



COA Staff Updates

August 11, 2022



Project Connect Ordinance

- In October 2021, City Council directed staff to review City code, criteria and administrative processes for items that would impede the implementation and construction of Project Connect.
- Staff will be returning to Council with an ordinance in December 2022 that lays an initial foundation for the needs of the light rail project.
- As more design details are known and project needs become clearer, future amendments will be brought forward.
- We will be visiting several boards and commissions in October.



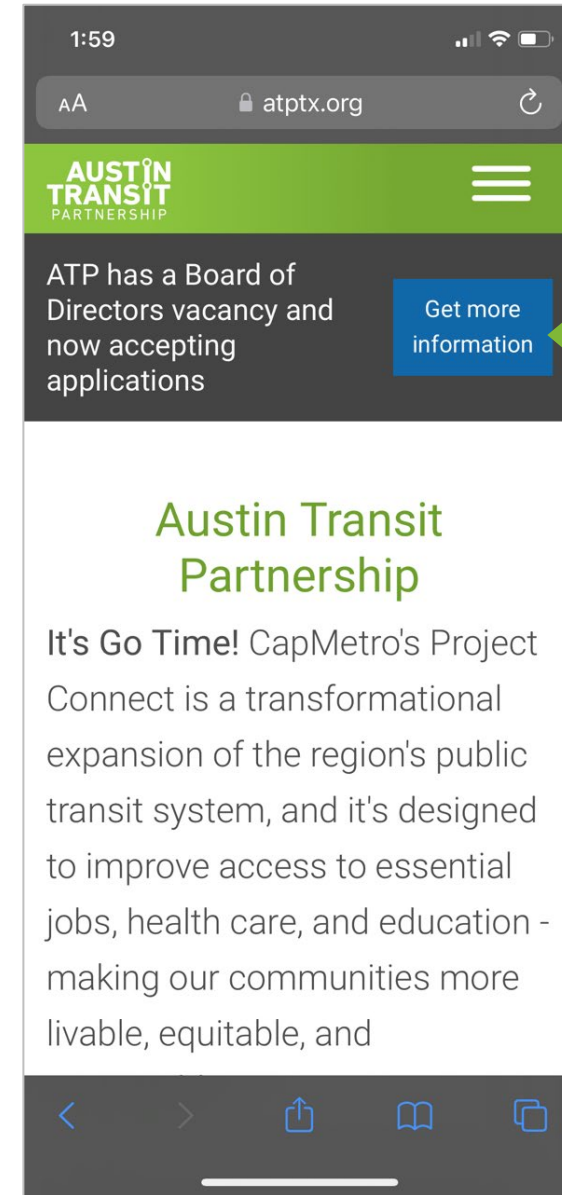
ATP Board Member Application & Appointment Process

- The application and more information about how to apply can be found on the Austin Transit Partnership's website at www.atptx.org.
- Vacancy is for the **Community Expert Director in Community Planning or Sustainability**.
- Application will close **August 12th at 5pm**
- **Application Process:**
 - Resume
 - Letter of Interest
 - Conflict of Interest and residency form
 - Optional form for demographic information
- Appointment subject to approval by Austin City Council and CapMetro Board.



Call to Action – *Help Us Spread the Word!*

- **Spread the word to your networks and people who might be interested and qualified**
 - Newsletter Article
 - Social Media Graphics & Content
- **Share content from**
 - @CapMetroATX
 - @ATP_org
 - @AustinTexasGov
- **More information: ATPTX.org**
 - *click the banner at the top of the home page*



Upcoming Project Connect ILAs

Description	Summary	Parties	Board/Council Action Anticipated
Project Connect Office Support Services ILA	Update to March 2021 agreement	ATP/COA	Action anticipated September 2022
Red Line Capital Costs	Transfer of funds to CapMetro	ATP/ CapMetro	Action anticipated August 2022





Briefing on Light Rail Program Project Development

ATP Board Presentation (July 2022) may be viewed at:
austintx.new.swagit.com/videos/177474

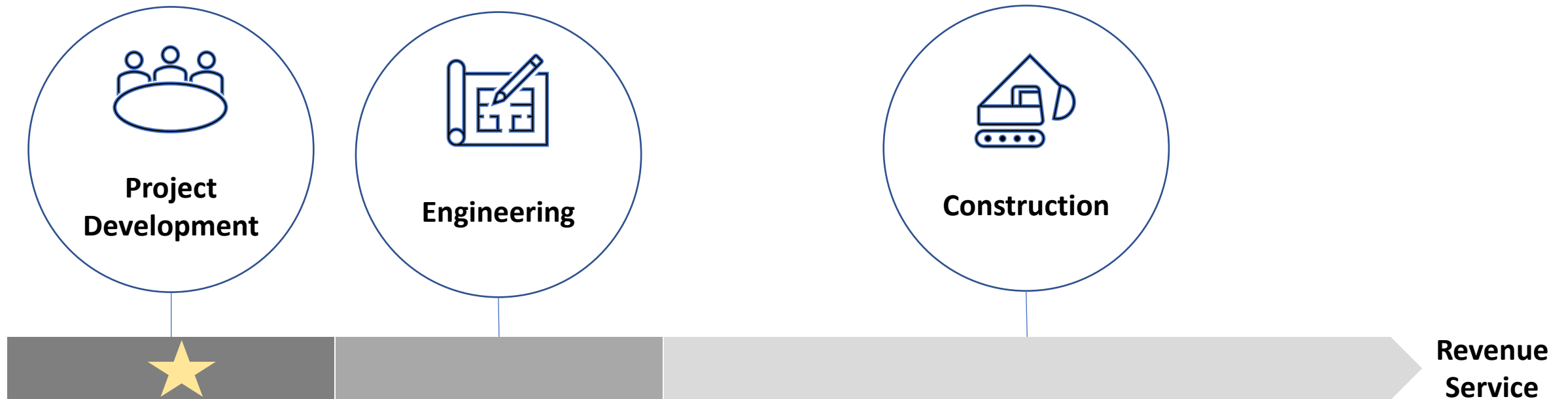
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Project Connect Vision

*"... a citywide traffic-easing rapid transit system ... to address traffic **congestion**, expand **service** for essential workers, reduce **climate change emissions**, decrease **traffic fatalities**, create **jobs**, and provide **access** to schools, health care, jobs and the airport; to include neighborhood supportive **affordable housing investments** along transit corridors and a fixed rail and bus rapid transit system, including associated road, sidewalk, bike, and street lighting improvements, park and ride hubs, on-demand neighborhood circulator shuttles, and improved access for seniors and persons with disabilities ..."*

Source: Ballot Language

Project Development Process



Notes: Project Development includes Preliminary Engineering

Light Rail Cost Estimates

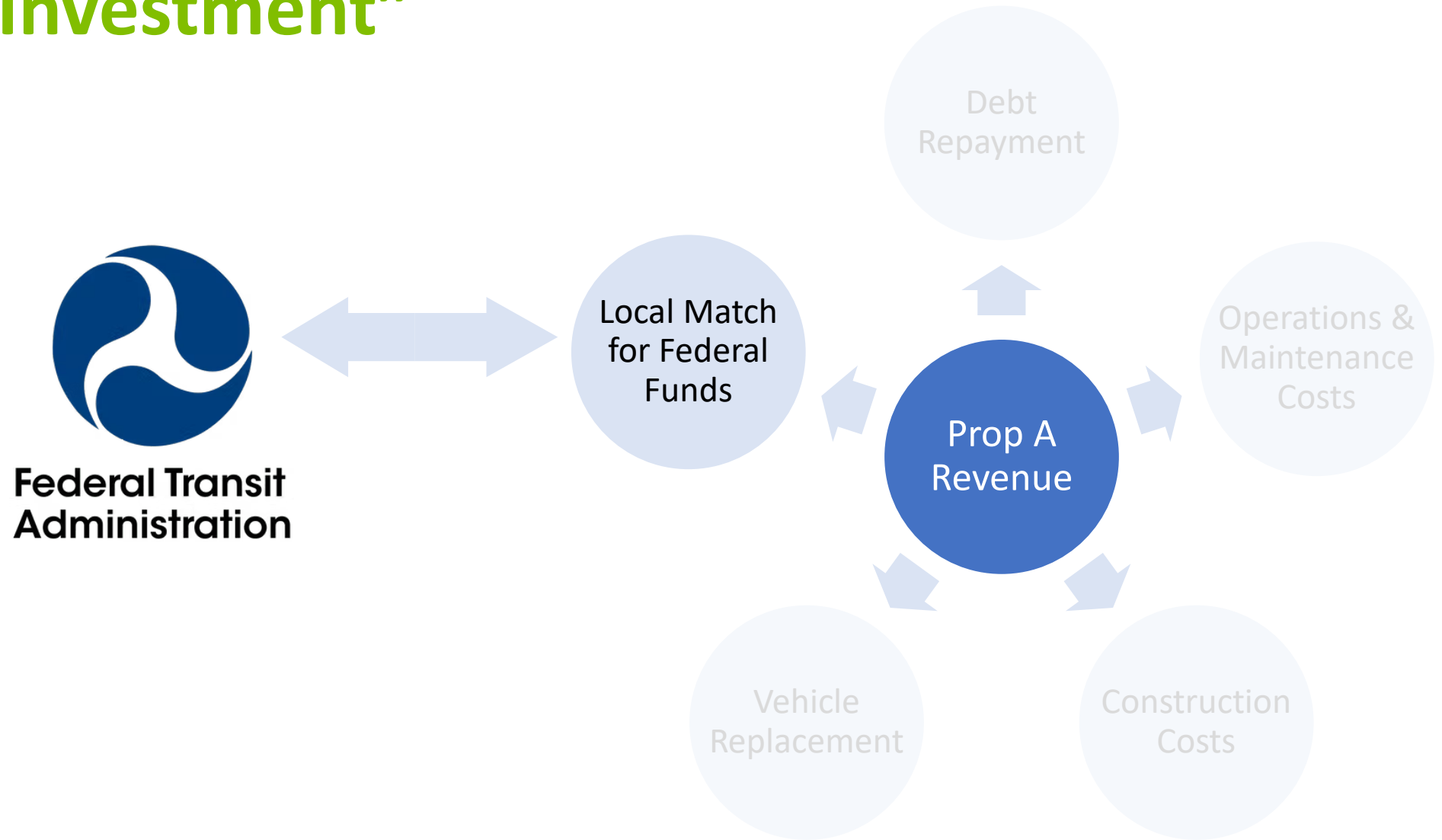
- Costs have increased from \$5.8 billion to \$10.3 billion at 15% design
 - Design progression and scope
 - Real estate
 - Inflation
- ATP anticipates that costs will continue an upward trajectory

Need to align program scope and sequencing to available funding

Program Assessment and Outlook

- Great track record of partnership among ATP / City / CapMetro and the Community to advance early, critical investments
- ATP is committed to implementing Austin's vision to build a comprehensive transit system ... *without any New Taxes*
- ATP will transparently engage with the Community to develop an Updated Light Rail Implementation Plan that reflects Austin's priorities and values
- ATP will focus our work to complete Project Development of the Light Rail components of the program within available funding and do the necessary work to secure Federal Investment

Federal “Investment”



**Federal Transit
Administration**

Local Match
for Federal
Funds

Debt
Repayment

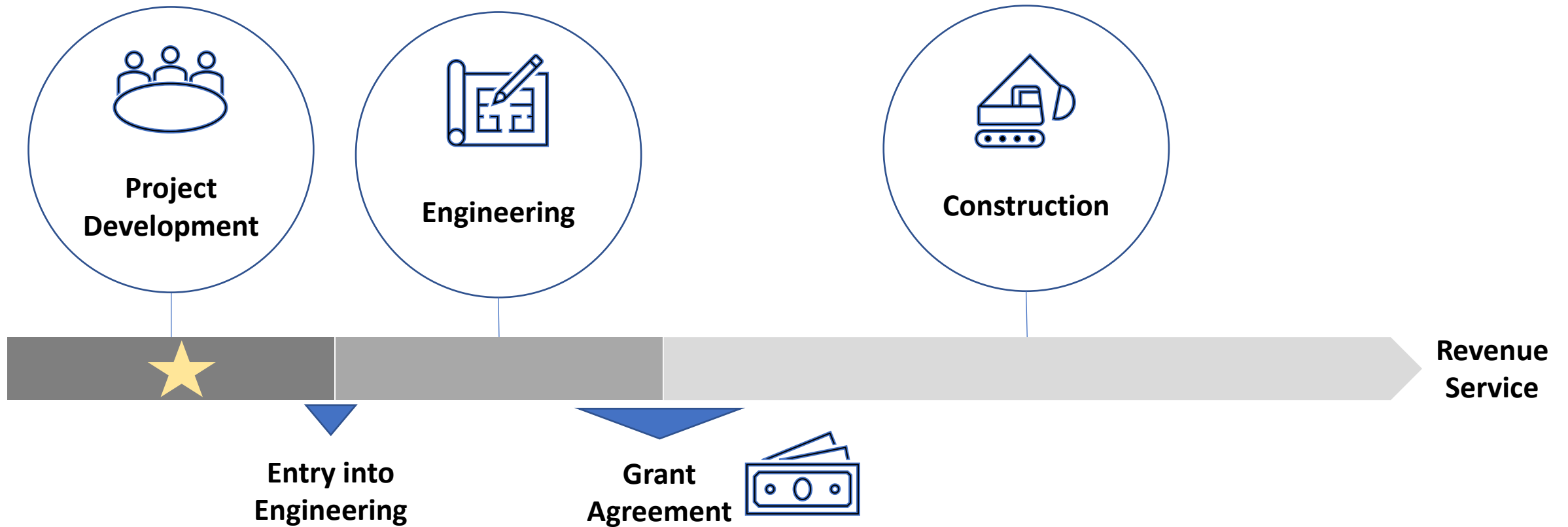
Operations &
Maintenance
Costs

Prop A
Revenue

Vehicle
Replacement

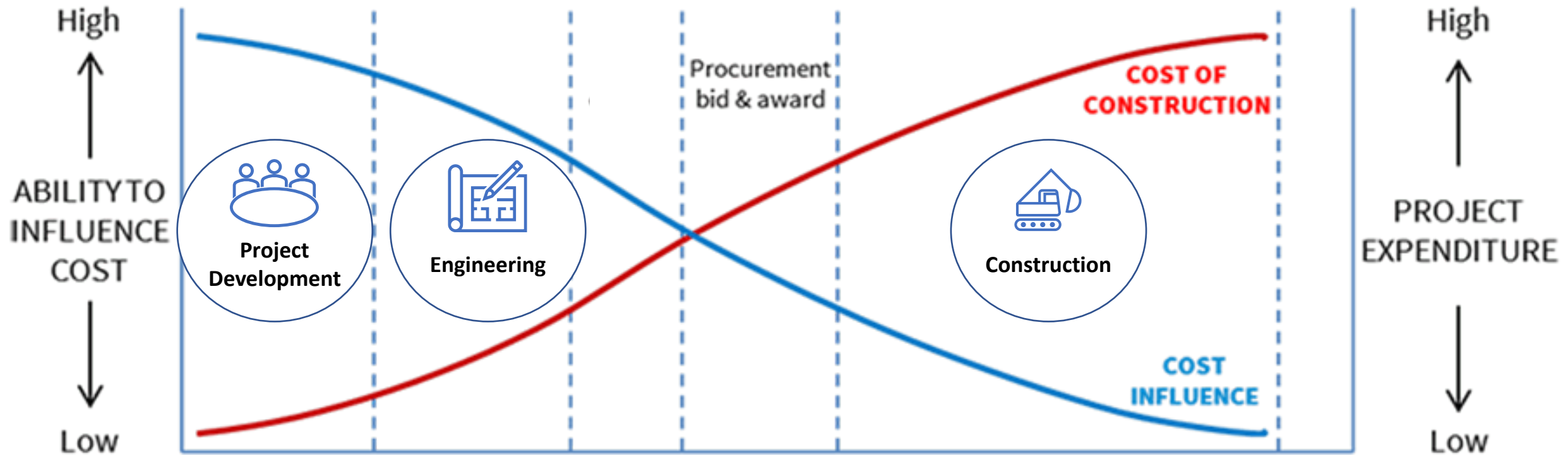
Construction
Costs

Federal Grant Process



Notes: Project Development includes Preliminary Engineering

Opportunities for Program Optimization



Opportunities for Program Optimization



Scoping &
Design



Phasing &
Segmenting



Service Plan &
Technology



Sources of
Funding



Risk &
Delivery
Strategy

Workplan



Updated Light Rail Implementation Plan



Planning



- Collect and aggregate data:
 - Demographic and socioeconomic information
 - Displacement
 - Housing
 - Trip drivers
 - Development planning
 - Ridership (current and projected)
 - Environmental impacts
- Analyze data to identify opportunities and challenges and inform other work

Technical Review



- Continue to build upon technical work undertaken to date
- Potential focus areas:
 - Lake crossing(s)
 - Tunnel extents
 - Stations and station areas
 - Maintenance and storage facility
 - Corridor mobility improvements
 - Technology
- Incorporate feedback from other work areas

Strategic Partnerships



- Engage with local agency partners around progress and key decision points
- Ensure consistent and unified communication and collaboration with FTA to continue to advance federal grant process
- Identify opportunities for private, non-profit and other collaboration to benefit project outcomes

Financial Review



- Analyze key variables and risks using financial model and other tools
- Identify and assess other funding and financing opportunities
 - TIFIA and RRIF loans
 - Other federal programs
- Advance financial controls and reporting capabilities
- Finalize a Plan of Finance that maximizes loan/grant opportunities and minimizes market risk

Market Sounding

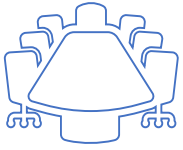


- Receive feedback from potential industry participants
- Leverage best practices and industry innovation
- Understand how certain delivery strategies may drive value for initial and future investments

Community Engagement



- Engage the community to ensure an understanding of tradeoffs
- Develop and implement engagement strategies with a focus on participation from priority communities
- Ensure projects are developed using community values and priorities
- Engage CAC, Mobility Committee and other community groups



ATP Board Workshop
City of Austin Mobility Committee
CapMetro Planning & Ops
CAC / TACs

July – August 2022



Advance Project Development
Workplan
Technical & Community Check-ins

September 2022 – Spring 2023



**Updated Light Rail
Implementation Plan**

Spring 2023

Project Connect Design Working Group

Project-Wide Design Principles

Where possible:

- prioritize the experience of core transit riders and aim to create a transit experience that expands the number of frequent riders.
- augment and enhance the existing local bus and rapid system, including providing seamless connections with the light rail system.
- create a seamless user experience for transit riders who complete their trip using sidewalks, bike lanes, rideshare, and other mobility options.
- maintain infrastructure at grade level and adopt other measures to minimize impact on persons with disabilities and mobility impairments, which also benefits other users such as those with strollers.

Project Connect Design Working Group

Project-Wide Design Principles

Where possible:

- ensure that the alignment and property acquisition have minimal impact on housing and local businesses, prioritizing the protection of multifamily, selecting alternatives that create least impact on housing that serves the most residents.
- Align with widely-accepted environmental sustainability measures and existing tri-party sustainability and climate change planning initiatives.
- Focus on designing spaces for safety and providing supportive services, while minimize policing and similar tactics, particularly in historically overpoliced communities.
- Seek opportunities to support the reduction of high-speed car traffic in the areas surrounding new stations.