johnson/Lyndale
- Lowry
- Nicollet
- Randolph/East 7th
- Rice/Robert
- West 7th/White Bear Ave
- West Broadway/Cedar



# **Arterial BRT Corridor Development Process**

WE ARE HERE

### 1. IDENTIFY Spring 2020

Based on the Network Next principles, identify about 20 potential corridors for arterial BRT implementation.

#### 2. SCREEN Summer 2020

Conduct screening to identify about 10 most promising arterial BRT candidate corridors to advance.

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### 3. EVALUATE Fall 2020

Develop detailed arterial BRT concepts and apply robust evaluation criteria including cost, ridership & other benefits to sort lines into **three tiers**.

3 near-term

4 mid-term

4 longer-term

### 4. PRIORITIZE Winter 2020/21

Review top performers based on readiness criteria to further prioritize the **next three lines** for implementation.





**NetworkNEXT** 

## Phase 1 Engagement Goals

- Key questions:
  - What are your priorities among these 11 corridors?
  - Open comments on advanced corridors
  - What should be weighted most heavily in evaluation?
    - Equity
    - Ridership
    - Transit-oriented lifestyle
    - Long-term sustainable operations
- Response goal:
  - 2,000 responses that reflect our ridership which is 45% BIPOC

### **NetworkNEXT**

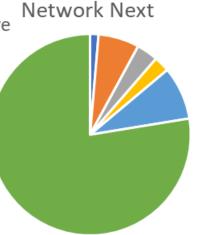
## Phase 1 Engagement Strategies

- Communications: Website, interactive map, emails
- Mass emails/publications:
  - Riders Almanac
  - Email to GoTo Card and App users that ride the routes that the corridors follow
  - Network Next newsletter
  - Metro Transit's Connect newsletter and Metropolitan Council's monthly e-newsletter
- Social media: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
  - Routine posts with link to survey
  - Post for each route station to promote discussion
- Ethnic media: Spokesman Recorder and Vida y Sabor ads and social media
- In person: 18 shifts where staff surveyed riders at busy stations, transit centers
- Community Organizations: Sierra Club, TAAC and Rice & LarpenTOUR event
- City/County Partners: Engagement kit with materials, presentation, graphics

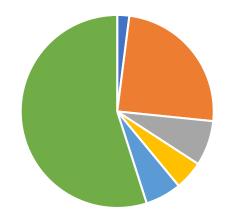
# **Phase 1 Engagement Overview**

- We received over 2,663 completed surveys
  - 125 in person, 2,538 online
  - 22% BIPOC, 78% white
  - Responses distributed across the region with most respondents in areas served by core and suburban local service
- What we heard:
  - Nearly half of respondents ranked advancing equity considerations as their top priority
  - Corridor priority differs by race/ethnicity
  - Corridor priority differs based on how frequently the respondent uses transit
  - Majority of people heard about the survey from an email or e-newsletter, social media

- American Indian, Alaska Native
- Black, African American
- Asian or Asian American
- Hispanic, Latinx
- Other, multiple
- White



Pre-COVID Ridership





## Phase 2 Engagement Plan

- Phase 1 lessons learned
  - Spokesman Recorder and Vida y Sabor did not include advertorial with context so we didn't see good response
    - Only 5 for Network Next versus 150 for Listening and Learning through Crises
  - Mass emails are a great way to get numbers but responses not reflective of our current riders
  - In person surveys about long range plans and planning principles are difficult to engage on
- Phase 2 plan focuses efforts on engaging BIPOC communities
  - Continue with standard communication including mass emails, basic website and easy to read maps
  - Work with more ethnic and local media with messages and visuals that reflect the community culture and demographics
  - Develop more tangible in person engagement



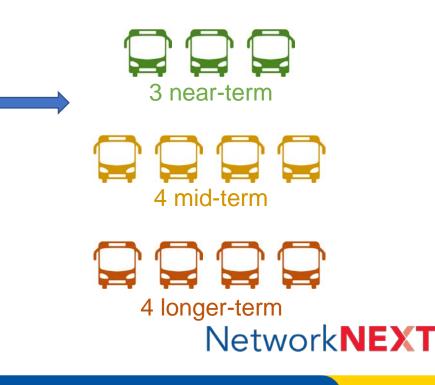
## **Next Steps in Arterial BRT Corridor Development**

### **Summer 2020** Conduct screening to identify about 10 most promising arterial BRT candidate corridors to advance. **Public** engagement feedback **Technical Evaluation Initial Readiness** Considerations

2. SCREEN

#### 3. EVALUATE Fall 2020

Develop detailed arterial BRT concepts and apply robust evaluation criteria including cost, ridership & other benefits to sort lines into **three tiers**.



### **F Line Selection Process**

• BRT corridor development and evaluation of 11 advanced corridors

- Sort 11 corridors into tiers prioritized for implementation
- Presentation to TAB on tiers planned for December 16
- Outreach and engagement around tiers starting December
  - Open comments on advanced corridors
  - How should we select F Line among top corridors?
- Selection of F Line BRT corridor from top tier of candidates
  - Metropolitan Council action in March 2021
  - TAB action in April 2021

