

Austin Transit Partnership

Project Connect Status Report

**ATP Board Brief
June 2026**



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Austin Light Rail Implementation

Preconstruction Activities

In March ATP began preconstruction activities including traffic counts, topographic and tree surveys, geotechnical borings (drilling to test ground conditions) and subsurface utility investigations to identify and map the utility relocations that will be required to start heavier construction. This work will continue through the summer. These preconstruction activities will inform project plans and are critical to keep the project on track and help avoid risk and costly construction delays

Procurement Update

Operations and Maintenance Facility Design-Build Construction Contract

On April 15, ATP selected Kiewit Austin Partnership (KAP), a joint venture between Kiewit Building Group Inc. (Kiewit) and Austin Commercial, as the progressive design-build contractor for the system's Operations and Maintenance Facility—a critical component of Austin Light Rail that will support daily operations and long-term system performance.

KAP will lead the design and construction of the Operations and Maintenance Facility, where Austin's light rail vehicles will be stored, serviced and dispatched. The facility will also serve as a workplace for operators, maintenance crews and support staff who will keep the system running safely and efficiently.



Field investigation activity along the light rail alignment



ATP and KAP leadership

Light Rail Vehicles Procurement

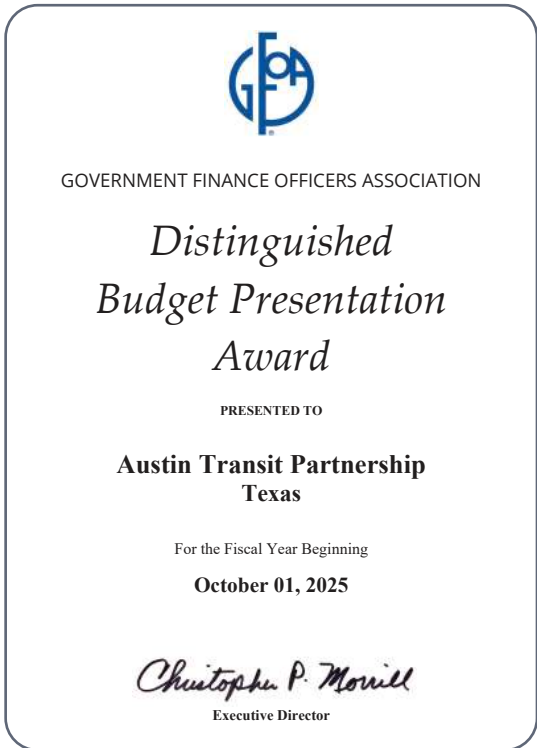
ATP entered the negotiation phase for the Light Rail Vehicle manufacturer with the Board considering action to award a contract this summer. Upon award, the manufacturer will begin collaborating with ATP and the ARC and KAP teams to ensure seamless integration with the planned system.

Civil/Rail/Stations/Systems	Operations & Maintenance Facility	Light Rail Vehicles
✓ RFI: February 2025	✓ RFI: April 2025	✓ RFI: May 2025
✓ Connect and Build Event: February 2025	✓ Connect & Build Event: May 2025	✓ RFP: Fall 2025
✓ RFQ: June 2025	✓ RFQ: August 2025	○ Contract Award Anticipated: Summer 2026
✓ RFP: August 2025	✓ RFP: October 2025	
✓ Contract Awarded: February 2026	✓ Contract Awarded: April 2026	

Checkmarks indicate completed procurement activities. Contracts expected to be awarded in 2026.

ATP Receives Distinguished Budget Award

ATP has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award for the FY2026 Budget. This award honors exemplary budget documents that adhere to the standards set by both the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the Government Finance Officers Association’s guidelines for transparency. To earn this award, the annual budget document must meet program criteria, excel as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communication tool.



FY2026 GFOA Distinguished Budget Award

Design Interlocal Agreement 2026

- Design coordination and review
- Permitting
- Utility betterments - design

City of Austin Design Interlocal Agreement

City of Austin Design ILA

On May 21, the Austin City Council voted to approve an interlocal agreement between the City and ATP. This agreement includes defining roles and responsibilities for design coordination and permitting review, granting ATP use of city right-of-way for preconstruction and early construction activities, and funding for City-requested public utility improvements along the light rail alignment.

The agreement allows the City to take a “dig once” approach by funding these critical infrastructure improvements while the light rail is being constructed. Completing this work at the same time will help minimize construction disruption by avoiding separate utility projects later, as well as realize cost and schedule efficiencies.

Business Support Needs Assessment

From April to June, ATP conducted block walking to meet individual businesses along the light rail alignment. The goal of the outreach was to engage directly with every business to confirm each business’s location, share information about the project, distribute a survey, and collect contact information. This feedback will be used to identify priorities and business needs that are specific to Austin and help inform our efforts to support businesses during future construction. An implementation plan will be developed this year, informed by the needs assessment findings and peer benchmarking.



ATP team conducting block walking to support businesses along the light rail alignment

Sharing & Learning

ATP continues to share our progress and provide insights with local stakeholders and organizations. Highlights include:

- Environmental Commission Meeting
- Planning Commission Meeting
- Bisnow Austin State of the Market
- DBIA Southwest Regional Conference
- Bike to Work Day
- Austin Chamber of Commerce Federal Advocacy Trip



City of Austin Update

City Prepares for Next Phase of Austin Light Rail

Austin Project Connect shepherded two items focused on Austin Light Rail through City Council approval in May.

The **updated Transit System Projects Ordinance** made minor changes to code that address site plans and constrained right-of-way conditions, removed outdated utility policies, and incorporated streetscape standards for Austin Light Rail. These streetscape standards called the Project Connect Design Criteria have also been adopted into the City's Transportation Criteria Manual, informing how private development along the light rail alignment will complement the improvements planned by the light rail project.

A new **interlocal agreement between the City and ATP** identified efficiencies during the Austin Light Rail design process with an eye toward minimizing disruptions during construction and to capitalize on the opportunity provided by the project to complete City capital improvement projects along the alignment.

Austin's Project Connect office is also shifting its focus in this time of transition for the Austin Light Rail project. With the completion of the federal environmental review process in January and the project's shift into final design, engineering, and construction, the City's Project Connect office has grown its staff in recent months with a focus on coordination with utilities providers Austin Water and Austin Energy. The team has also added a staff member dedicated to real estate in anticipation of working with ATP on right-of-way acquisitions.

CapMetro Update

On Sunday June 7th, CapMetro opened the new Goodnight Ranch and Expo Center park-and-ride facilities and fully launched the Rapid 800 and Rapid 837, operating at a 10-minute frequency during peak hours.



Launch of new Rapid lines, and Expo Center and Goodnight Ranch Park & Rides



The newly launched Rapid 837 CapMetro bus

The Goodnight Ranch Park & Ride, located in southeast Austin at the end of Rapid 800 Pleasant Valley Rapid line, has 64 customer parking spaces, four bus bays with overhead electric bus charging stations, a shelter with upgraded lighting and security features such as cameras, sidewalks and pedestrian safety improvements, and landscaping and irrigation improvements. Route 318 and Route 333 now end at Goodnight Ranch as part of the service change.



The new Goodnight Ranch Park & Ride facility



The new Expo Center Park & Ride facility

The Expo Center Park & Ride, located in northeast Austin at the end of Rapid 837 Expo Center Rapid line, has 159 customer parking spaces and eight bus bays with overhead electric bus charging stations, along with safety improvements. Routes 18, 233 and 337 also serve the Expo Center Park & Ride as part of this change.