Railvolution 2017:
Creative Placemaking, Rail Trails and Station Activation

Midtown Greenway
Minneapolis, Minnesota
• 5.5 miles connecting the Mississippi River to the Lakes across south Minneapolis (“Midtown”)
• 2/3rds in the trench; 1/3 at grade
• Maintained year-round (plowed in the winter)
• Crosses several main north-south transit routes
“If you imagine a bicycling transportation utopia, we have largely achieved that along the Midtown Greenway.”
Creating great spaces:
Start with good design: meant for people
Creating great active spaces:
Existing businesses embrace the Greenway
Creating great active spaces:
New developments embrace the Greenway
Creating great active spaces:
Community embraces the Greenway
Connecting the Midtown Greenway to transitways: Improving multi-modal mobility
Midtown Greenway at METRO Blue Line/Hiawatha LRT at Lake Street Station
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Work to do!
Midtown Greenway at the Midtown Exchange/Chicago Avenue: Chicago Ave Transit Center
Midtown Greenway at the Midtown Exchange/Chicago Avenue: Chicago Ave Transit Center

- Greenway-facing windows added
- Hotel adds patio and stairs to Greenway
- Grain elevator removed for spacious connection
- New Bike Center at Greenway level
Midtown Greenway at the Midtown Exchange/Chicago Avenue: Chicago Ave Transit Center
Midtown Greenway at I35W – Future METRO Orange Line BRT and Lake Street Transit Station

• Existing condition:

- Stairs are the only way to reach bus stop
- No connection at Greenway to street, bus
- Bus stop at freeway level
Midtown Greenway at I35W – Future METRO Orange Line BRT and Lake Street Transit Station

- Now under construction
- Opening in 2020

New bike-ped connection from Greenway to new transit station

Center line transit station for all buses on I35W and new high-frequency extended day bi-directional BRT service
Midtown Greenway at Hennepin Ave:
Uptown Transit Station

Phase One Greenway: opened 2000  
Uptown Transit Station opened 2002
Midtown Greenway at Hennepin Ave: Uptown Transit Station

Mozaic Art Park, new Greenway access and connecting bridge, 2012
Midtown Greenway at West Lake Street: Future SWLRT/Green Line Extension

• Current condition:
Midtown Greenway at West Lake Street: Future SWLRT/Green Line Extension

*Local funding secured
*Service scheduled to open in 2022
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