

Recommendations of the Nor Rush Line Coalition

Recommendation No. 1

A Transit Needs Study shall be conducted to identify transit solutions that fit the City of Maplewood.

The Study will include analysis of a combination of transit solutions that use existing infrastructure and would use transit services such as: Arterial BRT; Metro Mobility; Transit Link; NewTrax; Local Connectors; Dedicated Connectors; Metro Micro Mobility; Mobility4all; and other innovative Post-Covid transit solutions such as autonomous dedicated transit services; and would exclude the use of the Bruce Vento Regional Trail for vehicular traffic.

The Study shall be conducted by an independent, objective, third party transit organization that specializes in multi-modal transit designs, and is an entity that is unaffiliated with the Metropolitan Council.

Funding for the Study shall be provided by transportation grants from federal, state, or local governmental entities.

The Study shall provide recommendations to the City of Maplewood Mayor and City Council members.

The Study shall include a public engagement plan that is designed and implemented by both the City and the transit study organization.

The Study will include recommendations for how the transit needs can be monitored and transit services can be adjusted to accommodate changing transit needs of the City of Maplewood.

Recommendation No. 2

The City of Maplewood will establish a formal Transit Advisory Board that will provide ongoing evaluation of transit needs of the City, and would serve as an advisory board and make recommendations to the City of Maplewood Mayor and City Council Members on transit needs and transit solutions. It would serve as the liaison to the transit study organization and the City of Maplewood Mayor and City Council Members.

Recommendation No. 3

The Maplewood City Council to pass a Resolution recognizing the Bruce Vento Trail as one of the top 10 trails in the State of Minnesota; a regional natural amenity; an important habitat for the Federally endangered Rusty-Patched Bumblebee; and that it's existing tree canopy is a cost-saving, indispensable component of Maplewood's infrastructure and system of greenway corridors as set forth in the City's comprehensive plan, and therefore should be permanently protected as a non-vehicular trail.

Recommendation No. 4

The City of Maplewood to conduct an anonymous survey, to encourage frank and open responses, of the Maplewood police and firefighter/paramedics to obtain their input on safety issues, enforcement issues and accessibility to respond to calls for service if the Purple Line is constructed on the Bruce Vento Trail vs a current roadway such as Highway 61, Arcade or White Bear Ave.