



Network Now Framework: 2026 Amendment

Equity Advisory Committee, September 15, 2026



Agenda

- Metro Transit Forward
- Existing Network Now Framework
- Proposed 2026 Amendment
 - Amendment Process
 - Overview of Proposed Changes
- Public Engagement



Our Mission: We connect people, strengthen communities, and improve lives by delivering high-quality public transportation.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Employees

We value employees and continuously improve how we attract, retain, develop, and support our workforce.

Experience

We provide a consistently safe, clean, and welcoming experience on our system.

Service

We offer service that is convenient, reliable, and environmentally sustainable.

ADVANCING METRO TRANSIT FORWARD IN 2026 WILL MEAN:



Building
ridership



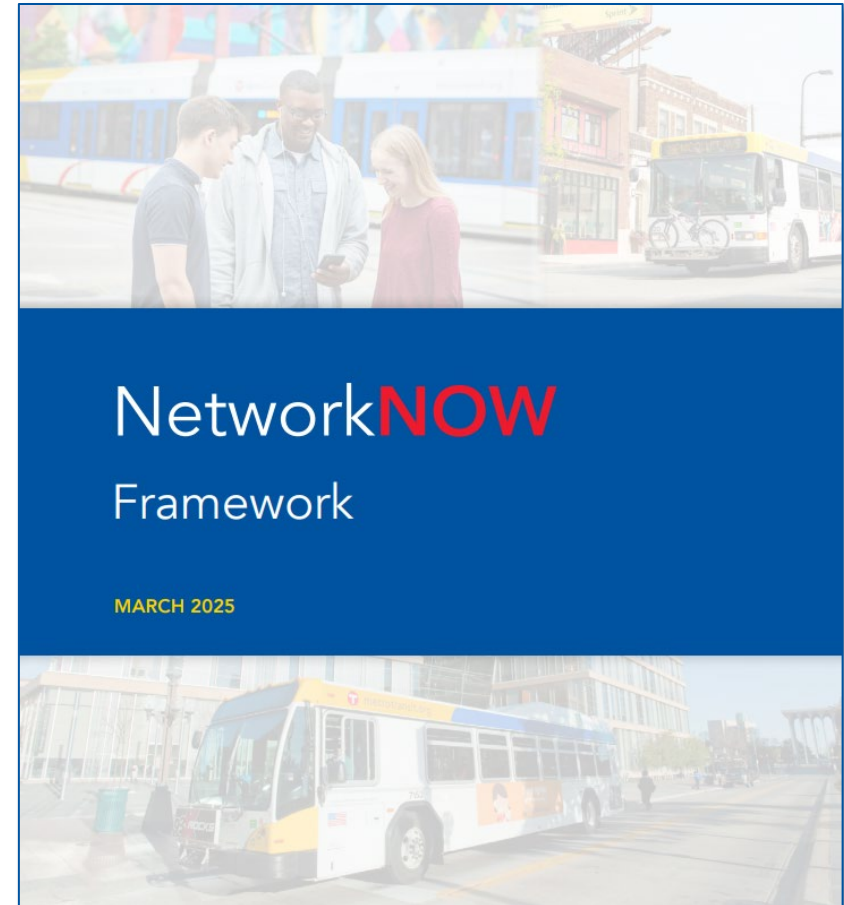
Increasing employee,
rider, and community
satisfaction



Preparing for a flawless
Green Line Extension
launch in 2027

Existing Network Now Framework

- Council policy guidance on Metro Transit's service improvements to grow ridership, enhance mobility, and meet travel needs
- Approximately 50% of the service increase on the framework has been implemented
- Targeting implementation through 2028



Network Now Principles

- Developed from:
 - Existing regional policy
 - Example: Transportation Policy Plan
 - Network performance
 - Examples: ridership, on-time performance
 - Public feedback
 - Themes: Reliable service, focusing on ridership and equity

- Adapt service to changes in transit markets and travel patterns.
- Prepare for new METRO and high-frequency routes.
- Maintain the reliability of scheduled service consistently over time.
- Build on success to grow ridership, adding service where people use transit the most.
- Provide access to opportunities and services with a focus on advancing equity and reducing regional disparities.

[Network Now Principles](#)

Network Now Outcomes

40%

more transit service

27%

increased access to jobs

70+ routes will have frequency or span improvements

26

routes will have 15 minute or better service

LRT service will be back to **10-minute frequency**

8

new micro zones and routes with new coverage will be operating

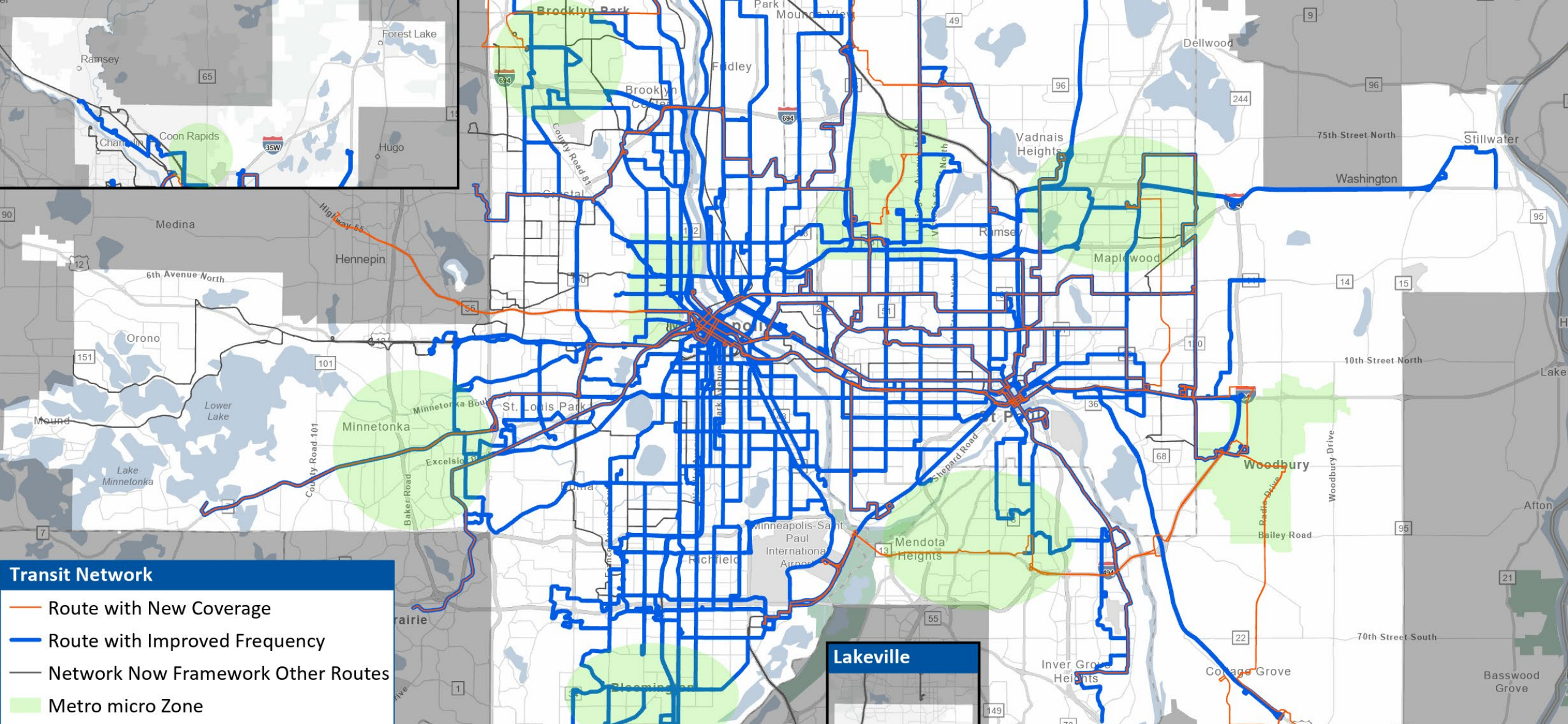
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routes officially discontinued and the resources reinvested into other service

12

suspended routes will be restored, among other improvements

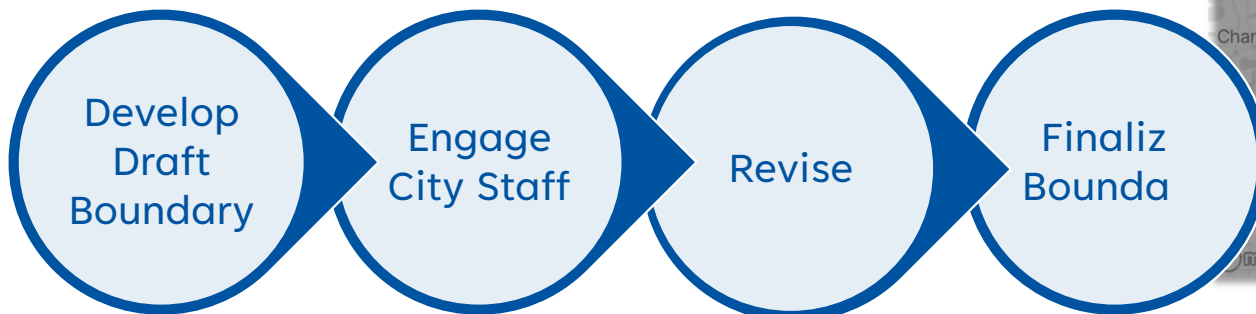
More options for **greener travel** as people reduce their carbon emissions by choosing transit



Regional Benefits

Metro micro

- New zones anchor transit centers, and provide access in areas difficult to serve with traditional fixed route
- North Minneapolis, Minnetonka area zones will connect with Green Line
- Parallel process for developing and revising boundaries

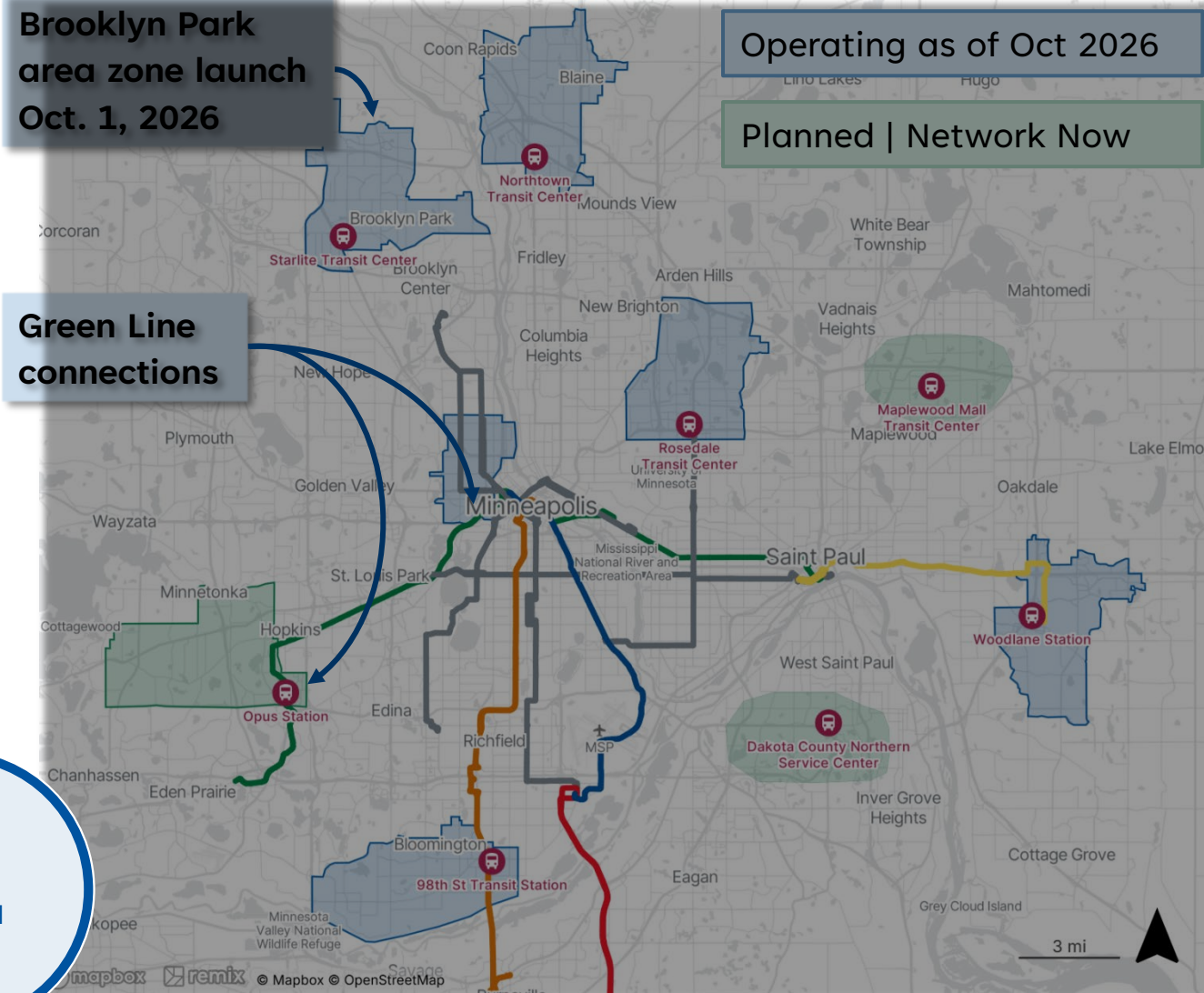


**Brooklyn Park
area zone launch
Oct. 1, 2026**

Operating as of Oct 2026

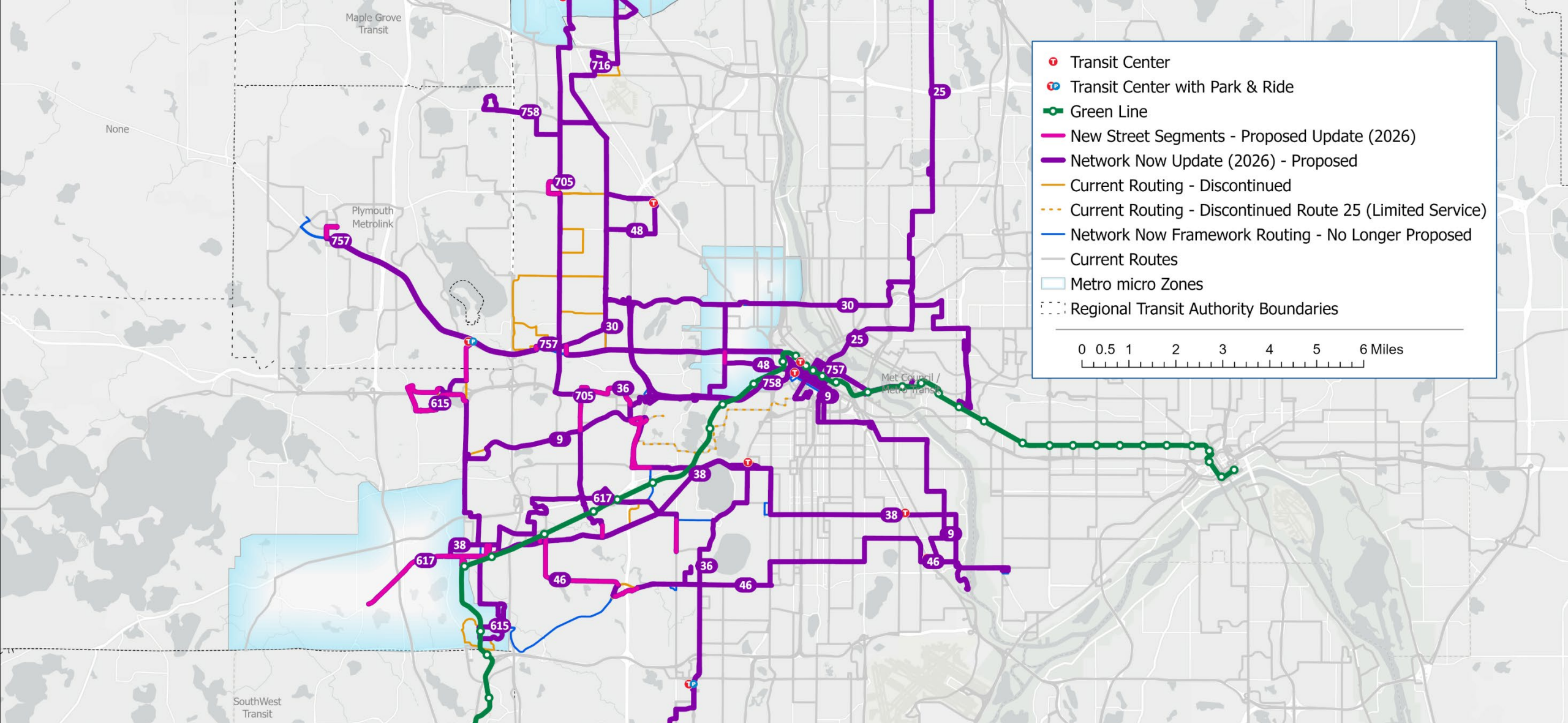
Planned | Network Now

**Green Line
connections**



2026 Network Now Amendment

- Why amend the framework?
 - Further development of corridor plans
 - Green Line Extension Connecting Bus Service
 - Highway 55 Corridor Service and Connecting Routes
 - Advance Network Now principles and apply lessons learned
 - Review implementation timeline consistent with resources
 - Targeting completing in 2028
- Process:
 - ✓ **June:** Develop draft changes
 - ✓ **July:** Meet with partner cities and counties to review draft changes
 - ✓ **August 24:** Transportation Committee information item
 - August 25–October 4:** Engage riders & community
 - Late 2026:** Request Metropolitan Council endorsement

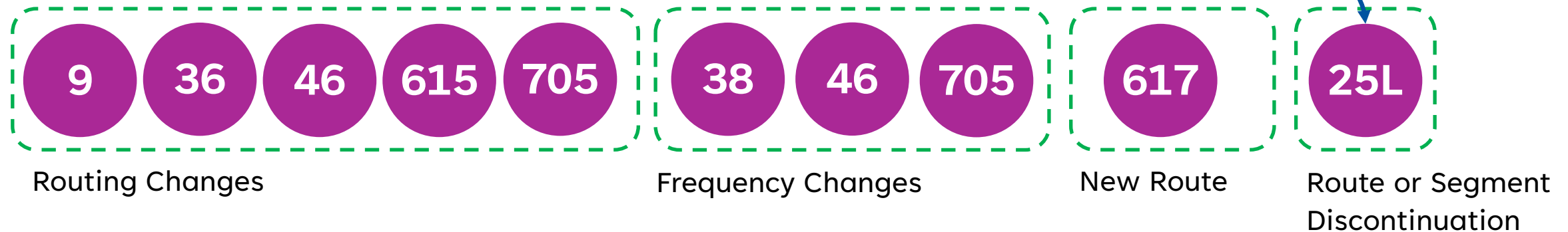


Overview Map of Proposed Changes

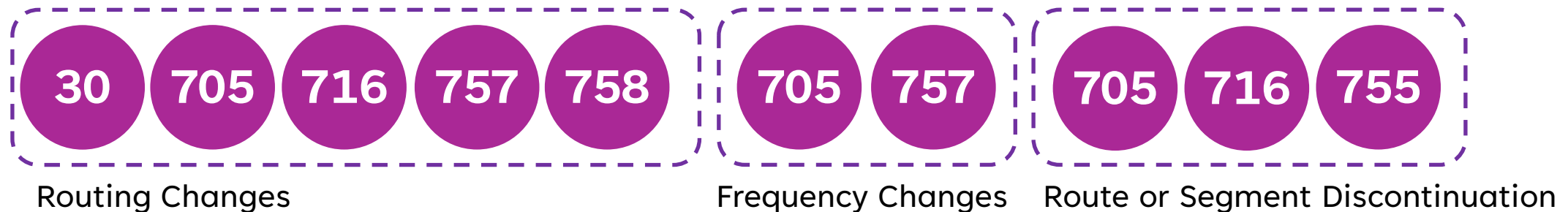
2026 Network Now Amendment

Proposed Route Modifications

Green Line Extension



Highway 55

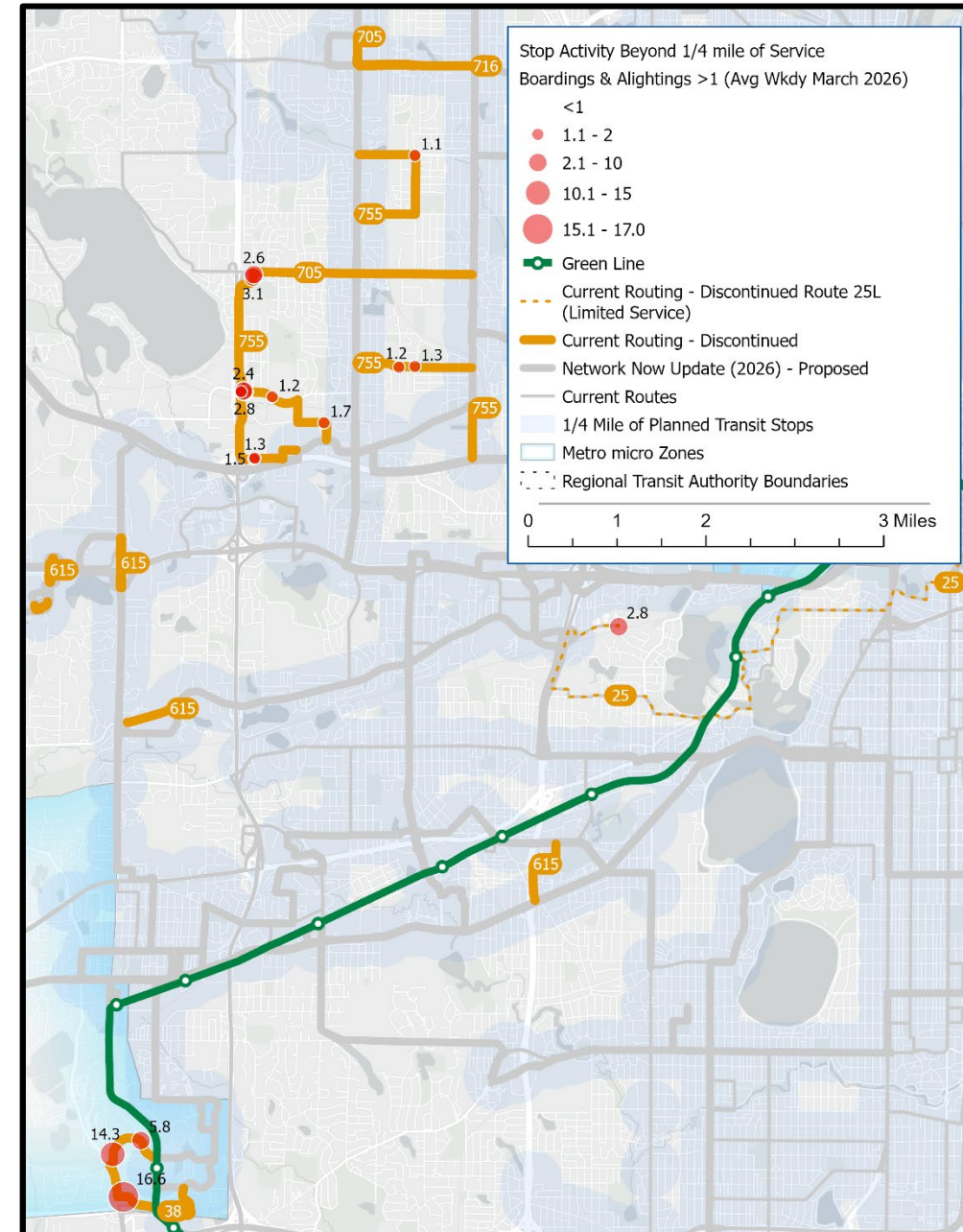


Proposed Changes by Route

Route	Changes
9	- Single branch providing 30-minute service 7 days/week to Greenbriar Apartments
25	- Discontinue 25L branch (one trip per day per direction). All day coverage by GLE and Route 36.
30	- Extend all trips to Golden Valley Rd/Winnetka Ave, connect to routes 705 and 757
36	- Extend route to West End and Louisiana Transit Center
38	- 20-minute service 7 days/week - All trips serve downtown Hopkins and Shady Oak GLE Station and Ford Pkwy in St. Paul
46	- Extend all trips to Blake Road Station in Hopkins and Veteran's Home in Minneapolis
615	- Simplify to North/South routing. East/West routing taken by Route 617. - Extend to Station 73 Park and Ride (Route 757 connection) and to Opus (GLE connection)
617	- New route covering East/West portion of Route 617. - Extend to E Line connection at 44 th /France in Minneapolis and to Glen Lake area in Minnetonka
705	- 30-minute service 7 days/week, add weekend service, streamline route for speed and reliability - Connect to GLE, Methodist Hospital, and Park Commons
716	- Move weekend service from Winnetka Ave to Douglas Drive to match weekday. All trips serve Brooklyn Blvd. Weekend service on Winnetka provided by Route 705
755	- Discontinue. All day coverage on routes 705 and 757. Reverse commute on Route 758.
757	- Extend span to 10 p.m. and add weekend service - Connect directly to Golden Valley Rd/Winnetka Ave and Extend hourly trips to UofM East Bank
758	- Extend to Bass Creek Business Park and provide 3 reverse commute trips

2026 Network Now Amendment Discontinued Segments

- Some street segments are proposed to no longer have transit service
- With amendment, 23 average daily riders would be more than a 5-minute walk from alternative transit service
- Targeted engagement to reach affected riders



2026 Network Now Amendment

Key Outcomes

Adapt to change & Build on success

- More travel options for customers with **increased frequency**
- Additional **evening and weekend service**

Prepare for new METRO lines

- **New routes and increased service** connecting to Green Line west of downtown Minneapolis
- **70% more** connecting trips **on weekends** over previous plans

Maintain service reliability

- **Legible, easy to understand routes** with fewer branches and complex patterns
- Streamlined routes make it **easier to deliver reliable service**

Increase access to opportunities

- **14,000** additional people with **access to all-day service** with 30-minute frequency or better

Public Engagement & Next Steps

- Through October 4: Website live, feedback period open
 - Four community meetings (one virtual)
 - Outreach + communications with riders and community
 - Tabling and presentations at community events
 - Transit onboard outreach
 - TAAC, GLE CMC, EAC
 - More than 100 survey responses
- November: Advance business item for Council endorsement
 - 11/9 Transportation Committee, 11/18 Council



metrotransit.org/network-now