Project Connect Update

A Regional, Multi-generational Transit Plan that Protects Quality of Life for Central Texans
Project Overview

System investments to support our future

- Mobility Hubs
- MetroRapid
- MetroRail
- MetroExpress
- Circulators

+ Emerging Technologies
+ Multimodal Integration

High-Capacity Transit Network
Regional System Vision

• Continued coordination with Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (CTRMA)
• Park & Rides
• Regional Express Routes
  • To Georgetown
  • To Leander
  • To Hutto
  • To Elgin
  • To Bastrop
  • To Lockhart
  • To Buda
  • To Oak Hill
  • To Circle C
System Vision

- High-capacity transit with dedicated pathways
  - Orange Line: North Lamar/South Congress Corridor (Potential Extension)
  - Blue Line: Riverside Corridor (Potential Extension)
- 4 BRT-Light Lines
  - Purple Line: Manor/Dean Keeton Corridor
  - Yellow Line: Burnet to South Lamar
  - Pink Line: 7th/Lake Austin Corridor (Crosstown)
  - Navy Line: Pleasant Valley Corridor
- 2 Commuter Rail Lines
  - Upgraded Red Line
  - Green Line to Manor
- Neighborhood Circulators
Phased Approach to Project Development

1. **BIG IDEAS, BOLD START**
   With public input, identify and review potential projects for building a high capacity transit system.

2. **REAL SOLUTIONS**
   Study the selected projects and present options to the community that are consistent with regional and local priorities.

3. **PATH TO IMPLEMENTATION**
   Approval of Project Connect system vision and development of partnerships with stakeholders, agency board and community members.

4. **GO/NO-GO DECISION**
   Begin Preliminary Engineering to provide the community with detailed transit projects and a potential vote for project construction.

5. **ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION**
   Finalize design, acquire real estate and begin construction on the program of projects.
It’s A Question of Geometry
How Many People Can We Get Through an Intersection in a Minute?

126 People move through this roadway during each light cycle. **80 in transit.**

235 People on a road with transit-only lanes move through this roadway during each light cycle. **204 in transit.**
Project Connect High-Capacity Modes and Vehicle Selection

**Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)**
- Stops every 1/2 mile
- Average speed 12 - 18 MPH
- 50 – 100 passengers per vehicle
- Could be ART*

**Light Rail Transit (LRT)**
- Stops every 3/4 – 1.5 miles
- Average speeds 18 - 30 MPH
- 140 - 240 passengers per car, with 2 – 3 cars in a train
- Could be ART*

**Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART)**
- Stops every 1/2 – 1 mile
- Average speed 15 – 25 MPH
- Under development, but likely 100 – 200 passengers per vehicle

*Autonomous connected electric technology may be applied to BRT or LRT or may be defined as its own ART vehicle/mode definition.

Sources: National Transit Database (NTD) Full Report
Step One: ENGAGE (2016-2018)
How many people do we need to move and where?

- Establishment of advisory committees (TAC, MCAC)
- Three public "Traffic Jam" events
  - 550+ total attendees
  - 14 partner agencies participated
- Six geographically targeted "Mini Jams"
- 34 outreach events, including pop-up and engagement bus outreach
  - 600+ engaged
Step Two: PLAN (2018-2020)
What will it look like, and how much could it cost?

- Vision plan presentation
  - Community Conversation on October 3, 2018
  - Town Hall meetings November-December, 2018
- Project Connect Community Office opens downtown
- Expansion of advisory committee (MCAC)
- Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Review
  - Corridor working groups
- Vehicle selection and final system plan
Step Three: UNITE (2020)
Are we ready, and do we have your support?

- MCAC continuation
- Community Conversations
- Program Management Plan
- Program Phasing and Schedule
- Funding and Financial Model
- Potential Vote
Step Four: BUILD (2021-beyond)

How do we implement quickly and efficiently with the fewest disruptions?

• Implementing the plan

• Mitigating construction Impacts

• Local Business Assistance Program

• Construction partnership integration
• Community Engagement
• Corridor Selection
• Community Engagement
• Engineering and Environmental Review
• Vehicle Review
• Vehicle Selection (Early 2020)
• Vote (Nov. 2020)
Questions?