



## SUPPORTER UPDATE



Greetings,

Minnesota's new star - Northstar Commuter Rail - has connections. And, so will you. When Northstar Commuter Rail begins regular commuter service on Monday, Nov. 16, it will be part of a growing transit network that extends across the region.

Northstar operations will be managed by Metro Transit. That means the Northstar Line will connect with other regional services, making your commute easy and affordable. The Northstar Corridor Development Authority also is collaborating with St. Cloud Metro Bus to provide connecting commuter coach service between Big Lake and St. Cloud.

Here are just a few of Northstar's route connections:

1. **Suburban bus routes** currently serving areas along the Northstar Corridor will be adjusted to work in conjunction with commuter rail service. Some neighborhoods will acquire new bus service while other route schedules will be adjusted or replaced by Northstar trains.

**Public meetings are scheduled Wednesday (Sept. 16) and Thursday (the 17th) at the Minneapolis Central Library and in Coon Rapids and Fridley to familiarize riders with bus route adjustments. Read the [news release](#) for meeting times and details.**

2. The **Hiawatha Light Rail Transit Line** provides more frequent service than commuter rail and is a free transfer for Northstar passengers. Hiawatha has stops in downtown and south Minneapolis, as well as at the VA Medical Center, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and Mall of America. Access to Hiawatha LRT trains is a quick escalator ride up from Northstar's platform at Target Field Station in Minneapolis.
3. **The Downtown Transit Center** at the 5th Street Garage is within walking distance from Target Field Station. Northstar passengers receive a free transfer to any weekday Metro Transit bus route, and a shuttle bus will meet each weekday train to take customers to the south end of downtown Minneapolis.

You're not limited to vehicle connections. The downtown Minneapolis skyway system is within walking distance. Or, bring your bike on the train and take advantage of the growing bike path network downtown.

4. **Northstar Link** will transport riders between a park-and-ride lot at Highway 10 and Lincoln Avenue in St. Cloud and Northstar's Big Lake Station. The commuter coach will meet every train and introductory fares on the commuter coach will be \$1 per trip. Transfers do not apply between the Northstar Link and the train. One of the bus trips to St. Cloud stops at St. Cloud State University and downtown St. Cloud.

### **Exploring the Northstar Corridor: Downtown Minneapolis**

Target Field Station, located in downtown Minneapolis and adjacent to the new Twins' Ballpark, provides connections to the Hiawatha light rail line and is the [proposed hub for other transit lines into the metro area](#). The station is conveniently situated near the

downtown business district, distinct restaurants, theaters, Nicollet Mall shopping and other destinations. Visit the [City of Minneapolis](#) or the [Minneapolis Downtown Council](#) for more information.

Sincerely,

Dan Erhart  
NCDA Chair

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