



**New Brighton Equity Commission
Agenda
Upper Level | Conference Room
New Brighton City Hall 803 Old Hwy 8 NW, New Brighton , MN
6:30 PM August 21, 2025**

Members of the Equity Commission will attend the meeting in person unless eligible to attend remotely per MN Stat. 13D.02.

To participate in this meeting, members of the public may:

- **Attend the meeting in person.**
- **Watch the meeting electronically.** Tune into CTV Channel 8023 (CenturyLink) or Channel 16 (Comcast). To observe the meeting as a livestream or a webcast, visit NBMN.info/View-A-Meeting

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Kami Miller	Commissioner Carlos Herrera
Vice Chair Cathy Forbes	Commissioner Michael Postle
Commissioner Kisten Thompson	Commissioner Melissa Spiess
Commissioner Ellen Weber	Commissioner Sophie Jung
Commissioner Liz Erstad-Hicks	

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Past Minutes

- a. Date of Minutes Equity

IV. Business Items

- a. Metro Transit Services

V. City Staff Update

VI. Chair Update

VII. City Council Update

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Next Meeting September 18, 2025



MINUTES
New Brighton Equity Commission
Regular Meeting – July 17, 2025
6:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Commissioners Cathy Forbes, Carlos Herrera, Liz Erstad-Hicks, Kami Miller, Michael Postle, Melissa Spiess (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), and Ellen Weber.

Members Absent: Commissioners Sophie Jung, and Kisten Thompson.

Also Present: DEI Coordinator Hue Schlieu

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Forbes, seconded by Commissioner Erstad-Hicks to approve the agenda as presented.

Approved 6-0

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Forbes, seconded by Commissioner Weber to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2025 meeting.

Approved 6-0

V. Business Items

A. Equity Updates and Discussion

Schlieu provided the Commission with equity updates. She noted Metro Transit would be coming to speak to the Equity Commission in August and noted Councilmembers and Economic Development Commissioners are invited to attend. She explained the City's multilingual pay program was moving forward. She reported the City Council read a proclamation that declared July 6 Tibetan Compassion Day.

Schlieu stated the Commission Forum would be held in Minnetonka on September 30. She asked if the Commission still wanted to hold the September meeting. The Commission supported holding the September Equity Commission meeting, even if it was a shorter meeting.

Schlieu explained she attended the League of Minnesota Cities Conference at the end of June where she discussed commissions. She reported the Council discussed Commission pay at their June 10 meeting and at this time, Commission pay would be included in the 2026 budget.

Schlieu then asked for feedback from the Commission on what questions should be asked of the public at the upcoming Splash Bash/Mobile City Hall event. The Commission suggested a spinner game be considered in order to allow for interaction with the public in a more engaging manner. The Commission suggested a QR code and fact sheet also be created.

Questions included:

- What barriers residents may face to accessing City programs or services and to make the public aware of what services were available?
- How is the public getting information regarding the City and how do you want the City to be communicating with you with a bean count?
- Does the City of New Brighton make you feel welcome?
- What part of the City did you come from?
- The Commission asked staff to make a post regarding the Mobile City Hall/Splash Bash.

VI. City Staff Update – Hue Schlieu, DEI Coordinator

Schlieu stated National Night Out would be held on Tuesday, August 5. She discussed the history of national night out, which was to encourage relationships between neighborhoods and public safety. She indicated it would be nice to have the Equity Commission as part of this event as well.

Schlieu reported Irondale High School reached out to her and asked if the City would like a table at their Open House, which would be held on Wednesday, August 27 from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Commission supported the City pursuing this opportunity and suggested the student commission positions being advertised at this event.

Schlieu explained staff was beginning to discuss the 2026 budget.

Commissioner Spiess discussed a training she attended that was sponsored by the Shoreview Equity Commission titled Unfinished Business. She explained this training was very well done. Schlieu asked if the Equity Commission was interested in hosting this training. The Commission supported staff looking into hosting this training. Schlieu indicated she would speak with her team to see if there was support for this event.

Commissioner Herrera believed New Brighton was doing a lot of things right and he appreciated how staffed New Brighton was.

Schlieu asked if the Commission supported a cultural conversation. She indicated she saw the YCC playing a role in this type of event and asked if the Commission supported pulling community members together for cultural conversations. The Commission supported staff beginning to plan for a cultural conversation to be held in March of 2026.

Schlieu provided the Commission with an update on the Youth Community Connector program. She explained she had 41 applicants and eight students were hired. She reported these eight students speak seven different languages, represent both Mounds View High School and Irondale High School, and represent all five major racial/ethnic groups. She indicated these students would be going through orientation beginning on August 18.

VII. Chair Update – Kami Miller

Chair Miller stated she anticipated the City’s most vulnerable populations would be having a difficult time going forward and it was her hope New Brighton would continue to reinforce the type of community it was trying to build.

VIII. City Council Update – Emily Dunsworth

There was no update from the City Council.

IX. Adjournment – Next Meeting: August 21, 2025

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hue Schlieu
DEI Coordinator



Agenda Section:	Business Items
Report Date:	08/15/2025
Meeting Date:	August 21, 2025

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Metro Transit Services

Action Requested:	
Public Hearing	Motion
<u>Discussion</u> X	Informational
Form of Action:	
Resolution	Ordinance
Contract/Agreement	<u>N/A or Other</u> X
Votes Needed:	
3 Votes	4 Votes
5 Votes	<u>N/A</u> X

Summary Statement:	Community members have expressed interest and concerns regarding the accessibility of public transit in New Brighton. Council is committed to learning more about public transit and explore in ways the City can advocate for right-sizing of routes and stops. Equity Commission hopes to learn more about Metro Transit's approach to provide guidance for next steps.
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Recommendations:	Listen, learn, and ask questions to better understand the City's sphere of influence as it relates to right-sizing routes and stops.
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Applicable Deadlines:	None
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Community Impact:	<p>Public transit affects all residents who either do not have access to private transportation or choose public transit as their preferred method of travel, namely seniors, young people, and income-restricted individuals.</p> <p>Ensuring that there are enough stops and desired routes increases the ability for residents to travel to work, entertainment, etc. It also increases access to New Brighton businesses and communities for people living outside the City who hope to visit.</p> <p>While we have not reached out to community members directly about public transit, we have collected data through our Resident Surveys. Metro Transit will also be sharing data they have collected leading up to their Network Now plan.</p>
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Legislative History:	None
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Strategic Priority:	Financial Sustainability	Staff Capabilities
	Economic Development	Community Engagement & Belonging
	City Assets	N/A X

Fiscal Impact:	Financial Impact: Is there a financial consideration?		No X	Yes \$
	Financing Sources:	Budgeted	Budget Modification	
	New Revenue	Use of Reserves	Other	

Attachments:	Metro Transit Services
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Transit Planning and New Brighton

Ben Picone | Transit Planner



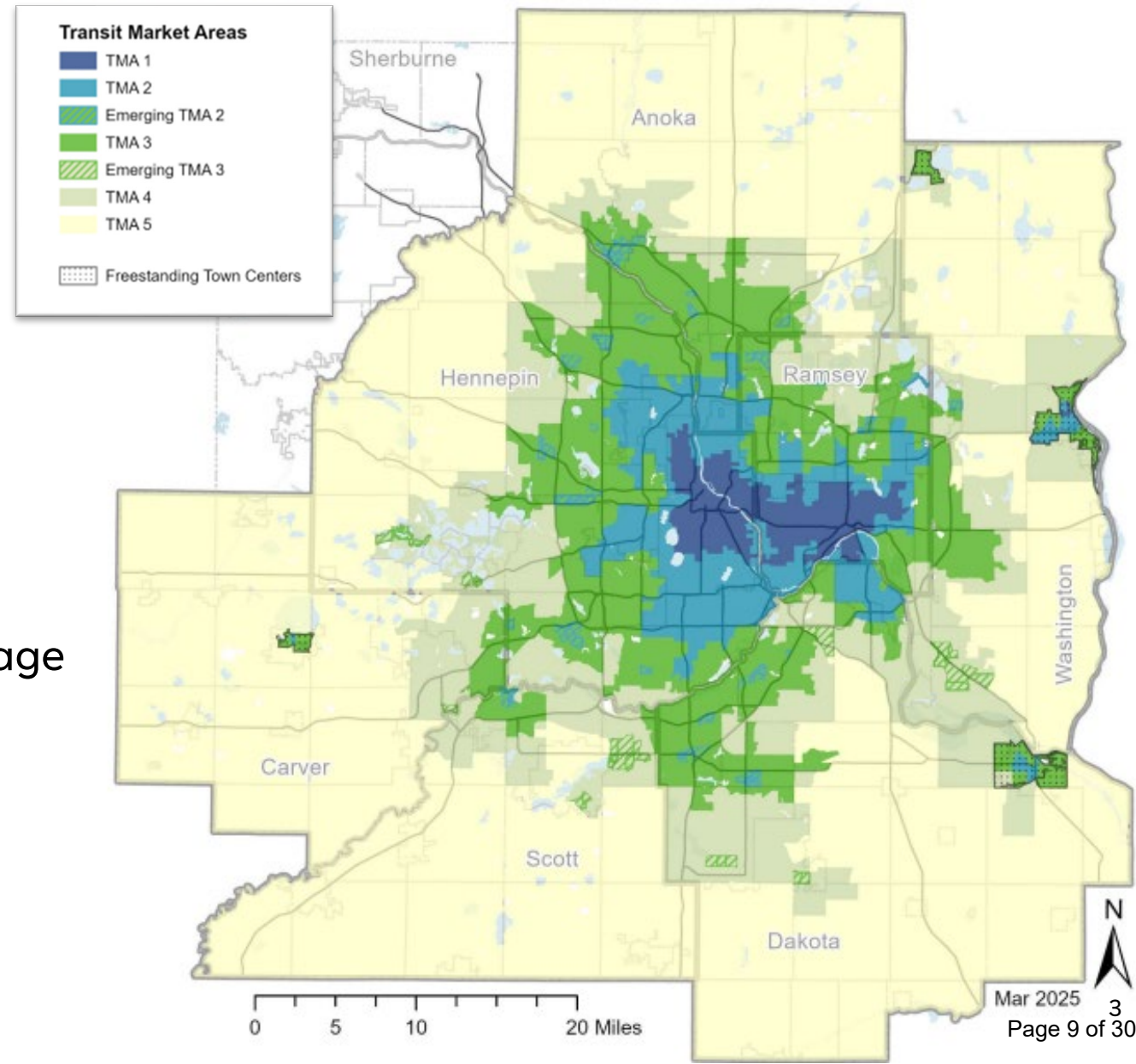


Transit Planning in the Twin Cities

Transit Market Areas

- Developed by the Met Council to guide local transit investment
- Based on a number of publicly available data sources:
 - Population Density
 - Statistics correlated with transit usage
 - Vehicles per household, Renters, e.g.
 - Intersection Density/Walkability
 - Job sectors

Figure 8. Map of transit market areas



Development patterns



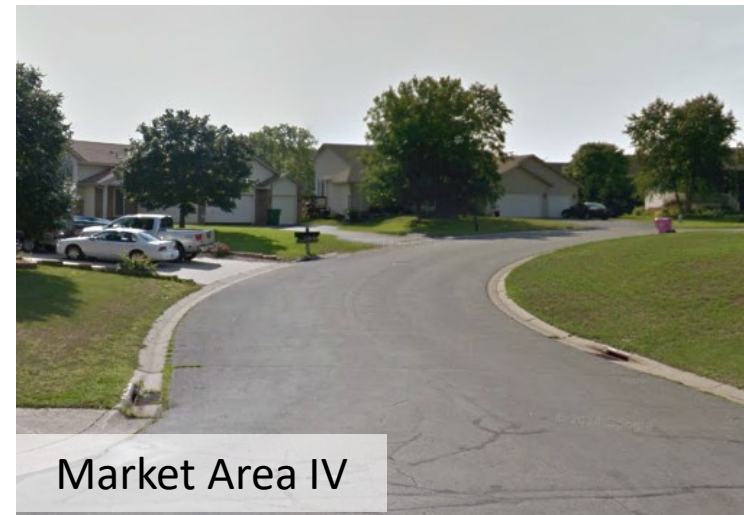
Market Area I



Market Area II



Market Area III



Market Area IV

Frequency guidelines

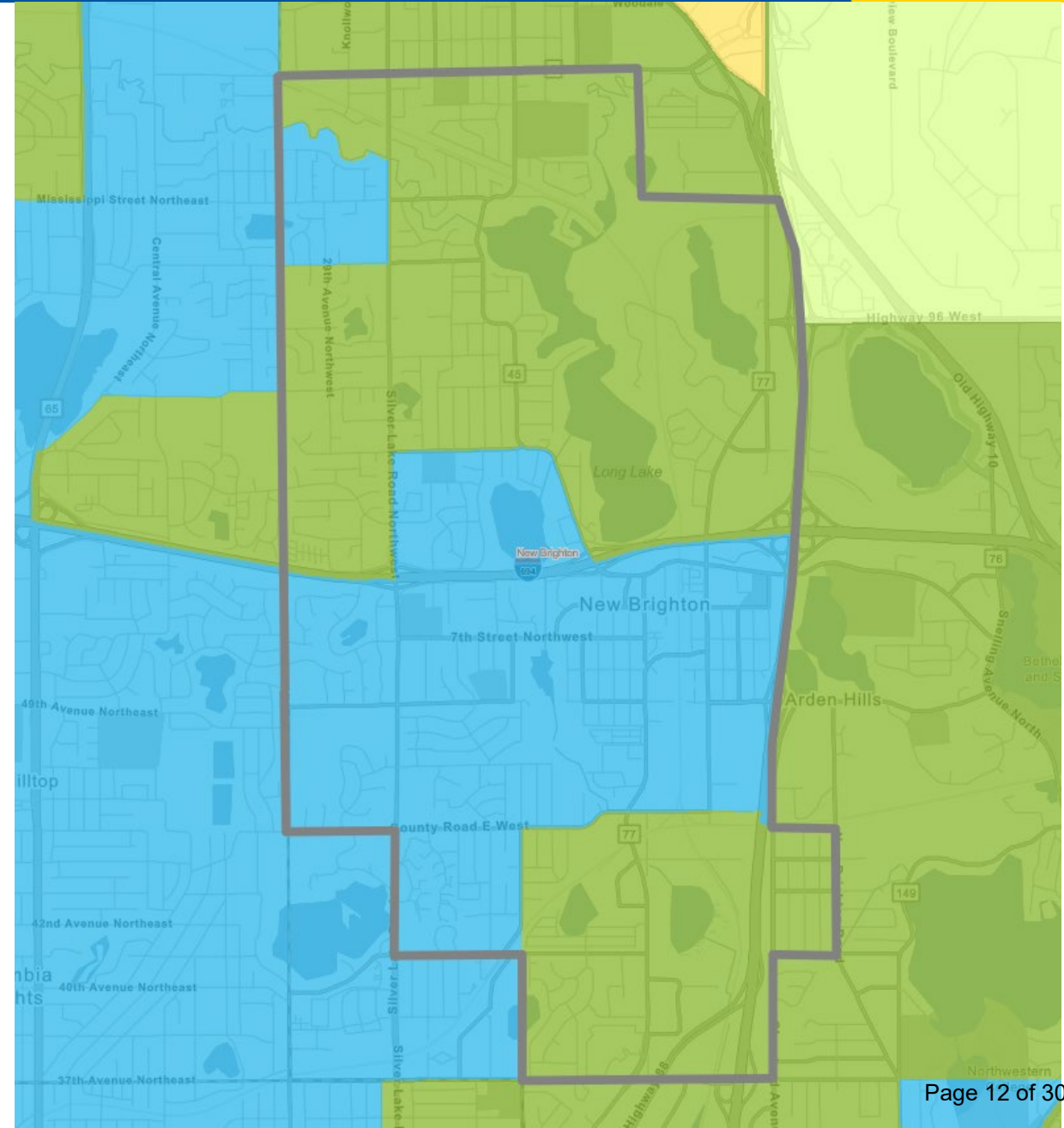
Table G-6: Minimum Frequency

Route Type	Market Area				
	Area I	Area II	Area III	Area IV	Area V
Core Local Bus	15" Peak 30" Offpeak 30" Weekend	30" Peak	60" Peak	NA	NA
Supporting Local Bus	30" Peak 30" Offpeak 30" Weekend	60" Offpeak 60" Weekend	60" Offpeak 60" Weekend	NA	NA
Suburban Local Bus	NA			NA	NA
Arterial BRT	15" Peak			NA	NA
Highway BRT	15" Offpeak			NA	NA
Light Rail	15" Weekend			NA	NA
Commuter Express Bus	30" Peak		3 Trips each peak		NA
Commuter Rail	NA		30" Peak		

Additional service may be added as demand warrants and these guidelines apply primarily to the peak direction.

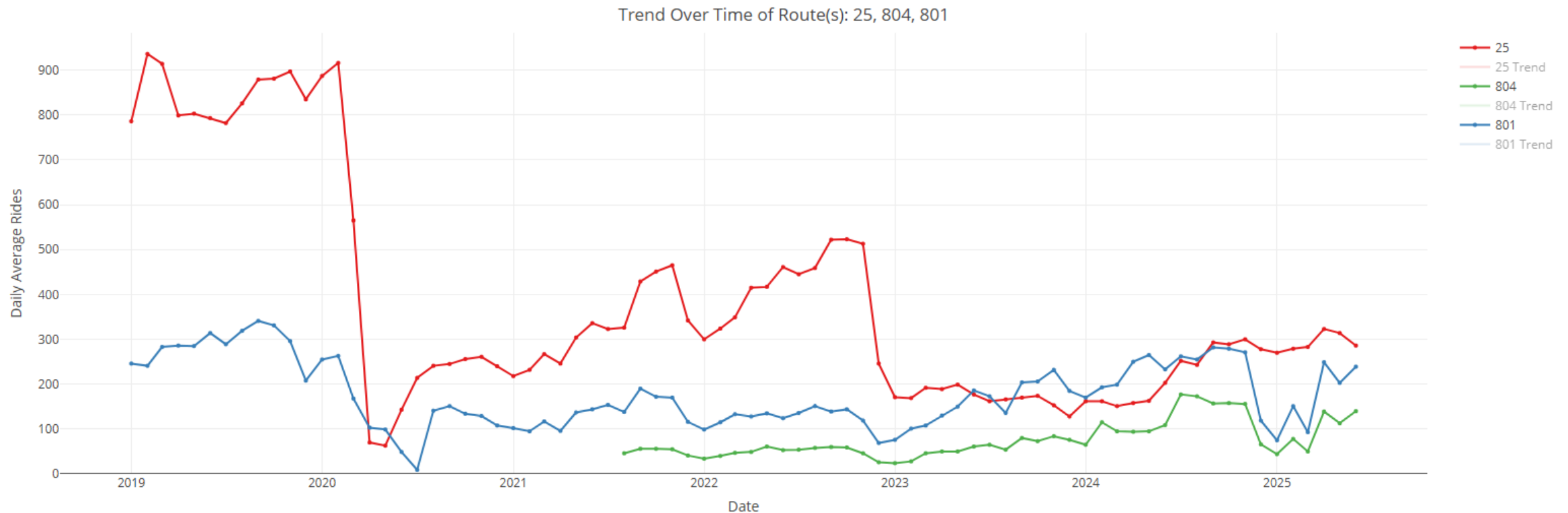
New Brighton TMAs

- TMA 2 in southwestern half of the city
 - More multifamily units, connected grid
- TMA 3 in northern half
 - Large park area, less density, road connections



Ridership / Productivity

- Continuously monitoring route-level, trip-level ridership
- View statistics in context: Frequency of a bus vs. Number of Riders, e.g.



Rider Surveys / Travel Behavior Inventory

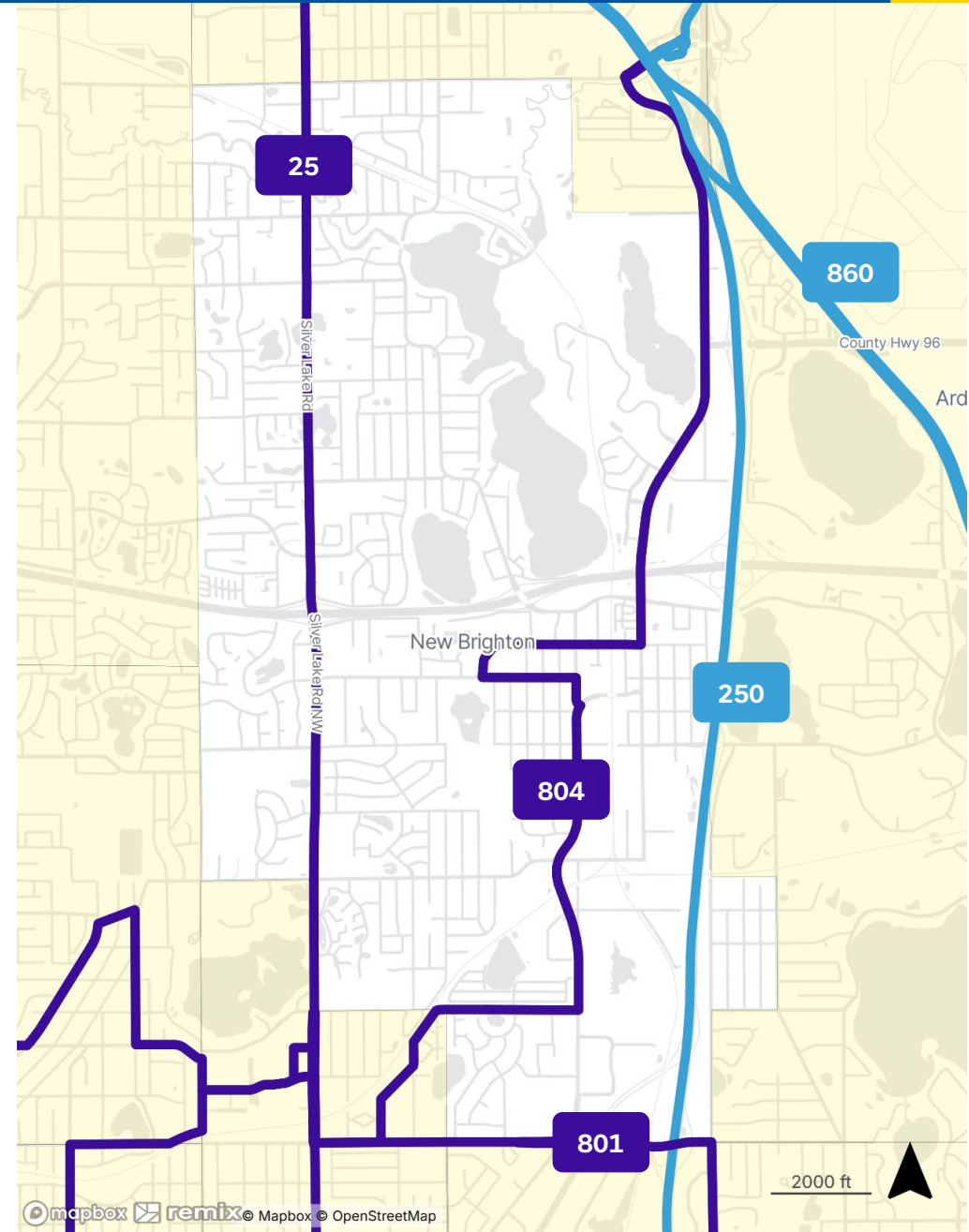
- Periodically gather feedback from riders through route riding, surveying, speaking with bus drivers and riders
- System-wide inventory of travel patterns
 - Household survey every other year
 - Transit on-board survey every five years
- Ask about types of trips, origin/destination, travel modes, etc.
- Also use other publicly available resources (LEHD Data, etc.)



Transit in New Brighton

Transit Service in 2025

- Local Service
 - Route 25
 - Route 801
 - Route 804
- Nearby Express Service
 - Route 250 – to Downtown Minneapolis
 - Route 860 – to Downtown St. Paul
- Other Services
 - Metro Mobility
 - Transit Link



Network Now: vision for service through 2027

Understand impacts of the pandemic, workforce shortages

Tell transit's story of **adaptation**, resilience

Discuss transit values, **principles** to establish service planning priorities

Framework to meet today's travel patterns, transit demand



Resolve status of suspended service and facilities

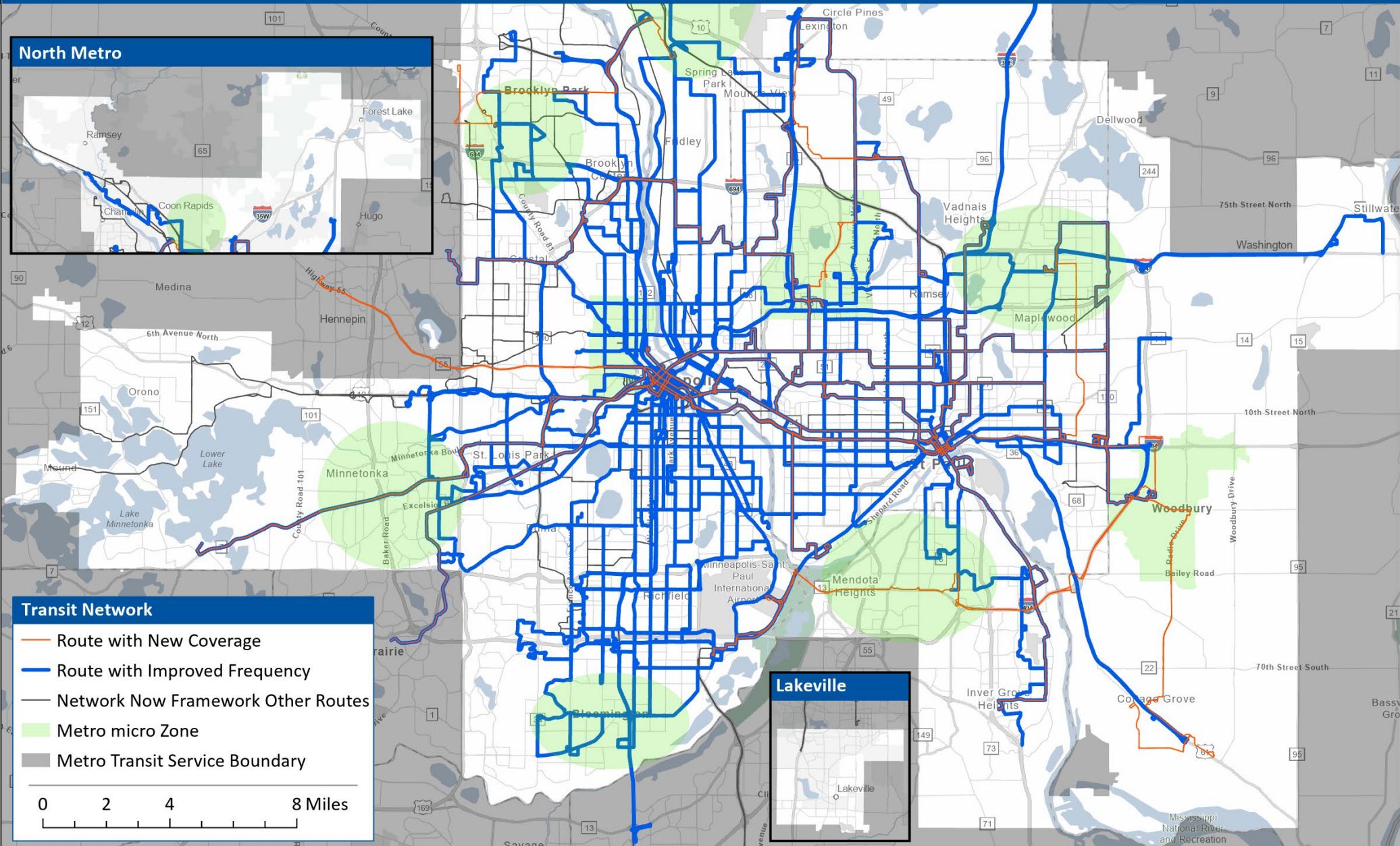
New/restructured routes, frequency/span improvements on existing routes, transitways, microtransit

Network Now Principles

- Multi-year, systemwide plan to:
 - Adapt to changes in market areas and travel patterns
 - Prepare for new METRO routes
 - Maintain reliability of scheduled service over time
 - Build on success to grow ridership
 - Provide access to opportunities and services while advancing equity



Improved Frequency and New Coverage Routes

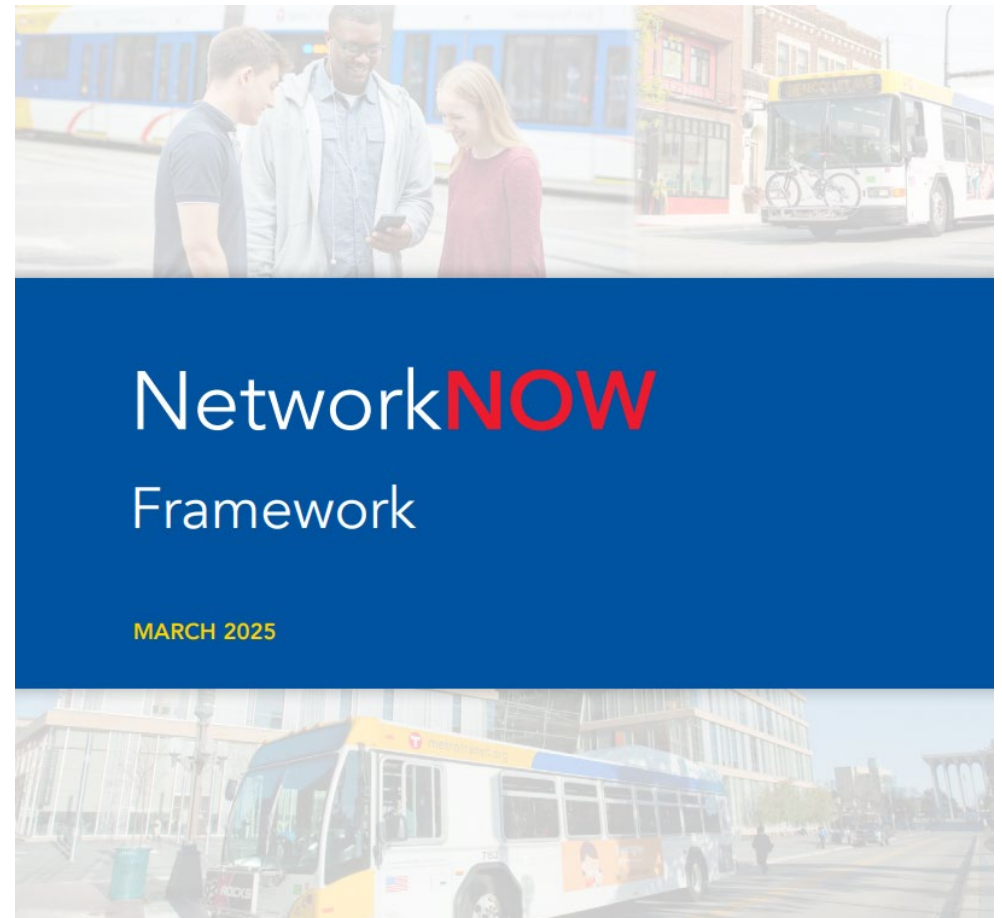


Network Now framework invests in frequent service

- 70+ routes improved frequency or span
- 26 routes with service at least every 15"
- LRT 10-minute frequency
- 8 new micro zones
- 10+ routes with new areas of coverage

Changes coming via Network Now

- Improvements on local Routes:
 - Route 25
 - Route 801 (new Route 817)
 - Route 804
- Full Report available online
 - metrotransit.org/network-now
- Implementation by end of 2027



Planned Schedule

	Rush Hour	Midday	Evening	Night
Weekday	30	60	60	-
Saturday	60	60	60	-
Sunday	-	-	-	-

Note: frequencies (shown in minutes) are for the main portion of the route and intended as guidelines.

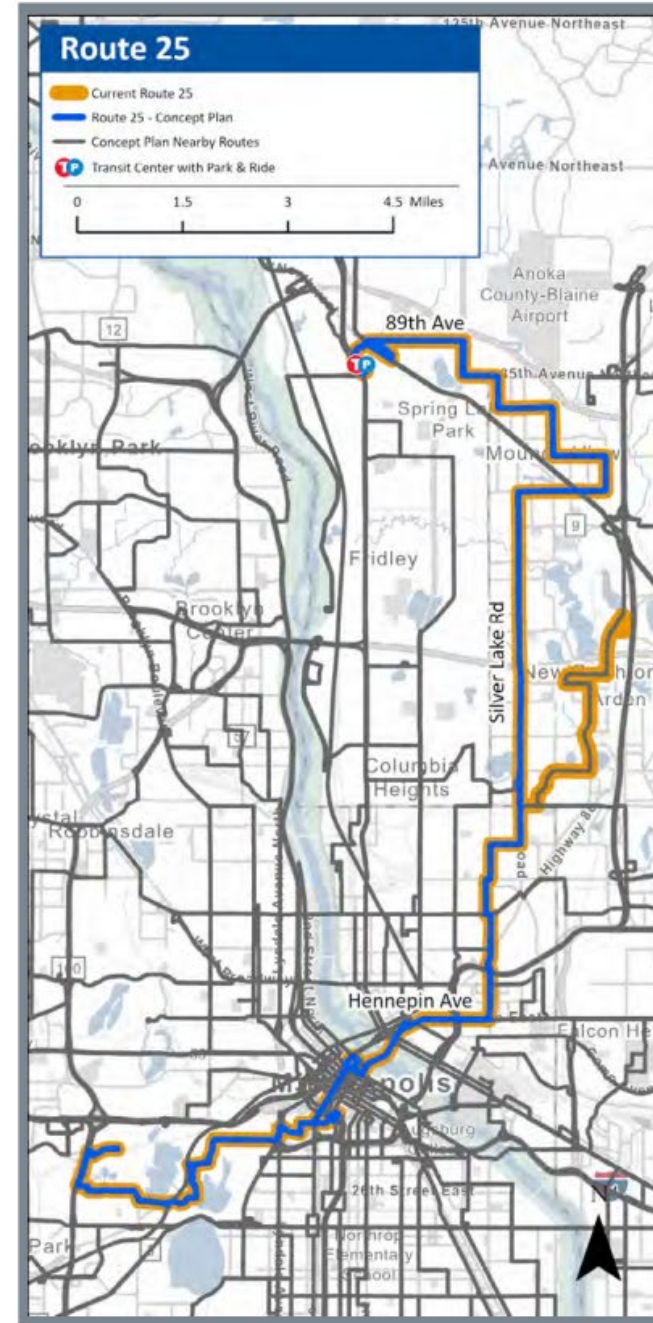
Route Information

Service Changes

- Weekdays: Service will be added in the evenings. All midday trips will be extended to Northtown Transit Station.
- Saturdays: Hourly service will be added in mornings, midday, and evenings.
- Service on the Route 25H branch between Silver Lake Village and County Road H Park and Ride will be discontinued. Alternative service is available on Route 804.

Areas the Route Serves

- Route 25 serves Minneapolis (downtown, Northeast), New Brighton, Mounds View, and Blaine via Stinson Blvd. and Silver Lake Rd.
- Destinations include Northtown Mall, Silver Lake Village, the Quarry Shopping Center, and downtown Minneapolis.
- Riders can connect to other routes at Silver Lake Village and Northtown Transit Center. BRT connections, including C, D, and Orange Lines, can be made in downtown Minneapolis.



Planned Schedule

	Rush Hour	Midday	Evening	Night
Weekday	60	60	60	-
Saturday	60	60	60	-
Sunday	60	60	60	-

Note: frequencies (shown in minutes) are for the main portion of the route and intended as guidelines.

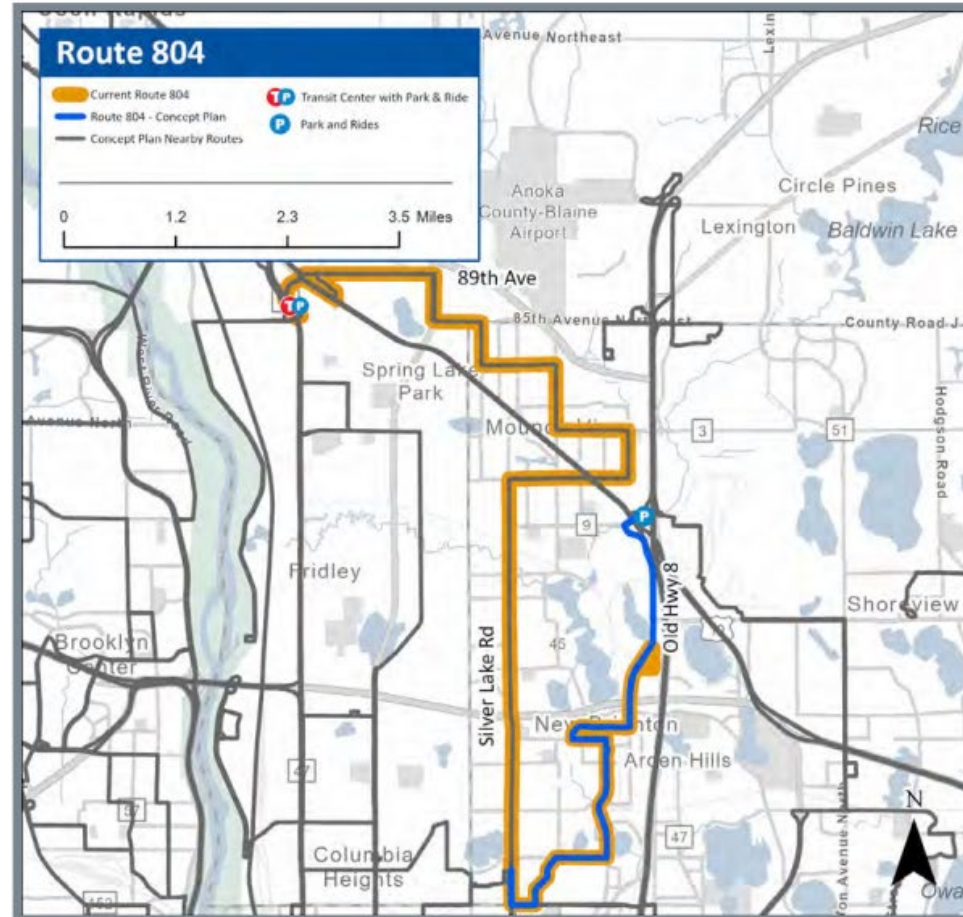
Route Information

Service Changes

- Route 804 will travel only between Silver Lake Village and County Rd. H Park & Ride via New Brighton. Service between Silver Lake Village and Northtown Transit Center will be discontinued, with alternative service available on Route 25.
- Saturdays: Frequency will improve from every 120 minutes to every 60 minutes and will begin earlier in the morning.
- Sundays: Service will be added and will run every 60 minutes.

Areas the Route Serves

- Route 804 will serve St. Anthony and New Brighton via Old Hwy. 8. Destinations include Silver Lake Village and New Brighton City Hall.



Route 817

Network**NOW**



Planned Schedule

	Rush Hour	Midday	Evening	Night
Weekday	60	60	60	-
Saturday	60	60	60	-
Sunday	-	-	-	-

Note: frequencies (shown in minutes) are for the main portion of the route and intended as guidelines.

Route Information

Service Changes

- Route 817 is a new local route that will combine most of existing routes 717 and 801, serving Plymouth, New Hope, Robbinsdale, Brooklyn Center, Fridley, Columbia Heights, St. Anthony, and Roseville via 42nd Ave., 44th Ave., 37th Ave, Cleveland Ave., and Co. Rd. B2.
- Weekdays and Saturdays: Trips will operate every 60 minutes morning through evening.
- Trips will run new service on Boone Ave., 36th Ave. N, and Lancaster Ln.
- Trips will run new service on E River Rd., 53rd Way NE and 51st Way NE every two hours, alternating with trips serving University Ave.
- **Areas the Route Will Serve**
- Destinations will include Winnetka Shopping Center, Shingle Creek Crossing, Silver Lake Village, and Rosedale Center.
- Customers can connect to other routes at Robbinsdale Transit Center, and Columbia Heights Transit Center as well as C and D Lines at Brooklyn Center Transit Center and A Line at Rosedale Transit Center.





City Support for Transit

Creating Transit Supportive Environments

- Walkable Infrastructure
 - All trips begin/end with walking or rolling, generally involve crossing roads
 - Safe, comfortable pedestrian environments reduce barriers for residents/visitors to access transit
 - Increases the amount of area served by transit
- Pedestrian Friendly Design:
 1. Wide, well-maintained sidewalks
 2. Pedestrian-friendly intersections
 3. Slower vehicle speeds



Creating Transit Supportive Environments

- Mixed-use Development
 - Diversity of destinations, increase in non-commute trips
 - Vibrant activity centers, mix of residential, commercial, institution
 - Creates productive routes, supports more frequent service
- Vertical mixed use and horizontal mixed use



Creating Transit Supportive Environments

- Density of housing
 - Gives more residents access to transit
 - Efficient use of resources
 - Virtuous cycle: more density creates more ridership, which allows higher frequencies
 - Variety of housing options
 - Street-facing entrances, welcoming for pedestrians



Provide Feedback

- Residents
 - Reach out to Metro Transit with feedback on existing service
 - Share desire for alternate trip times, routing
- City Staff
 - Keep Metro Transit planners informed on new developments, road construction
 - Continue to pass along feedback from residents, reach out with any questions on transit service
- Service changes require lead time to understand impacts, implement

Questions?

Ben Picone

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