

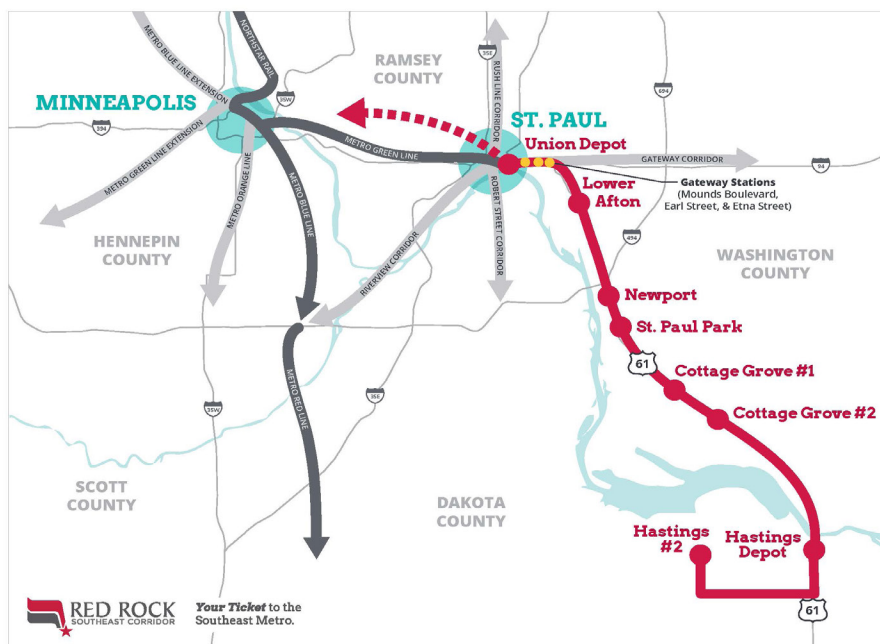
Expanded Bus Route 363 - Red Rock Corridor, Phase I Implementation



The Washington County Regional Railroad Authority (WCRRRA) supports funds for a two-year demonstration of an expansion of the bus route (Route 363) that would provide all-day, bi-directional bus service between Saint Paul and Cottage Grove.

Issue At-A-Glance

- Existing transit service in the Red Rock corridor is during peak period designed for workers with 9 am – 5 pm work schedules.
- Expanding Route 363 would provide all-day service every 30 minutes in both directions between Saint Paul and Cottage Grove. Stops will include the Newport Transit Station, owned by Washington County.
- An Implementation Plan was completed in 2016, which recommended this demonstration project as a near-term activity to build ridership in the corridor prior to full BRT implementation.
- Estimated cost for two-year demonstration of the expanded Route 363 is \$5.6 million.



Support

Red Rock Corridor Commission, Metro Transit, local communities along the corridor, East Metro Strong, and those who support buses over other public transit options.

Previous Consideration

Washington County and Metro Transit submitted a Regional Solicitation Transit Expansion application in July 2016 to fund the purchase of four buses and operate new, local bus service in Red Rock Corridor between Saint Paul and Cottage Grove. This application was not funded.

Washington County also submitted a request for demonstration funds in the 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 legislative sessions. These requests were not funded.

No Action

Without action the transit needs of the southeastern Twin Cities region will not be met.

Financial Implications

Sustainable revenue sources need to be identified to extend the life of the project beyond demonstration.

Benefits of expanded Route 363

- Expanded multimodal travel options in the Highway 61 corridor.
- Availability of all-day local service for people whose travel needs are not met with peak-period service.
- Increased access for people currently unable to use the park-and-ride based commuter-express service.

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