

2026-205: METRO H Line Final Corridor Plan

Transportation Committee | November 23, 2026

Jordan Kocak | Senior Planner, Arterial BRT

METRO

Proposed action 2026-205

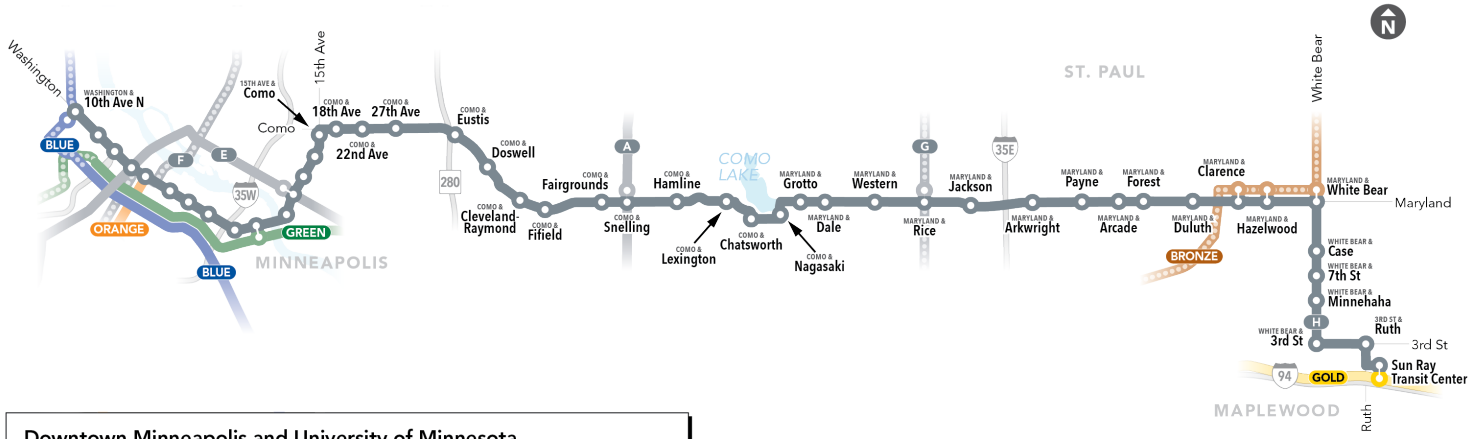
- That the Council approve the METRO H Line Final Corridor Plan to establish the number and location of stations included in the project;
- Direct staff to complete a supplemental analysis of the H Line alignment between Lexington Avenue and E Como Boulevard considering two options:
  - 1) the adopted alignment via Van Slyke, Chatsworth, and Como, and
  - 2) an alternative alignment via Nagasaki Road;
- Report findings and recommendations to the Metropolitan Council through an H Line Corridor Plan Addendum for future approval

METRO H Line bus rapid transit

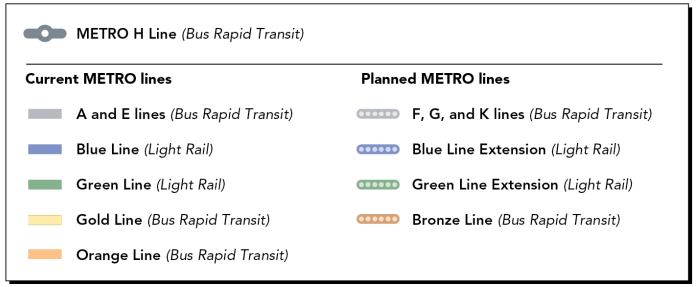
- 8th arterial BRT line in the METRO network
- Upgrade and replacement of Route 3
- 47 recommended BRT stations
  - 3 shared with Bronze Line on Maryland Avenue
- New crosstown service filling a gap along Maryland Ave

METRO H Line

November 2026

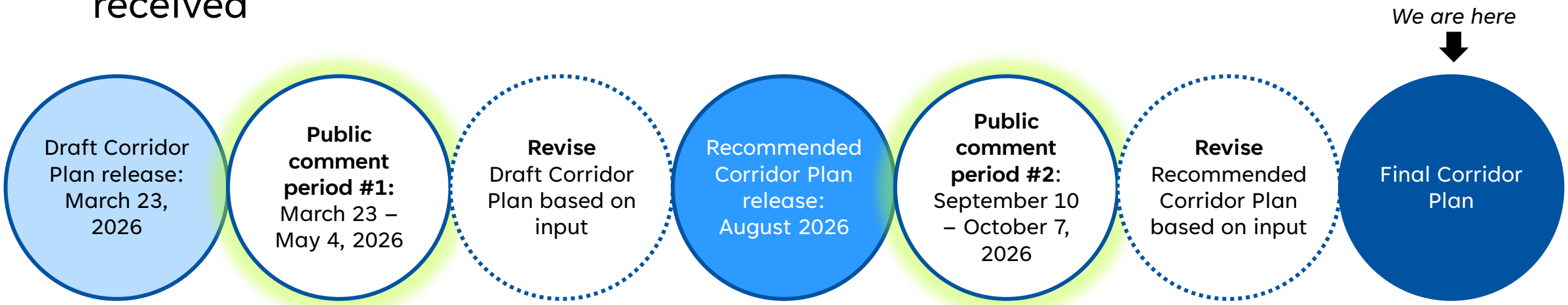






H Line Corridor Plan engagement process

- The H Line Final Corridor Plan is the conclusion of an eight-month long community outreach and engagement process that began in March
- Includes multiple rounds of revision and analysis in response to feedback received



Recommended Corridor Plan engagement activities

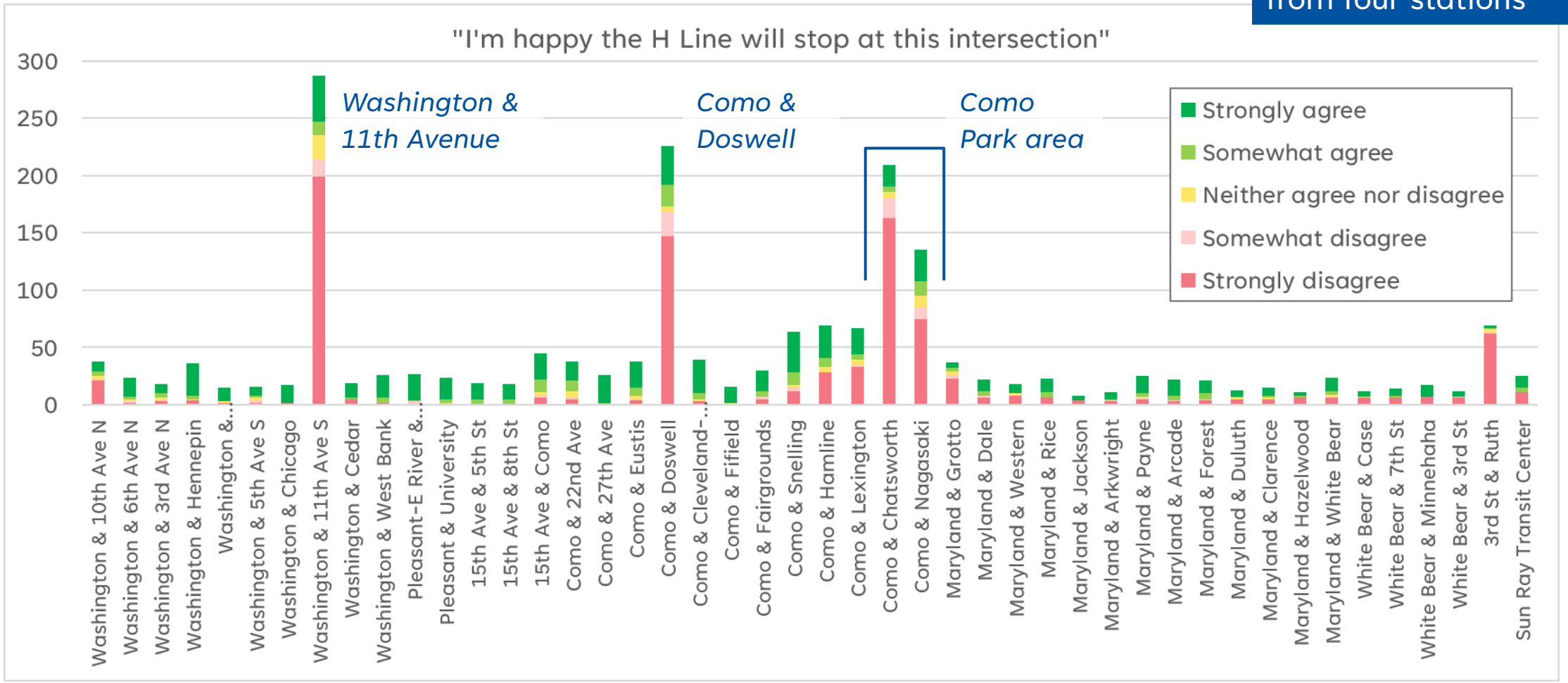
During the second engagement period from September 10 to October 7, 2026, H Line staff conducted engagement activities across the corridor

- **1,183** Survey responses to online and in-person survey
- **156** emails, phone calls, and texts
- **800** people engaged at **38** events, meetings, presentations
- **350** doors knocked of station neighbors
- **26** hours of meeting riders onboard buses
- Postcard mailer to residents and businesses near stations
- Pop-up engagement activities along corridor
- Neighborhood organizations and district council meetings
- Site visits with station neighbors



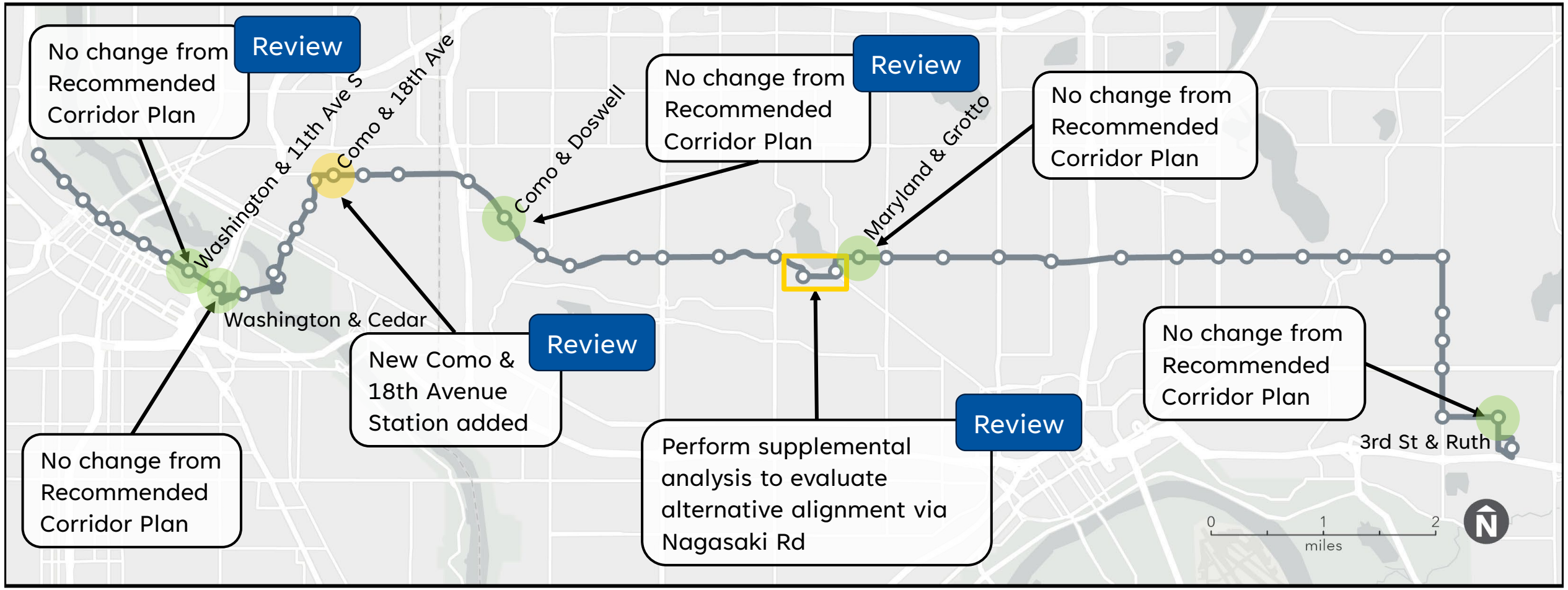
Recommended Corridor Plan feedback

43% responses come from four stations



METRO

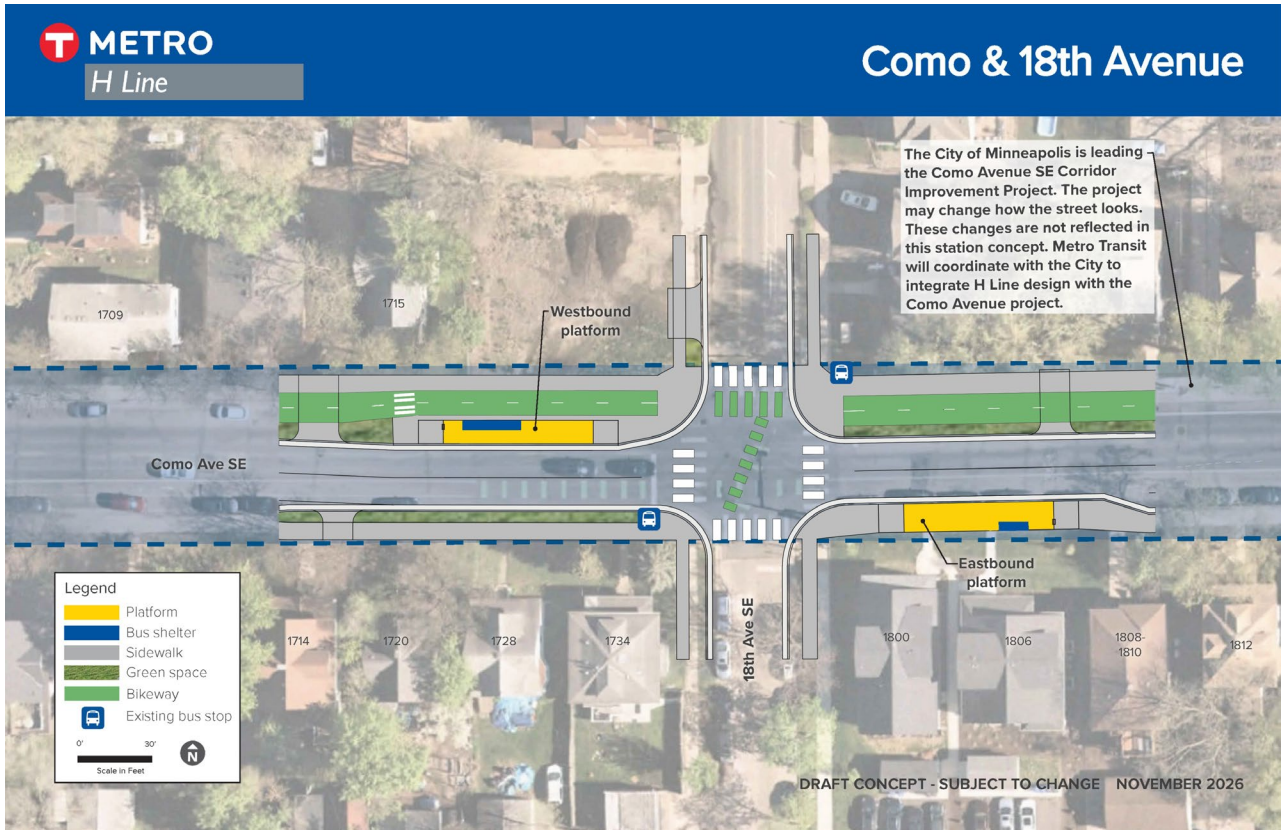
Areas of additional analysis based on Recommended Corridor Plan feedback



METRO

Como & 18th Avenue

- Feedback received
  - Letter from City of Minneapolis
  - Letter from East Bank Neighborhoods Partnership
  - Significant topic at H Line community events, presentations, and pop-up engagement activities
- Considerations
  - High ridership location
  - Student travel patterns
- Recommend adding Como & 18th Avenue Station

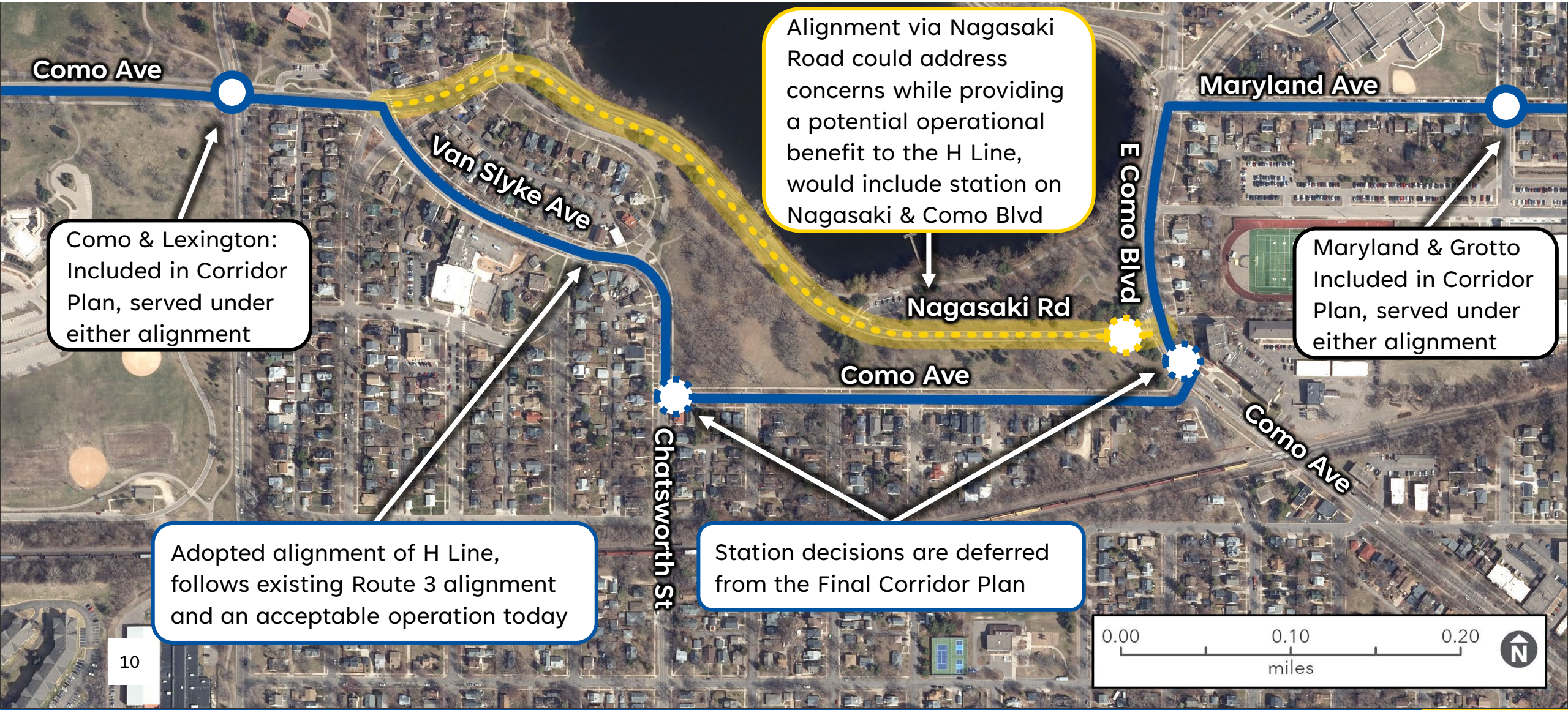


Como Park area

- Feedback received
  - Strong opposition to Como & Chatsworth Station
  - Opposition to adopted alignment via Van Slyke, Chatsworth, and Como
  - Suggestions to shift alignment to Nagasaki Road instead of Van Slyke, Chatsworth, Como
- Considerations
  - Potential operational benefits of using Nagasaki Road alignment
  - Support from the City of Saint Paul to consider alignment change to use Nagasaki Road
- Perform supplemental analysis and comparison of H Line alignment in the Como Park area



Supplemental analysis of Como Park area alignment



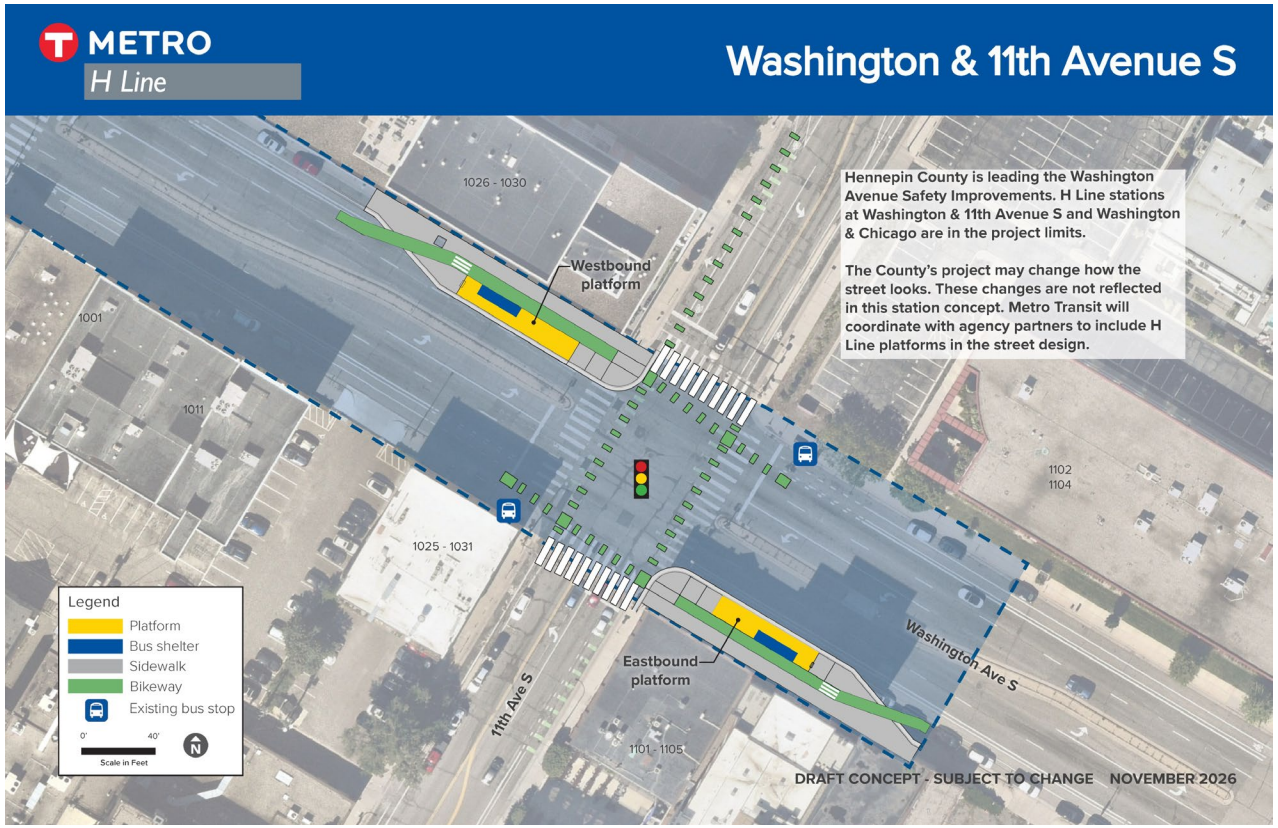
Como Park area alignment recommended next steps

- Perform **supplemental analysis** and comparison of H Line alignment in the Como Park area
  - Focus supplemental analysis specifically between two options: **Nagasaki Road** and the adopted H Line alignment via **Van Slyke Avenue, Chatsworth Street, and Como Avenue**
  - Supplemental analysis would include **close coordination with City of Saint Paul**
  - **Defer** final decision on planned stations impacted by this analysis: Como & Chatsworth and Como & Nagasaki
- Staff to advance an **H Line Final Corridor Plan Addendum** with recommended alignment and station locations in early 2027

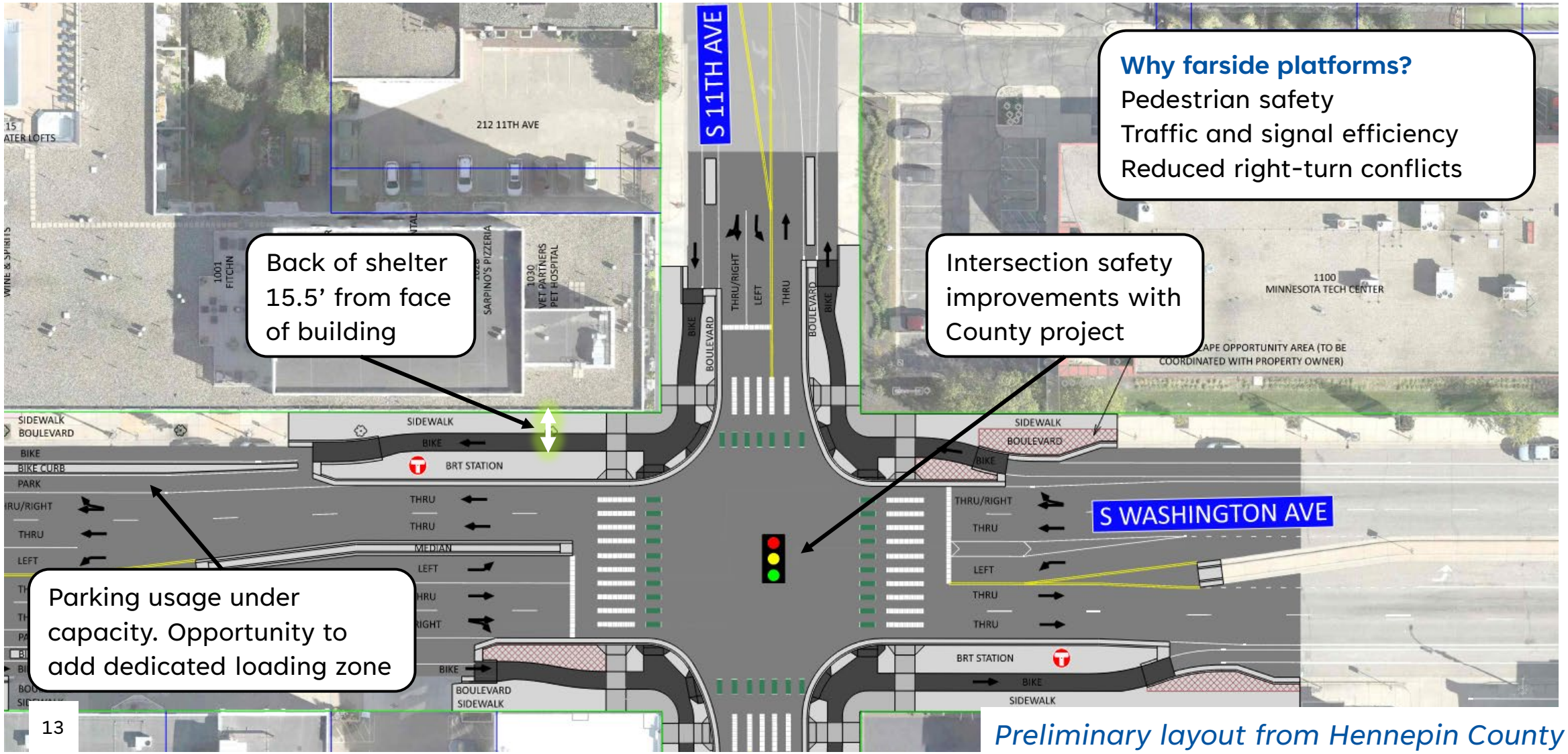
METRO

Washington & 11th Avenue S

- Feedback received
  - Business visibility and access
  - On-street parking removal
  - Loading and drop-off
  - Roadway safety concerns
  - Concerns about non-transit uses at station
- Considerations
  - Farside bus stops are important for BRT speed and reliability, pedestrian and traffic safety
  - Metro Transit project staff will work with Hennepin County and station neighbors to mitigate concerns during station design
- No change from Recommended Corridor Plan



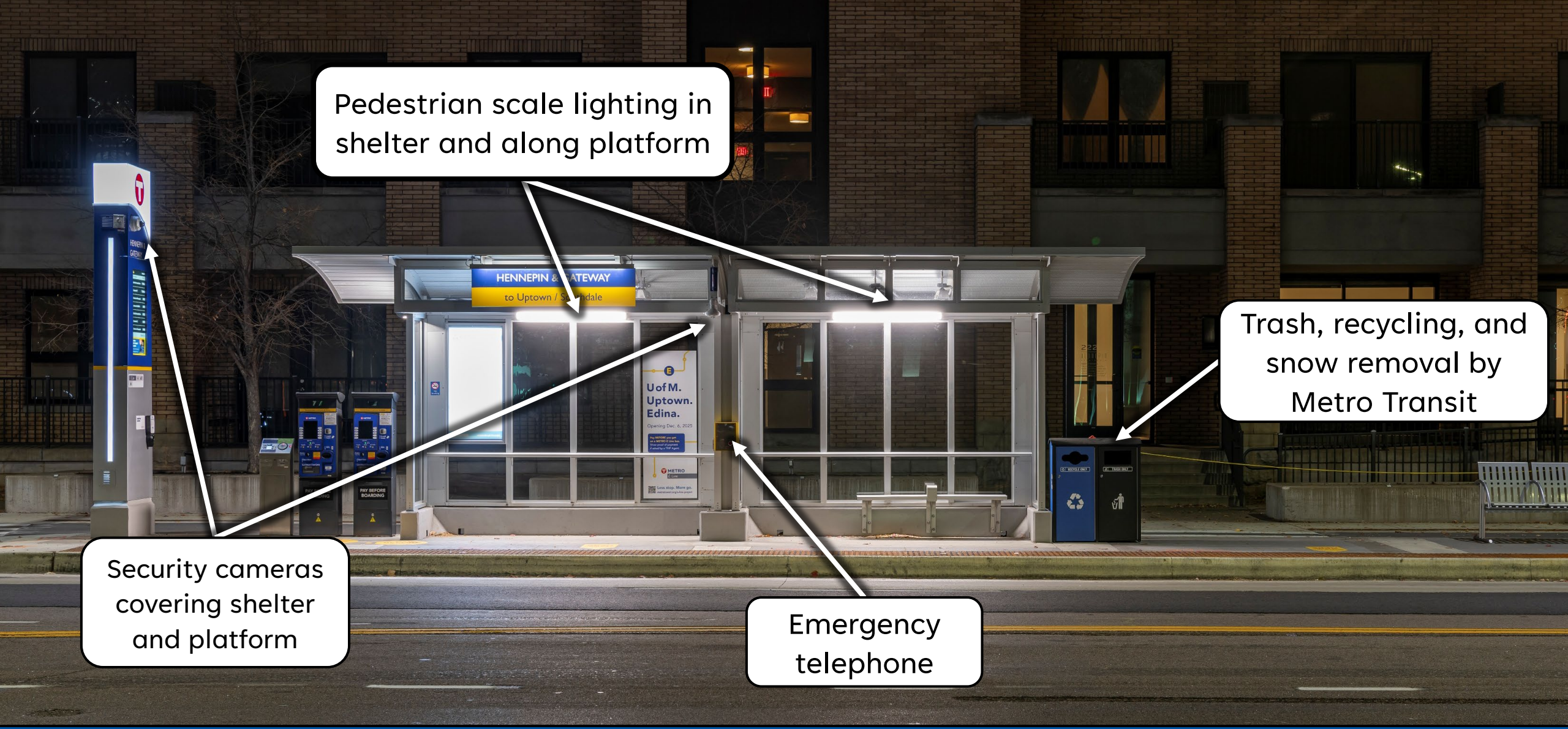
Hennepin County's Washington Ave Safety Improvements Concept at 11th Avenue S



Preliminary layout from Hennepin County



Existing Station: E Line France & 50th Street Station



Existing Station: E Line Hennepin & Gateway

Como & Doswell

- Feedback received
  - Pedestrian safety
  - Business visibility, access, and patio
  - On-street parking and loading
  - Tree impacts
- Considerations
  - Location balances access to destinations to the north and south
  - Safe crossing at signalized intersection with reduced crossing distances
  - Will not remove outdoor patio seating
  - Alternatives have similar impacts to parking
- No change from Recommended Corridor Plan

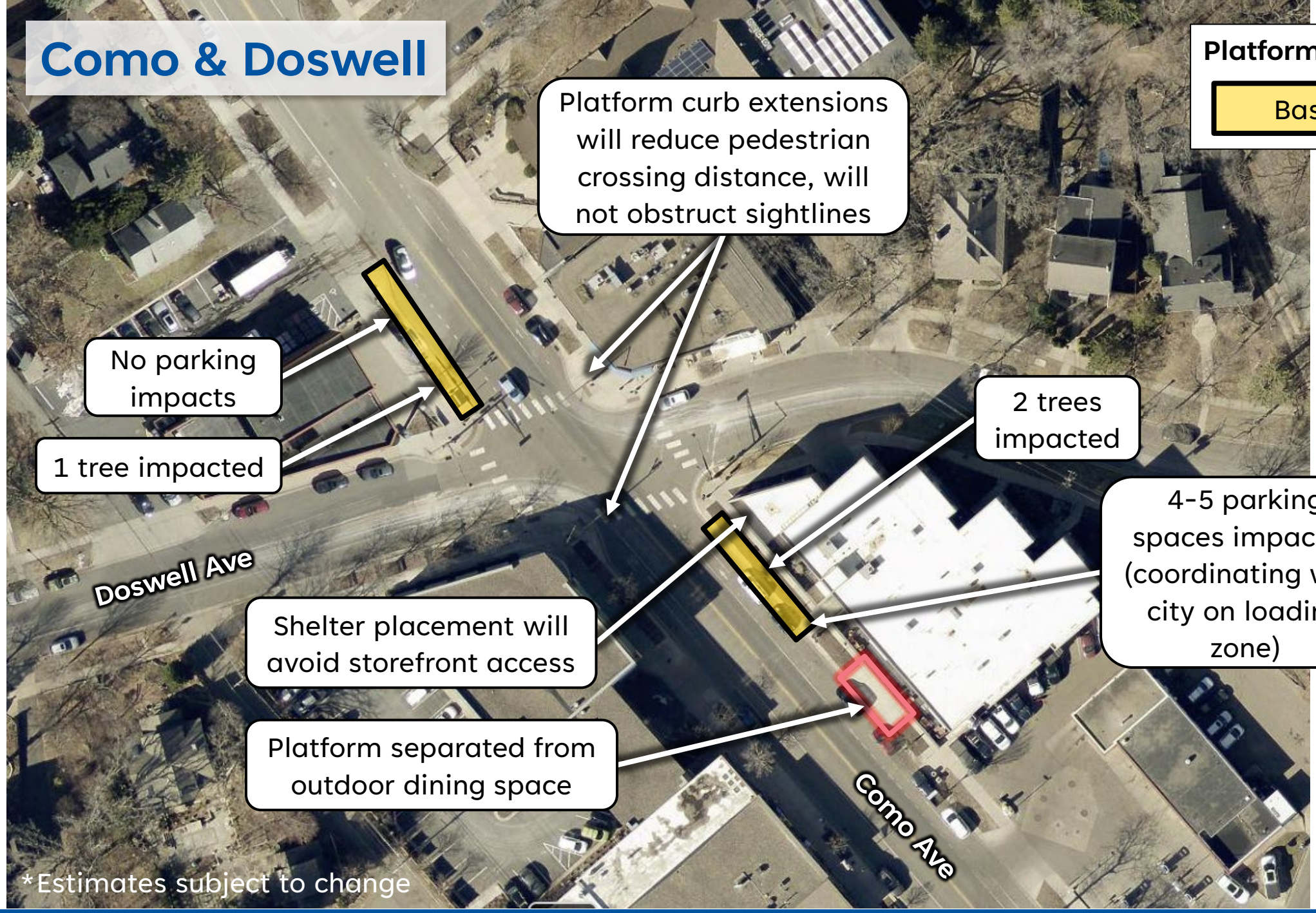


Como & Doswell: Rationale

- Provides convenient transit access to the commercial node
- Balances transit access to important destinations to the north and south of the proposed station location
- Balances spacing between adjacent H Line stations



Como & Doswell

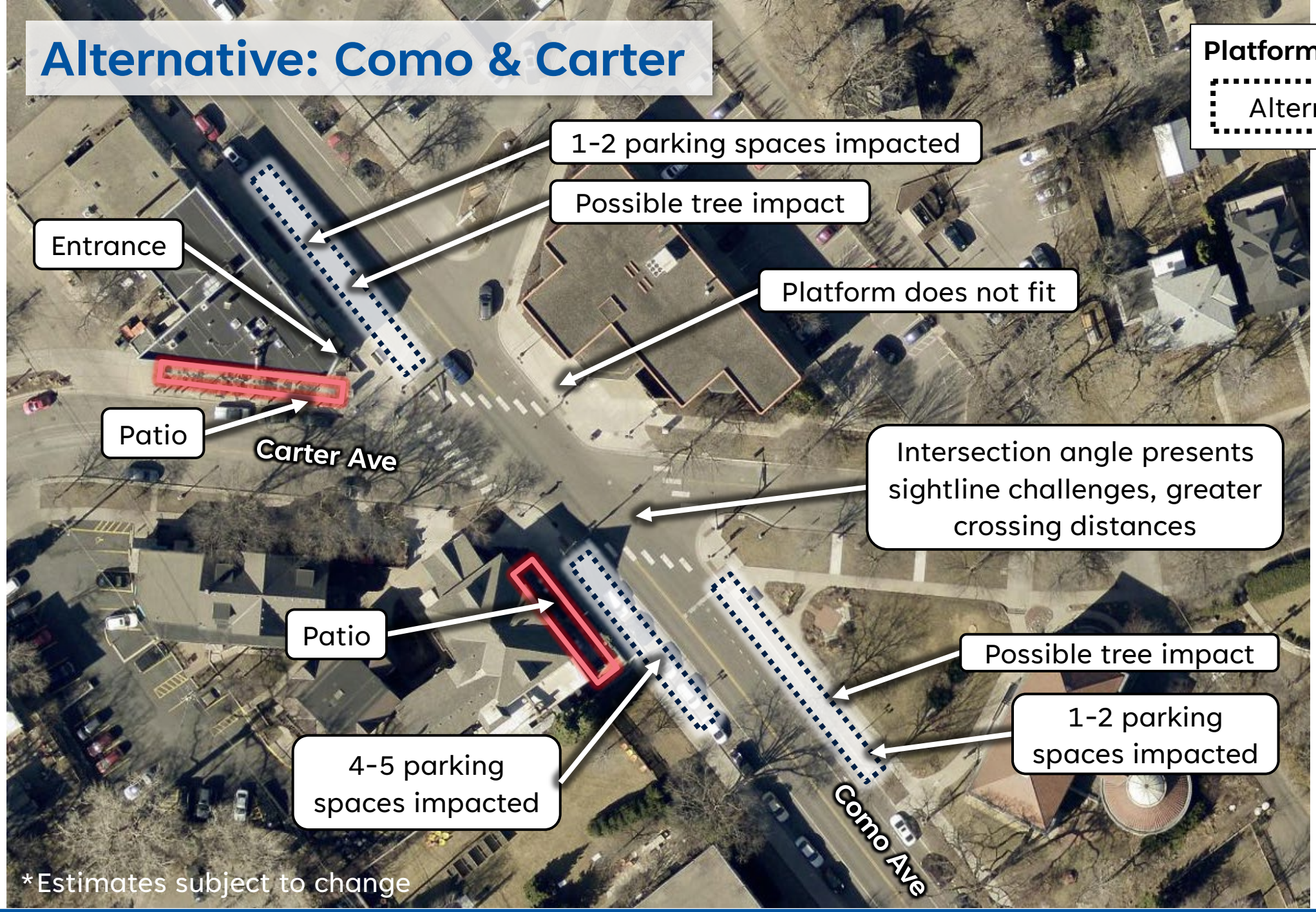


Platform locations

Baseline

*Estimates subject to change

Alternative: Como & Carter



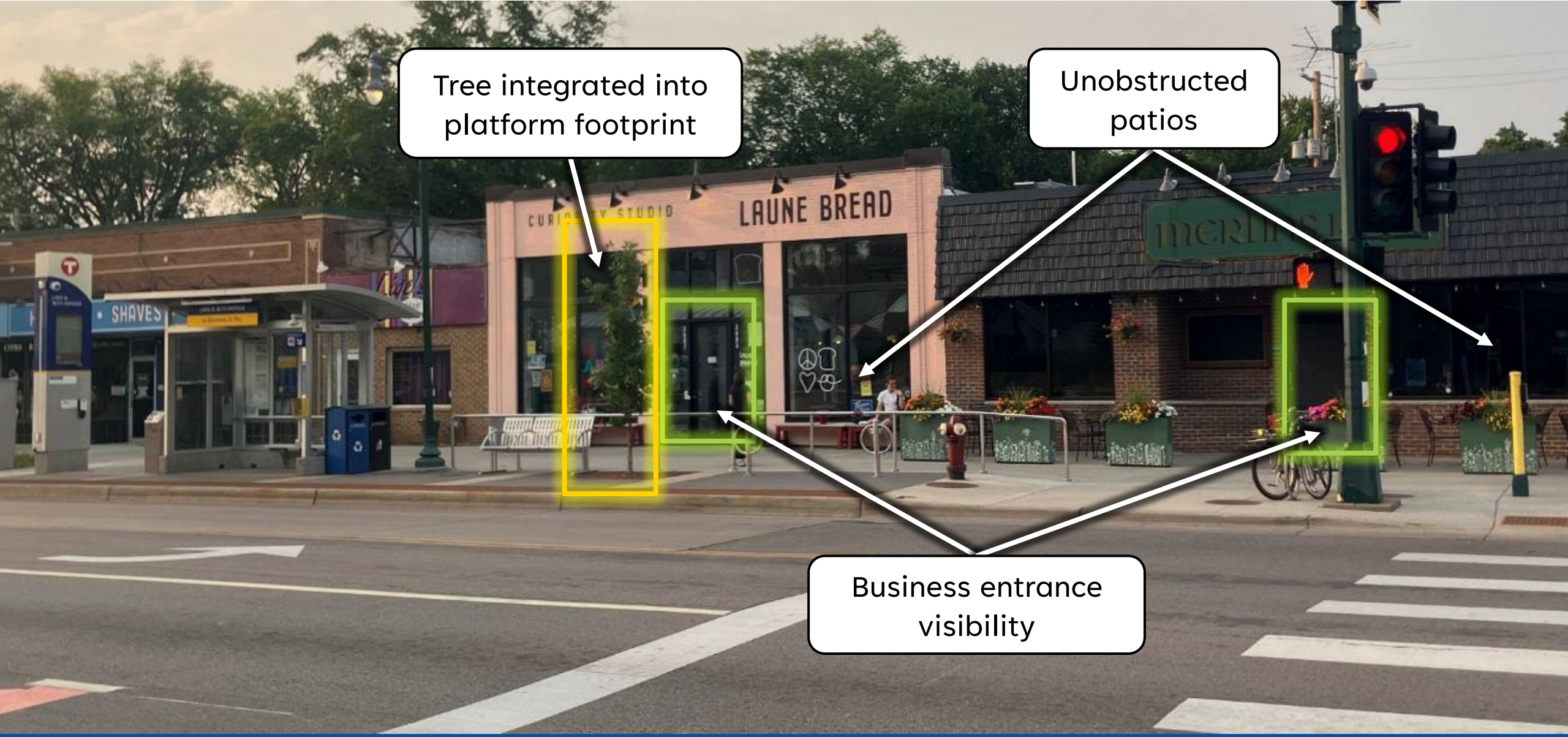
*Estimates subject to change



Como & Doswell Westbound – Existing Condition

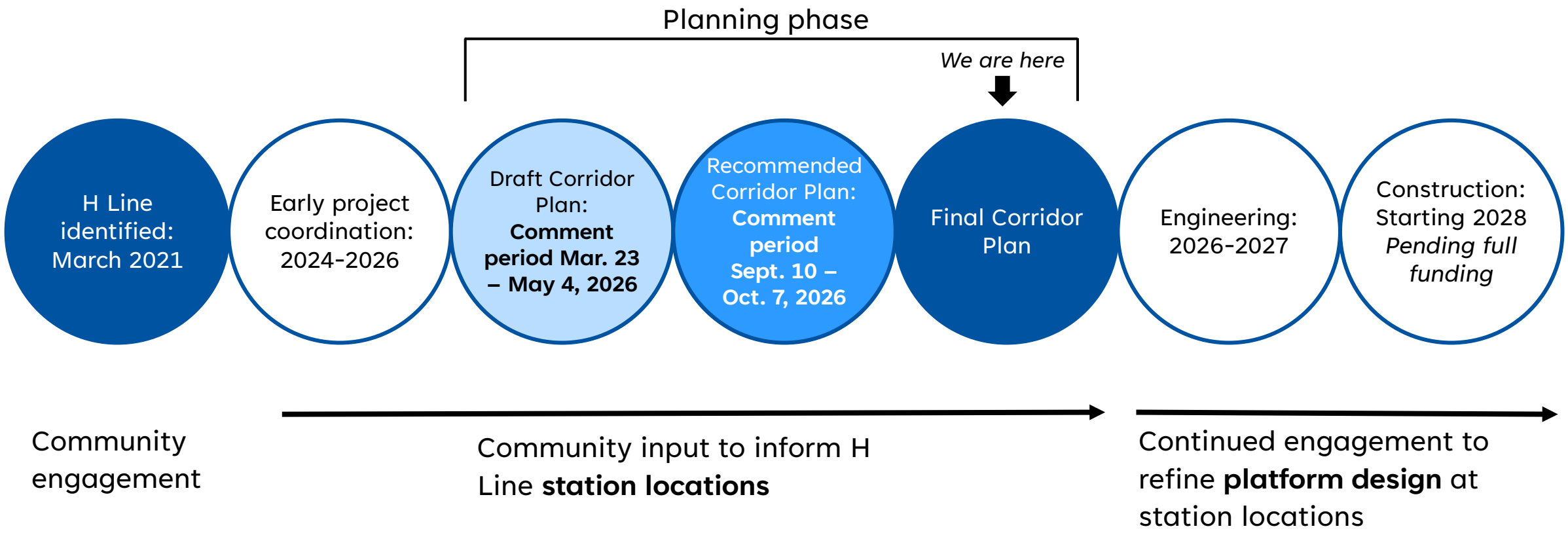


Como & Doswell Westbound – Draft Rendering



Existing Station: B Line Lake & 36th Avenue

H Line project schedule and next steps



Subject to change

METRO

Proposed action 2026-205

- That the Council approve the METRO H Line Final Corridor Plan to establish the number and location of stations included in the project;
- Direct staff to complete a supplemental analysis of the H Line alignment between Lexington Avenue and E Como Boulevard considering two options:
  - 1) the adopted alignment via Van Slyke, Chatsworth, and Como, and
  - 2) an alternative alignment via Nagasaki Road;
- Report findings and recommendations to the Metropolitan Council through an H Line Corridor Plan Addendum for future approval