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**Cover photos courtesy of the 2021 MPTA
Bus Roadeo and Maple Grove Transit**



Maple Grove Transit Creates a Mobility Hub

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Maple Grove Transit Creates a Mobility Hub

Maple Grove Transit has created a Mobility Hub at the Maple Grove Transit Station. The concept of shared mobility along with mobility hubs are the current buzz in the transportation industry. Mobility hubs are places of connectivity where different travel options – walking, biking, transit, and shared mobility – come together. They provide an integrated suite of mobility services, amenities, and supporting technologies to better connect high-frequency and express transit with on-demand travel choices. Mobility Hubs can be especially useful for workforce transportation including first mile and last mile connections.

With the potential of permanent changes in mobility habits and patterns related to the COVID pandemic, Maple Grove Transit recognized that it needed to pivot to embrace and engage these changes. A Mobility Hub helps coordinate Maple Grove Transit express buses, local fixed route, MY RIDE demand



response, other micro-transit services, carpooling, Uber/Lyft, biking, and pedestrians all at once at the Maple Grove Transit Station.

Hopefully, the Maple Grove Mobility Hub can be a case study for other local projects. As Maple Grove was kicking off this project, it found out that Metro Transit was just about to embark on an initiative to create a mobility hub planning guide for regional transit programs to weave these principles and



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features into their facilities and services. Metro Transit hopes to create a tool that can assist planners in funding and executing a variety of mobility hub projects. Maple Grove has been participating stakeholder in the Metro Transit mobility hub process.



To create this Mobility Hub, Maple Grove Transit needed to reconfiguration a portion of the Maple Grove Transit Station's bus way and the small surface parking lot on the south side of the facility. Walker Parking Consultants were hired to design the project. Originally, the small parking lot on the south side of the facility was primarily used as kiss-and-ride (drop-offs) lot and short-term parking. This area was reconfigured, landscaped, signed and striped to facilitate the Mobility Hub concepts. The photos show the final results. The lot opened in early August.

Four electrical vehicle charging (EVC) stations were also added as part of the project. Maple Grove partnered with Blink to install 19.2kW EVC units, which means it can charge at a

higher kWh rate and generate up to 2.5 times as much electrical revenue per charging session.

Prior to these changes, the bus way was often clogged with express buses, intercity buses (Jefferson Lines), paratransit buses, and cars. Now each type of bus/service has its proper place, space, and lane. Clear signage directs everyone where to go. Enhanced pedestrian features make that circulation more functional and safer.

Maple Grove also made service and policy changes to its demand response MY RIDE service as part of this project. It is also looking at locating the MY RIDE dispatch and customer service center inside the Maple Grove Transit Station as part of phase two.

The Maple Grove Transit Station located at 12350 Main Street North is a 924-stall parking ramp and indoor station that opened in December 2004. This facility was primarily designed to accommodate a bustling commuter express market. The mobility hub re-design has now set up the facility to champion a new mobility concept for years to come. A concept that better serves a wide variety of populations and travel needs.

