

## Does Public Transportation Serve the Daily Needs of Suburban Residents Without Private Vehicles?

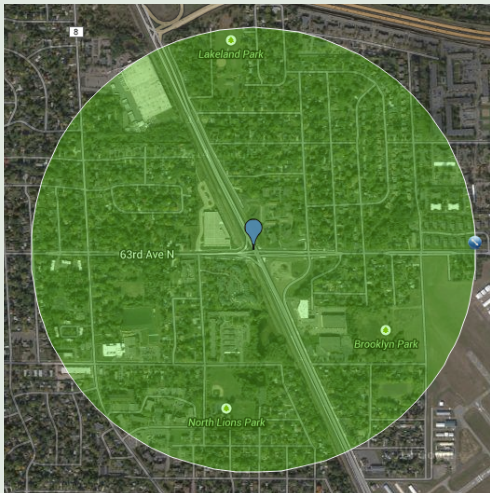
Most public transportation lines are designed to efficiently take residents from suburbs to downtown during rush hours. How easy is day-to-day intracity travel without a car?

# UNITED ED

## for transportation equity

### A Light Rail Report Card

The Metropolitan Council has proposed extending light rail service into Brooklyn Park. How does it meet basic needs?



### Neighborhood Features

- Brooklyn Park
- North Lions Park
- Skyway Park
- Crystal Airport
- Prairie Seeds Academy
- First Lutheran Church
- Lakeland Park
- O'Reilly Auto Parts
- Intrepid USA Home Health
- Firenet Systems, Inc.
- Some connecting bus lines

The half-mile walking radius around each proposed stop was rated based on access to Day Care, Health Care, Education, Government Services, Community Amenities, Food, Banking, Shopping, Employment and other livability factors. The 63rd Avenue stop, for example, rated an A- for community amenities such as parks, but failed to provide most basic needs.

The student survey and light rail report card are the first steps in a larger project looking at **transportation equity** in Brooklyn Park. Breck School students, in conjunction with Cities United and the City of Brooklyn Park received a grant from What Kids Can Do to study intracommunity transportation.

Their goal is to create comprehensive recommendations on bus routes, light rail connectivity, and car-sharing to community officials.

### City of Brooklyn Park

- Minneapolis Suburb, Sixth Largest City in Minnesota
- 48% People of Color vs. 15% for Minnesota
- 20% Foreign Born vs. 7% for Minnesota



### How Do Youth Get Around in Brooklyn Park?

In October 2014, students at the Osseo Area Learning Center were surveyed about their transportation habits.

Where do you go? Please mark on the Brooklyn Park map.

How do you get around? Please rank from 1-7. 1 is most used. 7 is least used.

- 3 Personal Vehicle - I drive myself
- 1 Personal Vehicle - Family member drives me
- 2 Personal Vehicle - Friends drive me
- 4 Public Transportation Bus
- 6 Private Pay Transportation (e.g. Taxi)
- 5 Bicycle
- 4 Walk

What is your preferred way to get around? Please rank from 1-7. 1 is most used. 7 is least used.

- 1 Personal Vehicle - I drive myself
- 3 Personal Vehicle - Family member drives me
- 2 Personal Vehicle - Friends drive me
- 4 Public Transportation Bus
- 7 Private Pay Transportation (e.g. Taxi)
- 6 Bicycle
- 5 Walk

### Dependent vs. Independent Travelers

Youth who have access to vehicles drive themselves. The majority of youth, however, rely on family members to get around.

When looking at second-choice alternatives, two groups arose.

**Dependent Travelers** relied on friends for transportation or didn't travel.

**Independent Travelers** walked or rode bicycles, turning to public transportation only as a last resort.

When independent travelers were questioned further, two common themes arose.

**Public transportation is inconvenient.**

*"You have to leave two or three hours early to get anywhere and then you'll still probably be late."*

**Public transportation is perceived to be unsafe.**

*"You don't want to f\*ck with the 19 or the 5."*



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