Austin City Council/Capital Metro Board

JOINT SPECIAL SESSION

JUNE 10, 2020
AGENDA

• ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY
• HOW DID WE GET HERE & WHY WE NEED TO BUILD
• TODAY’S ACTION
• BREAK
• OVERSEEING THE PROGRAM
• INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
• WHAT’S NEXT
PROJECT CONNECT
ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY
PROJECT CONNECT TIMELINE

- DEC 2018: Project Connect Vision Plan Adopted
- APR 2019: Austin Strategic Mobility Plan Adopted
- AUG 2019 – MAR 2020: Six Joint Work Sessions held, Covering Program, Funding and Governance
- MAY 2020: Virtual Meetings Held
- JUN 2020: Joint Session – System Plan Adoption
- JUL 2020: Funding & Budget Direction
- AUG 2020: Establish LGC
- NOV 2020: Potential Transit Referendum
- 2021 – Beyond: It’s Go Time!

Community Engagement Ongoing
WORKING TOGETHER
CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Federal Process
Community Engagement
CapMetro Board Vision
Map Action

Fall 2018

ASMP and Corridor
Program Decision
Aligns with ASMP Action
LPA Process Initiated

Spring 2019

Conceptual
Engineering
Alternatives Analysis
Investment Opportunities
LPA Recommendation
Community Feedback

Summer 2019 –
Spring 2020

CapMetro & City of Austin Working Together
Project Connect, ASMP, Corridor Program Coordination

Summer 2020 -
Winter 2020

Recommendation and
Adoption of System Plan
& LPAs
Development of Joint Venture
LEARNING, LISTENING & COLLABORATING

LOCAL OUTREACH More than 57,000 community members engaged through outreach programs IN ADDITION TO ALL ENGAGEMENTS & OUTREACH COMPLETED WITH AUSTIN STRATEGIC MOBILITY PLAN (ASMP)

ENGAGEMENTS BY THE NUMBERS

- Street team outreach 15,605 engaged
- Community outreach events 18,761 engaged
- Live and virtual open houses 22,367 engaged

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS ENGAGED

- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Project Connect Ambassador Network (PCAN)

Corridors Program Coordination
Technical Group Reviews

City Council & CapMetro Joint Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>AUG</th>
<th>NOV</th>
<th>MAR</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCT</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>JUN</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>JLY</td>
<td>AUG</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7</td>
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COMMUNITY OUTREACH
CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Project Connect Ambassador Network (PCAN) - Group of over 150 community organizations and stakeholders meeting monthly to receive update and provide input to process

Three subcommittees:
- Technical
- Communications
- Placemaking

Resolutions of Support from CapMetro’s

Access Advisory Committee (AAC) &

Customer Satisfaction Advisory Committee (CSAC)
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Employer-Based Engagement: Breaking down barriers by engaging with people where they are, by partnering with local industry

Traffic Jam Events: Community-wide participation; two-way learning; demonstrating partnerships

Community and Partner Events: Focus on target audience that’s not likely to come across our materials in other ways

Build and Maintain Relationships: Returned to same groups in later phases
VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE
CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY: MAY 7 TO MAY 31

WHAT WE HEARD:
“It is past time for Austin to do this. We are a large, international city and have been for years. This proposal is transformative and enduring. It will be our legacy to future generations.”

“I am completely in favor of putting the full system as described with 3 LRT lines and a new river crossing and underground tunnel to a vote this November...”

PARTICIPATION:
Over 3,500 unique views
Over 1,300 survey submissions

* Percentages may not total to 100% due to number rounding
VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

WHAT WE HEARD

90% agree that the Recommended System Plan creates a more accessible transit service.

90% agree the Blue Line and Gold Line should be built.

87% agree 7 new MetroRapid routes should be created.

92% agree the Orange Line should be built.
VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

WHAT WE HEARD

88% agree on expanding MetroExpress.

90% agree we should construct a downtown transit tunnel.

92% agree on expanding local connections.

84% agree the Red Line should be improved and the Green Line build
VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETINGS

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY: MAY 15 TO MAY 29

PARTICIPATION:
Over 13,500 unique views
(Zoom, Facebook Live, and YouTube)

May 15
Greg Casar, City Council Member, District 4
Leslie Pool, City Council Member, District 7

May 18
Natasha Harper-Madison, City Council Member, District 1
Jeffrey Travillion, CMTA Board Member

May 19
Kathie Tovo, City Council Member, District 9
Wade Cooper, CMTA Board Member & Chair

May 20
Jimmy Flannigan, City Council Member, District 6
Troy Hill, CMTA Board Member & Mayor of Leander
Eric Stratton, CMTA Board Secretary

May 20
Alison Alter, City Council Member, District 10
Terry Mitchell, CMTA Board Member

May 26
Steve Adler, Mayor of Austin
Wade Cooper, CMTA Board Chair

May 28
Ann Kitchen, CMTA Board Member &
City Council Member, District 5
Paige Ellis, City Council Member, District 8

May 29
Delia Garza, CMTA Board Vice Chair & Mayor Pro Tem
District 2
Sabino ‘Pio’ Renteria, CMTA & City Council Member, District 3

* Percentages may not total to 100% due to number rounding
DASHBOARD
CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LOCAL OUTREACH: 57,000

I am completely in favor of putting the full system as described with 3 LRT lines and a new river crossing and underground tunnel to a vote this November in what is likely to be a favorable electorate.

It is past time for Austin to do this. We are a large, international city and have been for years. This proposal is transformative and enduring. It will be our legacy to future generations.

I think this plan is very good and has focused on a lot of key goals like increasing frequency, broadening access to opportunities for marginalized populations, and adding elements to make transit reliable and dignified.
PROJECT CONNECT

GATHERING COMMUNITY INPUT
Methodology

• Online survey using *SurveyMonkey* platform and *Lucid* sample providers. Programmed, managed, and analyzed by Sherry Matthews Group.

• Fielding period May 8 - 27, 2020

• Total sample N=407
Satisfaction with transit is good, but could be better

Q: How satisfied are you with the quality of Austin's public transit choices?

* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding
Q: How important is an improved public transit system to Austin?

* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding
Austin needs “major city” transit.

As #11 largest city, important to have public transit similar to other large cities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very important</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat important</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not so important</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all important</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To live up to our potential. Austin should have a public transit system like other major cities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreement Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat agree</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat disagree</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q: Austin is the #11 largest city in the country. How important is it for Austin to have a public transit system similar to other large cities? Q32. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? If Austin is going to live up to its potential, it should have a public transit system as good as other major cities.

* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding
Positive perceptions of Capital Metro.

Q: What is your impression of Capital Metro?

* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding
75% select **addressing traffic congestion** a top issue.

**Important Issue to Quality of Life in Austin, TX**

- Addressing traffic congestion: 75%
- Protecting our health post-COVID-19: 71%
- Addressing homelessness: 70%
- Increasing affordable housing: 65%
- Planning ahead for Austin's growth: 62%
- Protecting the environment: 62%
- Stimulating the local economy: 58%
- Enhancing the quality of local public schools: 46%
- Increasing city services like police, EMS, and firefighters: 34%
- None of the above: 1%

*Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding*
Addressing traffic congestion ranked 2nd of the most important issue.

RANKED MOST Important Issue to Quality of Life in Austin, TX

- Protecting our health post-COVID-19: 33%
- Addressing traffic congestion: 14%
- Increasing affordable housing: 12%
- Stimulating the local economy: 10%
- Planning ahead for Austin's growth: 10%
- Protecting the environment: 7%
- Addressing homelessness: 6%
- Enhancing the quality of local public schools: 4%
- Increasing city services like police, EMS, and firefighters: 2%

Q: Please rank your selection in order of importance (1 = most important).

* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding
Q: Now that you've heard more about Project Connect, how do you feel about it?

* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding
Q. Project Connect will be funded by an annual increase in property taxes averaging $200 a year plus state and federal grants. How does this impact your support for Project Connect?

* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding
PROJECT CONNECT
HOW DID WE GET HERE & WHY WE NEED TO BUILD
THE TEAM
BUILT TOGETHER TO BENEFIT ALL
HOW WE GOT HERE
EVOLUTION OF THE SYSTEM PLAN

OCTOBER 30, 2018
INITIAL VISION PLAN

DECEMBER 17, 2018
ADOPTED VISION PLAN

MARCH 9, 2020
RECOMMENDED SYSTEM PLAN
HOW WE GOT HERE

CHANGES SINCE MARCH 9, 2020

- Utilized preliminary 2045 CAMPO demographics for updated system plan ridership
  - Analysis of Gold Line as LRT

- Red Line Phase II removed
  - Phase I improvements allow 15-minute service which will provide additional ridership capacity
  - Major transfer to downtown anticipated at Crestview with Orange Line

Gold Line as BRT
March 2020
ACC Highland to Republic Square

Gold Line as LRT
June 2020
ACC Highland to South Congress Transit Center
RECOMMENDED SYSTEM PLAN

INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS BUILD UPON EACH OTHER TO COMPLETE THE SYSTEM

• The Recommended System Plan provides more ways to use transit

• Projected system ridership to nearly triple with the implementation of Project Connect
**PROJECT CONNECT**

**RECOMMENDED SYSTEM PLAN**

**LIGHT RAIL**
- Light Rail Transit in Dedicated Transitways for Orange, Blue and Gold Lines
  - 36 Miles, 40 Stations incl. Downtown Transit Tunnel

**ORANGE LINE**

**BLUE LINE**

**GOLD LINE**

**METRORAPID**
- High Frequency Bus with Priority Treatments
  - 7 New Routes
  - ~74 Miles, 193 Stations

**METRORAIL**
- Station and Operational Improvements

**RED LINE**
- New Commuter Rail Service to Connect Downtown to Colony Park with potential extension to Manor and Elgin

**GREEN LINE**

**METROEXPRESS**
- 8 New Routes
  - 5 outside service area
- 24 New Park & Rides
  - 10 outside the service area

**METROBUS**
- Better bus service and stop amenities

**METROACCESS**
- Enhanced demand response service

**PLUS**
- Zero Emissions
- Improved Customer Tech
- New Circulator Zones (Pickup)
- Maintenance Facility Improvements
WHY WE NEED TO BUILD
RECOMMENDED SYSTEM PLAN

A SYSTEM BUILT ON CONNECTIONS

✓ Improves the entire transportation network
✓ Increases frequency, more service and faster travel
✓ Supports sustainability and improved air quality
✓ Expands access to jobs, health care and education
✓ Improves reliability
✓ Creates more types of transit
✓ Supports regional plans
✓ Places investments in the future
ORANGE LINE

21 Miles & 22 Stations

SYSTEM CONNECTIONS
- 2 connections to LRT routes
- 1 connection to MetroRail routes
- 6 connections to MetroRapid routes

Travel Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tech Ridge to Slaughter</td>
<td>54 Minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tech Ridge to Republic Square</td>
<td>33 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Congress Transit Center to UT</td>
<td>25 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slaughter to Republic Square</td>
<td>23 Minutes</td>
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Ridership

Weekday Ridership (2040)
56,000 - 74,400

Demographics

Zero Car Households in Station Areas
3,400 | 8%

Individuals in Poverty in Station Areas
21,900 | 23%

Minorities in Station Areas
45,700 | 48%

Employment within 1/2 mile
Total Employees (2045)
262,597

Environmental

Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction
107.8 million fewer miles annually

Greenhouse Gas Reduction
42,800 tons fewer annually
BLUE LINE

8.2 Miles & 11 Stations
Operating along 15.2 miles and serving 20 stations

SYSTEM CONNECTIONS
- 2 connections to LRT routes
- 2 connections to MetroRail routes
- 4 connections to MetroRapid routes

Travel Time
- AUS Airport to Republic Square: 21 Minutes
- Riverside to Downtown: 8 Minutes
- MACC/Rainey to Metro Center: 12 Minutes
- Blue Line Car in Rush Hour:
  - 21 Minutes
  - 8 Minutes
  - 12 Minutes
- 45 Minutes
- 24 Minutes
- 26 Minutes

Ridership
- Weekday Ridership (2040): 16,000 - 19,000

Demographics
- Zero Car Households in Station Areas: 3,000 | 10%
- Individuals in Poverty in Station Areas: 17,900 | 26%
- Minorities in Station Areas: 41,100 | 59%

Employment within 1/2 mile
- Total Employees (2045): 243,824

Environmental
- Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction: 16.7 million fewer miles annually
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction: 6,600 tons fewer annually
GOLD LINE

6.4 Miles & 10 Stations
Operating along 9.4 miles and serving 15 stations

Travel Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Republic Square</th>
<th>Gold Line (Car in Rush Hour)</th>
<th>Gold Line (Car in Normal)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACC Highland</td>
<td>20 Minutes</td>
<td>45 Minutes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. David’s</td>
<td>9 Minutes</td>
<td>35 Minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>UT East</td>
<td>10 Minutes</td>
<td>40 Minutes</td>
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Ridership

Weekday Ridership (2040)
18,000 - 20,000

Demographics

Zero Car Households in Station Areas
3,000 | 11%

Individuals in Poverty in Station Areas
11,400 | 20%

Minorities in Station Areas
25,200 | 37%

Employment within 1/2 mile
Total Employees (2045)
207,278

Environmental

Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction
17.4 million fewer miles annually

Greenhouse Gas Reduction
7,000 tons fewer annually

Systems Connections

2 connections to LRT routes
2 connections to MetroRail routes
5 connections to MetroRapid routes
DOWNTOWN TRANSIT TUNNEL

Fast, Safe & Reliable
A downtown tunnel benefits the entire network—transit and traffic

Travel Time Savings
People spend less time traveling overall

Safety
Enhances safety for everyone in the travel network

Road Conflicts
Reduces conflicts with other modes and 20% of traffic signals

Building Great Places
Creates partnership opportunities

Future Operational Flexibility
Future proof for increasing train lengths
AUSTIN IS GROWING

WITH PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS

RENDERING BY HENRY HAN
WWW.HENRYHAN.NET
PHOTOGRAPHY BY G-MAN435
METRORAPID

74 Miles & 193 Stations

System Connections
- 3 connections to LRT routes
- 2 connections to MetroRail routes

Travel Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>MetroRapid</th>
<th>Existing Transit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACC Highland to Tech Ridge</td>
<td>43.3 mins</td>
<td>48 mins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burnet/Lamar to Oak Hill</td>
<td>46.2 mins</td>
<td>50 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menchaca to Burnet/Lamar</td>
<td>39.8 mins</td>
<td>49 mins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crosstown</td>
<td>31.2 mins</td>
<td>49 mins</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>MetroRapid</th>
<th>Existing Transit</th>
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<tr>
<td>Expo</td>
<td>53 mins</td>
<td>1 hr 19 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLK</td>
<td>44.1 mins</td>
<td>1 hr 20 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Valley</td>
<td>1 hr 1 min</td>
<td>1 hr 35 mins</td>
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Weekday Ridership (2040)
30,000 (for all lines)

Zero Car Households in Station Areas
14,555 | 8% of households

Individuals in Poverty in Station Areas
91,919 | 20%

Minorities in Station Areas
262,873 | 54%

Vehicle-Miles-Traveled
8 million fewer miles annually

Carbon Monoxide Emissions Reduction
40 Tons fewer annually
METRORAIL – COMMUTER RAIL

**Red Line:**
- New station at Broadmoor/Domain
- New station at McKalla (Soccer Stadium)
- Serving ten stations along 32 miles of track
- Installation of additional sidings
- 15-minute frequency during peak service and increased weekend service
- Major transfer at Crestview to Orange Line

**Green Line:**
- On existing CapMetro Right-Of-Way
- New commuter rail line connecting neighborhoods throughout East Austin
- Initial phase will serve 5 new stations along 8 miles of track to Colony Park
- Compliments the Colony Park master plan
- Provides unique opportunities for more affordable housing
- Provides more households with travel options to jobs, health care, and education
METROEXPRESS and PARK & RIDES

- Connects to frequent and reliable transit
- With 16 existing Park & Rides, Project Connect will add an additional 24 (10 outside of the service area)
- Will increase access to transit, provide a welcoming environment and more transportation options

- Serves outlying areas and neighboring communities
- More direct connections between Park & Ride locations and major employment hubs
- Envisions new MetroExpress service to other parts of the region, including Hutto, Bastrop, Lockhart, Buda and Oak Hill
METROBUS and METROACCESS

- Zero-emission, all-electric vehicles
- Shelters and benches at bus stops
- Future connections to the Orange, Blue, Gold, Red and Green Lines, as well as MetroRapid stations and Park & Rides

- Efficient, affordable transportation to grocery stores, medical treatments, education, and more
- Enhanced customer technology upgrades
FIRST MILE, LAST MILE – Circulators & MetroBike

- Connections to and from destinations without driving
- Makes it easier for customers to access the transit system from where they live
- Provides hyperlocal connection for our customers

- Partnership with the City of Austin BCycle Program
- Connecting bikes and transit
- Electrification of bikes
- Expanded service area
SMART, CONTACTLESS CUSTOMER TECHNOLOGY

A smarter, safer & more equitable way to pay for and use transit.

ACCOUNT-BASED SYSTEM
• Allows for fare capping, a pay-as-you-go solution that gives customers more control over their transit expenses

CARD OR APP: CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS
• Just tap and go when you board
• Cards are reloadable and reusable
• Use for smart city options – like parking, bike rental, etc.
TODAY’S ACTION