



# WELCOME

METRORapid  
Gulfton Corridor  
Project

Public  
Meeting

February 2023

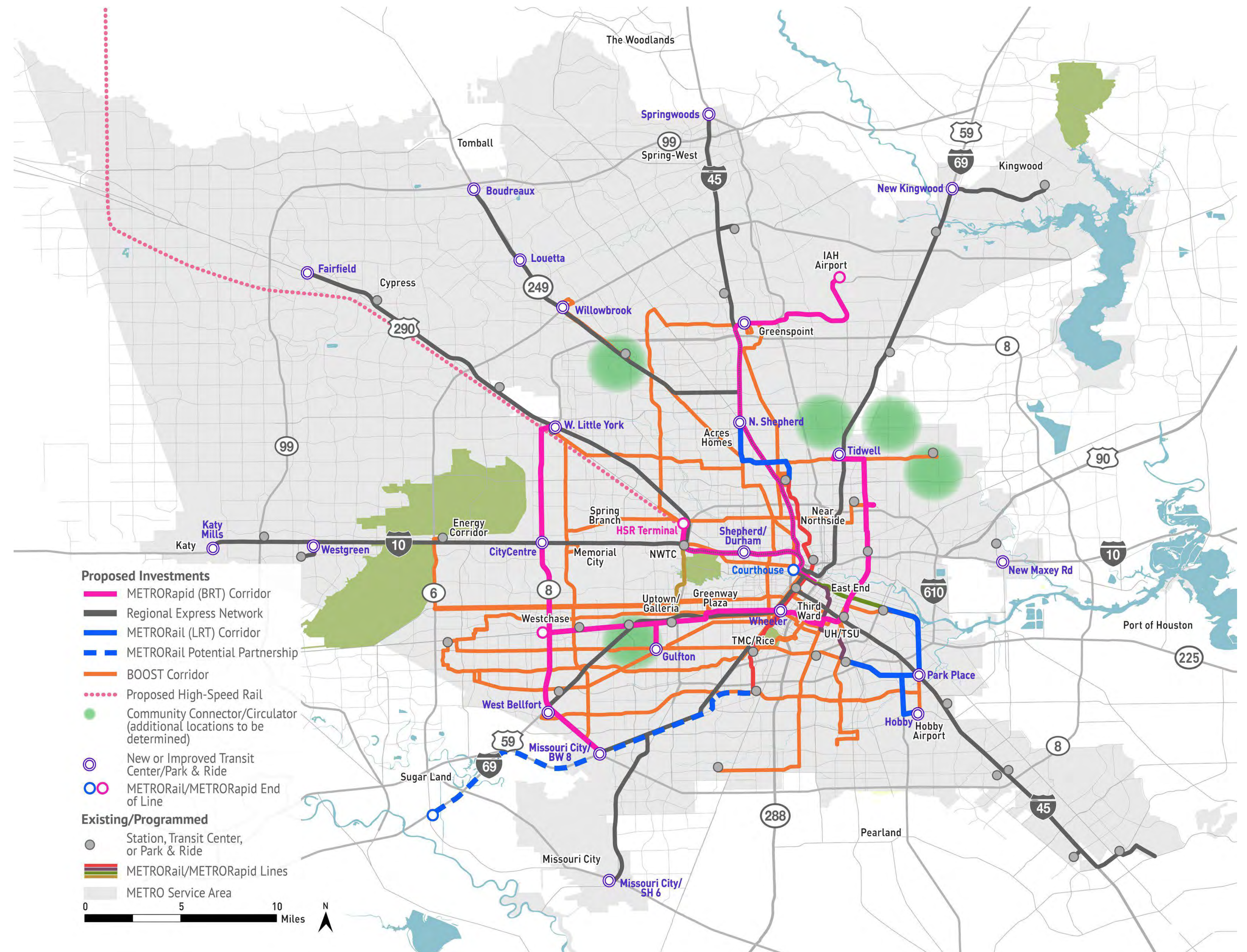




# METRONext Moving Forward Plan

# Multimodal long-range plan

- **75 miles** of METRORapid service
- **16 miles** of METRORail extensions
- **110 miles** of new or improved Express Lanes
- **290 miles** of BOOST and Signature Network service
- Systemwide enhancements
- Approved by voters in 2019





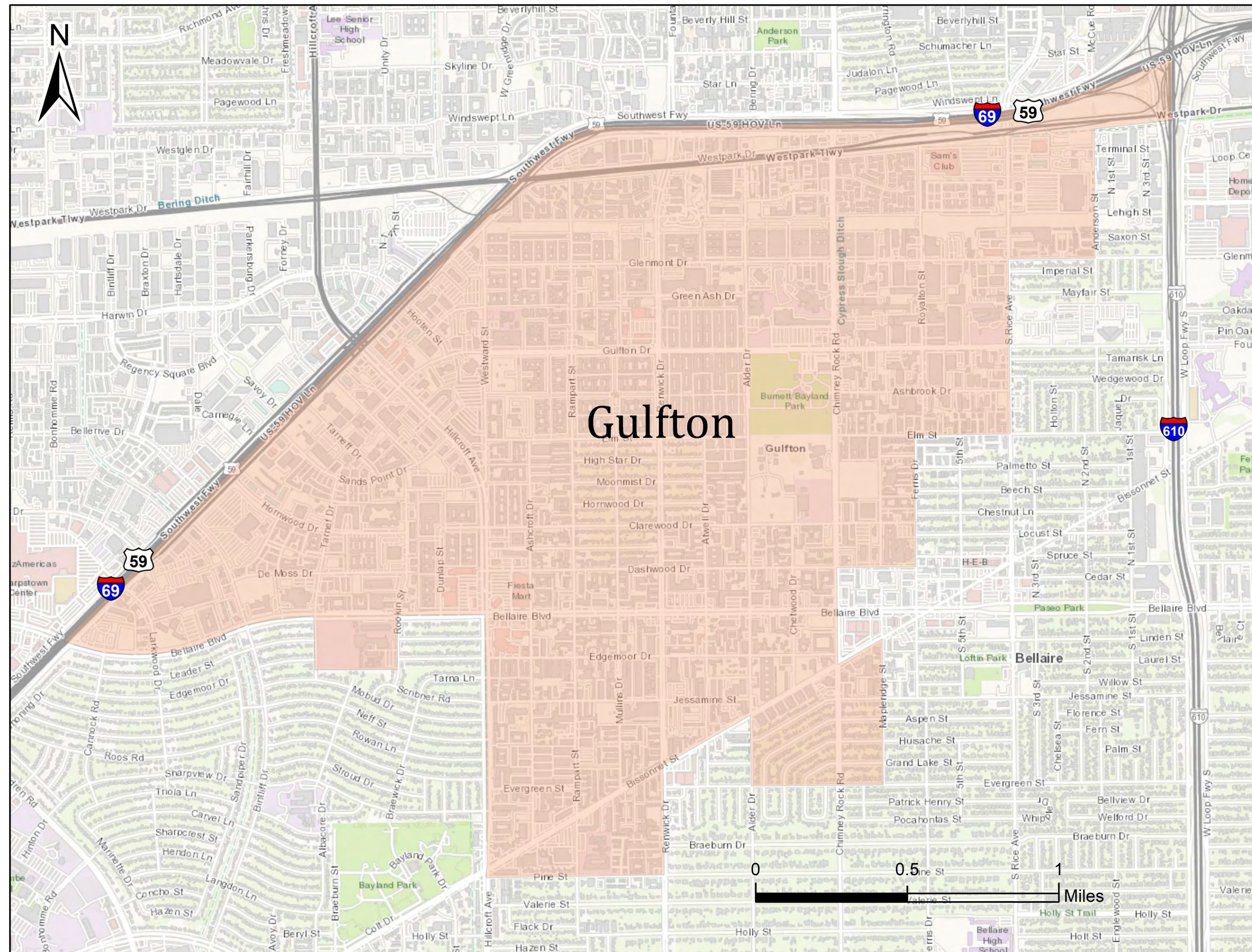
# What is METRORapid?

- A bus rapid transit (BRT) system that provides fast and reliable **high-capacity service – similar to METRORail** – with dedicated stations and lanes
- METRORapid **stations and platforms** will be **universally accessible** and have the same look as METRORail
- The **METRORapid Silver Line** demonstrates the type of service that METRO will provide with this project





# Gulfton Complete Community



## Community Statistics

- 50,000 residents
- Diverse community
- Densely populated
- High transit ridership
- High rates of walking and biking

## Complete Community Action Plan

A City of Houston plan to move the neighborhood towards a healthier, more prosperous, resilient and equitable future.

Mobility Goals of the plan include:

- Build Safe Streets and Sidewalks
- Provide Safe Biking Routes
- Improve Transit Amenities and Information

**Learn More at**  
[HoustonCC.org](https://HoustonCC.org)



# METRORapid Gulfton Corridor Project



Directly serves the Gulfton community with benefits for the entire region



Extension of the existing METRORapid Silver Line



Connects to many current METRO services as well as future enhancements under the METRONext Moving Forward Plan



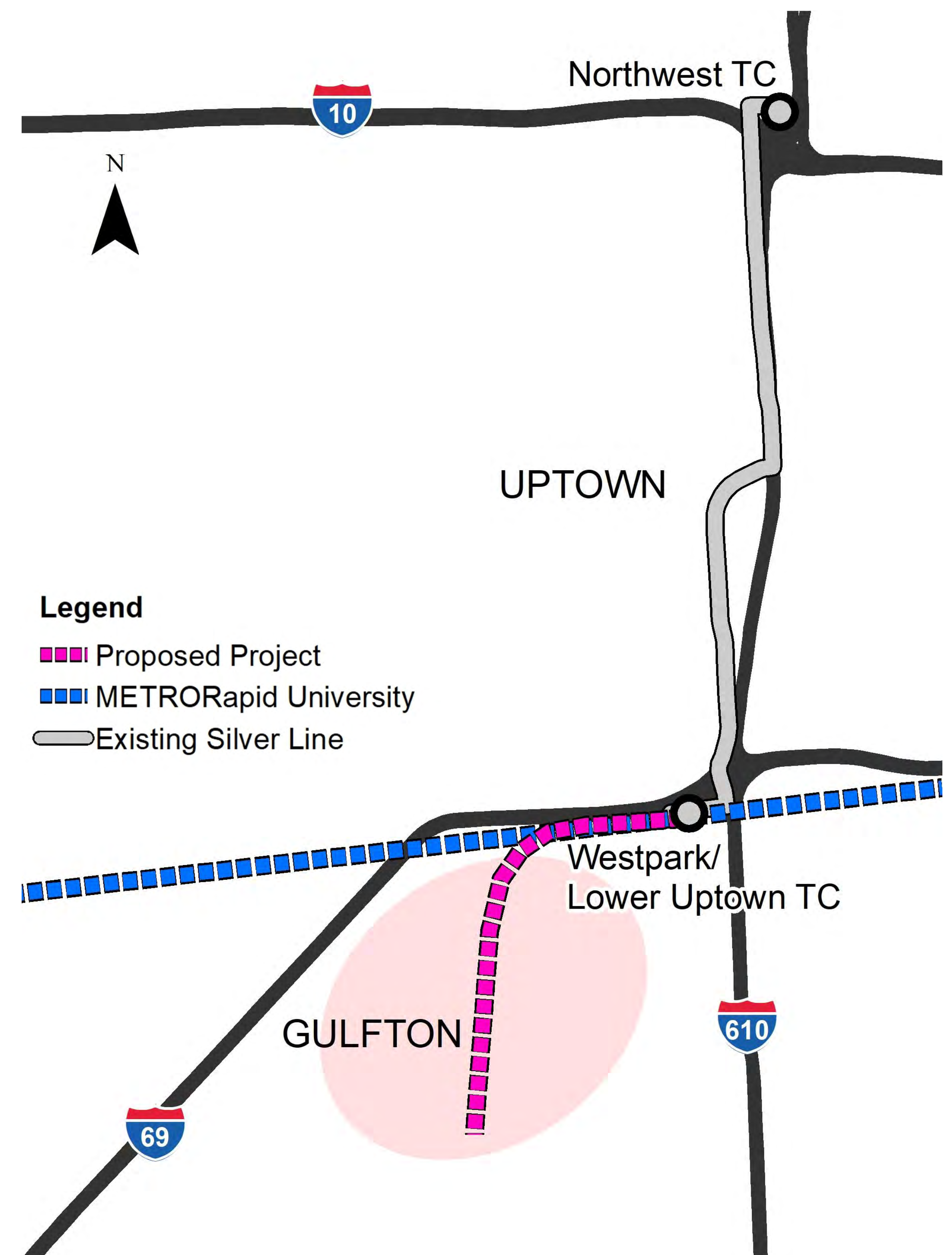
Fast, frequent service with bus-only lanes, transit signal priority, and rail-style stations



Modern design offering 100% accessibility, with wider doorways and level boarding



Low- or no-emission vehicles



# Why METRORapid Gulfton Corridor?

## **IMPROVES MOBILITY AND CONNECTIVITY**

- Provides fast, frequent one-seat ride between Gulfton, Uptown and the Northwest Transit Center.
- Expands access to transfer opportunities at the Westpark/Lower Uptown Transit Center and the Northwest Transit Center.

## **SUPPORTS VIBRANT COMMUNITIES**

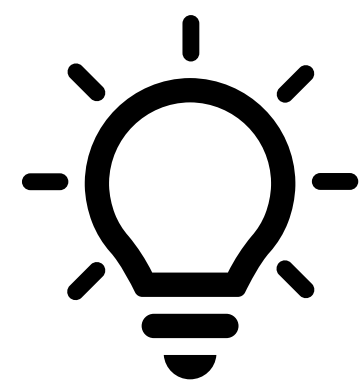
- Serves areas with high transit demand and high projected growth.
- Improves access to major activity centers and employment opportunities for transit riders in the region.

## **ENSURES A RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

- Continues the build out of high-capacity METRORapid service with connections to:
  - Planned METRORapid Inner Katy Corridor
  - Planned METRORapid University Corridor
  - Existing METRORapid Silver Line



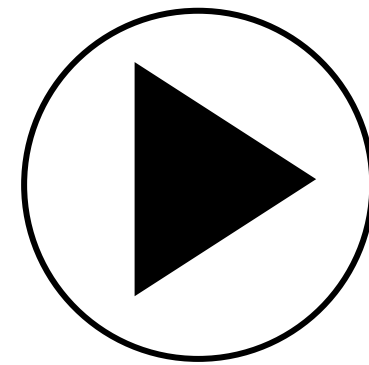
# Timeline



METRONext

2017-2019

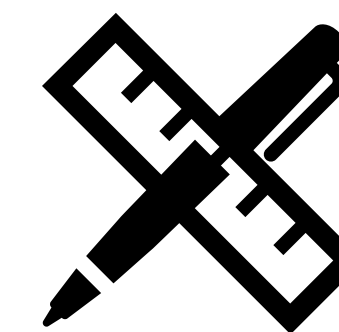
- Identified Purpose and Need
- Initial Concept



Project Initiation

2022

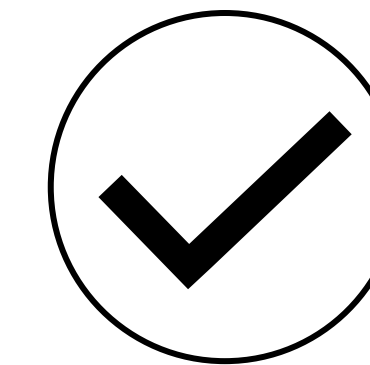
- Review Alternatives
- Implementation Strategy
- Schedule



Project Development

2023

- Initiate Federal Funding Process
- Conceptual Design
- Service Integration
- Environmental Documentation
- Project Management Plan



Implementation

2024 – 2027

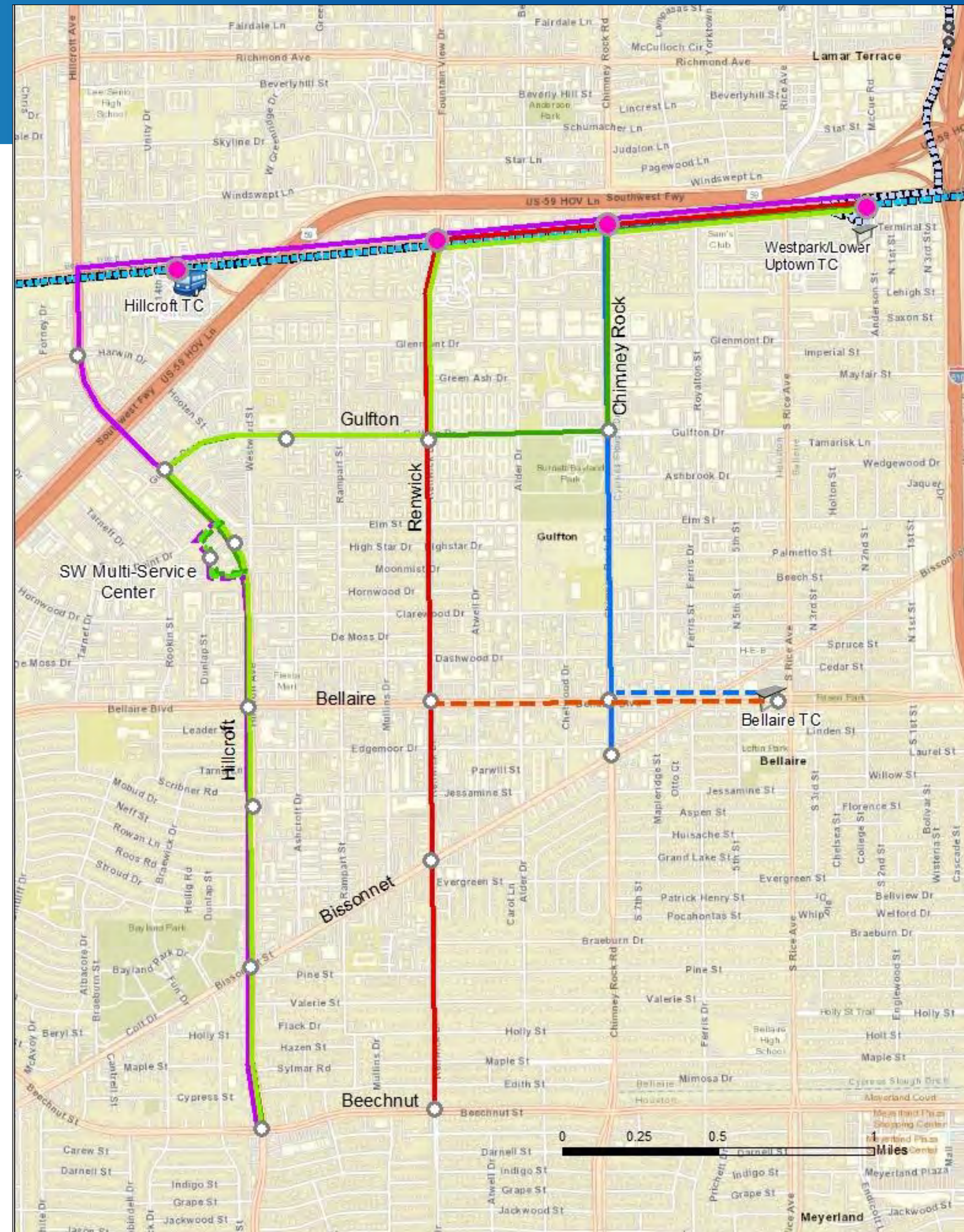
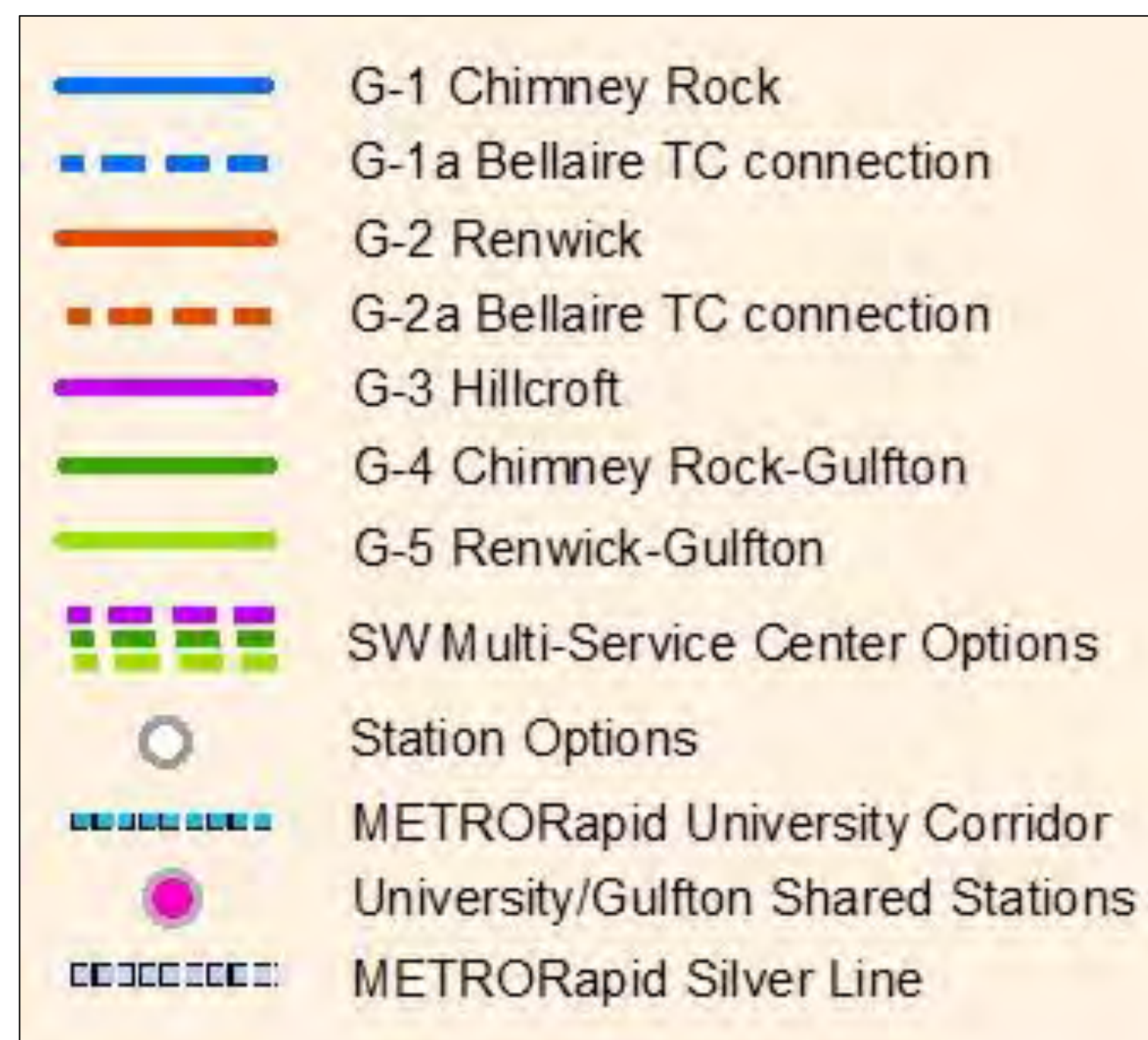
- Federal Grant Agreement
- Final Design
- Construction





# Routes Considered

- Reviewed different routes that achieve project goals
- Connecting to the Southwest Multi-Service Center was an added benefit for some of the routes





# Review Criteria

- Gulfton residents and jobs within walking distance
- Ridership benefits
- Capital and operating costs
- Traffic impacts
- Right-of-way impacts



# Proposed Gulfton Extension



## LEGEND

### PROPOSED PROJECT

- Proposed Route
- Proposed Stations

### OTHER FACILITIES

- Existing METRORapid Silver Line
- Proposed METRORapid University Corridor
- Proposed METRORapid Inner Katy Corridor



# Why This Route?

- Addresses community needs
- Serves the heart of Gulfton
- Serves major destinations such as the Southwest Multi-Service Center area and Burnett Bayland Park
- High projected ridership



# Visualizing a METRORapid Corridor

**[Click here to view a short video.](#)**



# METRORapid Gulfton Corridor

## METRO Right-of-Way along Westpark Drive

Westpark / Lower Uptown Transit Center to Chimney Rock Road



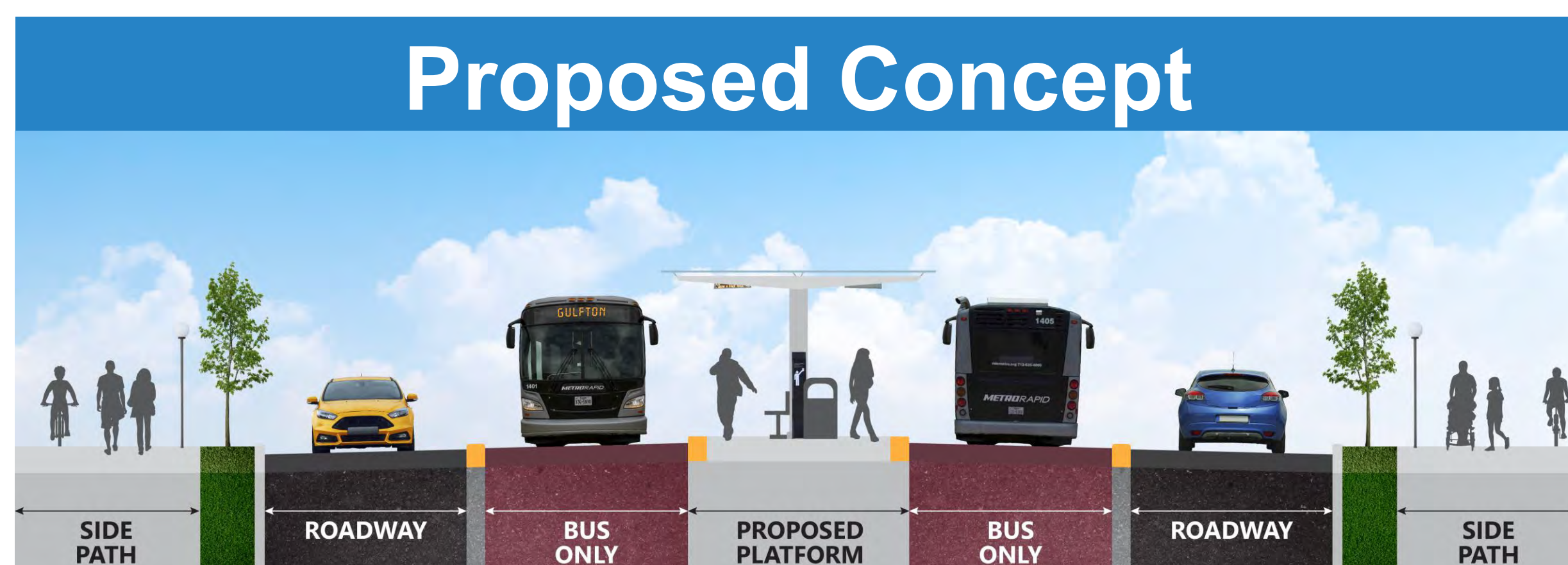
**DISCLAIMER:** These visualizations are conceptual in nature and subject to change as the project advances.



# METRORapid Gulfton Corridor

## Chimney Rock Road

Westpark Drive to Gulfton Street



**DISCLAIMER:** These visualizations are conceptual in nature and subject to change as the project advances.



# METRORapid Gulfton Corridor

## Hillcroft Avenue Gulfton Street to High Star Drive

### Existing



### Proposed Concept



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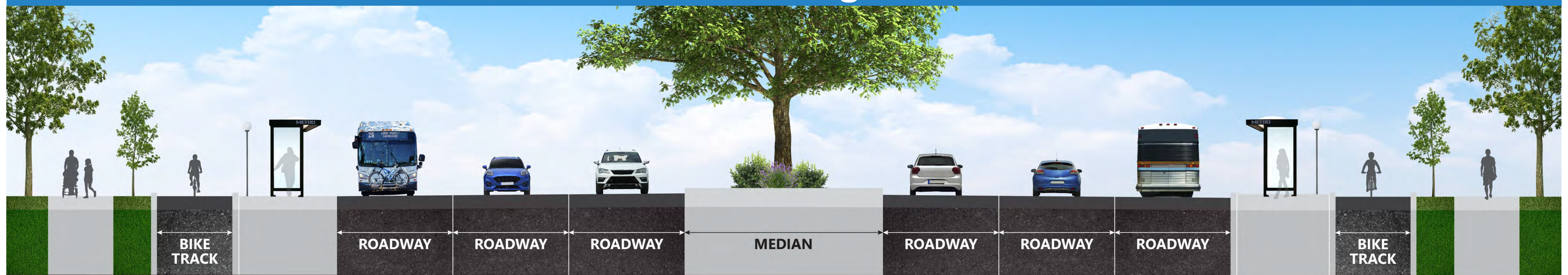


# METRORapid Gulfton Corridor

## Hillcroft Avenue

High Star Drive to Bellaire Boulevard

### Existing



### Proposed Concept

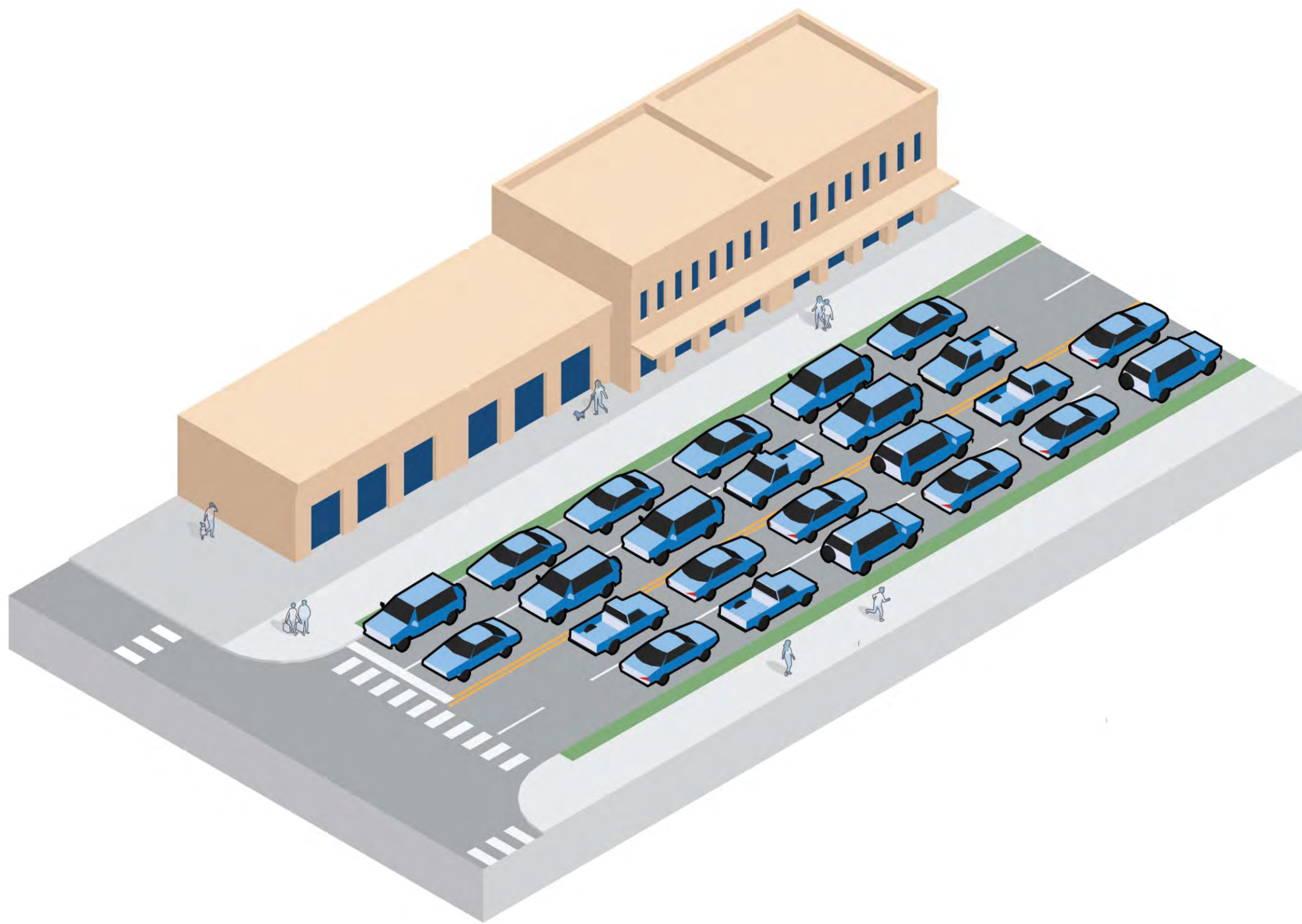


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**IMPROVED MOBILITY: SPACE IS THE COMMODITY**  
MOVING PEOPLE EFFICIENTLY IN THE SAME SPACE AND DURATION

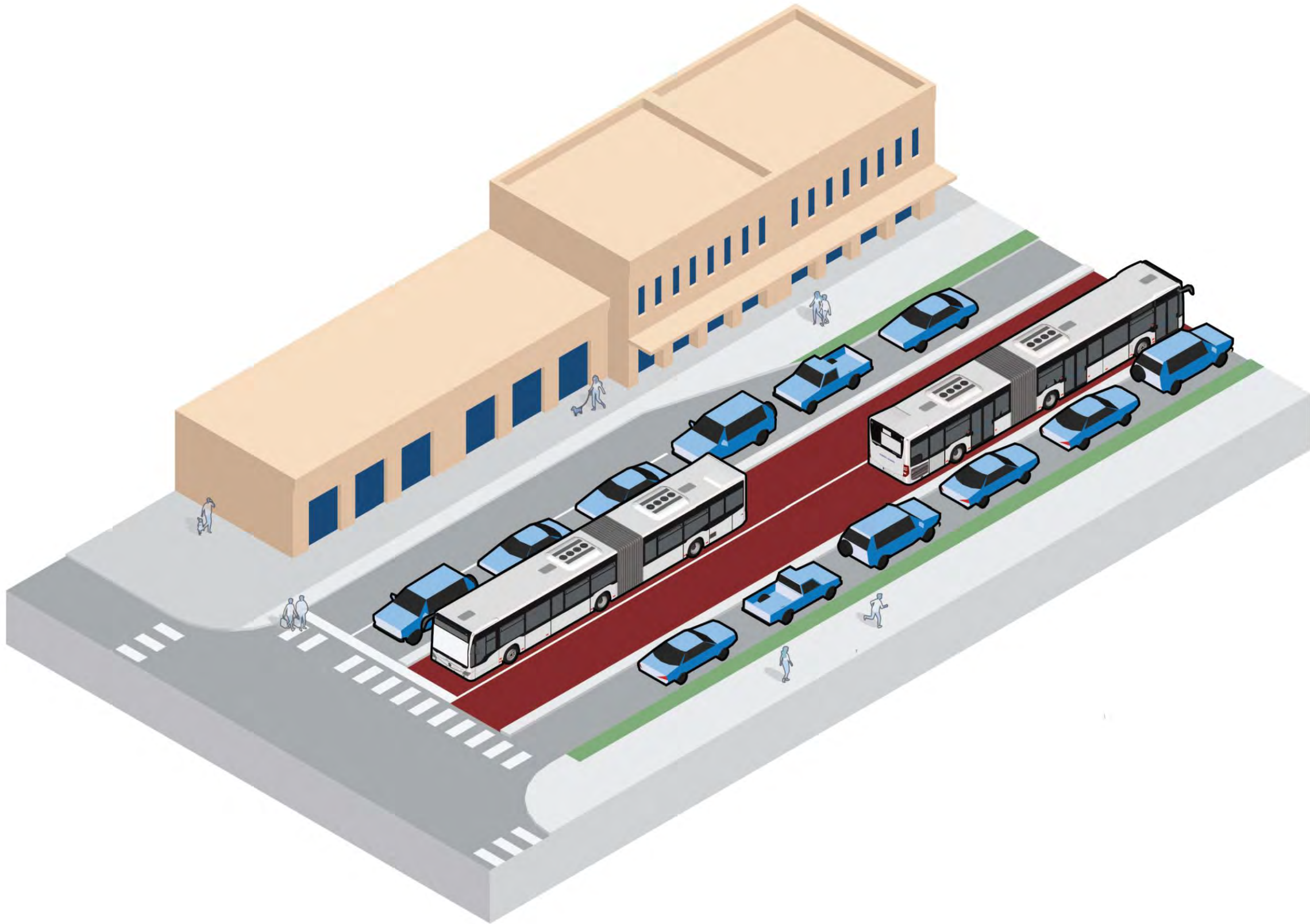
Illustrations for representational purposes only. Preliminary and subject to change based on public input and technical review.



Before METRORapid  
Corridor Project



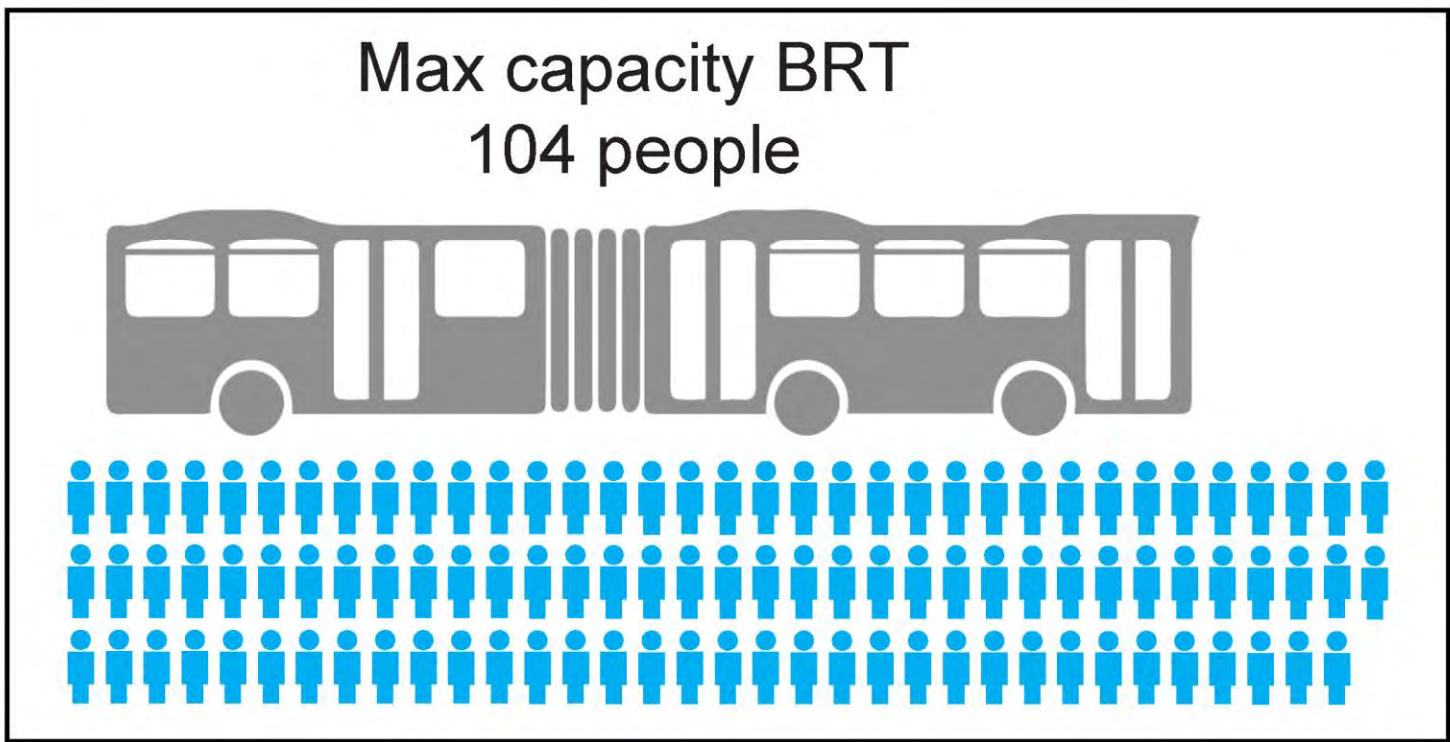
Total people on the road  
(per the diagram)



After METRORapid  
Corridor Project



Total people on the road  
(per the diagram)



NOT TO SCALE



# Next Steps

- METRO Board of Directors Adopts Preferred Alternative
- Continue Community Engagement
- Continue Stakeholder and Interagency Coordination
- Complete Environmental Studies
- Advance Design



# Get Engaged



## Complete

a project survey on  
your phone or tablet



## Sign up

for project updates  
[RideMETRO.org/Gulfton](https://RideMETRO.org/Gulfton)

**Learn more at**  
[RideMETRO.org/Gulfton](https://RideMETRO.org/Gulfton)