



CHARLOTTE

MOVES

TASK FORCE

August 20th, 2020



AGENDA

Welcome & Introduction: *Mayor Gantt*

Regional Transit Plan (Connect Beyond): *Geraldine Gardner*

Homework Assignment Recap: *Scott Curry*

Transformational Mobility Opportunities: *Taiwo Jaiyeoba / Stephen Stansbery*

Public Comment: *Mayor Gantt*

Next Steps and Meeting Closing: *Mayor Gantt*



**CONNECT
Beyond**

A Regional Mobility Initiative

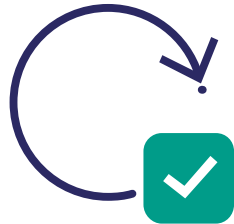
August 20, 2020

Charlotte Moves Task Force

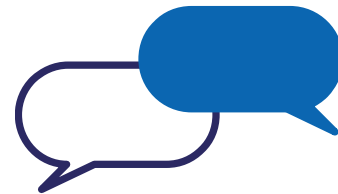


**CONNECT
Beyond**

Meeting Objectives



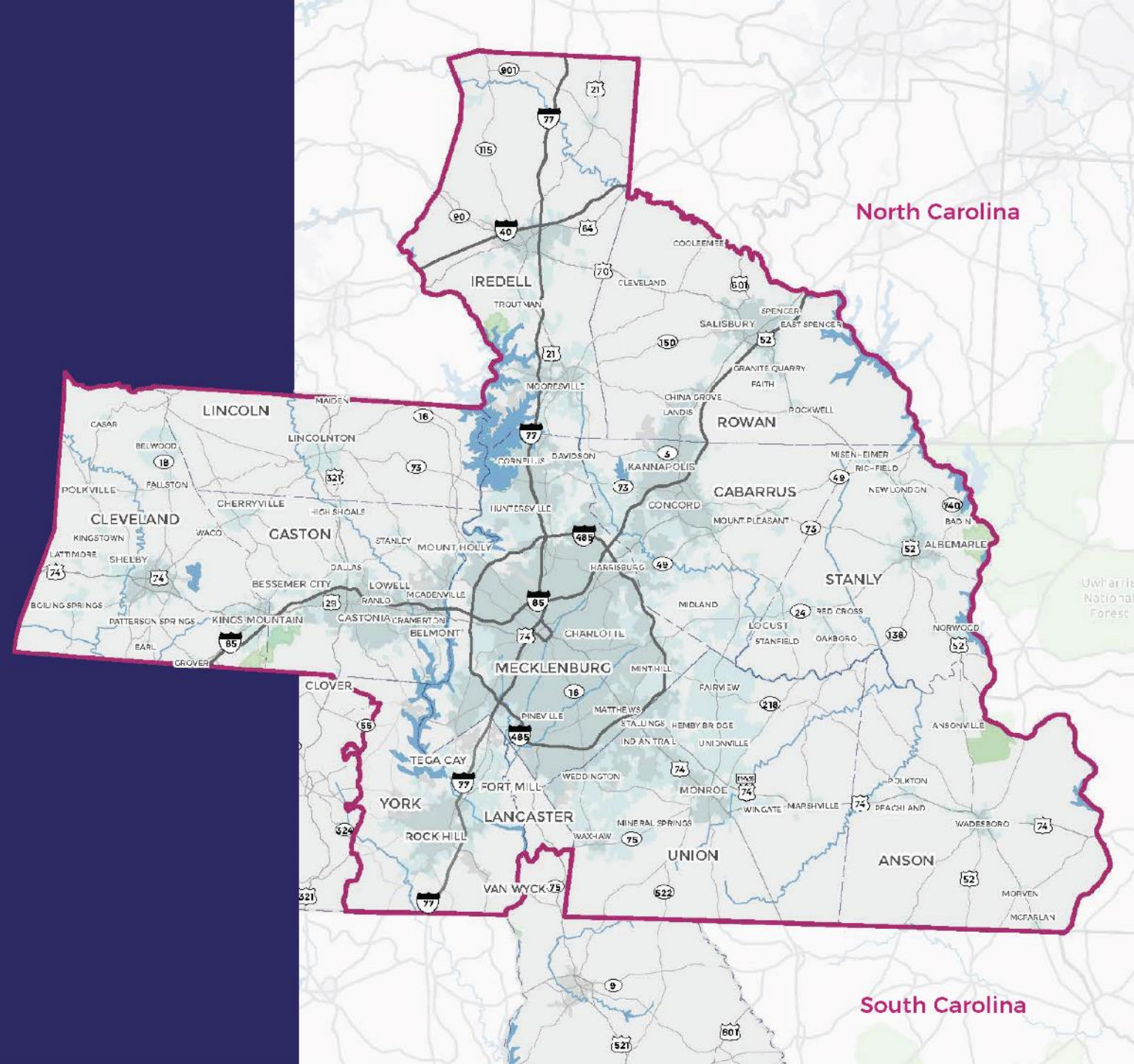
Brief you on the status of the
CONNECT Beyond Project



Foster dialogue on how CONNECT
Beyond and Charlottes Moves can
coordinate

CONNECT Beyond Study Area

- 2 States
- 12 Counties
- 5,000 Square Miles
- 2.5 Million People
- 4 Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- 1 Rural Planning Organization
- 3 Councils of Government
- 17 Transit Providers
- Numerous Private Operators & Non-Profit Transportation Services



CONNECT Beyond will...

- **Define** a single, coordinated transit vision
- **Identify** high capacity transit corridors that complement plans and infrastructure
- **Strategize** coordination opportunities
- **Develop** implementation tools





CONNECT
Beyond

Project Priorities



Increase Economic
Competitiveness



Improve
Transportation
Choices



Enhance Public Transit



Promote Sustainable
Regional Growth



Advance Social Equity

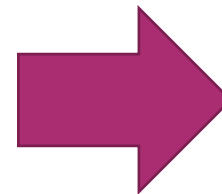
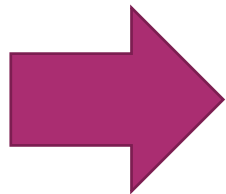


Encourage
Environmental
Stewardship

Transit Engagement



Vibrant Communities – Robust Region



**CONNECT
Beyond**

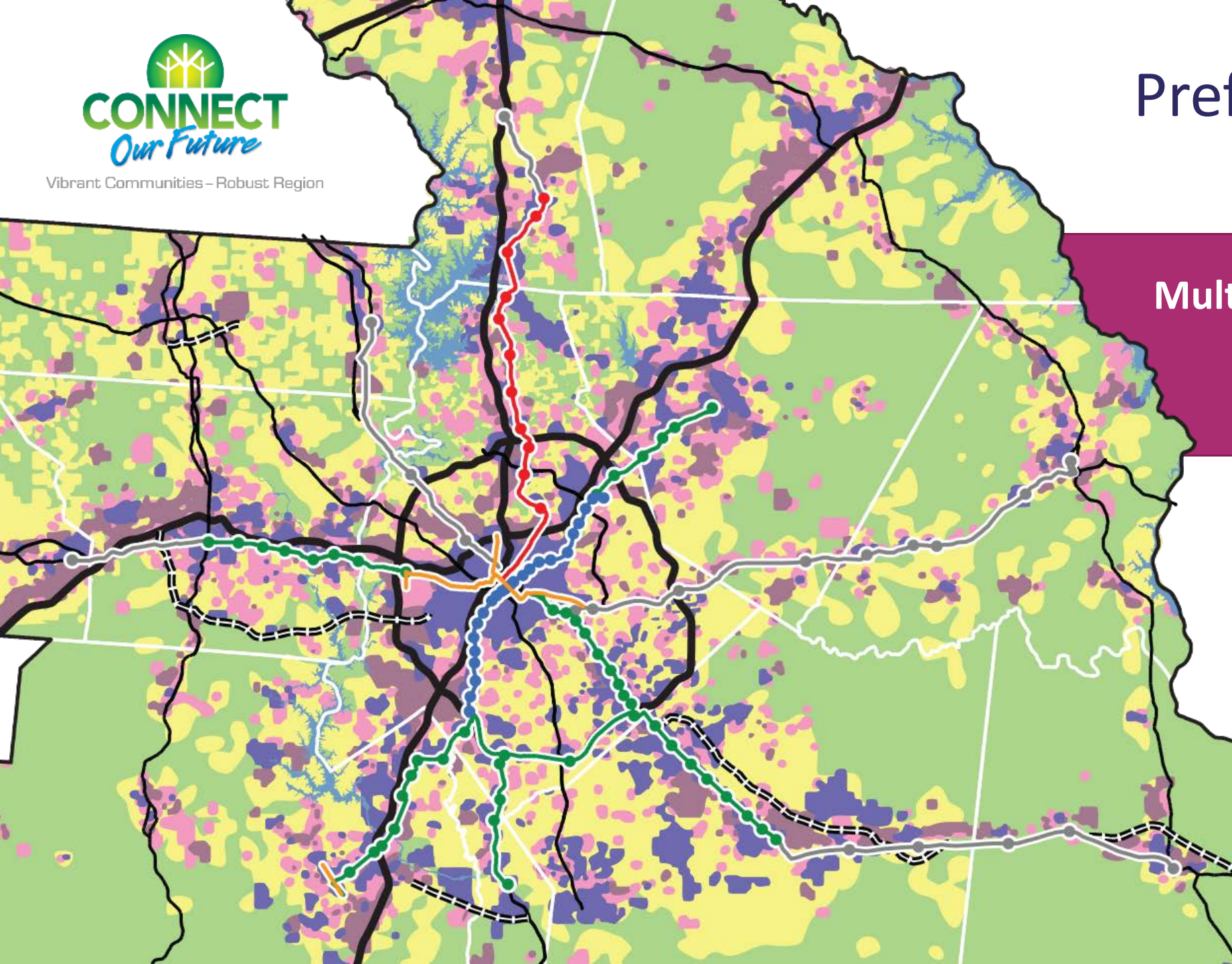
A Regional Mobility Initiative



Vibrant Communities – Robust Region

Preferred Growth Scenario

Multiple Centers Connected
by
Regional Transit



Transit

- Commuter Rail
- Light Rail
- Bus Rapid Transit
- Streetcar
- Post-2050

- Rural Living / Open Space
- Suburban Neighborhoods
- Industrial Center
- Suburban Office & Commercial
- Mixed-Use, Walkable Centers & Neighborhoods

Project Management Team



Geraldine Gardner
Centralina Regional Council



John Lewis
Charlotte Area Transit System



Jason Wager
Centralina Regional Council



Michelle Nance
Centralina Regional Council



Jason Lawrence
Charlotte Area Transit System



Bob Cook
Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization - MPO Liaison

Consultant Team



Jorge Luna
Project Manager



Kevin Walsh
Deputy Project Manager



Sabrina Colón
Strategic Communications Lead

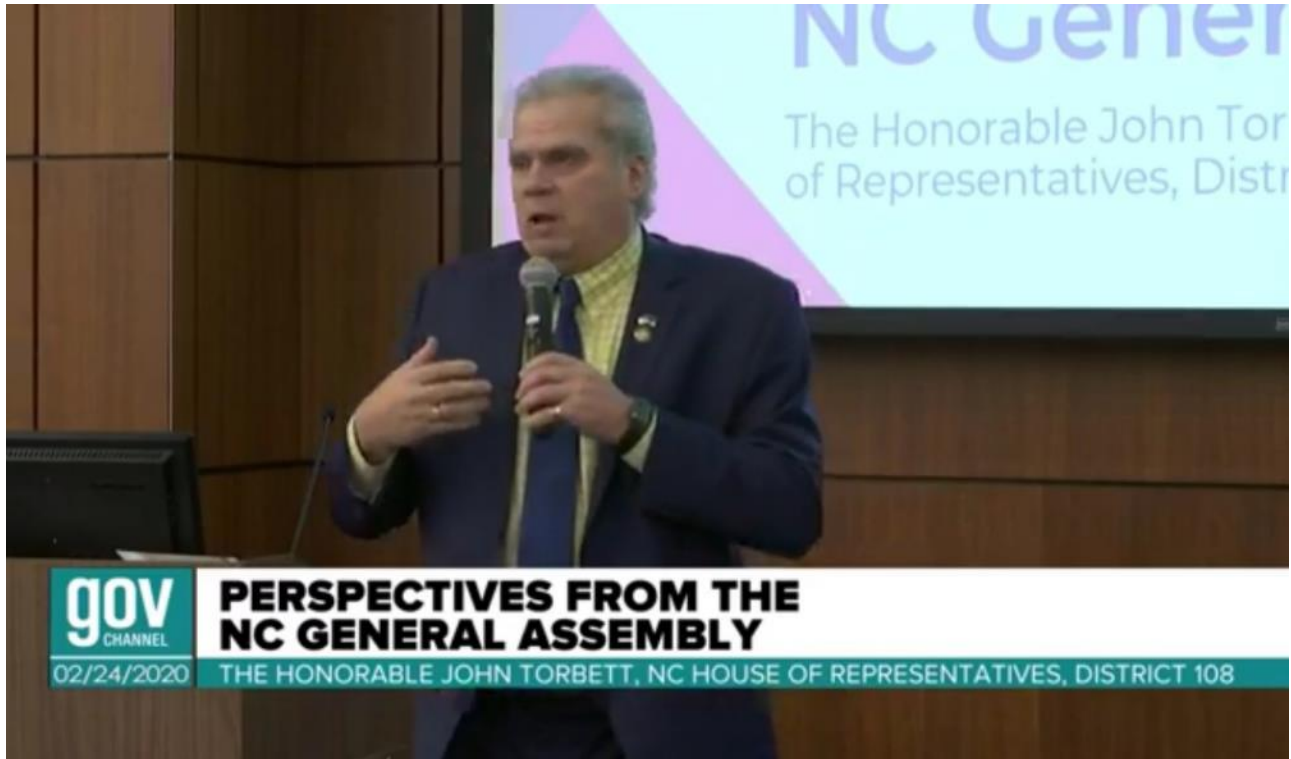


Project Funding Partners



CENTRALINA
REGIONAL COUNCIL





Project Timeline



STEP 1

Evaluate Existing Transit Systems

What are we doing well? Where are the gaps and barriers to mobility?

Conduct a detailed evaluation of the region's current transit systems, past planning efforts and our partners' previous and current transportation plans. During this time we will also form stakeholder advisory committees and begin our initial public engagement.



STEP 2

Identify High Capacity Transit Corridors

Which corridors within our region would be good candidates for High Capacity Transit to best connect people to jobs, housing, medical services, education and other key destinations?

High capacity transit includes light rail, bus rapid transit, express bus, and commuter rail. In this step, we will identify high capacity transit corridors that are extensions of current or new corridors in the region.

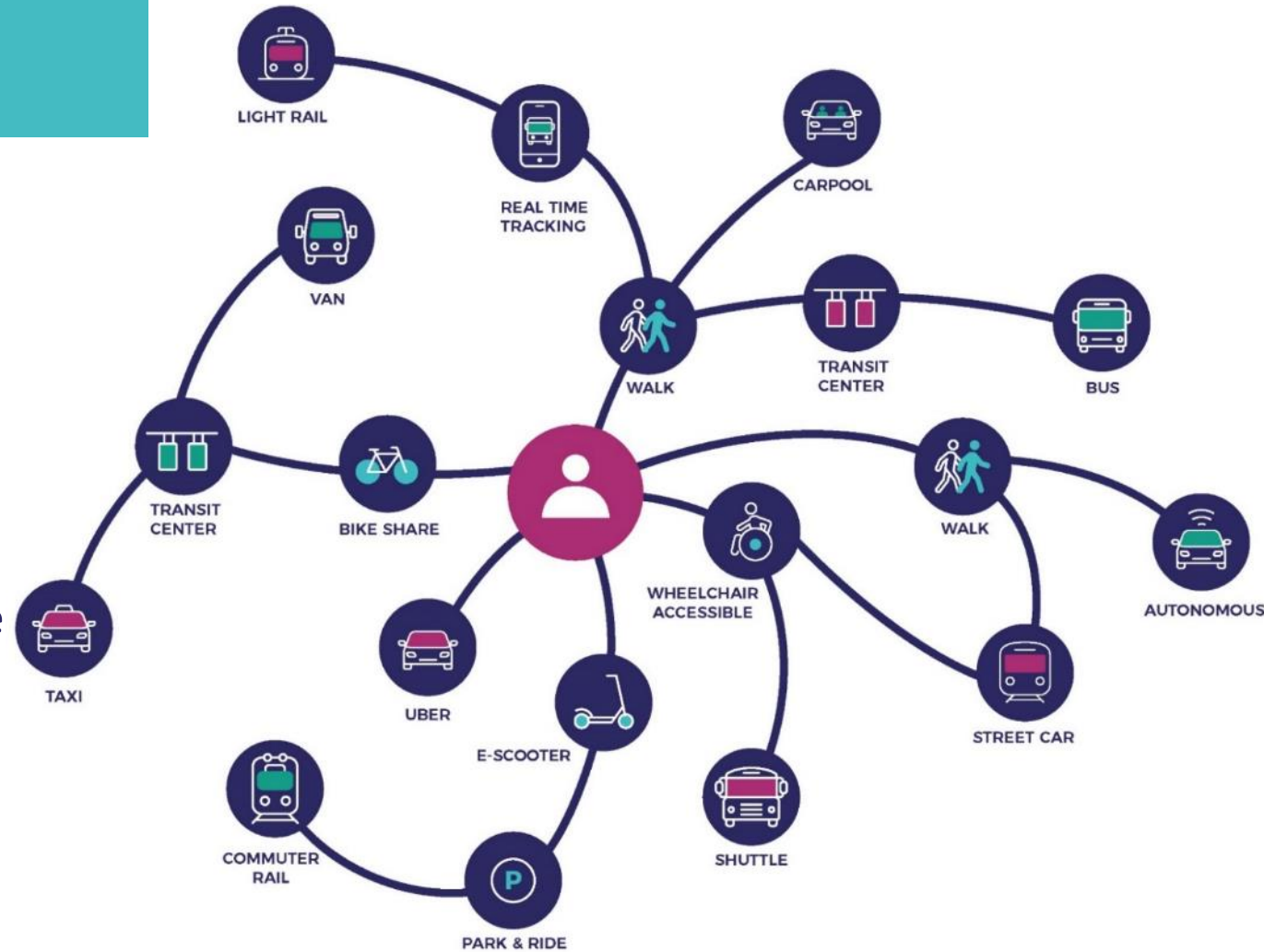


STEP 3

Build a Total Mobility Network

How can we best expand local services to increase transportation options and increase access to high capacity transit corridors?

Identify the role of transit in a multimodal network that will include a wide variety of transportation solutions, including bus connectors, demand response van networks, bike and pedestrian amenities, integration of ride share companies (e.g. Uber, Lyft, etc.), electric scooters, and other emerging technologies to supplement high capacity transit and commuter rail lines.



STEP 4

Develop Implementation Strategies

How can local transit providers and planning agencies use the results of this initiative?

In coordination with regional transportation planning organizations, develop implementation strategies for refining, connecting, and expanding the existing transit network that supports the long-term vision and values of our region.



Project Committees

Policy

Elected officials and policy experts from across the region (NC and SC).

Technical

Staff level technical resources.

~~Land use, transportation, health,~~
economic development, education,
etc.

Community Advisory

Key regional influencers.

Engagement via
government,
health & human services, economic development, employers, social services, and education.

CONNECT Beyond Transit Academy

“Deeper dive” forum for committee members, civic leaders and community members.



How do CONNECT Beyond and Charlotte Moves align?

- Focus Area
- Geography
- Partnerships
- Governance & Funding



Questions



Homework Assignment: What We Heard



1A. What's been particularly insightful/useful?

- **Impressed with existing plans:**

- Charlotte has completed a more comprehensive foundation of transportation/transit planning than we were aware of.
- It's time to move from studies to action.

- **Conversation with peer cities:**

- Communication and coordinated planning are keys to success with the public. We'll need to be clear about how everyone benefits from proposed the proposed network.
- Broward County's success based on the inclusion of multiple transportation modes was an important lesson.



1B. What's been missing from the conversation?

- **What about the cost?**

- We need to hear more about the City's priorities, budget, and funding options so that we can execute the plans.
- How much does the grand vision cost?
- What are the funding tools in our toolbox ? What can we really afford?

- **What's the gameplan?**

- After we assemble and endorse the Transformational Mobility Network, what's next?
- Is there an expectation of this group after December to help craft public education and communication strategies around transportation funding or a possible referendum?

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We need to know how much our vision will cost, what are the proposed funding methods, what are the chances of them passing a voter referendum, and if they don't, what are the options?

- Tami Simmons & Ken May

//

We want to understand how this effort fits in with other regional transportation organizations' plans (CRTPO, MTC, CCOG, NCDOT).

- Stefania Arteaga & Bill Coxe



1B. What's been missing from the conversation?

- **What about less flashy modes of transportation?**
 - Rail transit and greenways have understandably been a focus of conversation. What about the basics – like sidewalks and better bus service?
- **Is the mobility landscape shifting underneath our feet?**
 - What's the long-term impact of Covid-19 – particularly on teleworking and the appetite for transit?
 - Will a digital/tech revolution in the transportation sector support better efficiency and reliability of our existing network?



2. What are your most important goals and priorities?

Four very clear themes

1. REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY
2. EQUITY
3. TRANSPORTATION CHOICES
4. GROWTH MANAGEMENT

An aerial photograph of a city, likely New York City, showing a mix of urban buildings and green spaces. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal color. In the top left corner, there are two white diagonal slashes.

//

The two shared goals we agreed upon were equity and regional connectivity.

- Raquel Lynch & David Johnson



2. What are your most important goals and priorities?

REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY

- Silver Line & Gold Line
- Finish the greenway network
- BRT to more areas of Charlotte
- Need support from neighboring communities



2. What are your most important goals and priorities?

EQUITY

- Transportation should improve access to opportunity for all to help address Charlotte's social mobility challenges.
- Transportation options should provide access to essentials (jobs, school, grocery, healthcare, childcare).
- We need to pair affordable housing with investment in affordable transportation options (transit/walking/biking).
- Focus on the most vulnerable, least connected areas first, as opposed to the areas that are already "transit-rich".



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Ensuring that everyone in Charlotte
has access to basic needs is a
paramount goal of this effort.

- Danielle Frazier & David Ward

//

We are aligned in wanting Charlotte to be a Tier 1, global market AND achieve equitable access to strong, healthy and vibrant neighborhoods.

- Janet LaBar & Chris Turner



2. What are your most important goals and priorities?

TRANSPORTATION CHOICES

- Rail, Bus Rapid Transit, Greenways/Bikeways, Sidewalks – ALL ARE IMPORTANT
- Provide a robust network of transportation choices
- Key words: Safe, reliable, affordable, connected

//

Other transportation choices must
be on par with the automobile
experience or better.

- Eric Zaverl & Pedro Perez



2. What are your most important goals and priorities?

GROWTH MANAGEMENT

- Need to manage growth along corridors that are already congested.
- Population and density are increasing, but widening thoroughfares is not a good option in most cases. We need to be able to move more people more efficiently.
- Need to support multiple centers as destinations (employment/education/activity centers)

An aerial photograph of a city, likely New York City, showing a mix of urban buildings and green spaces. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal color. In the top left corner, there are two white diagonal slashes.

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We need to address traffic
congestion... and the cumulative
effect of rezoning approvals on
daily car trips.

- William Hughes & Karl Froelich



3. What's your definition of "greatest need"?

- **Expand / Enhance Transit Network**

- Rail transit – Silver Line & Gold Line
- Expansion of high-capacity, high-frequency bus service as a shorter term goal

- **Balanced Investment**

- Balance key corridors that support regional connectivity with sidewalks and bikeways extending into the neighborhoods (first/last mile)
- Balance "big ticket" items with "quick wins" – Don't overlook basic things like sidewalks

//

The greatest need for the long-term is rail... It should be the foundation of a network that includes buses, bicycles, scooters, ridesharing, etc. to get people the last mile to businesses and homes.

- Sonja Smith & Jim Marascio

//

We need to balance big ticket items
with low hanging fruit that would
improve the transit experience and
increase ridership.

- Geraldine Gardner & Nick McJetters

//

The greatest need is regional connectivity with walkability and pedestrian/biking lanes in neighborhoods.

- *Reginald Henderson & Aaron Lay*



3. What's your definition of "greatest need"?

- **Start with the most vulnerable, least connected places**
 - Use a data-driven approach with an equity lens to determine places with "greatest need"
 - Ensuring access to critical services (jobs, school, grocery, healthcare, childcare) for all Charlotte residents, and especially for those that can't afford cars.
 - We need to make sure that residents aren't displaced by the affordable options (transit & bike) we build to serve them.
- **Prioritize safety**
 - In the short term this means responding to Covid-19
 - In the long term this means Vision Zero and effective maintenance

//

We need more public transportation
(i.e. CATS buses) in underserved
areas.

- Elyas Mohammed & Betty Doster

//

Connectivity, reliability and safety....probably the three most important words around mobility.

- Keba Samuel & Ernie Reigel



Other key thoughts

- We really enjoyed interacting with fellow Task Force Members outside the regularly scheduled video calls.
- We are learning a LOT on the fly!
- We need to think long term. What types of transportation will be most relevant and useful for our children and grandchildren 20 to 30 years from now?
- **We need a reminder at each meeting about the specific scope and mission of the Task Force so that we can prioritize our feedback efficiently toward our ultimate goal/deliverable.**



Transformational Mobility Opportunities



YOUR MISSION

Define a Transformational Mobility Network



**CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT**



**REVIEW EXISTING
PLANS**



**ASSESS MOBILITY
NEEDS**



**DETERMINE
FUNDING NEEDS**



**RECOMMEND
MOBILITY NETWORK
TO CITY COUNCIL**



Charlotte MOVES: VISION STATEMENT

“Charlotte will provide **safe** and **equitable** mobility options for all travelers regardless of age, income, ability, race, where they live, or how they choose to travel.

An integrated system of transit, bikeways, sidewalks, trails, and streets will support a **sustainable, connected, prosperous, and innovative** network that connects all Charlotteans to each other, jobs, amenities, goods, services, and the region.”



LIVABLE & CONNECTED



HEALTHY & SUSTAINABLE



PROSPEROUS & INNOVATIVE



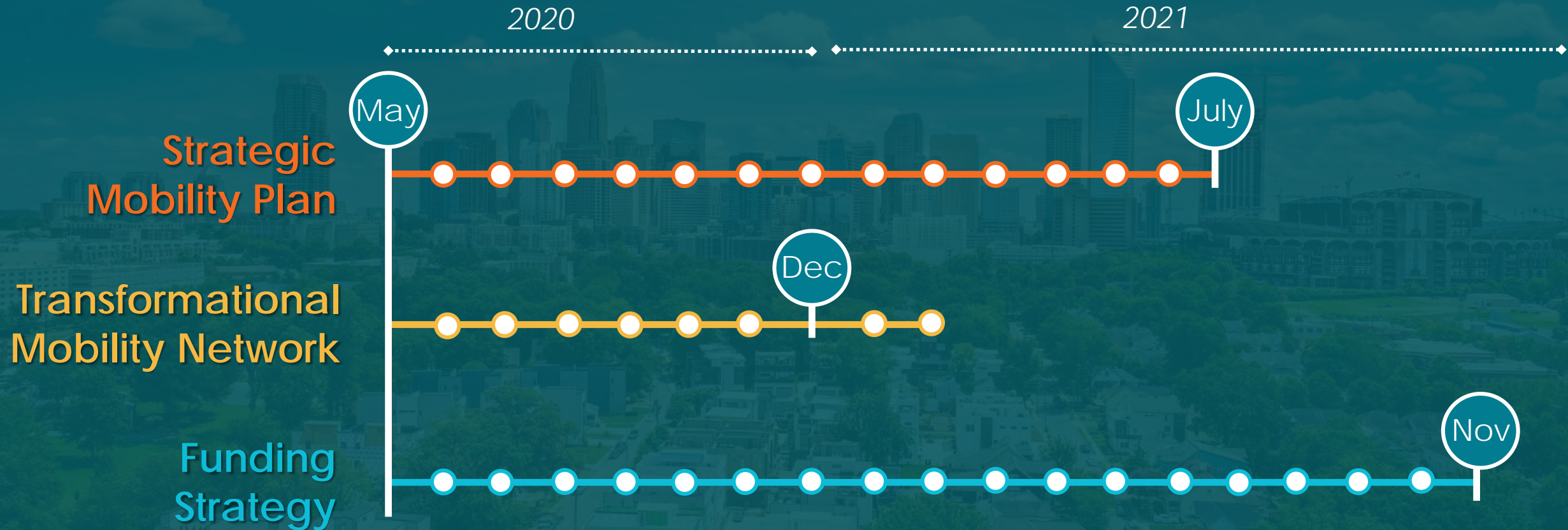
INCLUSIVE & DIVERSE



REGIONAL

- From Charlotte Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan

A COORDINATED EFFORT



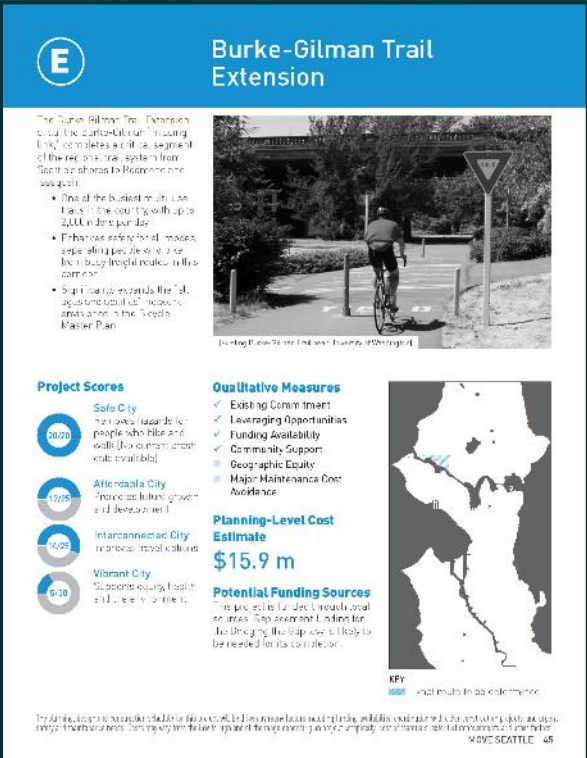
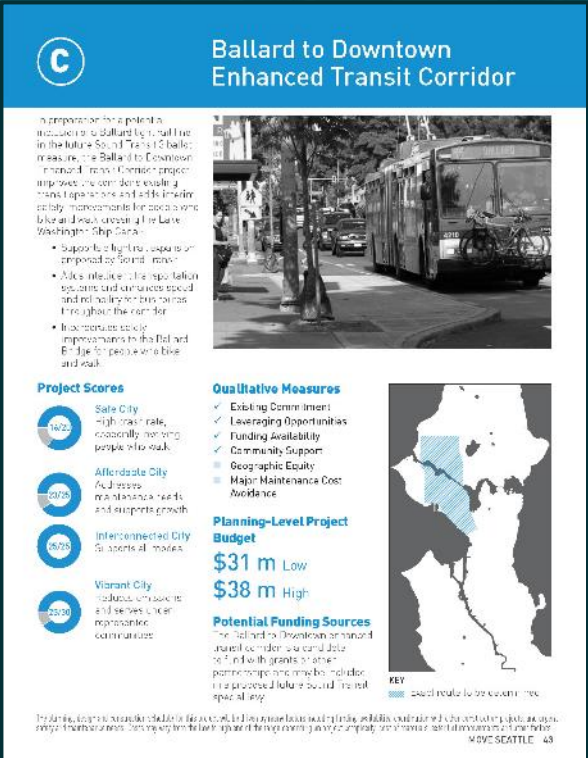
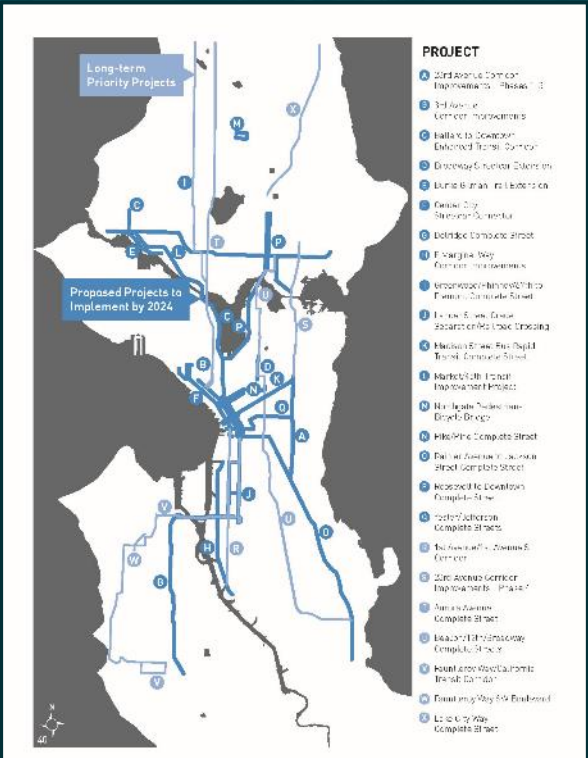
Transformational Mobility Network Recommendations



Seattle, WA

Precedent

Map with corresponding "project/program pages"





Transformational Mobility Opportunities

Existing Transit /
Transportation
Plans



Major Categories of
Potential Investment

Early Feedback
from the Task
Force

1. Rapid Transit Corridors
2. Bus Priority System
3. Greenway System
4. Pedestrian Walkability
5. Bicycle Priority Network
6. Roadway Network

Framework: Transformational Mobility Opportunities



Envision My Ride

Bus Priority Plan
(on-going)

Greenway Master Plan

Meck Playbook
(on-going)

Charlotte Walks

Vision Zero Action Plan

Charlotte Bikes

CATS 2030 System Plan - **Regional**

Connect Beyond (on-going) - **Regional**

Transportation Action Plan (TAP) - **Charlotte**

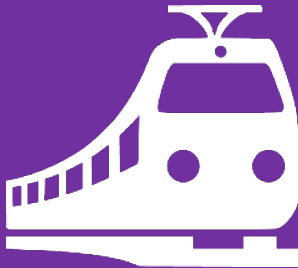





Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) - **Regional**

Strategic Mobility Plan (SMP) (on-going) - **Charlotte**

Charlotte Future 2040 (on-going) - **Charlotte**

Strategic Energy Action Plan (SEAP) - **Charlotte**

Framework: Transformational Mobility Opportunities

<div>Rapid Transit</div> <div>Corridors</div> <div></div> <div>Our complete rapid transit vision</div>	<div>Bus Priority</div> <div>System</div> <div></div> <div>Our expanded & prioritized bus network</div>	<div>Greenway</div> <div>System</div> <div></div> <div>Our parks & streets for recreation & mobility</div>	<div>Pedestrian</div> <div>Walkability</div> <div></div> <div>Our investment in first & last mile mobility</div>	<div>Bicycle</div> <div>Priority Network</div> <div></div> <div>Our bicycle vision for all ages & abilities</div>	<div>Roadway</div> <div>Network</div> <div></div> <div>Our investment to manage congestion</div>		
Silver Line	Bus Priority Corridors	Silver Line Trail	Mobility Hubs	Uptown Cycle Link	HOV/Managed Lanes		
Blue Line to Ballantyne	Microtransit	Mooresville to Charlotte Trail	Micromobility	Protected Cycle Track Network	ITS Smart Corridors		
Red Line (BRT/Commuter Rail)		Shared Streets			Autonomous Vehicle Infrastructure		
Gold Line (phase 3)		"Green Links" Network			Electric Vehicle Charging		
Regional Bus (high capacity corridors)					Transportation Demand Management (TDM)		



Transformational Mobility Opportunities

Rapid Transit Corridors



Our complete rapid transit vision

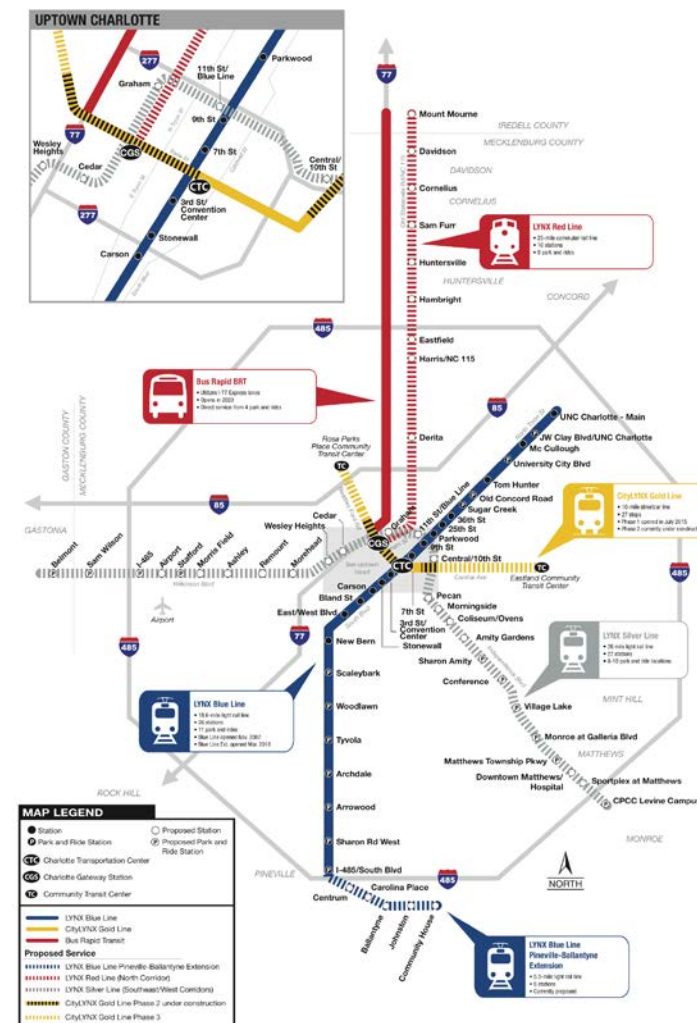
Silver Line

Blue Line to Ballantyne

Red Line
(BRT/Commuter Rail)

Gold Line (phase 3)

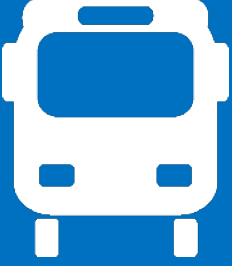
Regional Bus (high capacity corridors)





Transformational Mobility Opportunities

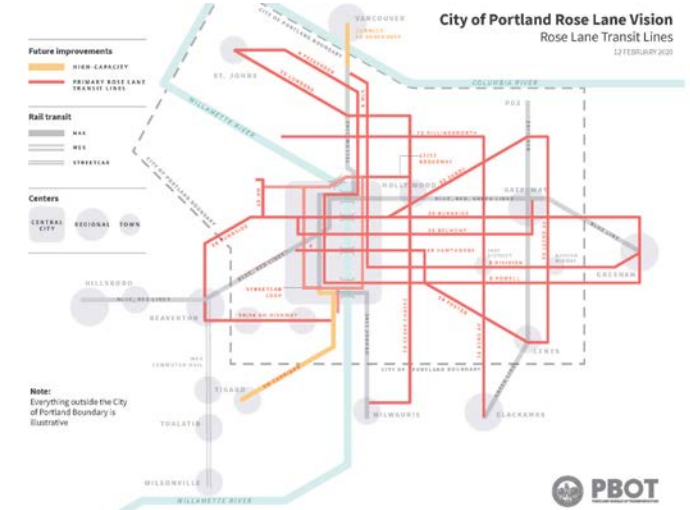
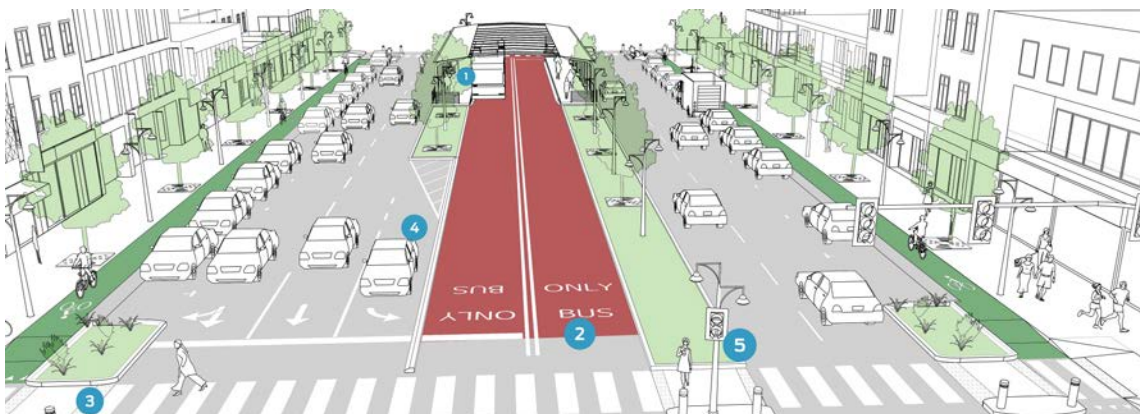
Bus Priority System



Our expanded & prioritized bus network

Bus Priority Corridors

Microtransit





Transformational Mobility Opportunities

Greenway System



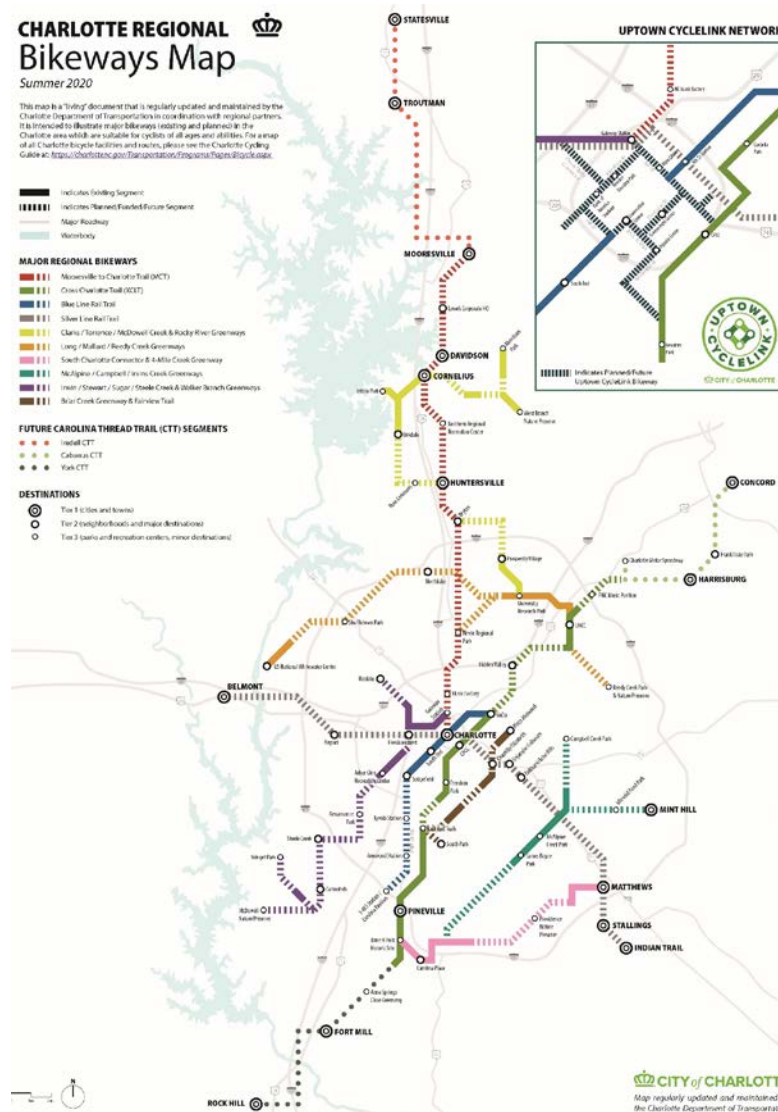
Our parks & streets for recreation & mobility

Silver Line Trail

Mooresville to Charlotte Trail

Shared Streets

"Green Links" Network





Transformational Mobility Opportunities

Pedestrian Walkability



Our investment in first
& last mile mobility

Mobility Hubs

Micromobility



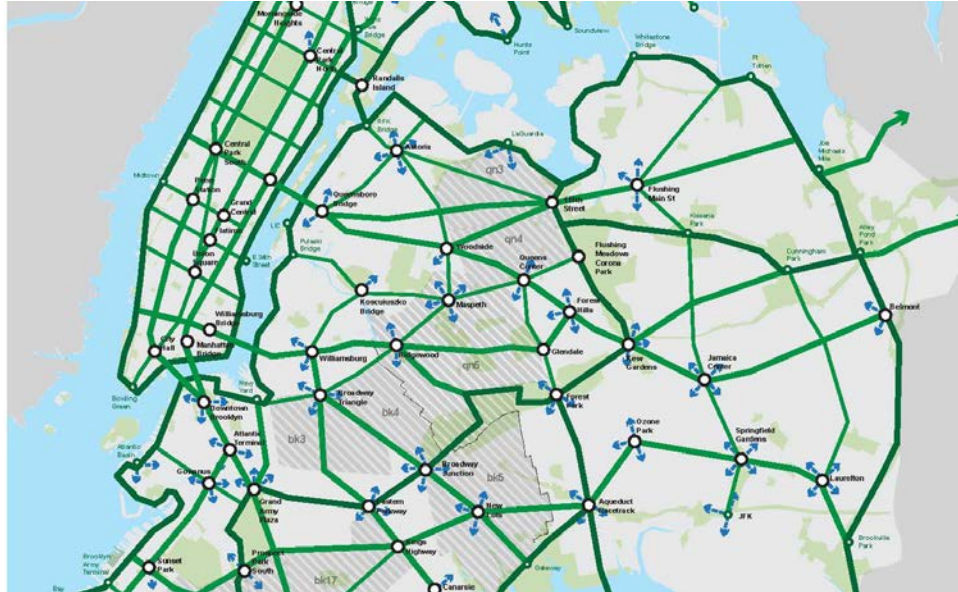


Transformational Mobility Opportunities



Uptown Cycle Link

Protected Cycle Track Network





Transformational Mobility Opportunities

Roadway Network



Our investment to
manage congestion

HOV/Managed Lanes

ITS Smart Corridors

Autonomous Vehicle
Infrastructure

Electric Vehicle
Charging

Transportation
Demand
Management (TDM)





September Homework (small groups)

Answer the following:

1. When considering the Transformational Mobility Network, **how would you define “transformational”** - (*Capture a few words or phrases to describe*)?
2. **What outcomes and community benefits would you expect** to see 20 years from now as a result of investing in the Transformational Mobility Network?
3. **Reflect on the Transformational Mobility Opportunities and help us “fill up the buckets”** – transportation projects, programs, and services (specific and general answers are welcome)



Public Comment



Next Steps



CHARLOTTE MOVES PUBLIC SURVEY IS LIVE!

- Please take the survey
- **Please distribute to your professional and personal networks**
- We will share initial results in the coming months

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CharlotteMOVES>



CHARLOTTE

MOVES

TASK FORCE

Next scheduled meeting is Thursday, September 17