

Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority
City of Austin, Downtown Commission – Project Connect Update
May 16, 2018







#### The benefits of regional transportation investments

**Affordability** 



Health



Neighborhoods



**Economy** 



**Safety** 



**Environment** 

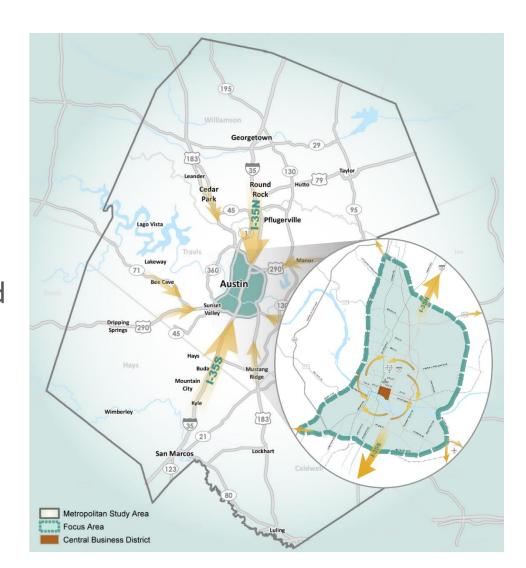






#### **Project Connect is a ...**

- Regional mobility vision
- Multigenerational investment
- Plan to improve existing, and build new, services with greater people-moving capacity
- Network that <u>connects</u> people and places across Central Texas







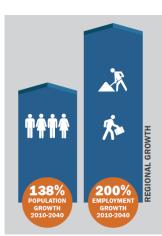
#### Addresses regional & local needs

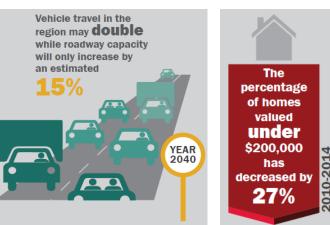
**Explosive** growth

Limited ability to build more roads Issues of affordability & cost of living

The percentage of homes The valued percentage of under homes valued \$200,000 over \$200,000 has increased by 23% over has decreased by 27%

A regional transit system is needed





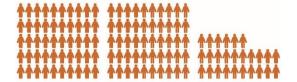




# Moving people, not just cars



**126 People** riding transit move through this roadway during each light cycle.



**235 People** riding transit on a road with transit-only lanes move through this roadway during each light cycle.





#### **Project Connect's outcome**



#### **Short-Term Investments**

Short-term improvements to existing services to keep Austin moving.









MetroRail MetroExpress

#### **Long-Term Investments**

Long-term projects to support our future.







**Commuters Connectors** 

Circulators





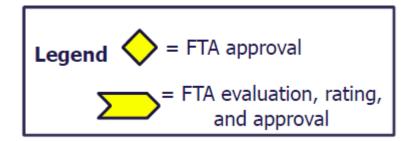
# **PROCESS & RESULTS**





#### The FTA Project Development process





Source: FTA Project Development Process MAP-21 CIG program



#### Local approach to project development

Step 1
Big Ideas,
Bold Start

(Mar '16 – May '17)

#### **Feasibility Analysis**

- Corridor-based
- Mode neutral
- Based on previous plans and studies

Step 2
Real Solutions
for Real
Problems

(Jun '17 – Jun '18)

#### **System Plan Analysis**

- Link corridors
- Define right-of-way requirements
- Identify demand and costs

Step 3
Path to
Implementation

(Jul '18 – Sep '18)

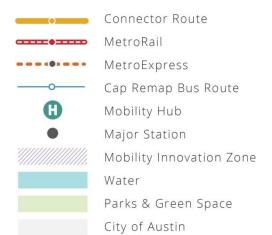
#### **Finalizing Program of Projects**

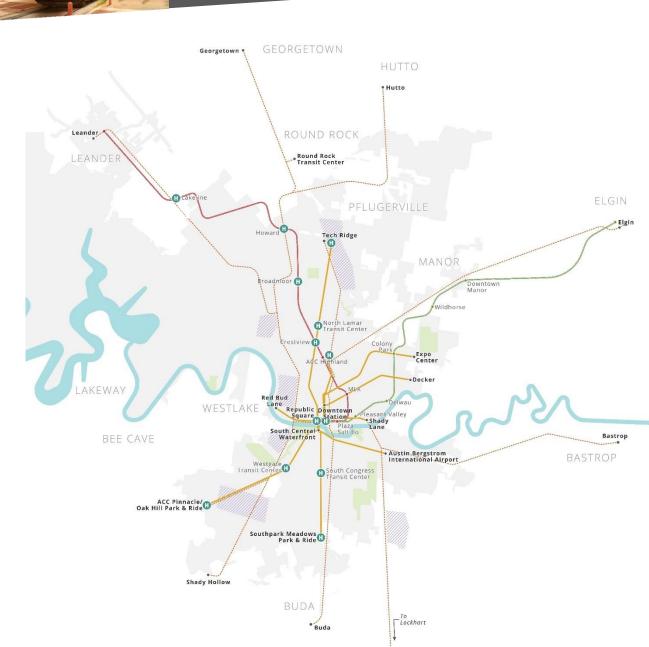
- Phasing and prioritization
- Funding opportunities

**Public Involvement** 

# Project Connect's potential: The regional perspective

#### **LEGEND**





# Project Connect's potential: The urban perspective

#### **LEGEND**

Connector Route

MetroRail

MetroExpress

Cap Remap Bus Route

Mobility Hub

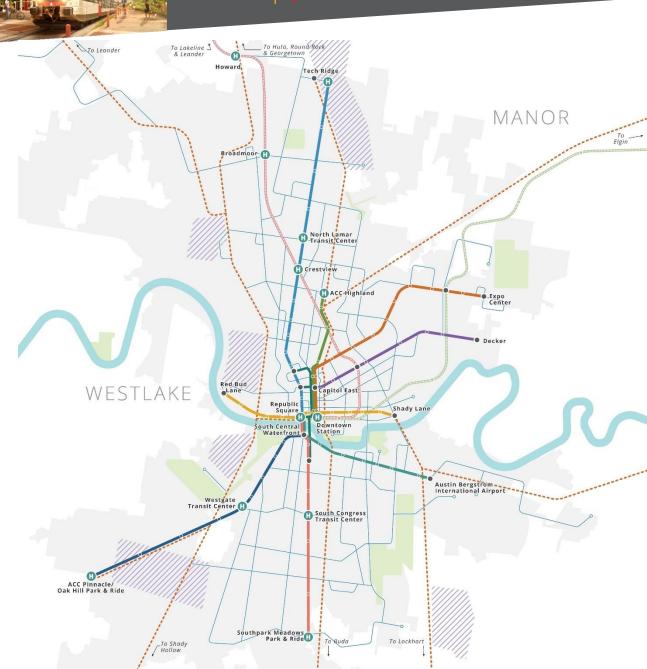
Major Station

Mobility Innovation Zone

Water

Parks & Green Space

City of Austin



# Project Connect's potential: The downtown perspective

#### **LEGEND**

Connector Route

MetroRail

MetroExpress

Cap Remap Bus Route

Mobility Hub

Major Station

Mobility Innovation Zone

Water

Parks & Green Space

City of Austin

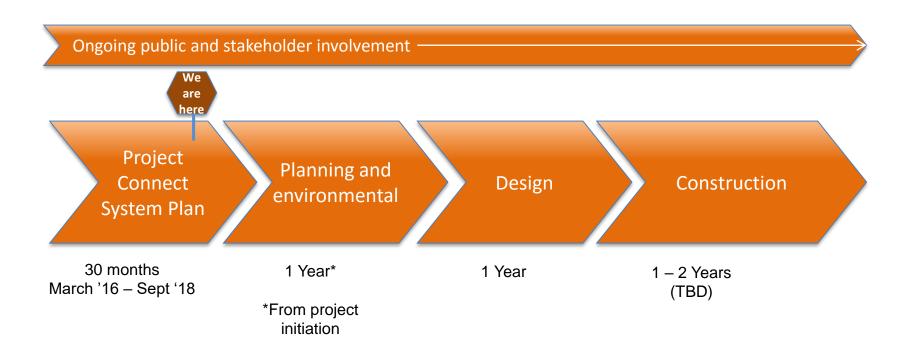


# **Project Connect Draft System Plan**



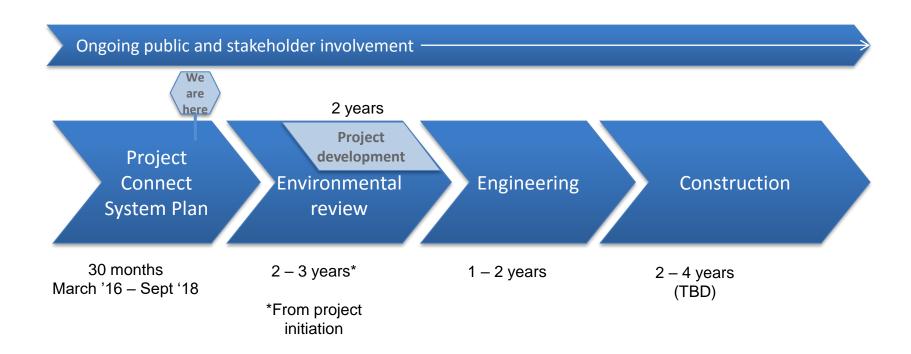


### **Short-term project implementation**





#### Long-term project implementation





#### **Ongoing partner coordination**

Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP)

- Meet bi-weekly since summer 2016
- 2 Traffic Jams
- 6 MCAC meetings
- Co-present at neighborhood meetings

- Corridor Program Office (2016 Mobility Bond)
  - Meeting since spring 2017
  - 5 Cost & risk assessment meetings









# **NEXT STEPS**

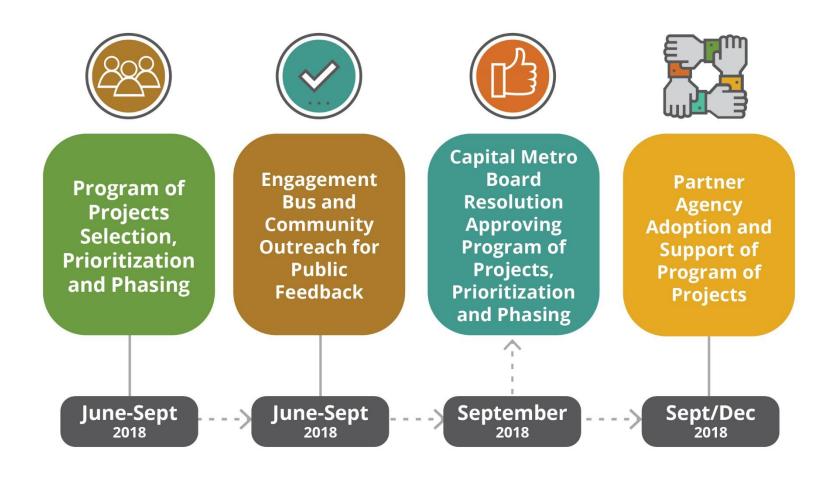


#### Getting to 2020: Adoption of the Project Connect System Plan



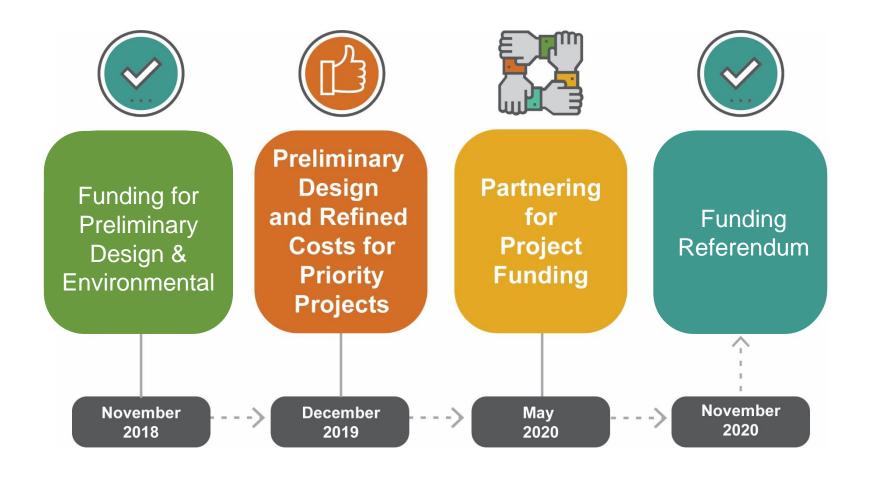


#### Getting to 2020: Program of projects, phasing & prioritization





#### Getting to 2020: Building community support









#### **Public outreach: Traffic Jams**



- March 4, 2017 at Bob Bullock Museum
- 230 people attended
- 29 zip codes represented
- More than 140 comments received
- Multiple partner agencies hosted tables





# Traffic Jam A La Mode July 2017













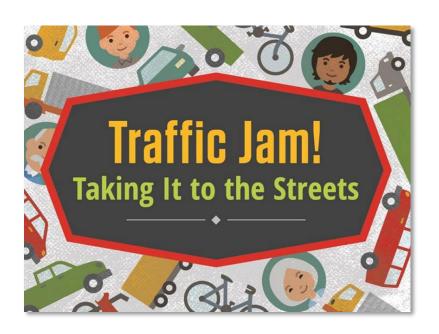








March 28, 2018 - Austin Central Library



#### **Objectives:**

- Raise awareness
- Present conceptual design options
- Gather feedback
- Encourage continued public engagement in Project Connect and the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP)





#### **Traffic Jam: Outcomes**

- ~ 200 attendees
- 14 agencies and programs represented
- 110+ Project Connect surveys completed
- 23 comment cards submitted







#### **Scenes from Traffic Jam**





#### In Process: Mini Jams

- Six geographically-targeted events
- Located near Project Connect corridors
- Door-to-door and bus stop canvassing to promote events and collect citizen feedback



Initiated Project Connect Corridor survey analysis (phone interviews and on-board CMTA riders



## Six Geographically-Targeted Mini Jams

- 1) Northeast: Turner Roberts Rec Center - April 18
- **4) North Austin**: YMCA North Austin April 28
- 5) South Austin: Lifeworks (South 1st) May 5

- **4) Southwest:** Hampton Branch Library May 8
- 5) Northwest: Westover Hills Church of Crist – May 19
- **6) Southeast**: Dove Springs Rec Center May 23

Capital Metro Event		
Yes	Undecided / Maybe	No
250+	730+	270+

Total engaged 5,000+ Total Surveyed 250+ Attendance 75+





#### **Scenes from Mini Jams**





#### Multiple feedback opportunities



- Online survey
- Telephone survey
- Door-to-Door outreach
- "Join the Movement" bus at over 30 locations





### In Process: Engagement Bus Outreach

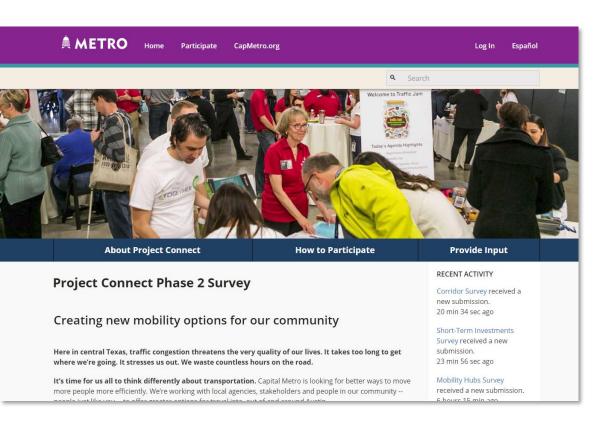


- 28 locations scheduled (17 completed so far)
- Targeting underrepresented communities
- Appearing at food pantries, supermarkets and community events
- 400 people engaged to date
- 300+ surveys completed to date





### In Process: Online Survey



- Available in English and Spanish
- Accessible to visuallyimpaired users
- 1,900+ submissions received so far
- 75% of zip codes in 5-county Study Area represented to date



# Thanks for your time and feedback!