



Legislative Commission on Metropolitan Governance

Presenters:

Charlie Zelle, Metropolitan Council Chair

Nick Thompson, Metro Transit Deputy
General Manager - Capital Programs

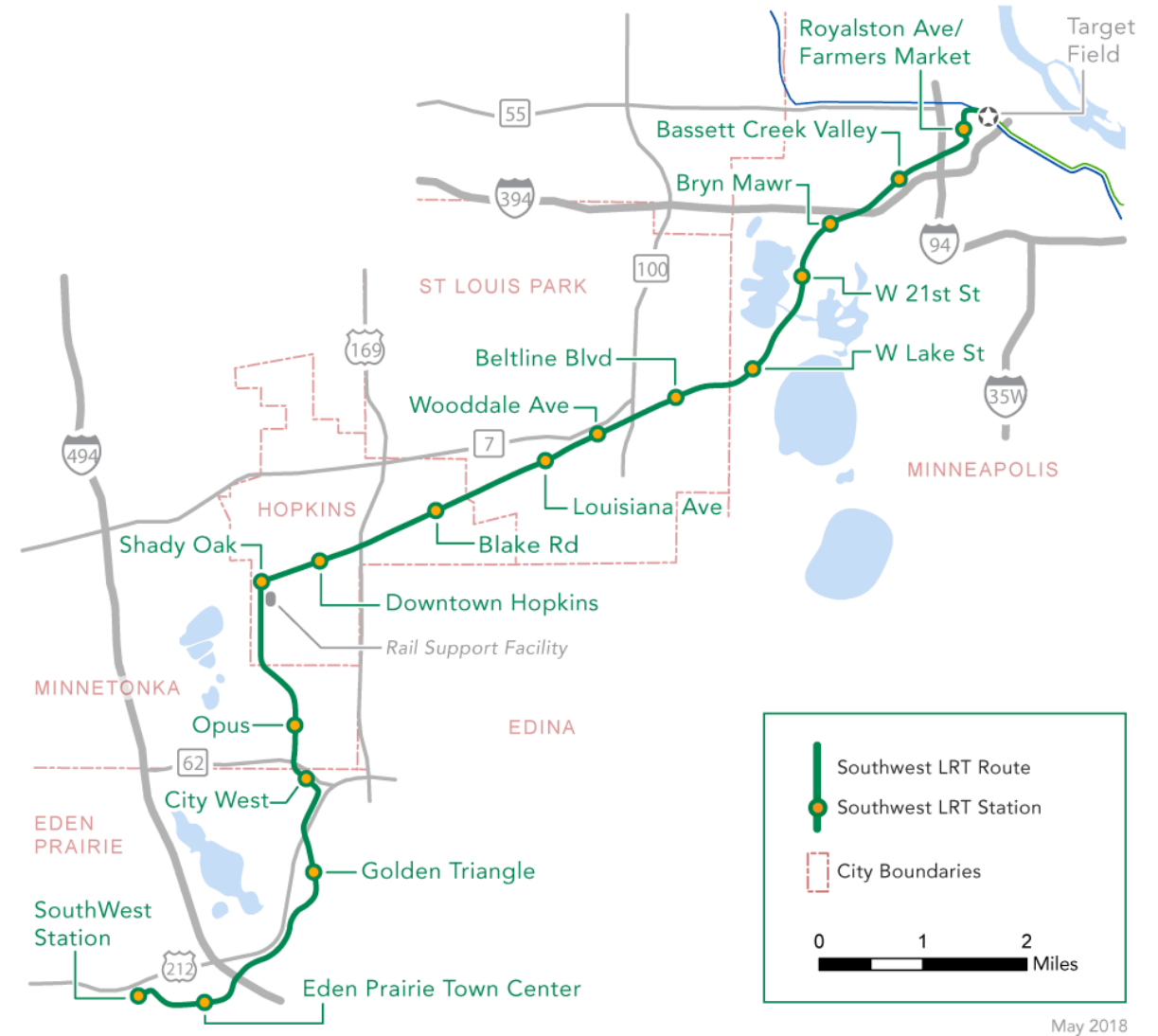
January 26, 2022



EDEN PRAIRIE | MINNETONKA | EDINA | HOPKINS | ST. LOUIS PARK | MINNEAPOLIS

Project scope

- 14.5 miles of LRT, 16 new stations
- 44 significant structures:
 - 29 new bridges: LRT, pedestrian, roadway, freight
 - 7 existing bridges with modifications
 - 6 pedestrian tunnels
 - 2 cut and cover tunnels:
 - Highway 62: 582 feet
 - Kenilworth: 2,236 feet
- 15 at-grade LRT crossings; including 5 shared crossings with freight rail
- 131 retaining walls
- 7.8 mi shared LRT and freight rail corridor
- Major regional trail reconstruction



Project benefits

- Fast, frequent, one-seat ride serving the communities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, St. Louis Park, Minneapolis and St. Paul
- Building stronger communities:
 - \$2 billion in permitted economic development along the line, with more on the way

Elevate at SouthWest Station



Minnetonka Station at Opus Station



The Moline at Downtown Hopkins Station

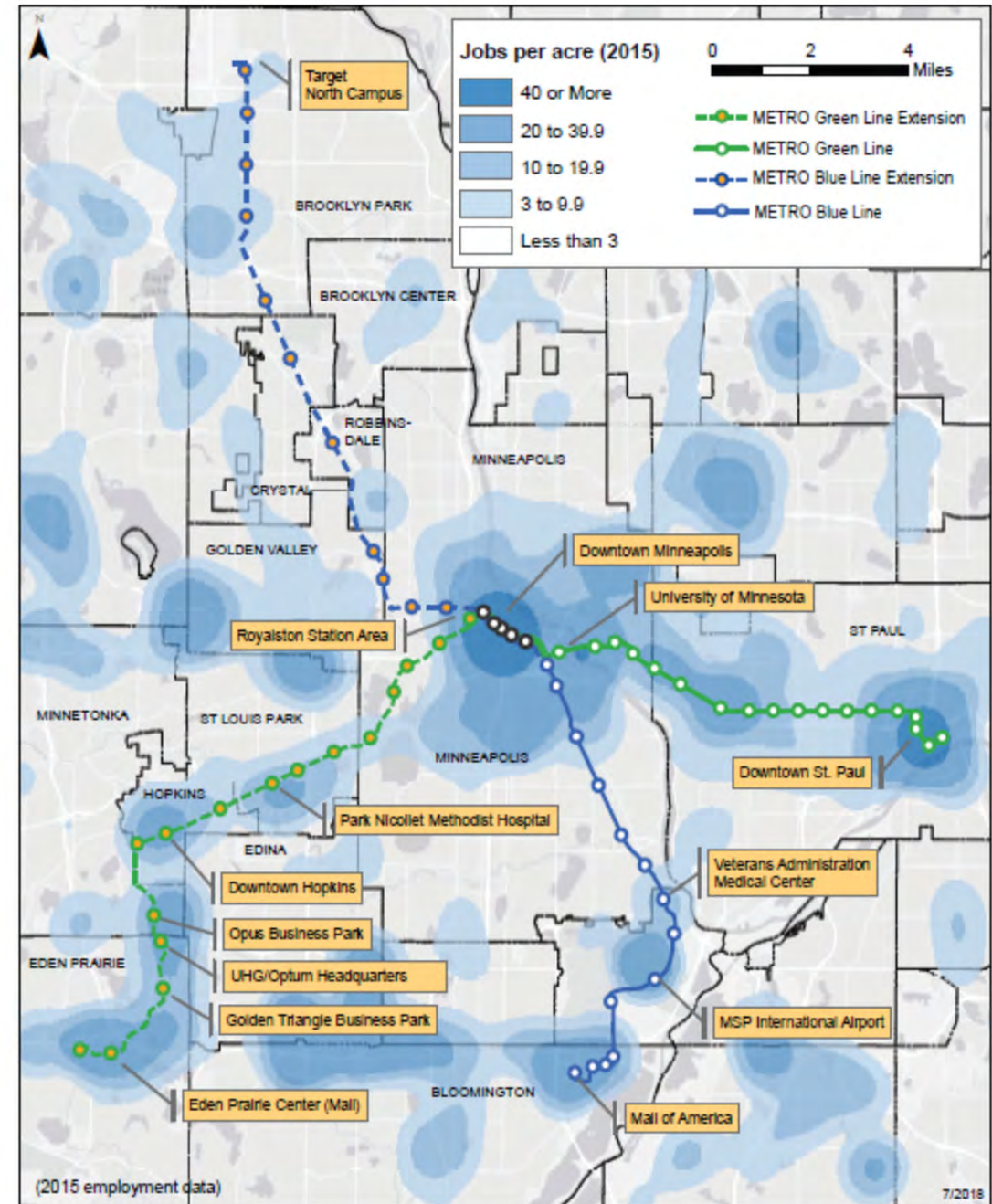


Root District at Royalston/Farmers Market Station



Project benefits

- Connecting the region and providing access to jobs, educations and regional activities
 - Nearly 56,000 people live within a half mile – or approximately a 10-minute walk – of the project corridor
 - People traveling to and within the corridor will access nearly 81,000 jobs, in addition to the 145,000 jobs in downtown Minneapolis
 - Nearly 36,000 residents who live downtown will have easier access to job opportunities in the southwest metro and other communities connected by our region's transit system



Local project partners

- Hennepin County/Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority
- Cities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, St. Louis Park, Minneapolis
- Three Rivers Park District, Minneapolis Park Board
- Riley Purgatory, Nine Mile, Minnehaha, and Bassett Creek Watershed Districts
- MnDOT
- SouthWest Transit

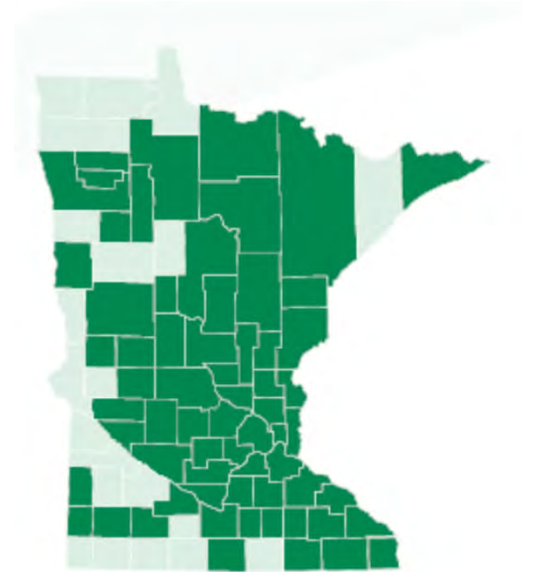


Statewide economic benefits

- Putting people to work:
 - More than 1.8 million hours worked
 - Paychecks for Minnesotans worth more than \$53.1 million and growing
 - Employing folks from 75% of counties statewide
 - \$134 million billed by Disadvantage and Business Enterprise companies (20.9%) for civil construction activities, exceeding the goal of 16%
 - Project will support 7,500 construction and construction related jobs and \$350 million in payroll to be reinvested in communities throughout the Twin Cities and the state

65 of 87

**Minnesota counties have
someone bringing home a
Green Line Extension
paycheck**



Crews pour the Kenilworth tunnel leveling slab

Building tomorrow's workforce today

- The Council, through the Building Strong Communities program, has partnered with local unions and training programs to provide the training for those seeking placement as carpenters, cement masons, iron workers, plumbers, operators, laborers and sheet metal workers
- This program offers individuals the opportunity to receive union-endorsed training, exposure, and a “foot in the door” to an apprenticeship and the start of a career in the trades



Construction highlights: 2021

- Civil construction: 60% complete
- Under construction:
 - 25 bridges completed or underway out of 29
 - 8 tunnels underway out of 8
 - 114 retaining walls completed or under construction out of 131
- 95% of 946 private utilities completed
- 75% of nearly 1,300 public utilities completed
- Completed all 15 building demolitions
- Systems contractor mobilized and in design and procurement
- Franklin Operation & Maintenance facility modifications are nearly complete
- 26 of 27 Light Rail Vehicles delivered



SouthWest Station Eden Prairie



Excelsior Boulevard LRT Bridge in Hopkins

Stations underway

- 11 LRT stations underway of 16
 - When complete will allow a stress-free commute from Eden Prairie to downtown Minneapolis
 - Consistent commute time, unimpacted by traffic
 - Improved connections to regional destinations such as Minneapolis Grand Rounds, Methodist Hospital, Downtown Hopkins, UnitedHealth Group's Optum corporate campus, Eden Prairie Mall



Golden Triangle Station in Eden Prairie & Opus Station in Minnetonka



Beltline Boulevard Station in St. Louis Park & West 21st Station in Minneapolis



Construction Highlights: Eden Prairie

- Prairie Center Drive LRT Bridge & Nine Mile Creek LRT Bridge



Construction Highlights: Minnetonka

- Highway 62 LRT Tunnel & Minnetonka – Hopkins LRT Bridge



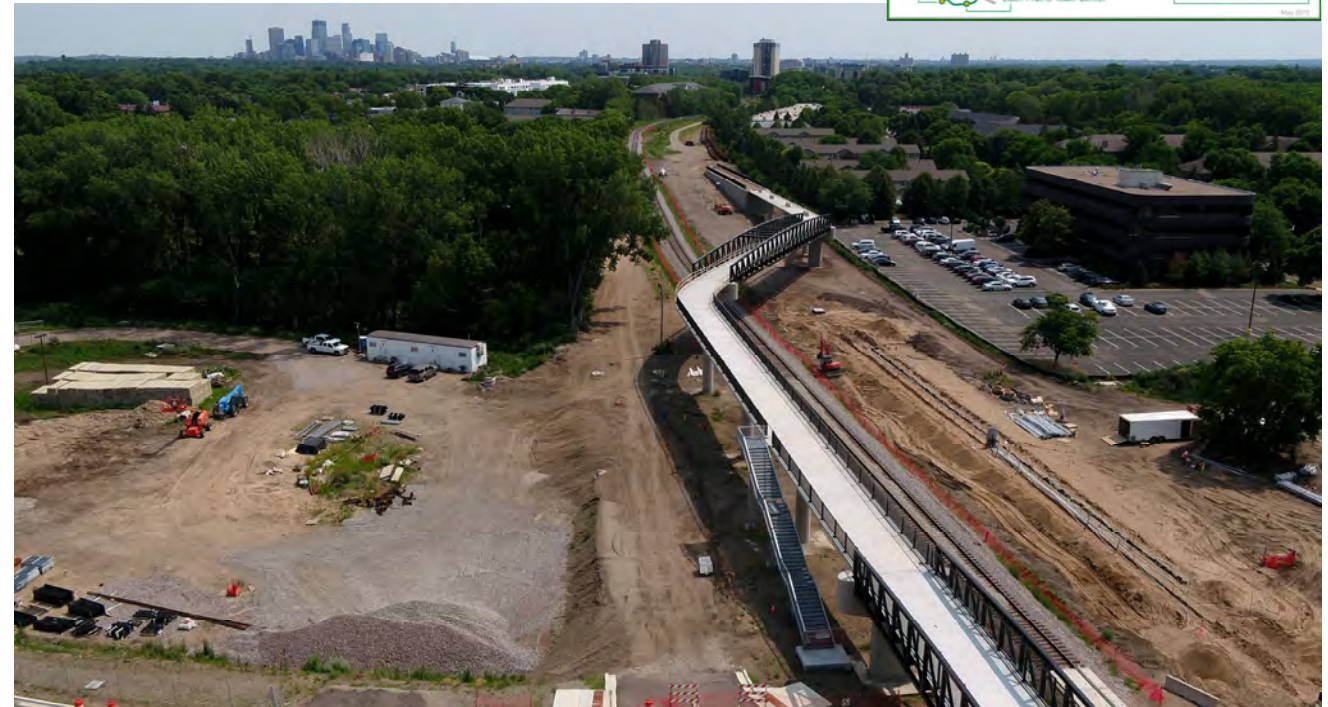
Construction Highlights: Hopkins

- Excelsior Blvd. LRT Bridge & Blake Road Regional Trail Underpass



Construction Highlights: St. Louis Park

- Southerly Freight Rail Connector & Beltline Regional Trail Bridge



Construction Highlights: Minneapolis

- Cedar Lake Channel LRT Bridge & Glenwood Avenue LRT Bridge



LRT construction sequencing

✓ Done!



Utilities

- Excavation
- Relocation / installation

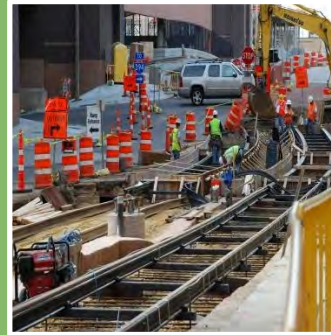
✓ Done!



Site Prep

- Clear buildings
- Establish work zones, detours

60%
Complete



Structures, track, stations

- Track beds
- Track
- Buildings
- Roadwork
- Trails

~2%
Complete



Systems

- Overhead catenary
- Safety & security
- Ticket vending

Prior to
revenue
service



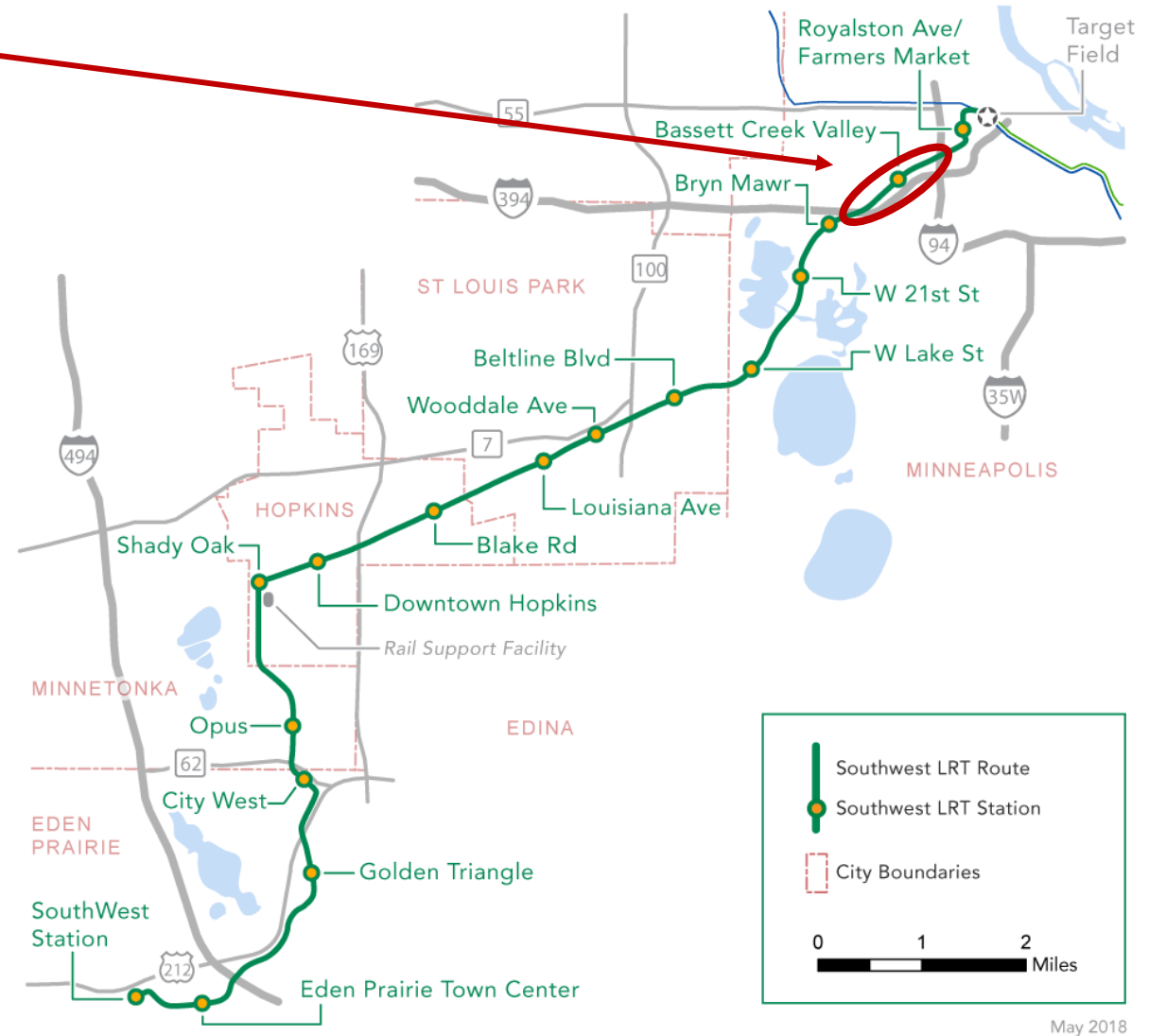
Testing

- Safety
- Comms
- Operator training

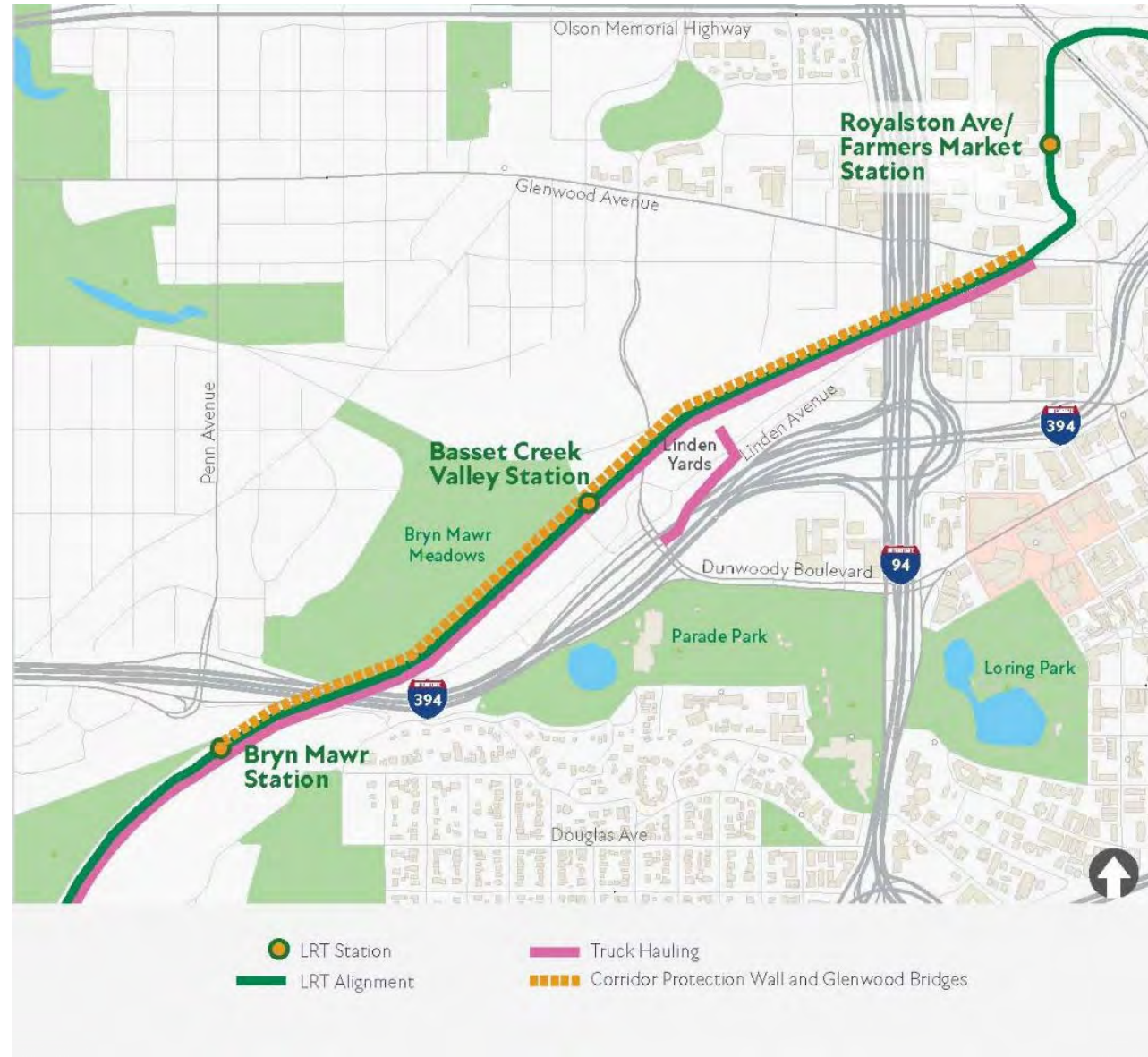
Outreach & Communications

Civil construction challenges: Key issues

- Corridor protection wall
 - Required per BNSF agreement
 - Required environmental clearance which was completed after civil construction contracting
 - Added to the civil construction contract by change order

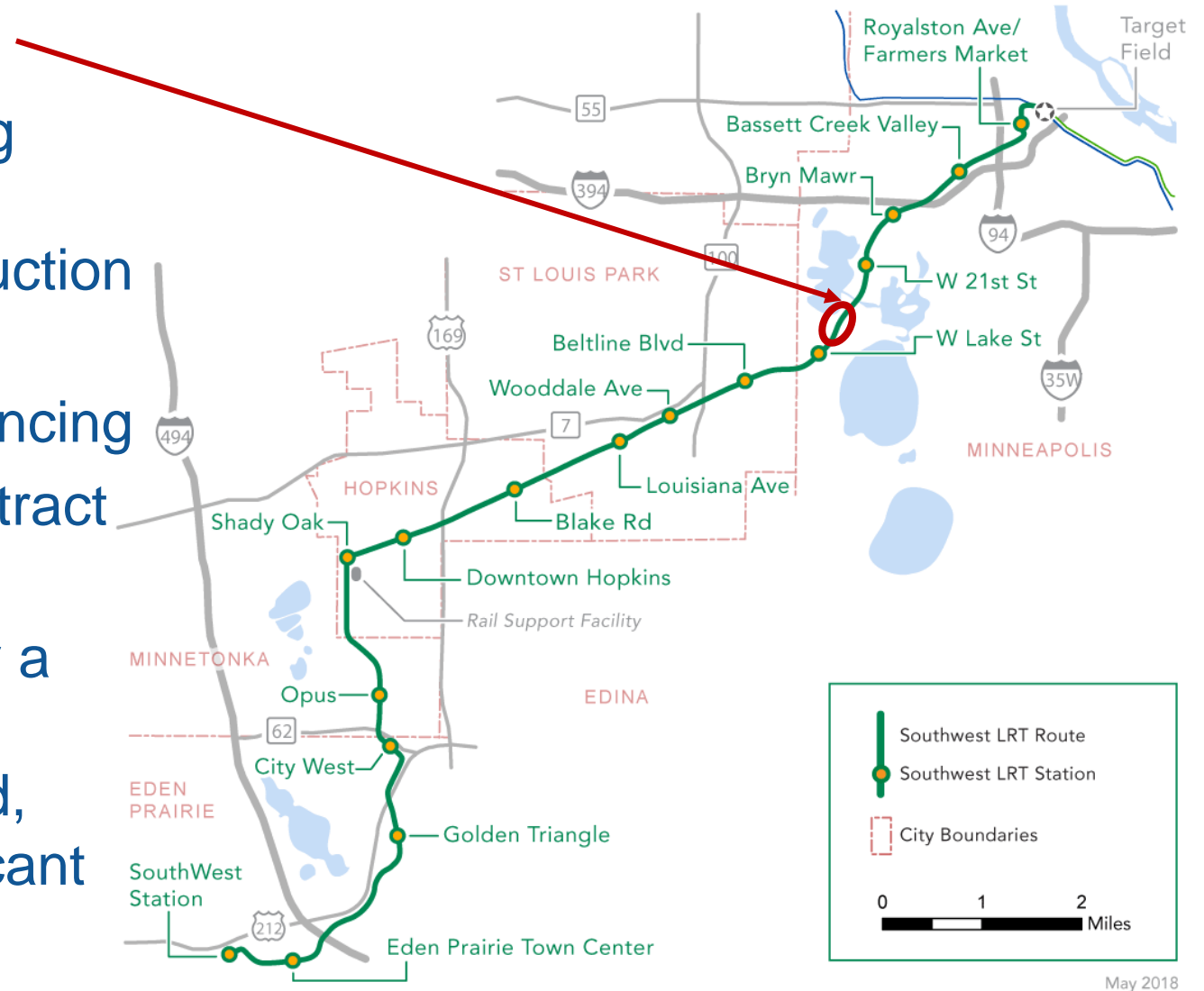


Corridor protection wall, Minneapolis



Civil construction challenges: Key issues

- Secant pile wall
 - Unforeseen soil conditions (settling during initial tunnel construction) necessitated an alternative construction method
 - Impacts tunnel construction sequencing
 - Added to the civil construction contract by change order
 - The Kenilworth tunnel was already a critical path item, one of last civil construction items to be completed, even before the addition of the secant wall



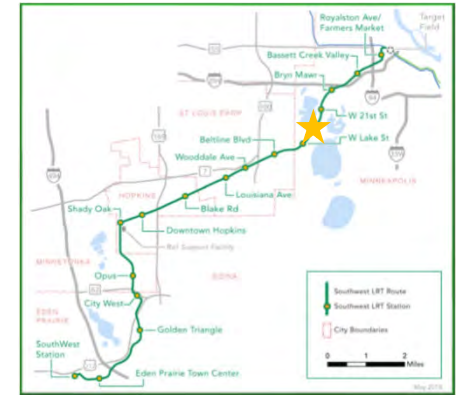
Secant pile wall, Minneapolis



Kenilworth LRT Tunnel, Minneapolis



- Tunnel excavation north of secant pile wall (left)
- Secant pile installation (below)



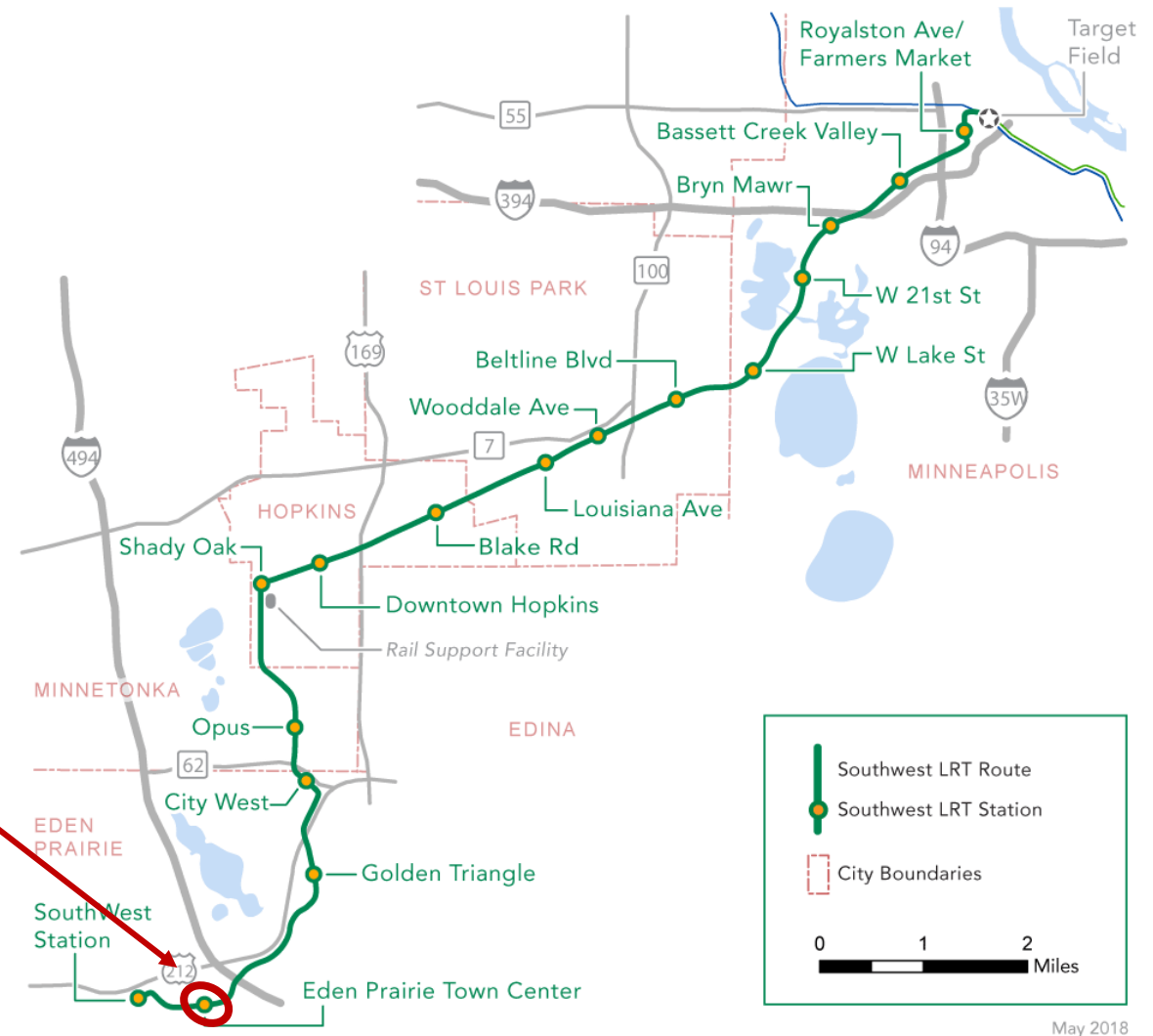
Green Line Extension Video



Civil construction challenges: Key issues



- Eden Prairie Town Center Station
 - Added to the civil construction contract by change order



Civil construction challenges: Unexpected conditions

- It is not unusual to discover unexpected conditions during construction, especially on a project of this magnitude
 - It is not always possible to know conditions until shovels go in the ground and soil moves
 - Significant design work went into the project to minimize the unknowns before construction
- The civil construction team acted expeditiously to find solutions whenever issues arrived, keeping corridor neighbors at the heart of decisions



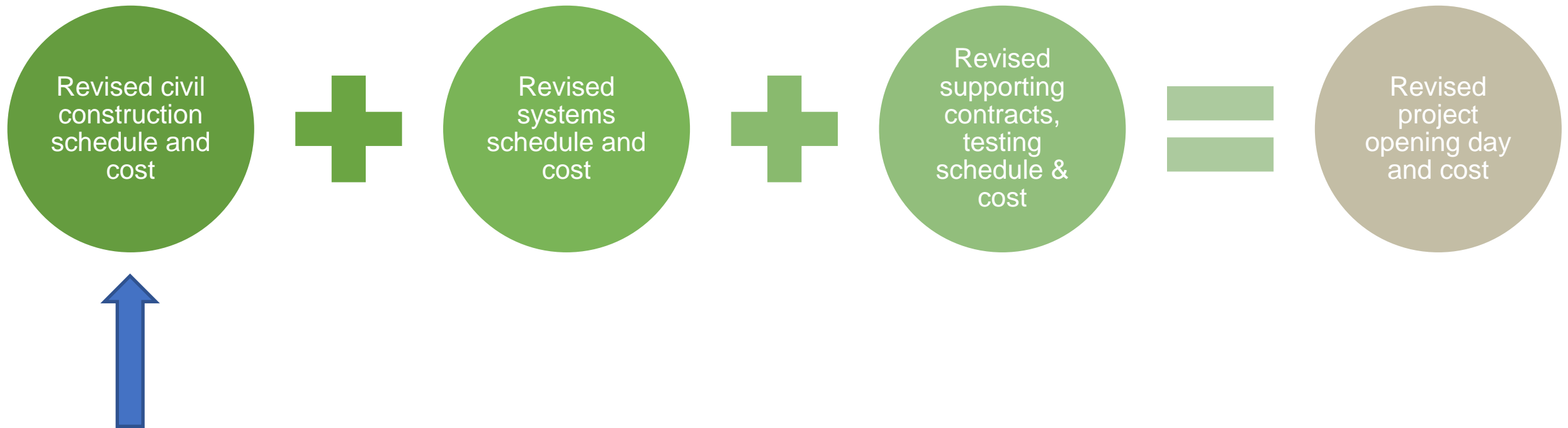
Kenilworth LRT tunnel excavation

Civil construction cost and schedule

- Taken together, these issues impact:
 - Other Green Line Extension contracts
 - Staffing, supplies, overhead, etc.
 - Overall project schedule and cost



Revised project schedule and cost process: Current step



MORE INFORMATION

Website: GreenLineExt.org

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