



Project Connect Update

Parks and Recreation Board

January 25, 2022



AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Project Connect Update
3. Potential Impacts to Parkland
4. Next Steps



Project Components

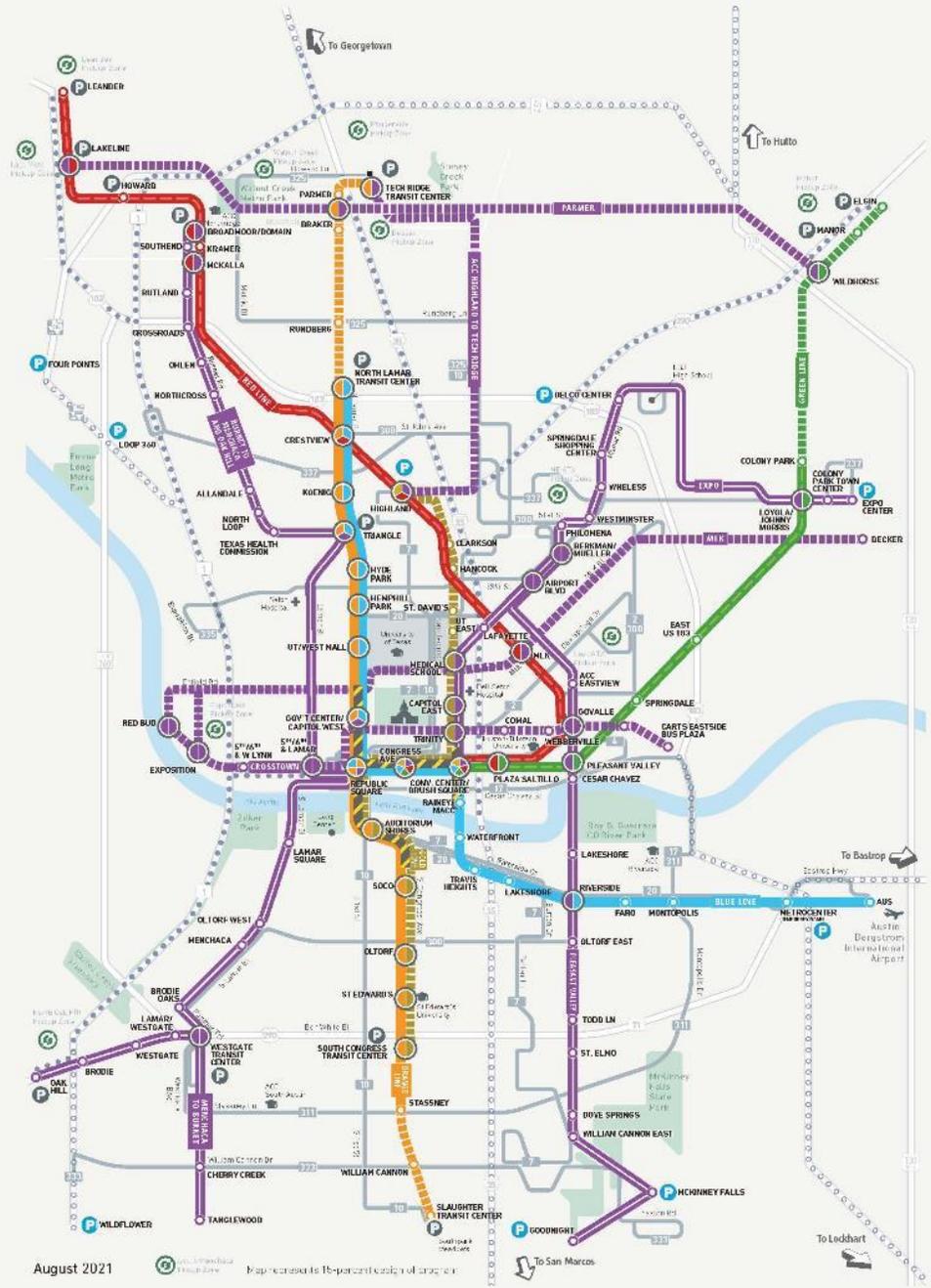
PROJECT CONNECT – PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Orange Line – NLTC to Stassney Phase 1 (LRT), Enhanced MetroRapid
- Blue Line – Riverside Corridor (LRT)
- Gold Line – MetroRapid, NEPA completion for LRT
- Downtown Tunnel (Orange, Blue Lines)
- MetroRapid – Expo, Pleasant Valley, Burnet to Menchaca/Oak Hill
- Green Line to Colony Park – NEPA, Final Design, Construction
- Red Line Improvements
- MetroExpress, Park & Rides, Transit Centers (3 New Routes, 9 P&R, 1 TC)
- Neighborhood Circulators (15 New Zones / Vehicles)
- Maintenance Facility Improvements
- Customer Technology Systems
- Anti-Displacement Investments

LEGEND

LIGHT RAIL		METROBUS	
	Orange Line		Current Frequent Local Routes
	Potential Future Extension		Current MetroExpress
	Blue Line		Future MetroExpress
METRORAIL		ADDITIONAL AVAILABLE SERVICES	
	Red Line		MetroAccess
	Green Line		MetroBike
	Potential Future Extension		CURRENT PARK & RIDE
METRORAPID			PROPOSED PARK & RIDE
	Gold Line		CIRCULATOR
	Enhanced MetroRapid Route		TUNNEL
	Potential Future Extension		

SCHEMATIC MAP NOT TO SCALE



Program Sequence Plan



LIGHT RAIL

Orange Line (LRT)

Blue Line (LRT)



METRORAIL

Red Line (Commuter Rail)

Green Line (Commuter Rail)



METRORAPID

Phase I

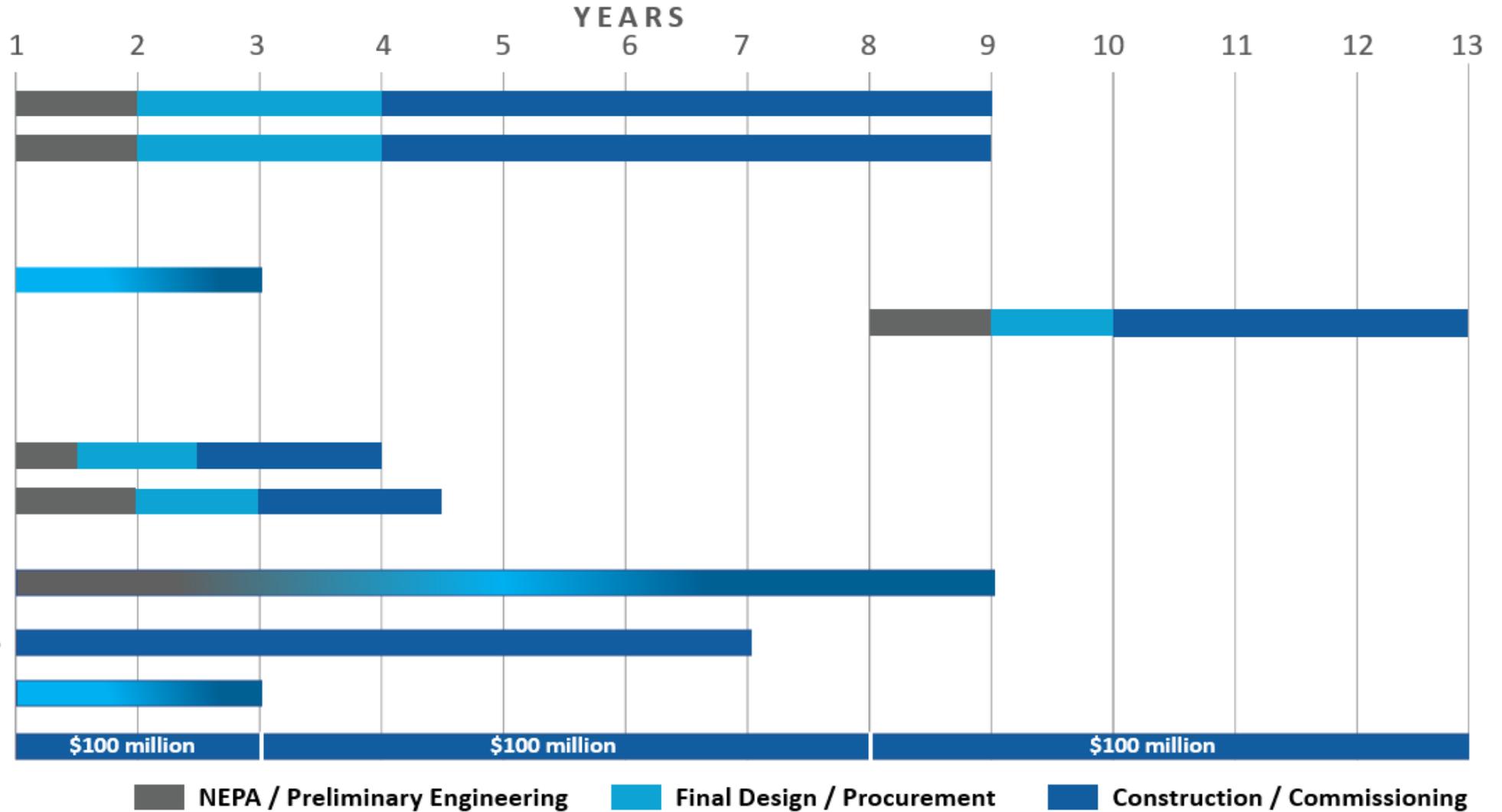
Gold Line (Complete NEPA)

METROEXPRESS &
PARK AND RIDES

METROBUS & METROACCESS

CUSTOMER TECH SYSTEMS

ANTI-DISPLACEMENT
INVESTMENTS



INTEGRATED PROGRAM DELIVERY PARTNERSHIP



**Orange Line
Blue Line
Tunnel
Green Line – Phase 1
Facilities**



**MetroRapid
MetroExpress
Neighborhood Circulators
Customer Tech
Red Line – Phase 1**



**Permitting
Right of Way Coordination
Utility Design and Coordination
Active Transportation
and Traffic Coordination
Anti-Displacement
Investments**

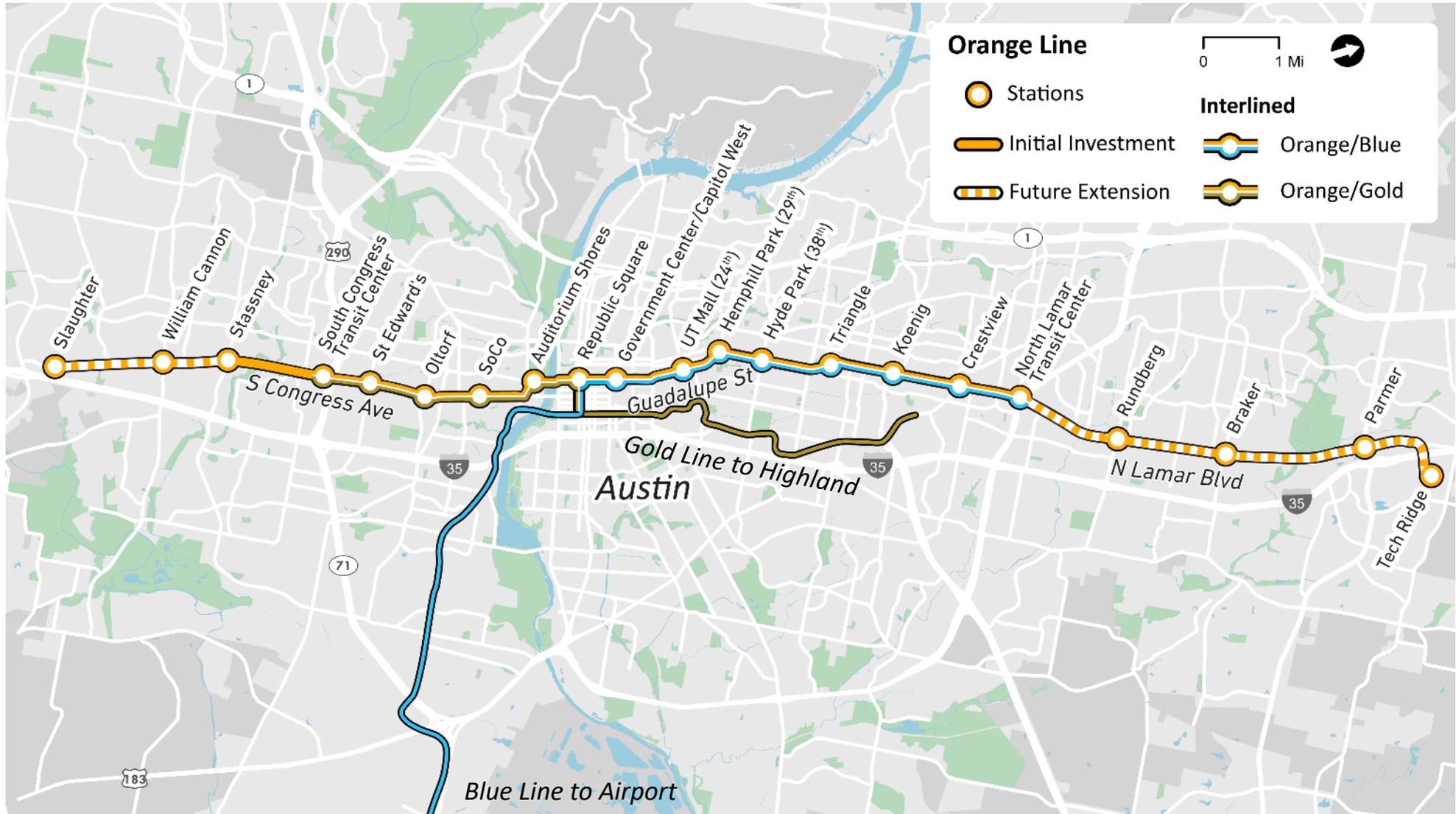
City of Austin Project Connect Office

- **Within Management Services Dept, reporting to ACM Gina Fiandaca (Mobility Outcome Portfolio)**
- **FY22 Budget approved – 18 FTEs (12 new) for the office to expand coordination efforts**
- **Mission:** To connect communities by supporting the delivery of the city’s high-capacity transit system with a focus on collaboration, innovation, technical excellence and efficiency.
- **Goals:**
 - Build a team that unifies City departments to support, facilitate and approve technical aspects of Project Connect within the City of Austin’s purview to support overall project schedule
 - Identify and improve utility criteria, in partnership with City of Austin utility departments
 - Identify and improve capital project permitting processes, in partnership with the Development Services Department and other departments
 - Coordinate the City of Austin National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) participating agency process and monitor its implementation



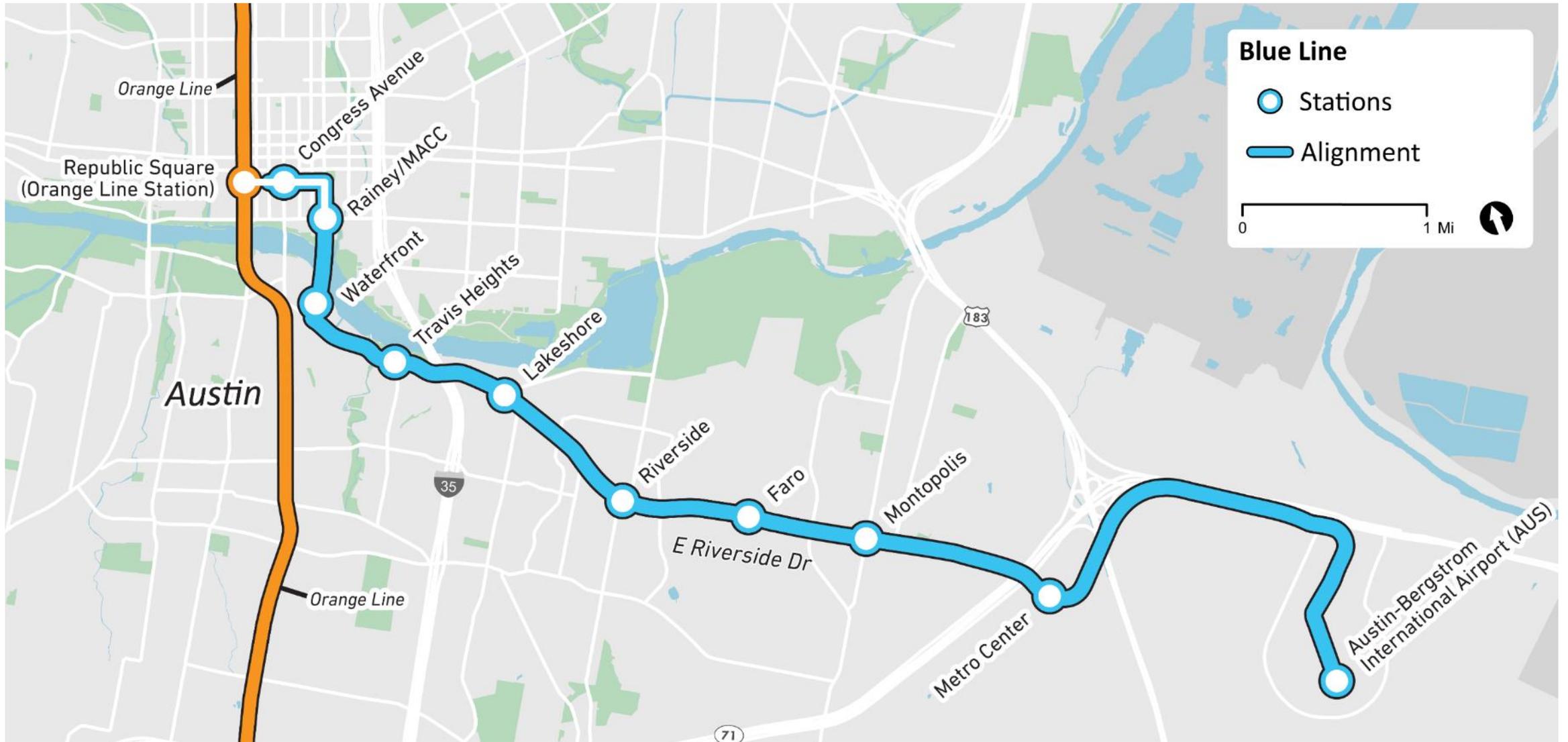
Orange Line – Corridor Overview

Note: Station locations and names subject to change

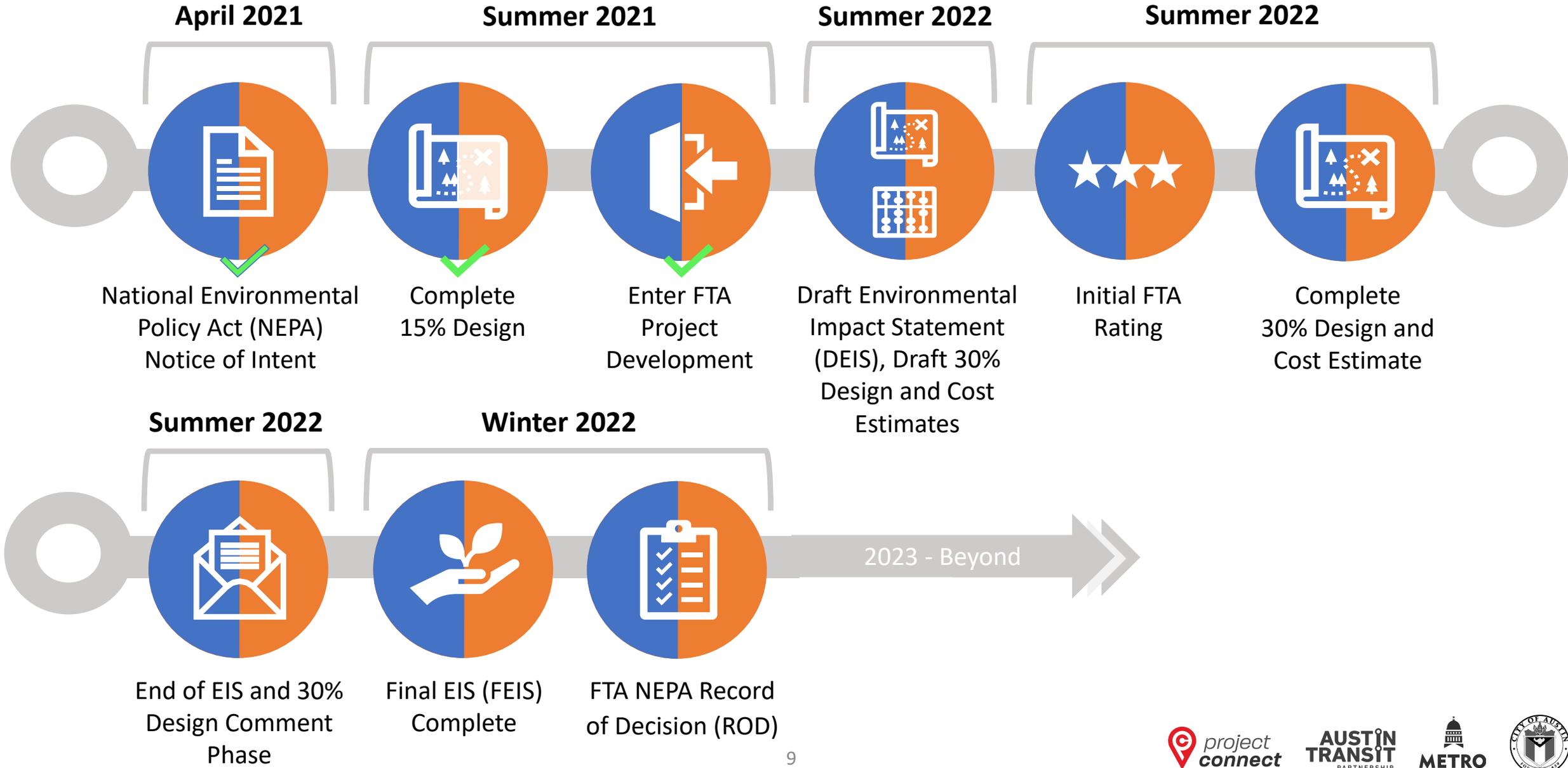


Blue Line – Corridor Overview

Note: Station locations and names subject to change



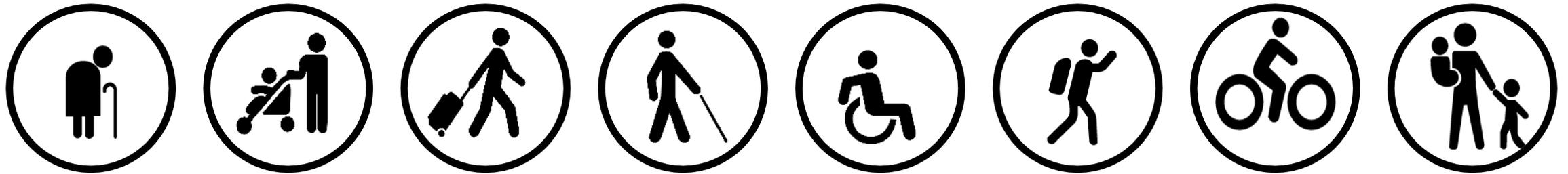
ORANGE & BLUE LINE – KEY MILESTONES (2021 – 2022)



Reimagining the Public Realm



A HIGH-QUALITY MOBILITY EXPERIENCE FOR ALL



Transit & Placemaking



Transit & Placemaking

LEED Certified Facilities – Julia Carson Transit Center (IndyGo)



Art in Station Design – Hollywood / Highland (LA Metro)



Orange Line Potential Parkland Impacts (South)



	Property Name	Dept	Anticipated Impact
1	South Boggy Creek Greenbelt	PARD	*No Impact
2	Meadow Lea Pocket Park	PARD	Minor permanent impact
3	Williamson Creek Central Greenbelt	PARD	Minor permanent impact
4	South Austin Island	PARD	*No Impact
5	Long Center	PARD	Potential minor permanent impact
6	Vic Mathias Shores	PARD	*No Impact
7	Shoal Beach	PARD	*No Impact
8	Republic Square	PARD	*No Impact
9	Woolridge Square	PARD	*No Impact

LEGEND

LIGHT RAIL

- Orange Line
- Passenger Station
- Half-Mile Centerline Buffer

SCHEMATIC MAP NOT TO SCALE

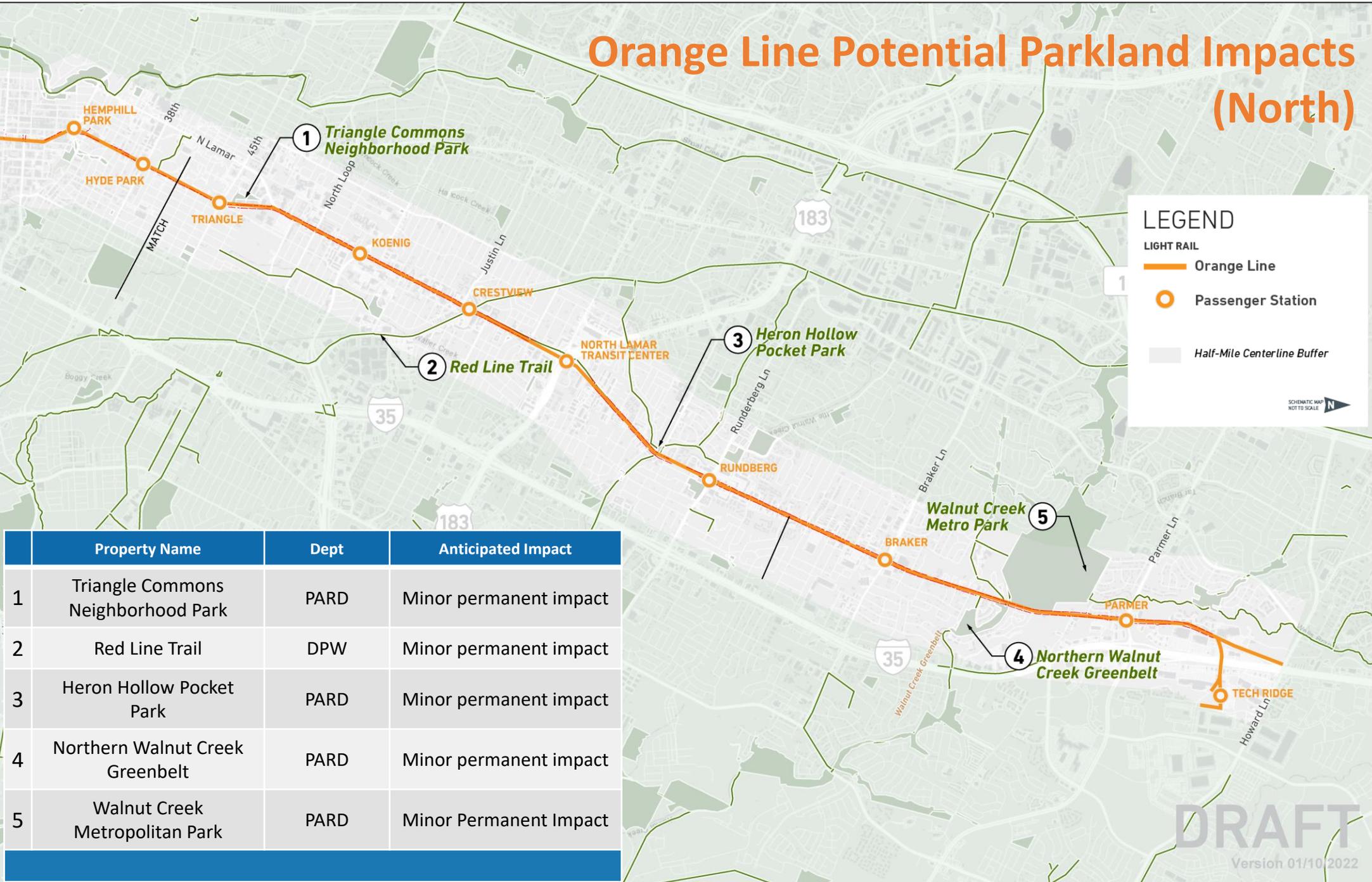
Orange Line Potential Parkland Impacts (North)

LEGEND

LIGHT RAIL

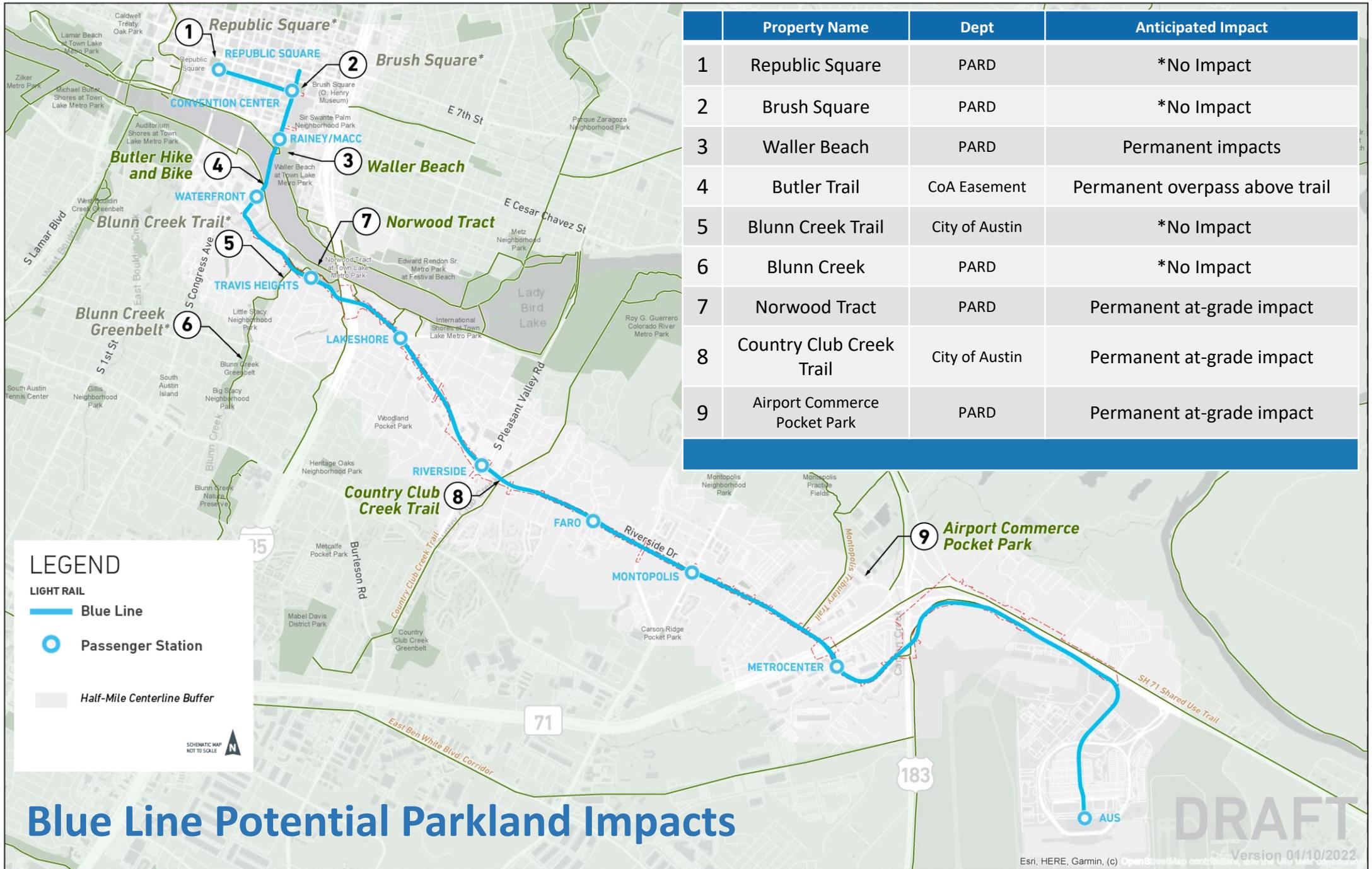
- Orange Line
- Passenger Station
- Half-Mile Centerline Buffer

SCHEMATIC MAP
NOT TO SCALE



	Property Name	Dept	Anticipated Impact
1	Triangle Commons Neighborhood Park	PARD	Minor permanent impact
2	Red Line Trail	DPW	Minor permanent impact
3	Heron Hollow Pocket Park	PARD	Minor permanent impact
4	Northern Walnut Creek Greenbelt	PARD	Minor permanent impact
5	Walnut Creek Metropolitan Park	PARD	Minor Permanent Impact

DRAFT
Version 01/10/2022



	Property Name	Dept	Anticipated Impact
1	Republic Square	PARD	*No Impact
2	Brush Square	PARD	*No Impact
3	Waller Beach	PARD	Permanent impacts
4	Butler Trail	CoA Easement	Permanent overpass above trail
5	Blunn Creek Trail	City of Austin	*No Impact
6	Blunn Creek	PARD	*No Impact
7	Norwood Tract	PARD	Permanent at-grade impact
8	Country Club Creek Trail	City of Austin	Permanent at-grade impact
9	Airport Commerce Pocket Park	PARD	Permanent at-grade impact

LEGEND

LIGHT RAIL

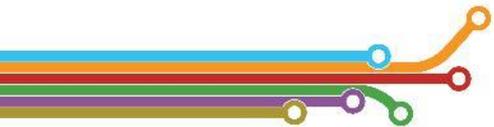
- Blue Line
- Passenger Station
- Half-Mile Centerline Buffer

SCHEMATIC MAP
NOT TO SCALE

Blue Line Potential Parkland Impacts

Recent Community Engagement on Potential Parkland Impacts

- Community Design Workshop on the Blue Line Bridge over Lady Bird Lake (10/12/21)
- Community Meeting about the Waller Creek Boathouse and potential alternate site for future facilities (1/12/22)
- Ongoing engagement and collaboration with Norwood Park Foundation, The Trail Foundation, Waterloo Greenway Conservancy
- Ongoing collaboration with Watershed Protection Department and other city departments



Blue & Orange Line Working Groups

North: Orange Line

- North Line
- North Lamar
- North Guadalupe
- Drag

South: Orange Line

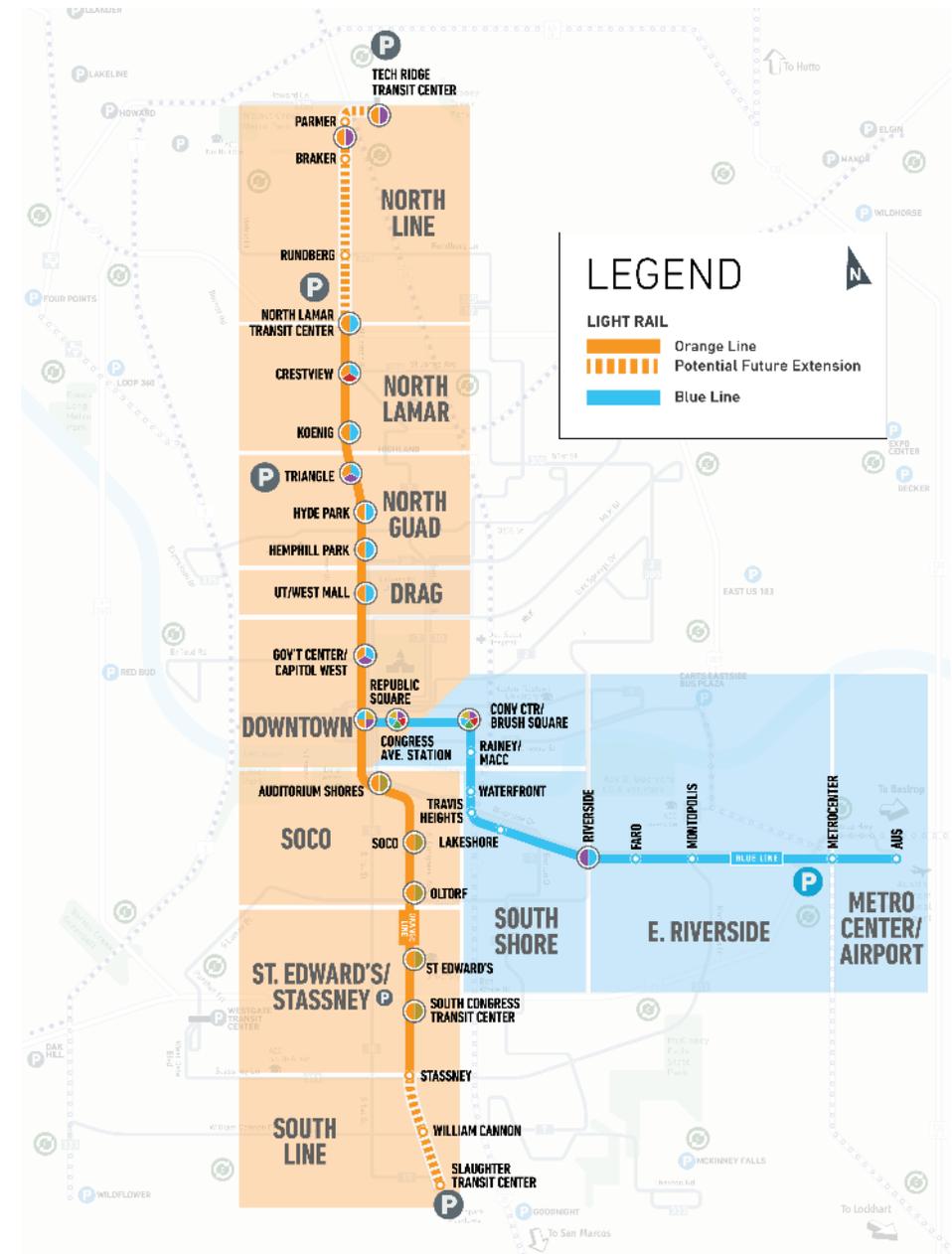
- St. Edward's to Stassney
- South Line

East: Blue Line

- South Shore
- East Riverside
- Metro Center/Airport

Central Alignment:

- Downtown (BL/OL)
- SoCo (OL)



Next Steps

- **Project Connect Team will continue to identify potential Impacts as part of the 30% Design and NEPA Process**
 - Avoid impacts to parkland wherever possible
 - All potential impacts to parkland will be documented as part of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
 - For unavoidable impacts, identify mitigation, including improvements to impacted parks
- **Project Connect team will review potential significant parkland impacts and mitigation with Parks Board (Spring/Summer 2022)**
- **PARD will review designs with Parks Board for any significant parkland impacts / modifications (2023 and beyond)**
- **PARD will review temporary construction impacts as we get closer to construction**





Thank you!

