



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

- Orange Line
- Potential Future Extension
- Blue Line

METRO RAIL

- Red Line
- Green Line
- Potential Future Extension

METRO RAPID

- Gold Line
- Enhanced MetroRapid Route
- Potential Future Extension

METROBUS

- Current Frequent Local Routes

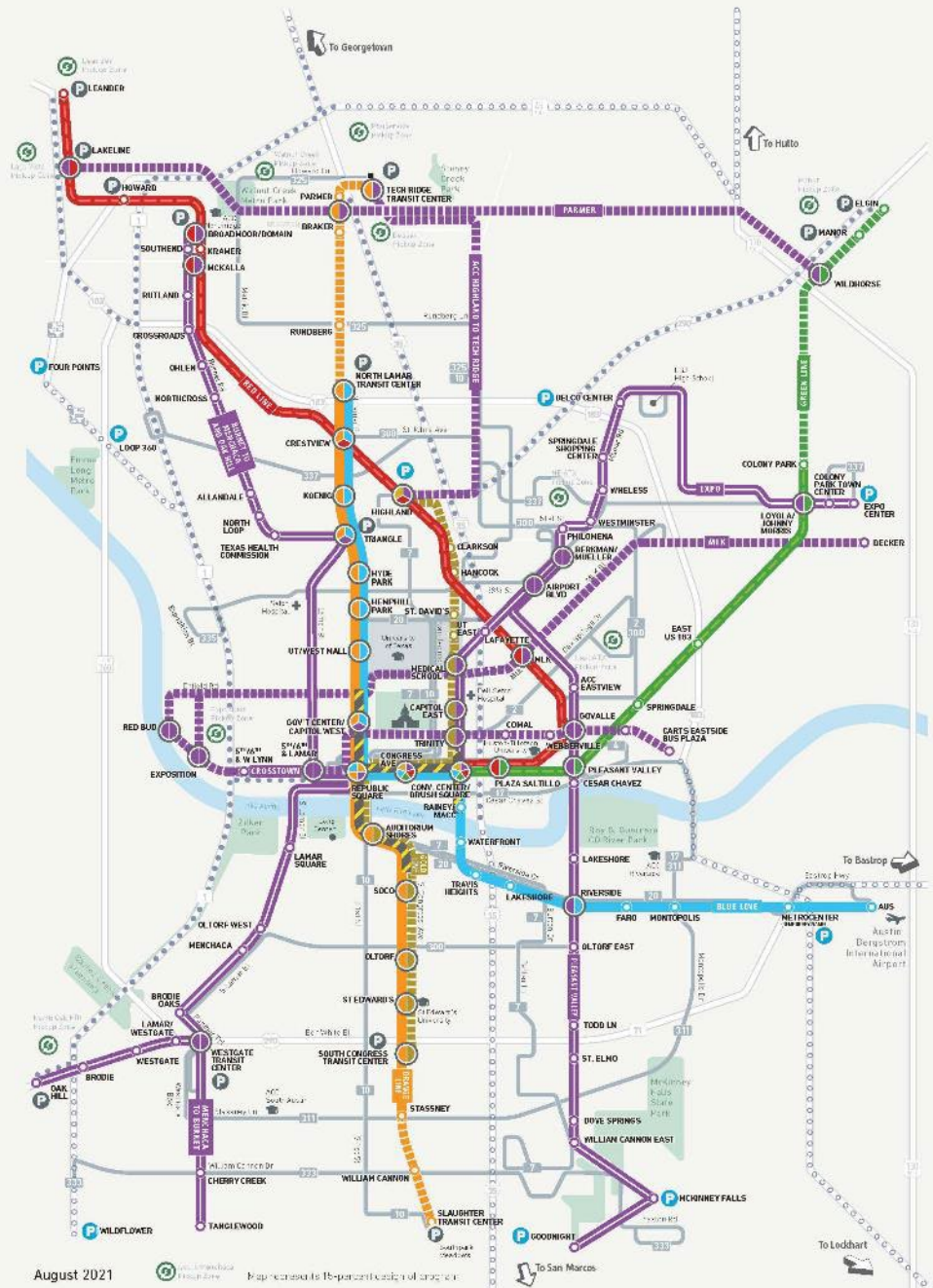
METROEXPRESS

- Current MetroExpress
- Future MetroExpress

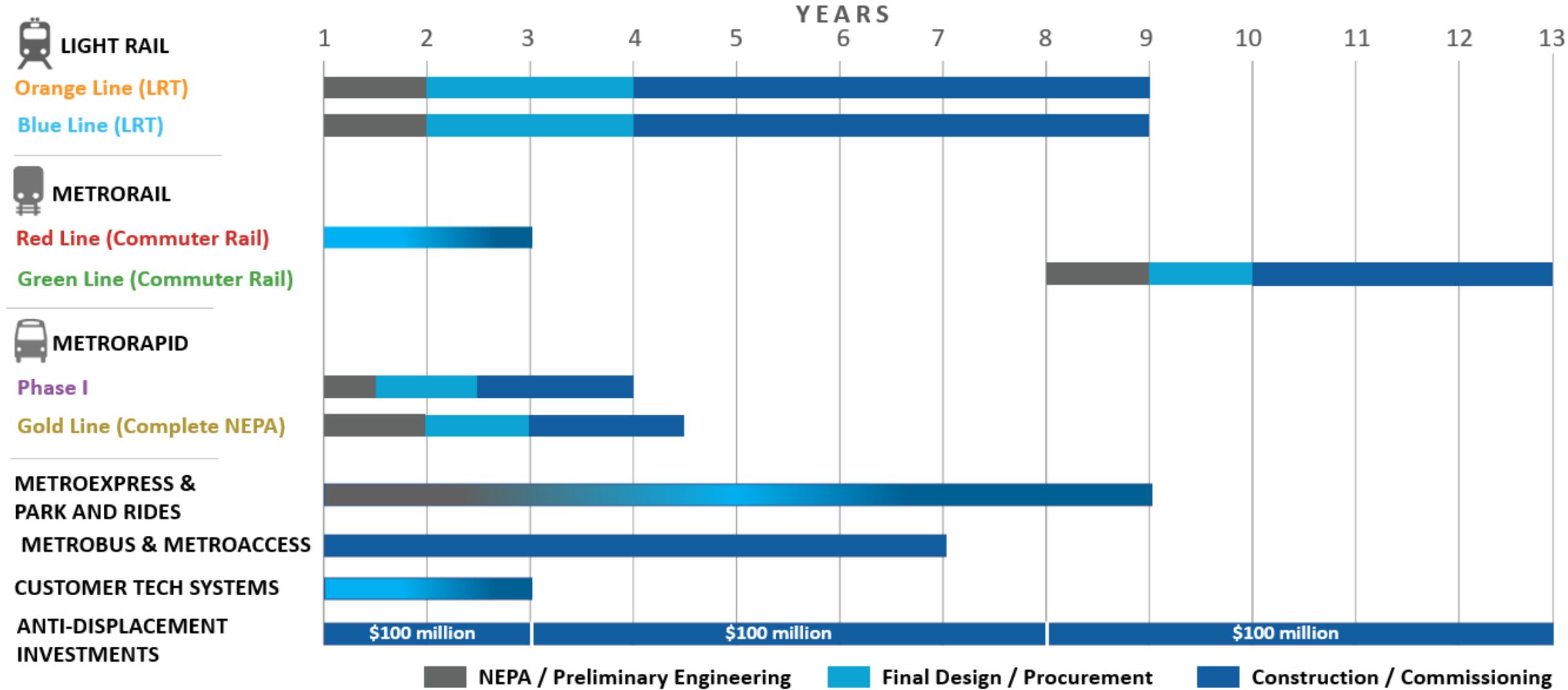
ADDITIONAL AVAILABLE SERVICES

- MetroAccess
- MetroBike
- CURRENT PARK & RIDE
- PROPOSED PARK & RIDE
- CIRCULATOR
- TUNNEL

SCHEMATIC MAP
NOT TO SCALE



Program Sequence Plan



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

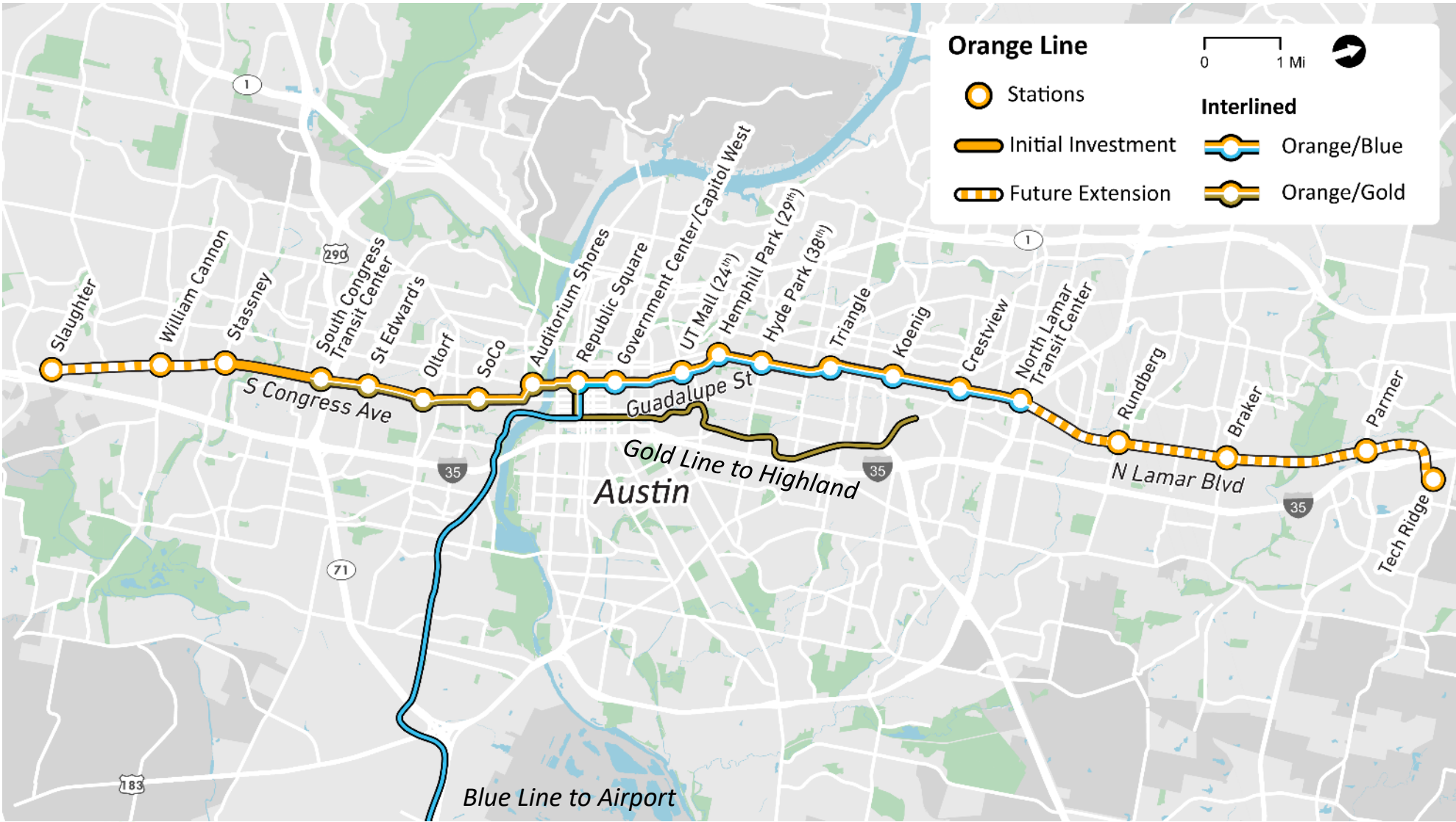
City of Austin Project Connect Office

- **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



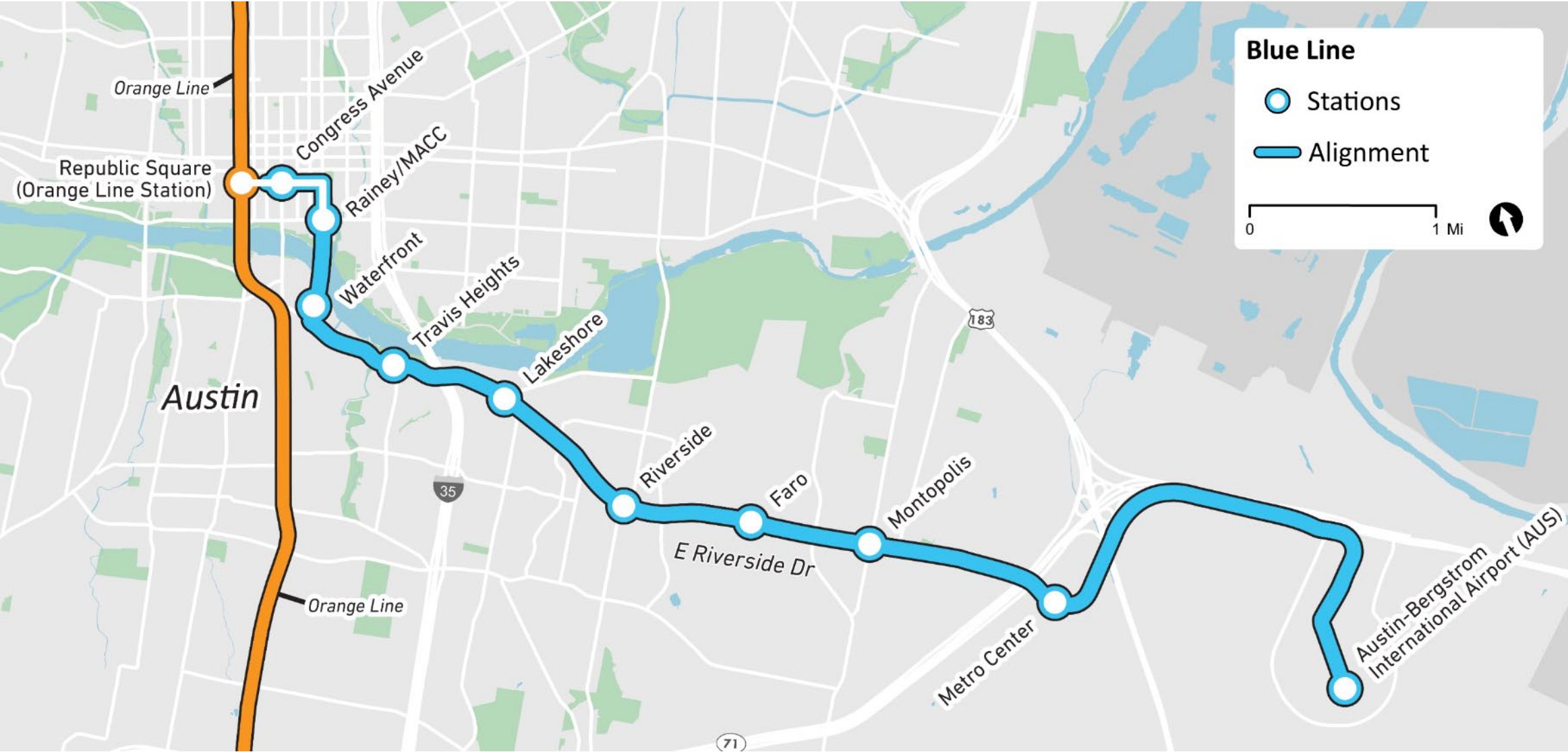
Orange Line – Corridor Overview

Note: Station locations and names subject to change

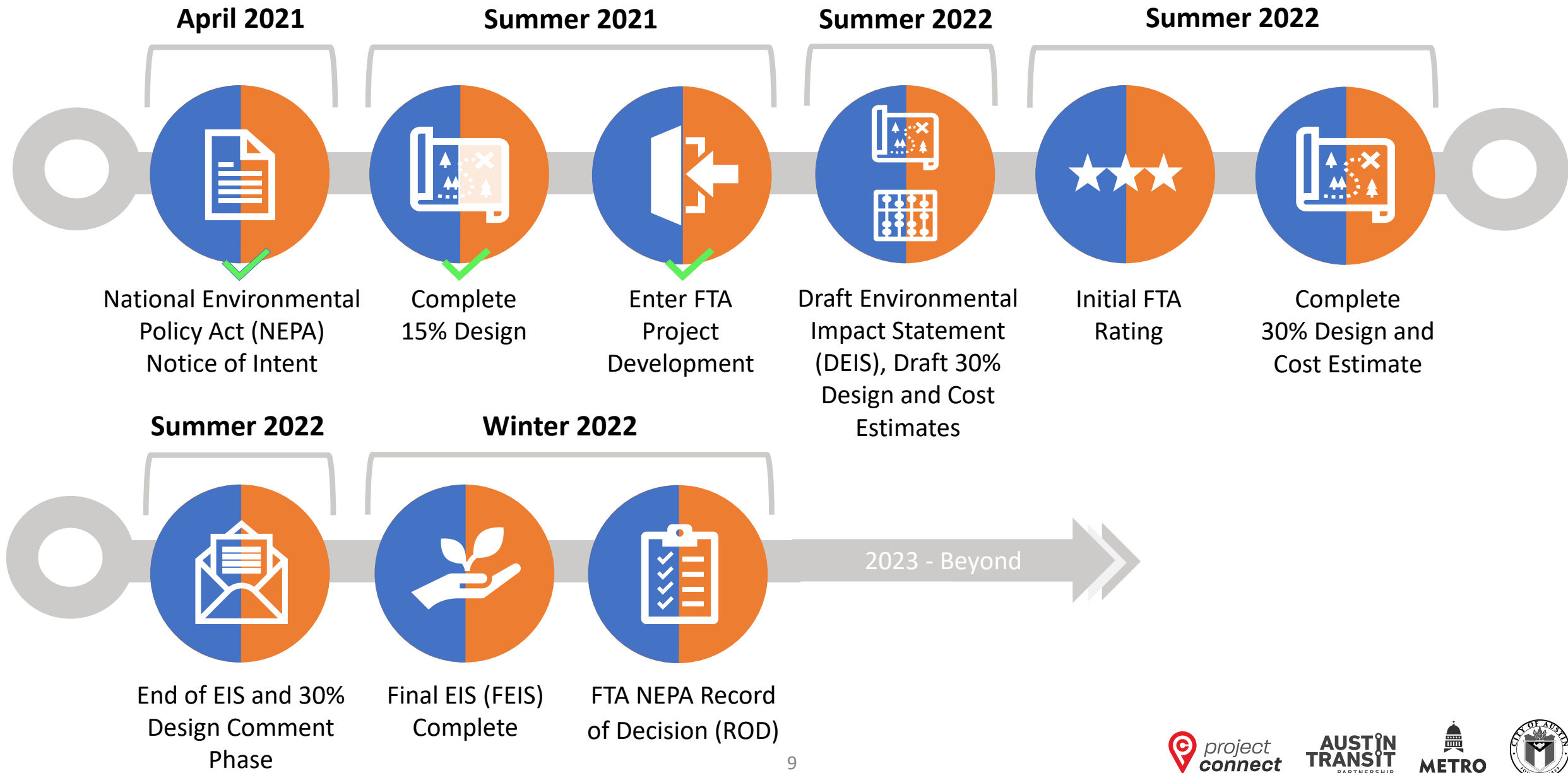


Blue Line – Corridor Overview

Note: Station locations and names subject to change



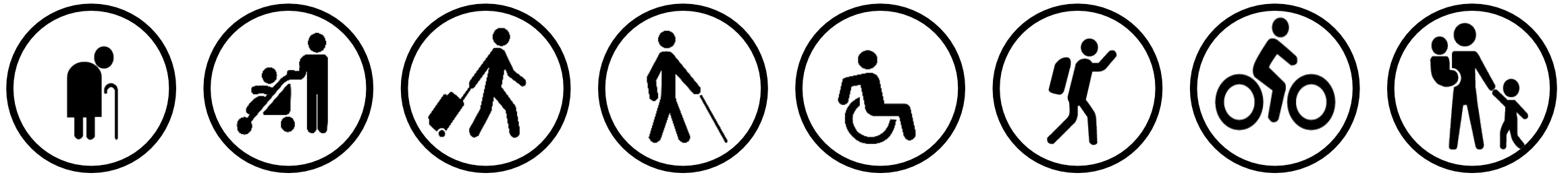
ORANGE & BLUE LINE – KEY MILESTONES (2021 – 2022)



Reimagining the Public Realm



A HIGH-QUALITY MOBILITY EXPERIENCE FOR ALL



Transit & Placemaking



Transit & Placemaking

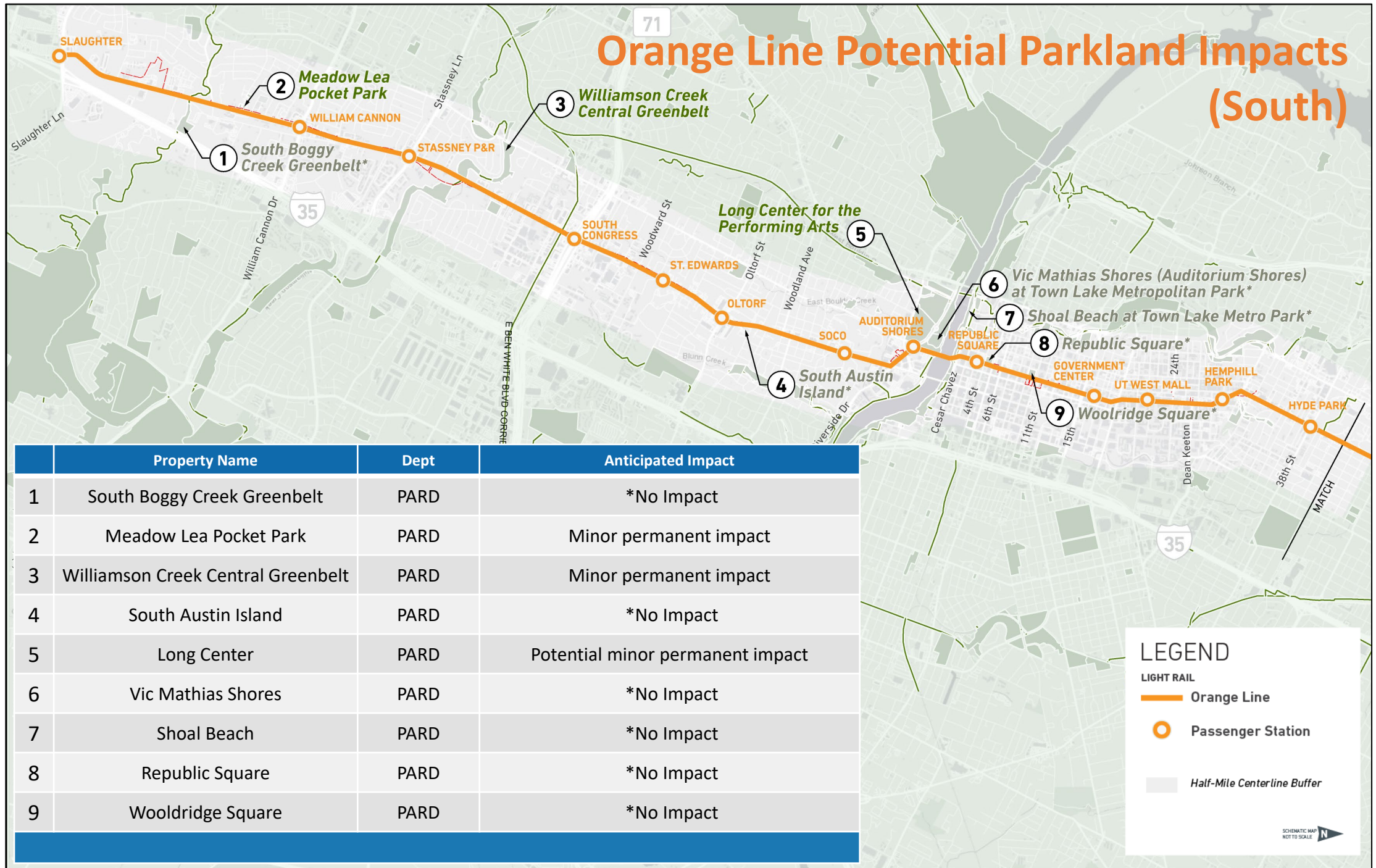
LEED Certified Facilities – Julia Carson Transit Center (IndyGo)



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



Orange Line Potential Parkland Impacts (South)



Orange Line Potential Parkland Impacts (North)

LEGEND

LIGHT RAIL

Orange Line

Passenger Station

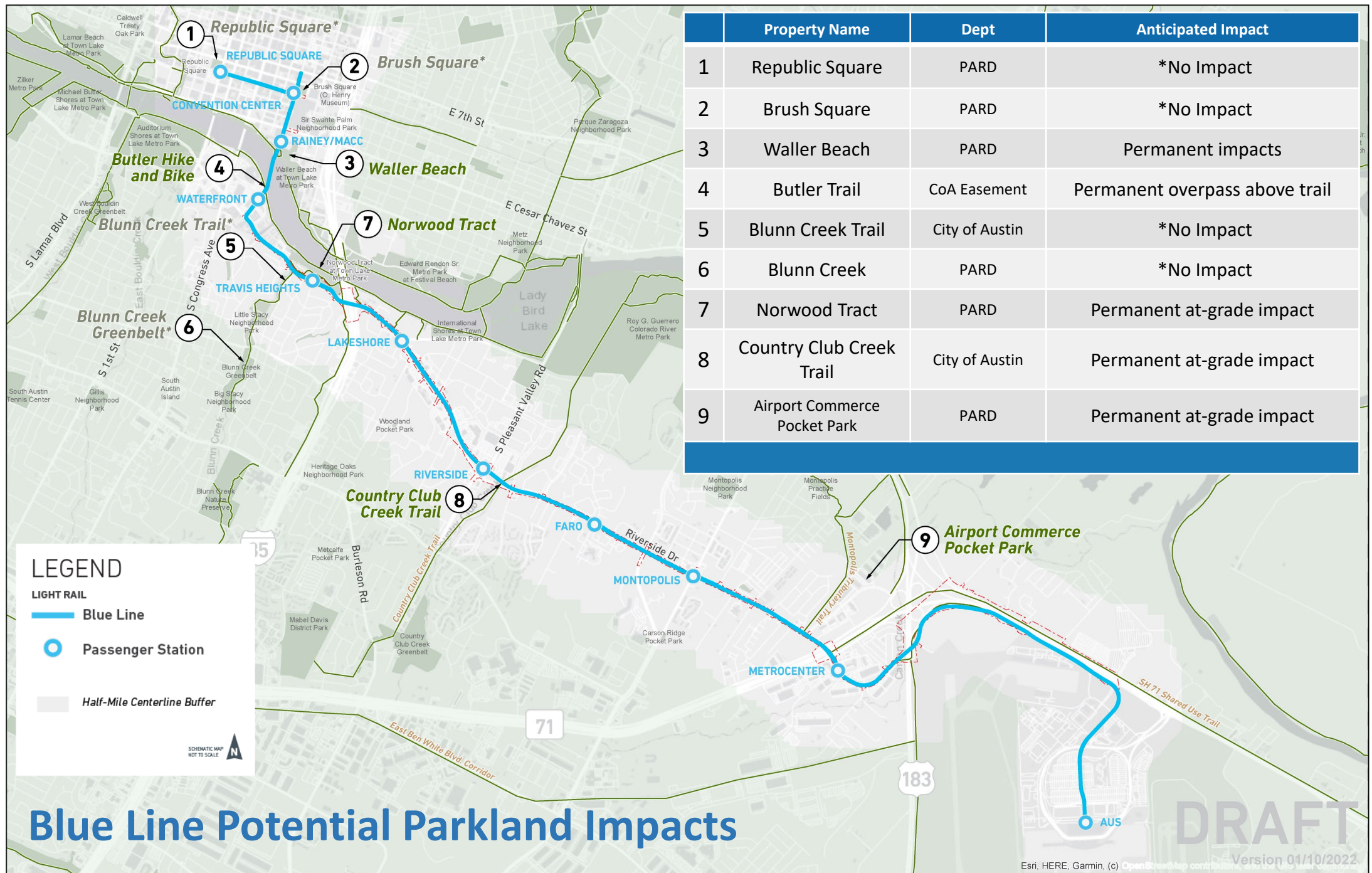
Half-Mile Centerline Buffer

SCHEMATIC MAP
NOT TO SCALE

DRAFT

Version 01/10/2022

	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



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

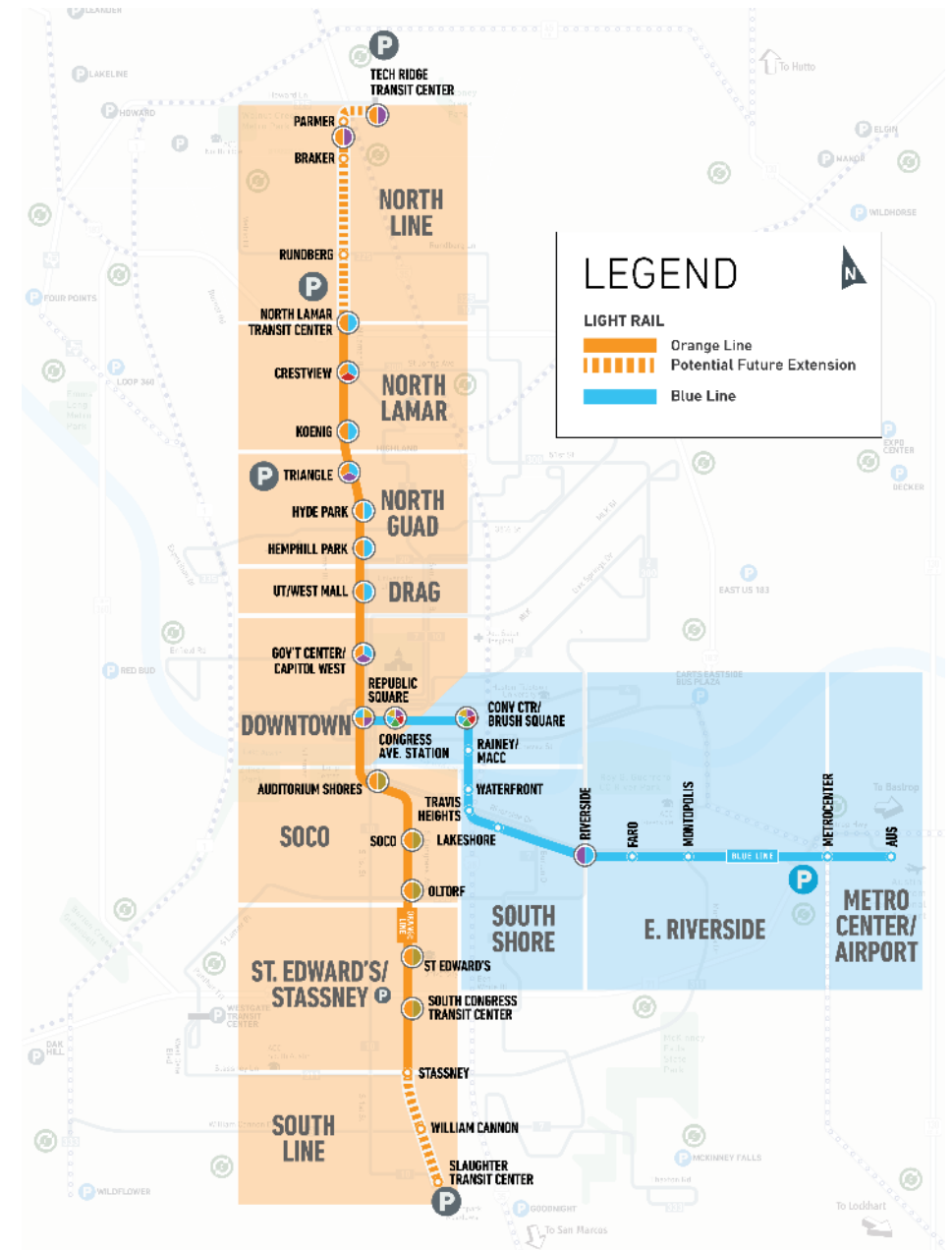
- St. Edward's to Stassney
- South Line

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!