



Deadline approaching for public comments on Gold Line BRT route

Open House & Public Hearing to be held on November 10; deadline for input is November 13

The Gateway Corridor Policy Advisory Committee voted on Thursday, Oct. 13 to select a new route in Oakdale and Woodbury as the draft Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for Gateway Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (Gold Line BRT) that will connect St. Paul with East Metro suburban communities.

The selected route was one of five routes in Oakdale and Woodbury considered by project officials in order to meet the needs of the communities along the route. The vote triggered the beginning of a 30-day public comment period and a public hearing that will be held on November 10 at Woodbury City Hall.

To provide input online, please review the [fact sheet](#) and submit comments using the [contact us](#) page. The deadline for public comments is November 13.

The new draft LPA would enter Oakdale and turn south on Helmo Avenue, crossing over I-94 on a new bridge that would include dedicated lanes for BRT, new general auto traffic lanes, and a bike/pedestrian path, and continue south along Bielenberg Drive to an existing express bus park and ride at the Woodbury Theater, near the Target Greatland store in Woodbury Village.

Cost and ridership analysis will now be completed for the new draft LPA. Estimates are that the new preferred route could cost approximately \$25 million less than the earlier route that went through Lake Elmo to the eastern portion of Woodbury.

Open House & Public Hearing to be held at Woodbury City Hall

You can learn more about the draft LPA route and provide feedback in-person at an open house and public hearing on November 10.

WHAT: Gold Line BRT Open House & Public Hearing
WHEN: Thursday, November 10, 5:30 (Open House), 6:30 (Public Hearing)
WHERE: Woodbury City Hall, 8301 Valley Creek Rd., Woodbury

The open house will include information about the draft LPA and staff will be available to answer questions and take feedback.



Pioneer Press editorial calls Gold Line BRT "A bus line to jobs, jobs, jobs"

The Saint Paul Pioneer Press recently published an editorial regarding the new locally preferred route for Gold Line BRT, saying "There's a lot to like about a new preferred route for the Gold Line."

Here's an excerpt from their editorial which ran on Sunday, Oct. 30:

"The route will:

"Do what transit does best, supporting jobs, jobs, jobs - connecting workers with health care, financial, real estate, retail, restaurant and hotel employers. An analysis found that there are about 1.9 million square feet of retail, office and other existing development within walking distance of the proposed route along Bielenberg Drive in Woodbury and 2,000 jobs near an Oakdale station. For the entire corridor, projections call for about 26,000 additional jobs located in station areas by the year 2040.

"Cost a little less, with estimates putting the price tag for the new route at about \$25 million less than the \$485 million projected for the proposed line when it went through Lake Elmo. Its city council voted in January against locating station stops in the community. As the Pioneer Press' Bob Shaw wrote about the new route, 'Lake Elmo's loss could be Woodbury's gain.'

"Reduce nearby road congestion, with construction of a new bridge that would connect Helmo Avenue in Oakdale and Bielenberg Drive in Woodbury. The bridge is expected to help relieve traffic congestion by taking an estimated 3,000 to 6,000 cars a day from the heavily traveled Inwood Avenue/Radio Drive area, Woodbury Mayor Mary Giuliani Stephens told the editorial board."

The full editorial can be read online [here](#).

About Gateway Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit

Gateway Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit will be Minnesota's first BRT line in a dedicated busway. This cost-effective transportation solution is critical to the future development of our region. All-day transit service would stop at multiple stations and include connections to the growing regional transit system. The work is led by the Gateway Corridor Commission, which is comprised of local elected officials, business and community leaders. More information is available at www.theGatewayCorridor.com. Updates and information can also be found on Facebook at facebook.com/gatewaycorridor and on Twitter at @GoldLineBRT.



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