APPENDIX J: Public Outreach Materials

Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project

November 2016
Appendix J: Public Outreach Materials

- Announcements
  - Press Release
  - Letters

- Public Open House Meeting Materials
  - Sign-in Sheets
  - Handouts
  - Boards
  - Presentation

- Comments
  - Comment Cards
  - Emails with Questions/Comments Received
ANNOUNCEMENTS
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Press Release
Local Partners Are Working to Support the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project

Research Triangle Park, NC (September 19, 2016) - Leaders from local universities, health care institutions, government and the private sector are working with GoTriangle to meet the community goal of improving public transit in Durham and Orange counties including implementation of the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project.

“The light rail project remains a priority in our rapidly growing communities, because it will better connect our neighborhoods to jobs, education, healthcare and other destinations,” said Durham Mayor and GoTriangle Chair William V. “Bill” Bell. “We’ve seen successful coalitions in other regions help complete similar projects, and many community leaders here understand the importance of light rail and want this to happen.”

In response to feedback received from public comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, GoTriangle is currently evaluating a number of refinements to the project, including the possibility of connecting the light rail line to North Carolina Central University, which serves eight thousand students. The line would connect three of the major universities in the Triangle. Preliminary studies suggest an NCCU station could be the most used stop in Durham.

“North Carolina Central University is an enthusiastic partner of GoTriangle. The possibility of connecting the light rail line to NCCU is an exciting and viable refinement to the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project. It is vital for the Triangle region of our state,” said Acting Chancellor Johnson O. Akinleye at North Carolina Central University. “We are eager to strengthen the already close partnership with GoTriangle, and having a stop directly on campus will bridge our programs and students with the vibrant city of Durham and our region, while enabling additional constituencies to access our campus and experience our top-ranked academic programs and other cultural offerings.”

The D-O LRT project is critical transportation infrastructure that will support approximately 23,000 passenger trips per day by 2040 along the 17-mile alignment; connect to local and regional bus service enhancing mobility for more people, including those without access to a car; complement local land use plans to focus compact development; manage and channel future growth at light rail station areas, and support and promote economic development.

GoTriangle improves our region’s quality of life by connecting people and places with safe, reliable, and easy to use travel choices.

-End-
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Letters
September 08, 2016

Subject: Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) Project
Notice of Property Owner Meeting

Dear Property Owner or Tenant:

GoTriangle, the regional public transit agency, is studying the potential to provide light rail along Alston Avenue to the intersection of Alston Avenue and Lawson Street, as part of the D-O LRT Project. We are contacting you because the property which you own, manage, or rent is located within the study area.

Technical data collection is scheduled to begin this week. During this time, you may see uniformed staff surveying this area and performing data collection. All work will be performed outdoors. No action is required by you.

We are hosting two drop-in meetings for property owners, managers, residents and tenants of properties in this study area. We invite you to attend one of these two drop-in meetings to learn more about the D-O LRT Project, the project timeline, and how this project may affect you.

Please attend one of the following meetings:

- Friday, September 23rd from 3 to 5 p.m. at Durham County Library Main Auditorium, 300 N. Roxboro Street, Durham, NC 27701
- Saturday September 24th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at John Avery Boys and Girls Club, 808 E. Pettigrew Street, Durham, NC 27701

If you are unable to attend one of the above meetings, additional meetings will be held with the general public, and you are welcome to attend one of the following:

- Thursday, October 6th from 6 to 8 p.m. at Hayti Heritage Center, 804 Old Fayetteville Street, Durham, NC 27701
- Friday, October 7th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at John Avery Boys and Girls Club, 808 E. Pettigrew Street, Durham, NC 27701

For more information about the D-O LRT Project, go to ourtransitfuture.com/projects/durham-orange/. If you have any questions, please contact Jeffrey Sullivan at jsullivan@gotriangle.org or (919) 485-7490.

Sincerely,

Danny Rogers
D-O LRT Project Director
GoTriangle

Personas con limitaciones para leer, hablar, o entender inglés, podrían recibir servicios de interpretación. Si solicita estos servicios por favor llámenos al (919) 461-1342.

www.gotriangle.org
October 26, 2016

Subject: Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) Project Open House

GoTriangle, the regional public transit agency, is studying, as part of the D-O LRT Project, the potential to provide light rail along south Alston Avenue to the intersection of Lawson Street for a proposed station serving North Carolina Central University (NCCU) and the surrounding neighborhoods. We are contacting you because the property which you own, manage, or rent is located within the study area.

GoTriangle is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment, which analyzes the potential impacts and benefits of providing light rail along south Alston Avenue to the newly proposed station at NCCU. This information will supplement the previous environmental document, the D-O LRT Combined Final Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision, February 2016. GoTriangle anticipates publishing the Supplemental Environmental Assessment in November for 30 days of public review and comment. This document will be available on our website, ourtransitfuture.com/projects/durham-orange/.

GoTriangle is holding two drop-in, “open house” meetings for people interested in learning more about light rail and the proposed station at NCCU. We invite you to attend one of the two open houses to learn more about the D-O LRT Project, the project timeline, and the proposed station.

The open houses will be held on:

- Saturday, November 12, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Holton Career Resource Center, 401 N Driver St, Durham, NC 27703
- Thursday, November 17, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at W G Pearson Center, 600 E Umstead St, Durham, NC 27701

For more information about the D-O LRT Project, go to ourtransitfuture.com/projects/durham-orange/. If you have any questions, please contact Jeffrey Sullivan at jsullivan@gotriangle.org or (919) 485-7490.

Sincerely,

Danny Rogers, PE
D-O LRT Project Director
GoTriangle

www.gotriangle.org
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE MEETING MATERIALS
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE MEETING MATERIALS

Sign-in Sheets
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
<th>PHONE NUMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Herman Atwood</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yvonne Smith</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAME</td>
<td>ADDRESS</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>PHONE NUMBER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milton Gunn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darcy M. Eden</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Caligan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAME</td>
<td>ADDRESS</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>MORE INFO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Gunn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas H. Bell</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flora Z.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAME</td>
<td>ADDRESS</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>MORE INFO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ted Allen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE
MEETING MATERIALS

Handouts
Want to learn more about the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project?

Here are some facts:

- **Planned Length:** 17 miles
- **Planned Stations:** 17

- **Estimated Travel Time (end to end):** 42–44 minutes
- **Peak Frequency:** 10 minutes
- **Off-Peak Frequency:** 20 minutes

- **Estimated Cost:** $1.5 to 1.6 Billion (in 2015 dollars)

**Funding Sources:** Local 1/2 cent sales tax, vehicle registration fees, rental car tax in Durham and Orange counties, fares, state and federal funds.

**Bus Improvements:**
New and enhanced bus services will connect to light rail stations.

**Project Partners:**
Federal Transit Administration, NC Department of Transportation, Durham-Chapel Hill-Carborro Metropolitan Planning Organization, Durham County, Orange County, City of Durham, Town of Chapel Hill.

**Light Rail Features**
- Overhead Electric Power
- Bike Racks
- Advance Ticketing
- Level Boarding
- Real-Time Information
- Security

**Light Rail will operate on tracks separate from freight.**

**Latest Information:**
In response to comments received on the Environmental Impact Statement, several refinements are being evaluated for the D-O LRT Project. Visit ourtransitfuture.com to view the latest plans.
A Common Choice

Light Rail Transit (LRT) is used to provide high frequency rail transit service and operates in more than 20 urban areas in the United States and Canada. Systems include Charlotte, Norfolk, Baltimore, Dallas, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Denver, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Jose, Portland and Ottawa.

Typical Service Characteristics

- **Corridor Length:** 5 – 20 miles
- **Station Spacing:** .25 – 2 miles
- **Service Frequency:** 5 – 15 min. peak
  10 – 20 min. off-peak
- **Operating Speed:** 55 mph
- **Top Operating Speed:** 65 mph
- **Avg. Capacity:** 125 (40-60 seated) per/car

Typical Cross Section

Durham-Orange Light Rail Project

17 miles serving 17 stations between UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill and Alston Avenue in East Durham.

- **Estimated Travel Time:** 42-44 minutes.
- **Hours of Operation:** Runs 7 days a week, approx. 18 hrs per day
- **Frequency:**
  - 10 min – peak
  - 20 min – off peak/weekends
- **Estimated Cost:** $1.5 billion
- **Funding Breakdown:**
  - Local: 25%
  - State: 25%
  - Federal: 50%

For more information, visit:

>> [www.ourtransitfuture.com](http://www.ourtransitfuture.com)

Comment

- P.O. Box 530 | Morrisville, NC | 27560
- 800.816.7817
- info@ourtransitfuture.com

© GoTriangle 2015
Why Light Rail?

Travel between Durham and Chapel Hill is becoming increasingly difficult as more and more people move to the Triangle. High growth rates continue to strain our transportation system — roadways and public transit — increase travel times and decrease reliability.

LRT was chosen for the Durham-Orange corridor because this technology:

- Connects residential, educational and major employment centers throughout the corridor
- Serves the people in the Durham-Orange corridor more cost-effectively in the long term
- Serves a corridor with some of the highest projected trips per acre in the region
- Supports land use patterns that require closely spaced stops, best served by nimble vehicles that are able to accelerate quickly
- Provides solid anchors needed to shape land use along this critical corridor
- Provides high-frequency rail service shown to support transit-oriented development

We need a permanent solution that:

- Enhances mobility
- Expands transit options between Durham and Chapel Hill
- Serves populations with high propensity for transit use
- Fosters compact development

Light Rail Vehicles (LRVs) are electrically powered vehicles and operate on their own tracks, in a dedicated right-of-way.

LRVs can navigate tight turns and accelerate and decelerate more quickly than vehicles like Diesel Multiple Units and Amtrak trains.

Light Rail service can accommodate increases in ridership by adding more train cars.

LRVs are designed to serve corridors with narrow rights-of-way and frequent stops.

LRVs are ADA accessible, and can accommodate bicycles, wheelchairs and strollers.

WHAT IS LIGHT RAIL?

Light Rail Vehicles (LRVs) are electrically powered vehicles and operate on their own tracks, in a dedicated right-of-way.

LRVs can navigate tight turns and accelerate and decelerate more quickly than vehicles like Diesel Multiple Units and Amtrak trains.

Light Rail service can accommodate increases in ridership by adding more train cars.

LRVs are designed to serve corridors with narrow rights-of-way and frequent stops.

LRVs are ADA accessible, and can accommodate bicycles, wheelchairs and strollers.
DURHAM-ORANGE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT PROJECT
PROPOSED ALSTON AVENUE ALIGNMENT

Legend
- Proposed Light Rail Transit stations
- D-O LRT alignment
- Aerial section of alignment

Conceptual only, subject to change without notice
Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project

In February 2016, in response to a request from North Carolina Central University (NCCU) and comments from the public on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Durham-Orange (D-O) Light Rail Transit (LRT) Project, GoTriangle committed to study extending light rail service to the NCCU Campus.

Initial results from preliminary evaluations indicate that an extension of the D-O LRT Project to NCCU appears to be feasible. GoTriangle is working with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and other project partners to determine whether or not the extension of the Project down Alston Avenue to NCCU can be included with the rest of the D-O LRT Project when it enters the engineering and final design phase of the federal project development process.

As GoTriangle and its partners move forward with the D-O LRT Project, here is what you can expect:

**Fall 2016**
Meetings with residents, property owners and businesses will take place to provide you with more information about the proposed extension to NCCU.

Residents, property owners and businesses that may be affected by the D-O LRT Project, including the extension to NCCU, will be kept informed about the potential and likely property impacts which will become more evident as engineering and final design proceeds.

**2017 - 2019**
Property needed for the D-O LRT Project will be identified and, in accordance with federal and state regulations, the property acquisition process will begin.

**2019 - 2020**
Working with residents, property owners and businesses, property acquisition and relocation will be finalized and the construction process for the D-O LRT Project will move forward.

**2020 - 2021**

---

PO Box 13787
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
P: 919.485.7510 | F: 919.485.7547

www.gotriangle.org
Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project

Comment Form

Name

Email

Phone

Address

City

Zip Code

You may submit a comment on this project in several ways: (1) email us at info@ourtransitfuture.com; (2) mail a letter to D-O LRT Project, GoTriangle, PO Box 13787, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, (3) submit this comment form at a public workshop or meeting.
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE
MEETING MATERIALS
Boards
Where Are People Going?

Projected 2040 D-O Corridor Travel Patterns
DURHAM-ORANGE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT PROJECT

Sources: Durham, Chapel Hill, ESRI, CGIA, NCDOT, and AECOM
See Figure 2.3-6, "NEPA Preferred Alternative" in the DEIS
What is a Station?

Minneapolis

Portland

Norfolk

Charlotte
What is a Light Rail Vehicle?

90’ Light Rail Vehicle

40’ Bus

REUSE

Portland

Minneapolis

ADA Accessible
Bike Racks/Bike Access
Security Cameras
On-Board Seating/Standing Access
Overhead Electric Power

www.ourtransitfuture.com
Components of a Light Rail System

- **Traction Power Substation**
  - Minneapolis

- **Communication Cabinet**
  - Minneapolis

- **Signal Box**
  - San Jose

- **Overhead Catenary System - Poles**
  - Phoenix

- **Overhead Catenary System - Wires**
  - Salt Lake City

- **Station Platform**
  - Minneapolis

[Source: www.ourtransitfuture.com]
CONNECTING TO LIGHT RAIL
How to get to where you want to be

CAR
“Park and Ride”
“Kiss and Ride”

BUS
BUS CONNECTIONS:
Take a bus to and from a local light rail station

BIKE
Bikes will be allowed on board. Bike racks will also be available at stations.

WALK
Station area planning is based on a 1/2 mile walk to or from a station.

REUSE
The Durham Orange Light Rail project has nine stations with Park and Ride areas.

The Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project is part of a larger public transit investment in our community. Capital and operating improvements will continue for the bus system. Bus network changes to serve future light rail stations are planned closer to the implementation date of the project.

LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT

We are working with your local planning department on station area infrastructure including Bike/Pedestrian paths.

www.ourtransitfuture.com
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE MEETING MATERIALS

Presentation
Agency Overview
Connecting all Points of the Triangle
WHO ARE WE

• Vision
  To make exceptional public transportation the foundation of the region's community, prosperity, and mobility.

• Mission
  GoTriangle improves our region's quality of life by connecting people and places with safe, reliable, and easy-to-use travel choices.

• GoTriangle provides regional transit planning and operates regional transit service
WHAT WE DO
Regional Bus Service
GoTriangle offers service that connects the Triangle
• 14 Regional Routes
• 12 Express Routes
• 4 shuttles
• Service seven days a week, 18 hours a day on core routes.
WHAT WE DO

• Over 1.8 million trips made + 34 thousand paratransit trips
• Over 1 million miles traveled in vanpools
• Over 450 thousand calls to the information center
SEAMLESS SERVICE

• Working with our agency partners to create a seamless experience
• Integrated information center
• Regional rebranding
Fast Facts

• 17-miles
• 17 stations
• About 42-44 minutes from Alston Ave to UNC Hospitals
• Every 10 minutes peak times; 20 minute off-peak
D-O Corridor

- NC 54, US 15-501, NC 147, NCRR Corridor (downtown Durham)
- 15,000 passengers on bus services in corridor every weekday
- Transit operating near capacity in key corridors
  - UNC/Manning Drive – 84 buses/hour
  - Duke/VA – 46 buses/hour
Funding

• Federal Funding: 50% through New Starts Program
• Eligible 10% State Funding
• Local Funding: ½-cent Sales Tax, Vehicle Registration Fees, Vehicle Rental Tax
• Working with project partners and local leaders to find other sources of funding to complete the project
Existing Transit Service

• 4 Transit Operators
  – Duke Transit, Chapel Hill Transit, GoDurham and GoTriangle

• 71,000 passenger trips in Durham-Orange County every weekday
  – Charlotte had 73,000 before the Blue Line opened
Challenges in our Area

- Growth causing increased congestion, and sprawling development.
- Transit systems operating close to maximum capacity
  - 84/hour (UNC Hospitals)
  - 46/hour (Erwin Road)
Transit Users

“I love the convenience and I save on gas. I have also made several friends on the bus! It creates a sense of community.”

- Lamara -
D-O Corridor

- NC 54, US 15-501, NC 147, NCRR Corridor (downtown Durham)
- 15,000 passengers on bus services in corridor every weekday
- Transit operating near capacity in key corridors
  - UNC/Manning Drive – 84 buses/hour
  - Duke/VA – 46 buses/hour
As a millennial who doesn't drive, I'm lucky to live in a very walkable downtown. I'm looking forward to exploring more areas of the triangle as public transit expands!

- Alex -
Studies Done Supporting Project

- Regional Transit Vision Plan (2008)
- 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (2009)
- Transitional Analysis (2010)
- Alternatives Analysis (2012)
- 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (2013)
- Final Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision for the D-O LRT Project (2016)
I didn’t have my license till I was 19, and even when I had my license I didn’t have a car. I did a lot of commuting to school when I was at Durham Tech, and again now at Central.

- Justin -
Other Major Transit Projects

- **Orange County**
  - Expanding bus service
  - D-O LRT Project
  - Bus Rapid Transit in Chapel Hill in the Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Corridor

- **Durham County**
  - Expanding bus service
  - D-O LRT Project
  - Durham-Wake Commuter Rail Project
Other Major Transit Projects

• Wake County
  – Expanding bus service
  – Bus Rapid Transit
    • Western Boulevard Corridor
    • New Bern Avenue Corridor
    • Capital Boulevard Corridor
    • Wilmington Street Corridor
  – Durham-Wake Commuter Rail Project
COMMENTS
COMMENTS

Comment Cards
Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project
Comment Form

LaMont Jordan

I'm on board with the project. Transit in Brooklyn as example:
- Will there be turnstiles or derricks - vendor revenue
- Will there be refillable passes - save the transit company money
- Bus access - running buses together at a junction where buses come together to access the tram
- Ticket readers at fare zones instead of checks because you have to pay for police
- Having barrier fences around zone should help with baseball games, central game in park
- Bringing revenue if you build it, you want people to ride it.
Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project

Comment Form

Name
Emilie Kay

City

Zip Code

Email

Phone
ext. 27

Address

- Relocation tenement rights
- Relocation assistance
- Relocation timeline from acquisition of property

You may submit a comment on this project in several ways: (1) email us at info@ourtransitfuture.com, (2) mail a letter to D-O LRT Project, GoTriangle, PO Box 13787, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, (3) submit this comment form at a public workshop or meeting.
Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project

Comment Form

A1 Sanders

Name

Address

City

Email

Phone

Zip Code

Winding off the road how much property taken on each side of the road.

Cut the bus Daily Route on Alston out in front of 1104 S Alston Ave.
I'm happy about you all building a train for many people can experience the ride of a train.
Very informative & impressive presentation. As a land owner near the proposed system I now have a better understanding now of the project. I hope it goes as planned because it looks like it would benefit my people.
The extra stop at NCCU is very much needed. A lot of students don't have vehicles, and residents in the area needs access to Chapel Hill for various reasons.
Alonzo L. Pegram

Very informative presentation. Keep up the good work. It's for the betterment of all.

You may submit a comment on this project in several ways: (1) email us at info@ourtransitfuture.com; (2) mail a letter to D-O LRT Project, GoTriangle, PO Box 13787, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; (3) submit this comment form at a public workshop or meeting.
Comments verbalized by Tod Allen

- Works for Faraway Advertising
- Has billboard on property. Also had a billboard on the western side that they had to take down as part of the 55 widening.
- Interested in plans for the project; thought it was going north on 40/85 but found out it's going to a different property and plans for the refinery + timeframe for real estate.
- Not for or against; mess transient but times it would be very good for the community. It's a great project. Asked about if it would take place as the same time as the other 17 miles.
Lawson on east side

Why not widen to the east or both sides

Thought there were going to be dorms + parking + tear down projects on the way to Briggs; they're supposed to tear down McDougald Terrace + NCMC was going to put a ball park

Thought it was going to be next year

Discussed real estate process

Time line 2020/2021 Earliest

We would be in touch, talk through the property, would assess

I'm just ready to go + relocation

Summer you already

3-4 years ago widening
COMMENTS

Emails with Questions/Comments Received
Ms. Liverpool,

Thanks for your questions. I am asking the folks at Triangle Transit to contact you via e-mail with answers to your questions.

See you soon.

Eddie Davis
Durham City Council

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 10, 2016, at 6:58 AM, Wilma Liverpool wrote:

Council and County commission members,

I have questions about the surprising importance of the light rail to the N C C U community at Alston Avenue.

1. Who owns the property where the stop will be?

2. How many people/families in the African-american community will be displaced?

3. Is this another URBAN RENEWAL TRICK?

   * Will just compensation be paid for property

   * Why all of a sudden would ridership in THIS area become the highest in Durham

   * Will it take unemployed residents to newly found livable wage jobs

   * Why will community residents suddenly need to go where the light rail goes

   * Exactly how many graduate students (at N C C U) who will use the light rail, are African American and live in an African american community in Durham

   * What is the cost per ride

   * How will the neighborhood be impacted
*How soon will this start renewed gentrification in this section of my community

Wilma Liverpool
Please forward a copy of the traffic study done for the location mentioned in this email, the corner of Alston Ave. and Lawson Street.

Thank you.

Anita Keith-Foust

Sent from my iPhone. Please forgive typos.