







DRAFT DATED JULY 25, 2022

2022

orange county transit plan update

A 20-year strategy for investing Orange County's transit tax revenues.









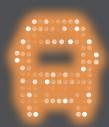


executive summary.



SECTION

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...NOW BOARDING...ORANGE COUNTY TR ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT PLAN UPDATE

WELCOME TO THE ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT PLAN UPDATE! WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE YOU ON BOARD.

The Executive Summary provides you with an overview of the Orange County Transit Plan Update including a description of the plan's purpose and motivating values, a timeline of the planning process, a "map" of the plan's contents to help you find the information you need, and a summary of new investments in the County's transit system including Orange County's vision for the next generation of transit investments.





WHAT IS THE ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT PLAN UPDATE?

The Orange County Transit Plan Update allocates Orange County's **Transit Tax District** revenues over the next 20 years based on the community's needs, values, and priorities. It includes <u>already programmed projects</u> and investments described in previous plans (*Orange County Bus and Rail Investment Plan* (2012), *Orange County Transit Plan* (2017), and projects included in the County's annual transit work plans) and <u>new projects</u> to be funded with the revenue remaining after accounting for existing projects. The Orange County Transit Plan Update also ensures the benefits of public transportation investments support community members who are the most reliant on transit service and that public transportation investments support land use and development in Orange County that is resilient, sustainable, and attainable for all.

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WHAT IS THE ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT TAX?

In 2012, voters in Orange County approved a half-cent sales tax (Article 43) to fund transit service and transit infrastructure improvements. Funding for transit is also collected through a vehicle rental tax and vehicle registration fees. In 2022, Orange County generated \$8,954,000 through these funding sources. The revenues support transit services provided by Orange County Public Transportation, Chapel Hill Transit, and GoTriangle. Revenues also help pay for infrastructure improvements related to transit in Orange County communities and support administrative and planning services.



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PLAN FOR TRANSIT?

Transit is more than just a way to get from one point to another. It connects people to employment opportunities, improves environmental outcomes by reducing the number of cars on the road, supports active transportation (walking, biking, rolling), and gives people the freedom to go where they want, when they want. Transit planning helps balance the needs of all transit riders and allocates available funding to meet these needs. Transit planning also guides important decisions in Orange County related to accommodating new growth and development and ensuring transportation options are available. These decisions directly and indirectly impact where people live, work, learn, shop, and play and the opportunities, services, and resources that are available.

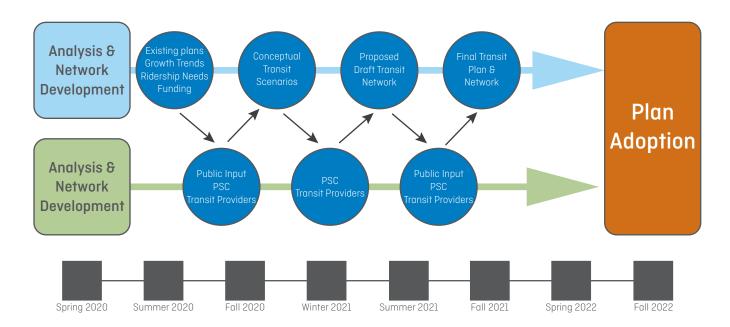


HOW WAS THE TRANSIT PLAN UPDATE DEVELOPED?

The Orange County Transit Plan Update was developed between 2020 and 2022 and included reviewing existing transit, transportation, and land use plans; conducting public outreach and engagement; identifying and assessing transit projects; and creating an implementation plan, budget, and schedule for new transit projects.

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PLAN TIMELINE



PLAN PARTNERS

The Plan Update was led by Orange County staff and a consultant team was hired to develop the plan. A Policy Steering Committee (PSC) of local elected officials was convened to guide the plan's policy direction. Municipalities (Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Hillsborough, and Mebane), the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, transit service providers (Chapel Hill Transit, Orange County Public Transportation, and GoTriangle), and the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) were also closely involved in the plan's development.























PROJECT SELECTION



HOW WERE TRANSIT PROJECTS IDENTIFIED?

Transit projects were selected based on needs, priorities, and the recommendations of the public, local government staff, transit service providers, community stakeholders, and the Policy Steering Committee. The following were considered:

- · Transit service provider's priority projects
- Public need
- Community values (equity, environmental sustainability, economic prosperity, affordable and attainable quality of life, and transportation and access for all)
 - Regional connectivity
- Long-term transit vision.



WHAT VALUES GUIDED THE SELECTION OF PROJECTS?

The Orange County Transit Plan Update is guided by by five core community values.



EOUITY

Prioritize the transit needs of underserved or transit-dependent residents; includes historically disinvested communities of color, lower-income neighborhoods, seniors, and rural communities.



AFFORDABLE & ATTAINABLE QUALITY OF LIFE

Prioritize transit service connections to affordable housing, recreation, and arts and cultural opportunities.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Prioritize accessible and convenient transit service in areas with existing or planned higher density development.



TRANSPORTATION & ACCESS FOR

ALL

Prioritize transit service that increases transit access for the most people to the most places.



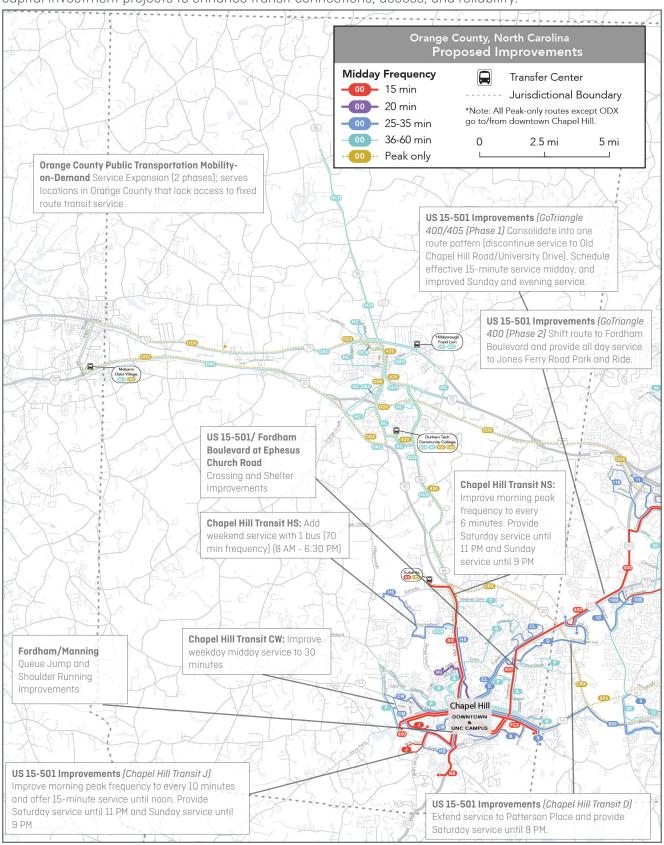
ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Prioritize increasing access to jobs and opportunities.

PROJECTS

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The Orange County Transit Plan Update recommends five transit service improvement projects and two capital investment projects to enhance transit connections, access, and reliability.



OTRANSIT VISION

The Orange County Transit Plan Update also illustrates a long-term vision for "Next Generation" transit service and investments in Orange County.

LEGEND

Commuter Rail Transit (CRT) - - -

North-South Bus Rapid Transit (N-S BRT)

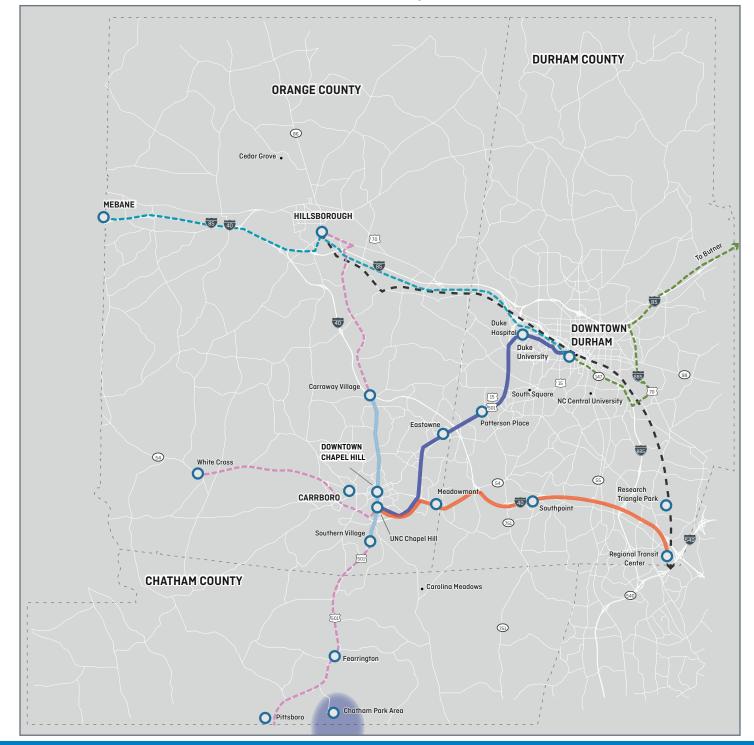
Durham/ Chapel Hill Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Chapel Hill/ RTP Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Express Bus Corridors (2040)

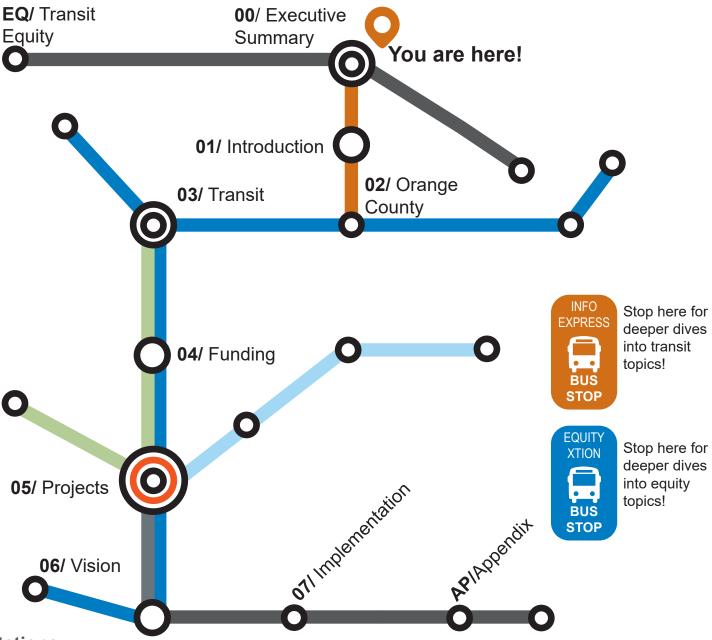
Express Bus Corridors (2050) ---

Express Bus to Mebane ----



PROUTE MAP

A guide to finding your way around the Orange County Transit Plan Update.



Stations

EQ/ Transit Equity: Learn more about transit equity's origins in the Civil Rights Movement and what's needed today to ensure ALL citizens benefit from investments in public transportation.

00/ Executive Summary: An overview of the Orange County Transit Plan Update's purpose and organization.

01/ Introduction: The Orange County Transit Plan Update allocates the county transit tax revenues over the next 20 years.

02/ Orange County: Key characteristics of the people and places in Orange County and their influence on transit investments, and service.

03/ Transit: Orange County's transit service providers, the existing

transit network, and transit system performance.

04/ Funding: Collection and allocation of transit funding, including the assumptions used to estimate expenses, costs, and revenues.

05/ Projects: Specifics for each project proposed in the Orange County Transit Plan Update.

06/ Vision: The next generation of transit investments envisioned in Orange County.

07/ Implementation: Next steps for implementing proposed projects.

AP/Appendix: Supplemental information and resources.