

STAFF REPORT

Transportation Plan Amendments

October 28, 2025 Town Council Meeting



The Apex Transportation Plan was developed to provide guidance on what is likely to be suitable to support long term growth, connectivity, recreation, and multimodal travel. It includes a Transit Plan Map that represents current and future public transit and passenger rail facilities in the Town. Inclusion in the Transportation Plan and associated maps does not require a schedule for implementation, nor does it set aside funding for improvements. The purpose of this public hearing is to consider proposed amendments to the Transit Plan Map in order to make a decision. The Transit Plan Map was last amended on August 26, 2025.

These proposed amendments follow the fixed-route service recommendations of the Apex Transit Prioritization Study (ATPS). The purpose of the ATPS is to determine priorities for local transit service improvement and expansion in the Town of Apex over approximately the next five years. The Town Council recently accepted the ATPS on September 23, 2025. One of the first tasks noted in the study's proposed implementation plan is to bring forward amendments to update the Town's Transit Plan Map to reflect the accepted study recommendations.

These proposed amendments are subject to a public hearing because they reflect changes to transit lines under which Apex Town Council has authority. A high-level summary of the proposed amendments is below:

- Making changes to the "Existing GoApex Route 1" and "Future GoApex Route 1" lines to denote proposed changes;
- Adding a new line designation: "Future GoApex Route 2" denoted by a yellow and white striped line;
- Adding a new line designation: "Future GoApex Route 3" denoted by a teal and white striped line;
- Removing the proposed Bus Transit Center (red circle) near the intersection of E Williams St/NC-55 and Hughes Street and E Williams St/NC-55 and Mason Street.

A detailed listing of the relevant map changes is included below in Table 1: Listing of Proposed Amendments. In some instances, the new line designations replace lines currently designated for "Future Local Route". In other instances, they cover new areas not currently covered by other line designations.

Error! Reference source not found. Figure 1. Proposed amendments to the Apex Transit Plan Map (clarified version) illustrates the proposed changes. The clarified map has some refinements from the version posted in the Public Hearing Notice (see attachment 1). These refinements are not intended to change or contradict any of the proposed amendments, but Staff feel they illustrate the intended amendments more thoroughly. These clarifications include displaying the "Future GoApex Route 2" and "Future GoApex Route 3" lines where they overlap "Existing GoApex Route 1" lines, clarifying areas of "Existing GoApex Route 1" lines that would need to be removed to serve new "Future GoApex Route 1" lines (including the routing near Laura Duncan Rd, Apex Peakway, N Salem St, and Hunter St, the Olive Chapel Professional Park turnaround, and the area along E Williams St to Apex Peakway near Perry Rd and S Hughes St), and denoting the relevant future roadway names in Veridea East Village.

Figure 2: Apex Transit Prioritization Study Fixed Route Service Recommendations illustrates the proposed routing changes that these amendments are based on. It is important to note that while these proposed amendments would bring the Transit Plan Map into agreement with the recommendations from the ATPS, these lines are considered conceptual in nature and are still subject to further refinement prior to implementation. It is possible, and likely, that over time future proposed Transit Plan Map amendments will come forward to update this proposed routing. Also, this group of proposed amendments do not change "Future Local Route" lines in areas not addressed in the ATPS.

Table 1: Listing of Proposed Amendments

#	Map Designation/ Symbol	Description of Proposed Amendment	Corresponding ATPS Recommendation
1	Existing GoApex Route 1 (Proposed to be Removed)	Replace "Existing GoApex Route 1" designation and remove "Future Local Route" designation along Laura Duncan Rd from Old Raleigh Rd to Apex Peakway, along Apex Peakway from Laura Duncan Rd to N Salem St, and along N Salem St from Apex Peakway to Hunter St. Also remove "Future Local Route" along the length of Hunter St.	Fixed Route Recommendation 2: Revise Existing GoApex Route 1 routing - Downtown area changes
2	Existing GoApex Route 1 (Proposed to be Removed)	Replace "Existing GoApex Route 1" designation with this designation along the turnaround into Olive Chapel Professional Park.	Fixed Route Recommendation 2: Revise Existing GoApex Route 1 routing - Chapel Ridge Rd area changes
3	Existing GoApex Route 1 (Proposed to be Removed)	Replace "Existing GoApex Route 1" designation with this designation along E Williams St between Perry Rd and Apex Peakway, and along Apex Peakway between E Williams St and S Hughes St.	Fixed Route Recommendation 2: Revise Existing GoApex Route 1 routing - Hughes Street/Broadstone Way area changes
4	Future GoApex Route 1	Add routing along S Hughes St from E Williams St to Chatham St, along Chatham St from Hughes St to N Mason St, and along N Mason St from Chatham St to Center St.	Fixed Route Recommendation 2: Revise Existing GoApex Route 1 routing - Downtown area changes
5	Future GoApex Route 1	Add routing along Perry Rd from E Williams St to S Hughes St, along S Hughes St from Perry Rd to Apex Peakway, and along Broadstone Way to turnaround near Walmart parking lot.	Fixed Route Recommendation 2: Revise Existing GoApex Route 1 routing - Hughes Street/Broadstone Way area changes
6	Future GoApex Route 2	Add routing along Laura Duncan Rd from Old Raleigh Rd to Pine Plaza Dr, along Pine Plaza Dr from Laura Duncan Rd to Lake Pine Dr, along Lake Pine Dr from Pine Plaza Dr to Old Raleigh Rd, along Shepherds Vineyard Dr to Eva Perry Library and back to Old Raleigh Rd (including turnaround at library), and along Old Raleigh Rd from Shepherds Vineyard Dr to N Mason St.	Fixed Route Recommendation 3: Implement a new fixed route along Pine Plaza/Pleasant Park routing concept

#	Map Designation/ Symbol	Description of Proposed Amendment	Corresponding ATPS Recommendation
7	Future Local Route	Remove routing along Laura Duncan Rd between Old Raleigh Rd and US-64, along US-64 from Laura Duncan Rd to Lake Pine Dr and the portion circling from Shepherds Vineyard Drive to Old Raleigh Rd.	Fixed Route Recommendation 3: Implement a new fixed route along Pine Plaza/Pleasant Park routing concept
8	Future GoApex Route 2	Add routing along S Salem Street from Williams St to Old US 1, along Old US 1 from S Salem St to Pleasant Plains Rd, along Pleasant Plains Rd to the Pleasant Park entrance loop and back to Old US 1, along Kelly Rd from Old US 1 to Apex Barbecue Rd, and along Apex Barbecue Rd from Kelly Rd to S Salem Street. Replace "Future Local Route" in overlapping areas along S Salem St and Kelly Rd.	Fixed Route Recommendation 3: Implement a new fixed route along Pine Plaza/Pleasant Park routing concept
9	Future GoApex Route 3	Replace "Future Local Route" routing along E Williams St from Salem St to future Atlas Ln, along future Atlas Ln from E Williams St to future Addesso Blvd, along future Addesso Blvd to future Jessie Dr, along Jessie Dr to future Forest Light Wy (add instead of replace), along Forest Light Wy to future Veridea East Village street "C", along future Veridea East Village street "C" to future Addesso Blvd. Retain "Future Local Route" along Jessie Drive, such that there remains a continuous "Future Local Route" line along the length of Jessie Drive.	Fixed Route Recommendation 4: Implement a new fixed route along Veridea East Village loop routing concept
10	Bus Transit Center	Remove proposed Bus Transit Center (red circle) near E Williams St and Hughes St.	Other (Non-Fixed Route) Recommendation 1: Support phase 1 of the proposed downtown mobility hub

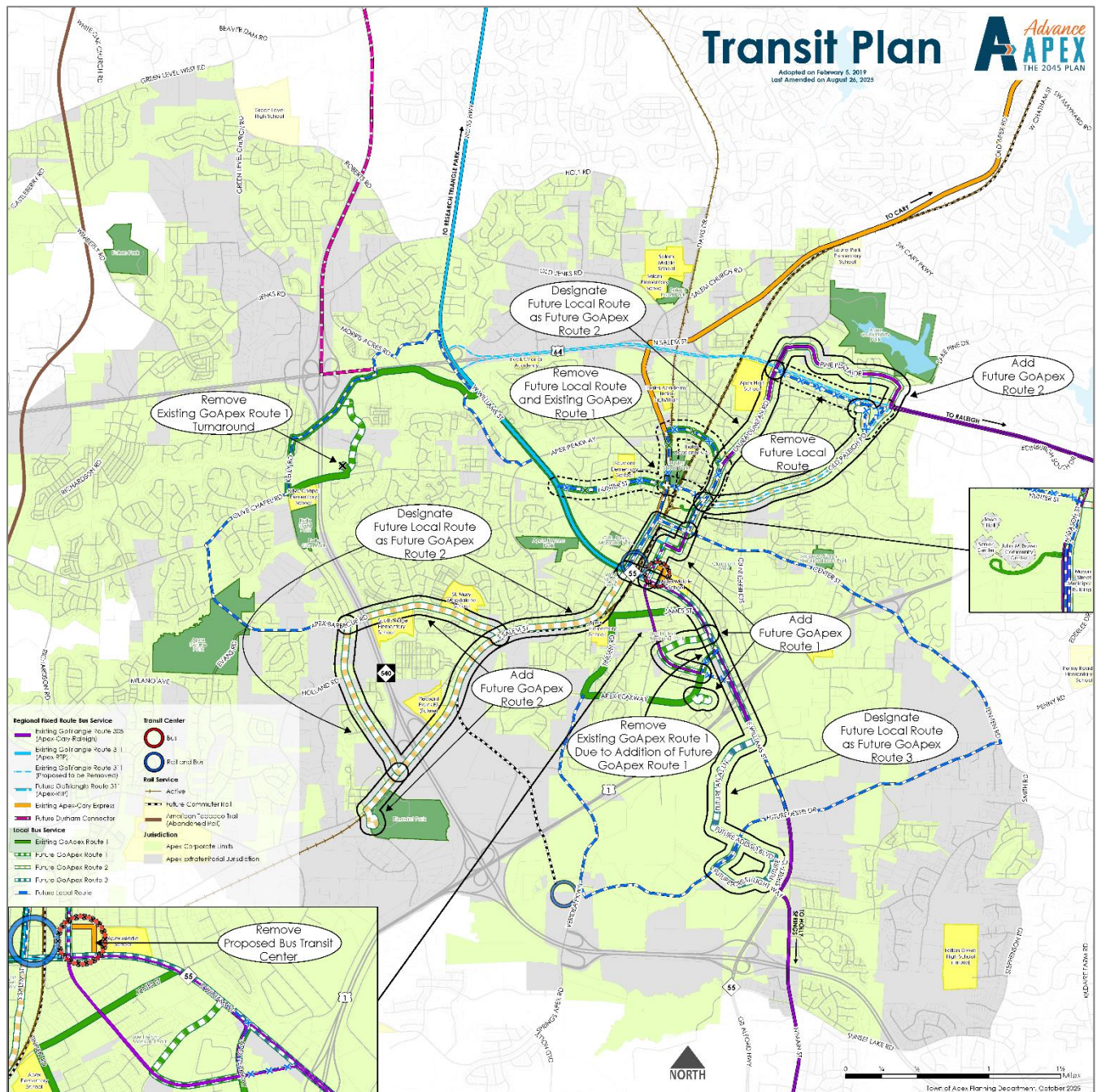


Figure 1. Proposed amendments to the Apex Transit Plan Map (clarified version)

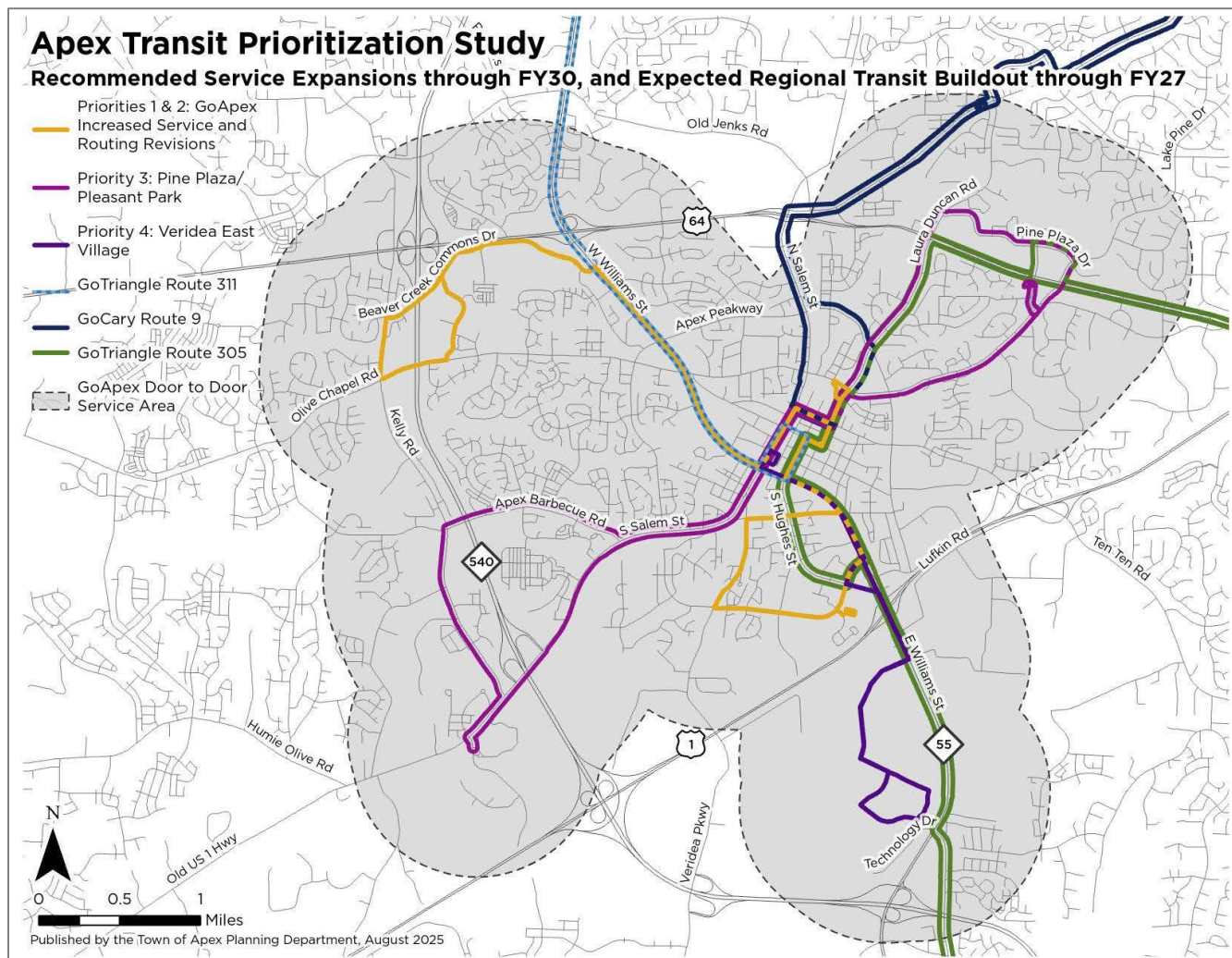


Figure 2: Apex Transit Prioritization Study Fixed Route Service Recommendations

Adherence to Town Plans and Studies:

Advance Apex: The 2045 Transportation Plan

These proposed amendments are consistent with recommendations in *Chapter 7: Transit Element* of Advance Apex, including the development of future local routes in addition to GoApex Route 1, the development of local transit hubs, and facilitating connections with regional transit routes.

Apex Transit Prioritization Study

The Apex Transit Prioritization Study (ATPS) outlines a series of recommendations to improve and expand local fixed route transit service in town over approximately the next five years, as well as provides additional recommendations to support transit connectivity and mobility. These proposed Transit Plan Map amendments support the fixed route service recommendations by reflecting the fixed route service recommendations as new items on the map. This includes conceptual routing for Future GoApex Route 1, Future GoApex Route 2, and Future GoApex Route 3.

Town of Apex S-Line Mobility Hub Plan

The Town of Apex S-Line Mobility Hub Plan was accepted by Town Council in April 2025. This plan document identifies this preferred site of a mobility hub in Apex near the intersection of Salem St and Moore St. that could serve local and regional transit first, and also potentially serve as a passenger rail station in the future. The Plan document recommends specific mobility hub features and phasing. Phase 1 is the construction of a transit transfer area that could operate independently of a passenger rail station. For this reason, staff have determined that a separate Bus Transit Center is no longer needed at the intersection of E Williams St at Hughes St and instead, future planning and project development should focus on the specified location at Moore St.

Programmed Projects:

There are no currently programmed projects affected by these proposed amendments. However, there are several planned projects that staff plan to pursue for possible grant funding that would require to be consistent with an amended Transit Plan Map, including future operating projects for additional bus service, the construction of new bus stops to serve future routes, and design and construction of phase 1 of the proposed Downtown Mobility Hub.

Staff Recommendation:

Planning Staff are in support of these proposed amendments to the Transit Plan Map. Transportation & Infrastructure Development Staff are supportive as well.

Planning Board Recommendation:

The Apex Planning Board unanimously recommended approval of the proposed amendments at their October 13, 2025 meeting.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1: Proposed amendments to the Apex Transit Plan Map (Public Notice map version)
- Attachment 2: Planning Board report to Town Council