

# Why is Lake Street/Midtown station being renovated?

Lake Street/Midtown Station is the busiest METRO Blue Line station north of the airport, with nearly 800,000 boardings annually. The two-story transit station is due for improvements that benefit customers and the community into the future as it approaches 20 years in service.

Route 21 connects with METRO Blue Line at the station and serves as the highest boarding location for the route. The light rail station is a key connection point for the future METRO B Line.

## Station renovation goals

- Improving reliable accessibility between Lake Street and light rail platform levels for customers with all abilities and needs
- Creating a welcoming station entrance, oriented toward Lake Street
- Enhancing customer experience and amenities
- Using safe, sustainable, long-lasting building materials that are easy to maintain
- Integrating the station design with nearby spaces, including Market Square and trail connections

## Timeline



Concept planning for the station renovation began in 2022, with design and community engagement beginning in 2023. The station renovation, along with planned light rail track replacement, is expected to take place in 2025-2026.

The project is closely coordinated with Hennepin County, City of Minneapolis, and MnDOT to make roadway and landscape improvements to the Hiawatha-Lake intersection in 2024, which will include completion of METRO B Line stations along Lake Street.

## Near-term improvements

In addition to its age, the station has sustained significant damage over the last three years. Urgent repairs are critical for the high volume of customers that board trains here every day.

In 2022 and early 2023, a mural was added on the building exterior to deter vandalism; damaged glass and signs were replaced throughout the station, and repairs were made to the concrete stairs. Customers will continue to see improvements and repairs to the existing station before the renovation. In summer 2023 we're making the following changes:

- Elevator cleaning and major repairs
- Escalator cleaning and repairs
- Interior public art installation
- Glass replacement
- Concrete repairs on the platform
- Deep cleaning
- 24/7 platform security presence

## Project updates

Get more information about the project, including project updates and opportunities to be involved with the design at [metrotransit.org/hi-lake](https://metrotransit.org/hi-lake).

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