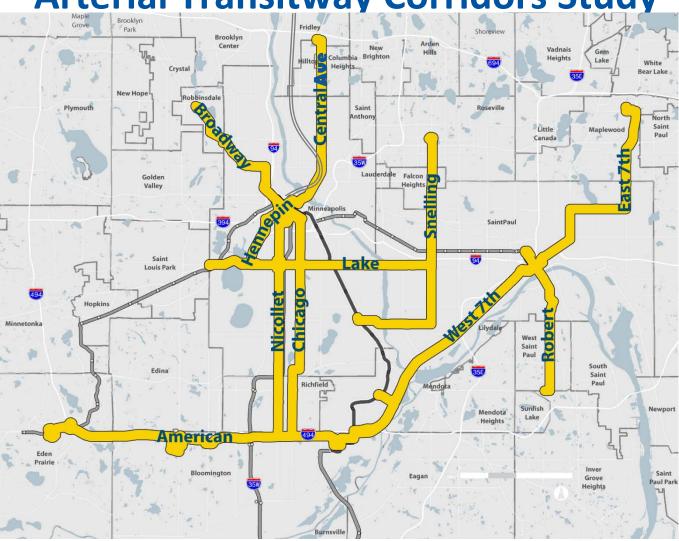


Arterial Transitway Corridors Study







Arterial Transitway Corridors Study Overview

- Corridor Features and Demographics
 - 11 study corridors, 95 route miles
 - 86,000 daily rides and half of existing urban local service
 - 450,000 people and 460,000 jobs within ½ mile

Study Tasks

- What are the transit operational issues along study corridors?
- Develop "Rapid Bus" service concept to address issues
- Evaluate and recommend corridors for transitway implementation







Key Corridor Challenges

 Slow transit speeds caused by significant signal and boarding delay

Traffic
23%
Red
Light

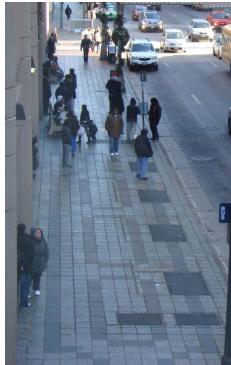
32%
Boarding
Delay

Metropolitan Council

 Lack of attractive facilities and identity



1,000 boardings per weekday



4,000 boardings per weekday



Rapid Bus Mode- Proposed Solutions to Corridor Challenges

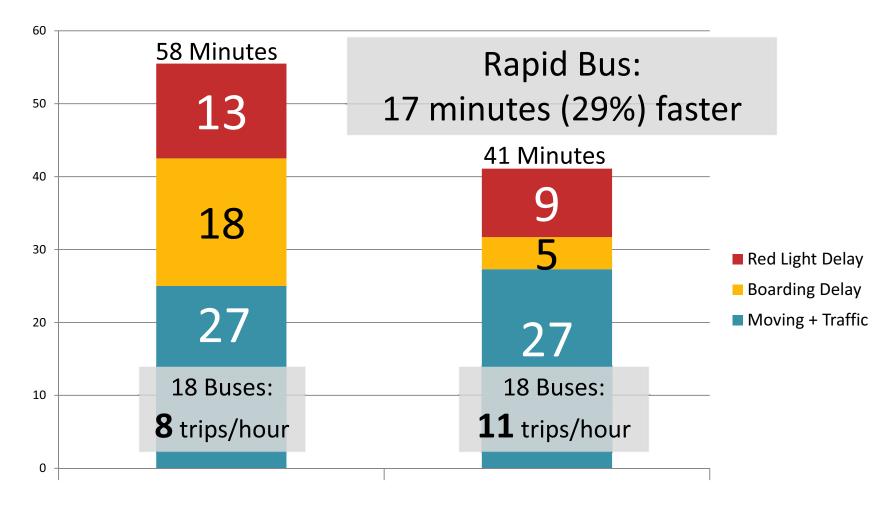
Faster Service with Less Waiting	Improved Experience for More Customers	
Off board fare payment	Real time signage	
All door boarding	Security cameras	
Signal Timing and Priority	Heated shelters	
Improved service frequency	Trash receptacles	
Curb extensions/raised curbs	Station lighting	
Limited stop service	Bike racks	
Increased snow removal	Wayfinding signage	
Far side stops	Common Look/Identity	







Estimated Travel Time Savings from Rapid Bus





Rapid Bus





Many Station Configurations, All Share Common Look/Identity

Extra Small Prototype

Small Prototypes





Medium Prototypes



















Station Visualization Example











Vehicles in "Rapid Bus" Service in Other Regions







Corridor Ridership Results

- Significant ridership growth expected even in <u>no-build</u> scenarios. Will require added service to meet demand
- Even stronger ridership growth in <u>build</u> scenarios
- With Rapid Bus, corridor ridership will nearly double

Scenario	Total Ridership (avg. weekday)	Percent Growth
Current Boardings	77,000	
2030 No Build Scenarios	112,000	+45%
2030 Build Scenarios	143,000	+86%





- \$31 Million Capital Cost, Average Corridor
 - \$14 million construction
 - \$10 million vehicles
 - \$4 million engineering/soft costs
 - \$3 million unallocated contingency
- \$3-4 million average capital cost per mile for Rapid Bus improvements, compared to more intensive investment modes:
 - Streetcar (\$20 to \$40 million/mile)
 - Light Rail (\$60 to \$100 million/mile)
 - Dedicated Busway (\$25 to \$50 million/mile)
- \$3.6 million per year/corridor average operating cost increase
 - Added service, fare collection/enforcement, maintenance
- Future refinement of service plans will affect costs



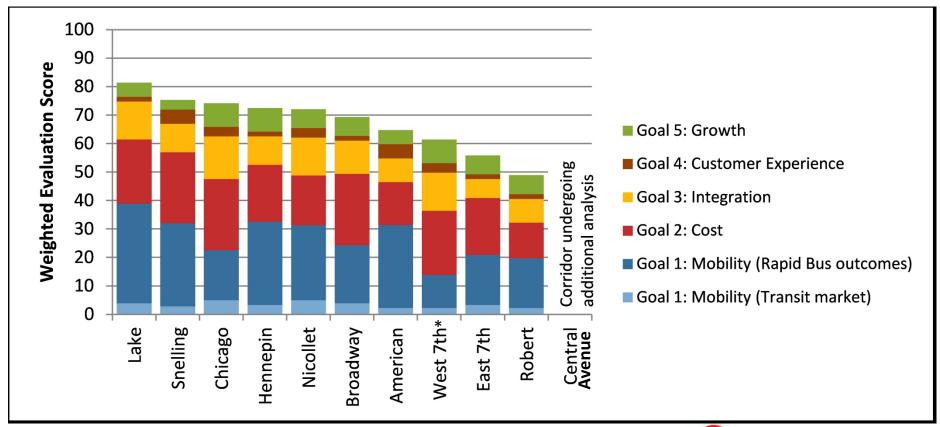
Corridor Evaluation and Prioritization

- 5 project goals:
 - Provide mobility benefits by connecting major destinations along the study corridors more quickly with more frequent transit service.
 - Implement <u>affordable</u> transit improvements.
 - Seamlessly integrate with existing and planned transit systems.
 - Provide an <u>enhanced customer experience</u> by developing passenger infrastructure and information commensurate with existing and planned levels of transit service.
 - Support anticipated corridor growth and redevelopment.
- 17 Quantitative measures indicate technical evaluation score
- Currently determining "readiness" for implementation



Evaluation Criteria Draft Results

- 17 measures, weighted by importance
- Proposed improvements appropriate for all corridors in 2030

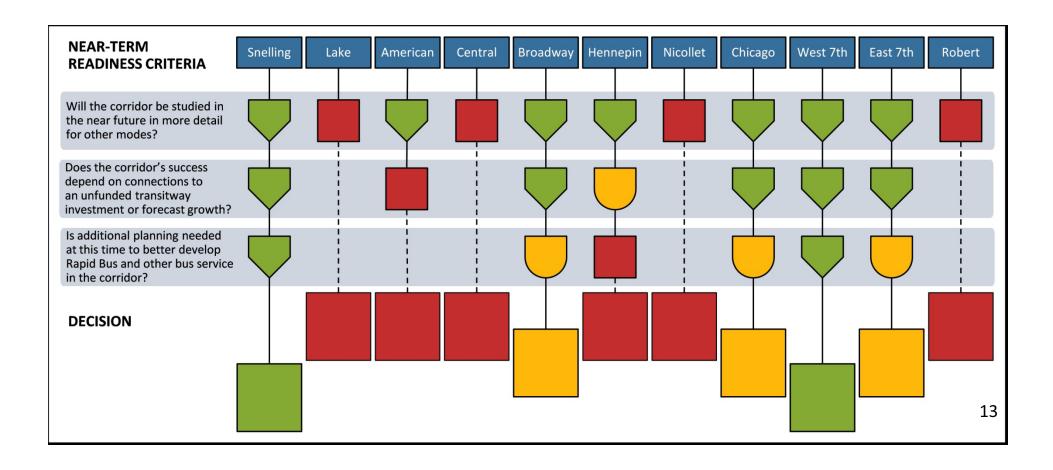






Readiness Criteria Draft Results

- Relate to readiness to advance projects to implementation
- Used to differentiate "first" corridors amongst good corridors
- Three qualitative factors to screen corridor readiness



Preliminary Results- Near Term Corridors

- Four corridors show strong performance in both criteria
- Snelling Avenue
- West Seventh Street
- West Broadway Avenue
 - Consider BRT improvements for downtown east-west alignment
 - Explore potential synergy with Bottineau Transitway project alternatives
- Chicago Avenue
 - Consider BRT improvements for downtown east-west alignment
 - Route 5 service pattern interconnected with north Minneapolis
 - Study corridor extension along Chicago and Emerson-Fremont



Preliminary Results- Additional Corridors

- **East Seventh Street**
 - Further study with stakeholder input toward phased implementation
 - Earlier extension of West Seventh Street corridor possible
 - Ongoing study of parallel corridors in Gateway and Rush Line studies
- Incorporate rapid bus mode in Alternatives Analysis studies starting in 2012 for Nicollet, Central Avenue, Lake Street, Robert Street.
- Develop passenger facilities and consider rapid bus service restructuring along **Hennepin Avenue** with Southwest Transitway implementation.
- Grow ridership and continue network development connecting to American Boulevard, plan for future implementation.





Next Phase of Study- Share Results and Seek Input

- Build upon previous outreach efforts in 2011
 - June stakeholder workshop and October public meetings informed project development, ongoing collaboration with partner agency staff
- Policy stakeholder discussion- early February
- Individual efforts with communities
- Public meetings to be scheduled mid-late February 2012
- Seeking input on preliminary results
- Refine and finalize study recommendations in March 2012



Next Steps:

- Complete Arterial Transitway Corridors Study
 - Stakeholder input project phase (January-February 2012)
 - Finalize study and prepare final report (March 2012)
- **Continue Progress Toward Implementation**
 - Evaluate concept in upcoming corridor studies
 - Secure funding
 - Determine project approach
 - Design and engineering phases

