

Blue Line Extension anti-displacement & community prosperity legislative priorities



Government and community partners are pursuing legislative actions that advance coordinated efforts to build prosperity and prevent displacement in communities along the planned Blue Line Extension in Minneapolis, Robbinsdale, Crystal, and Brooklyn Park.

The equity investment of our generation

The Blue Line Extension project will bring premium transit service to communities of color with some of the highest rates of transit dependence in the state. Due to a history of underinvestment and systemic racism, they continue to face some of the starkest racial and economic disparities in the country.

The Blue Line Extension is a rare opportunity to bring transformational investment to this corridor, connecting people to opportunities and building inclusive prosperity for current corridor residents and future generations.

Invest in Blue Line Extension communities

Bold financial investment and policy actions to support proven strategies that build prosperity and prevent displacement will redefine how major infrastructure investments can be made for the benefit of communities of color, not at their expense.

State funding will support collective priorities and allow individual communities and jurisdictions to advance policies and strategies that best meet their unique needs.



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One vision, many tools

The below policy priorities reflect a unified community-based vision for the corridor for preventing displacement and are intended for individual entities to choose, adapt, and customize based on their own unique challenges and opportunities.

Adopt land use polices that support community goals

- Protect against land speculation and predatory property acquisition
- Support polices on public land disposition, land use, zoning, and development that build racial equity, protect and enhance cultural vibrance, and create opportunities for BIPOC ownership
- Create commercial and residential land trusts to ensure long-term affordability
- Support authority of local governments and community-based organizations to control land
- Support first right of refusal authority of public entities in disposition of private property

Preserve and strengthen local and BIPOC businesses

- Provide technical and financial assistance to businesses impacted by construction
- Support vulnerable small businesses before, during, and after construction
- Promote business stability along the corridor through commercial tenant protections
- Support transit-oriented development, prioritizing affordable commercial and residential space

Protect and enhance cultural and community vibrance

- Support cultural placekeeping and placemaking efforts
- Advance strategic financial supports for low-income residents along the corridor
- Support impacted community-based non-profits through financial support and technical assistance

Grow and preserve affordable housing options

- Preserve naturally occurring affordable housing
- Increase supply of deeply affordable and affordable rental housing
- Promote homeownership through zero- to low-interest loans
- Advance policies to prepare people for homeownership opportunities and financing tools
- Strengthen authority of local governments to adopt inclusionary zoning policies
- Support targeted case management and direct financial assistance that helps people stay in their housing
- Support incentives to local governments to adopt tenant right to purchase programs
- Support state laws that provide tenants' rights to organize and to counsel and financial resources to practice such rights
- Support state authority for local adoption of policies that help people afford rent
- Allow municipalities to prohibit landlords from unfairly screening existing/prospective tenants

Develop our workforce

- Support policies, programs, and investments to increase participation of corridor residents in project work