



Pedestrian - New Construction

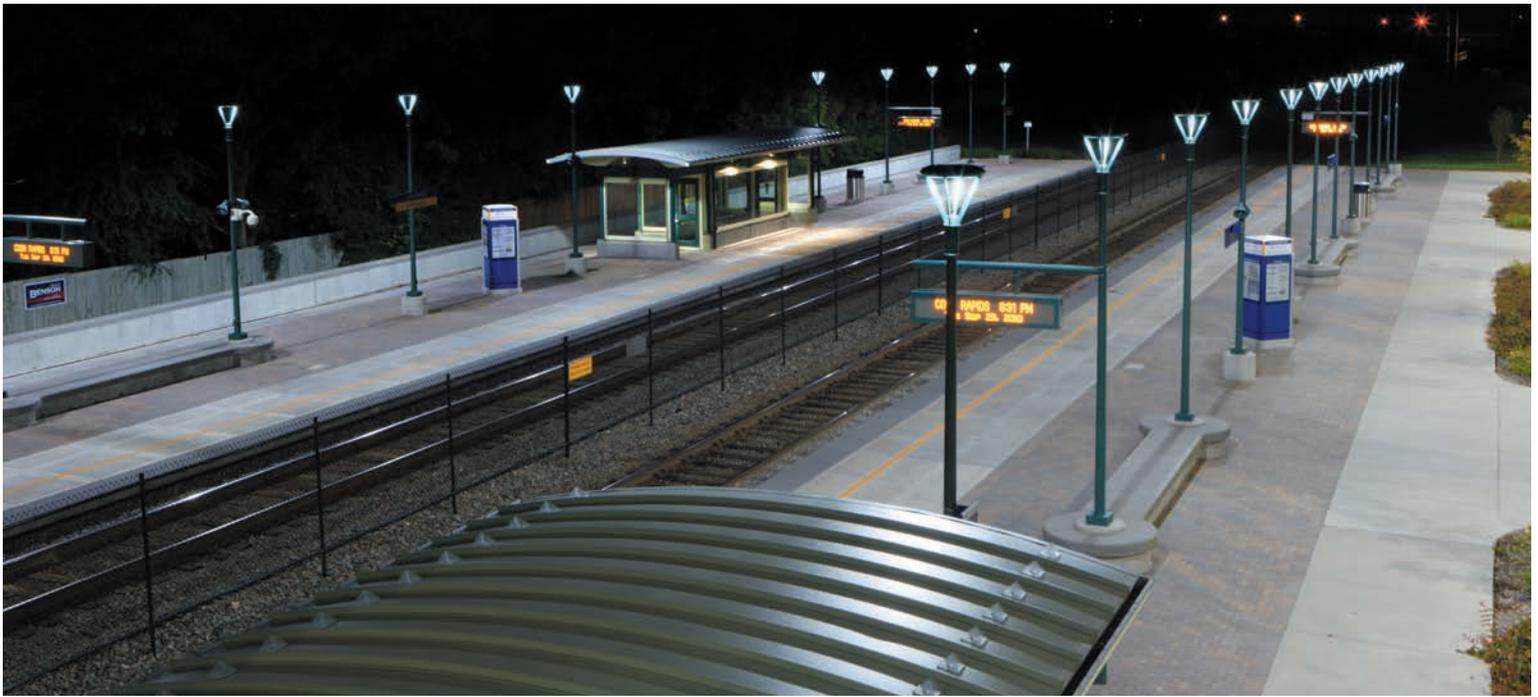
# Northstar Commuter Rail

## Minneapolis, MN

Northstar Commuter Rail chooses Cree LED luminaires over traditional metal halide lights to reduce maintenance and energy usage.

- Significant energy savings
- Reduced maintenance
- Competitive cost compared to traditional lighting technology





“ We were excited to learn that we could install a comparable priced LED lighting solution instead of metal halide. ”

**Chirs Weyer**, *Assistant Director  
Design and Construction,  
Metro Transit*

## RAILWAY COMMUTERS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS SEEING “GREEN”

### OPPORTUNITY

MetroTransit, a service of Minnesota’s Metropolitan Council, owns and operates Northstar Commuter Rail, the state’s first commuter rail service. The rapid transit trains service the congested and fast growing northern area of the Twin Cities and provide an important link to a broader transit network that includes a new arterial bus system.

### SOLUTION

Six train station platforms spanning 40 miles from downtown Minneapolis to Big Lake, Minn. are illuminated with Cree Edge™ round area luminaires on 15-foot spider mount posts. The three-light bar luminaires with Type V distribution at 350mA achieve the project criteria of providing two foot candles minimum illumination at the edge of the platform tactile strip for safe visibility.

According to Luma Sales Associates, Cree® luminaires with BetaLED® Technology were specified for the project because reducing energy and maintenance were major concerns. The connected load was very low for the Cree® luminaires in contrast to T6 G12 pulse start metal halide fixtures that were specified. The 79-total-system-watt Cree® luminaires provide significant energy savings and reduced maintenance compared to the 150-watt (189-total system watt) metal halide fixtures. According to MP Consultants, a Plymouth, Minn.-based lighting agency, Cree Edge™ area round luminaires were compared to metal halide fixtures and were selected based on a life cycle cost analysis.

### BENEFITS

“We were excited to learn that we could install a comparable priced LED lighting solution instead of metal halide. The Cree® luminaires meet the same lighting performance standards as the traditional technology that was initially specified. The platforms are well lit – we haven’t received any complaints,” stated Chris Weyer, Assistant Director of Design and Construction for Metro Transit.

In November 2009 after 12 years of work, Northstar Commuter Rail began service from Big Lake station to downtown Minneapolis. Northstar is a joint effort of the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Northstar Corridor Development Authority, and the Metropolitan Council. The \$320 million cost is shared by the state and federal governments, the regional rail authorities for Anoka, Hennepin and Sherburne Counties, the Metropolitan Council and the Minnesota Twins. MetroTransit’s public policy on transportation forecasts rail ridership will double by 2030.

Learn more at: [www.cree.com/lighting](http://www.cree.com/lighting) | [info@cree.com](mailto:info@cree.com) | 800.236.6800

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