

# **Jefferson Alignment MetroLink Expansion Project**

## **St. Louis, Missouri**

### **New Starts Project Development**

### **Information Prepared June 2024**

The Bi-State Development Agency (BSD) proposes to implement a 5.6-mile light-rail line connecting the Northside, Midtown, and Southside neighborhoods, with further connections to Downtown St. Louis and the Cortex Innovation Community. The light-rail line would travel within a dedicated transitway on Natural Bridge Avenue from Grand Boulevard to Parnell Street, and on Parnell Street/Jefferson Avenue to Chippewa Street. The project is anticipated to connect with the Red and Blue MetroLink Lines at a new station near Ewing Yard in Midtown, which would support connections from the project area to universities, hospitals, and job centers in the region. The project is planned to include 13 stations and operate every 10 to 20 minutes from 5 AM to 1 AM daily. The project's current estimated capital cost is \$1.1 billion. BSD has not yet determined how much funding they may seek from the New Starts program.

BSD believes that the project would address challenging socio-economic characteristics in the project area by improving access to jobs and other economic opportunities, bolstering ongoing revitalization efforts, and catalyzing new investment throughout the corridor.

A locally preferred alternative was selected in October 2023 and adopted into the region's fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan in February 2024. BSD anticipates completing the environmental review process with receipt of a Finding of No Significant Impact in May 2025, entering the Engineering phase in early 2026, receiving a Full Funding Grant Agreement in 2027, and beginning revenue service in 2031.

