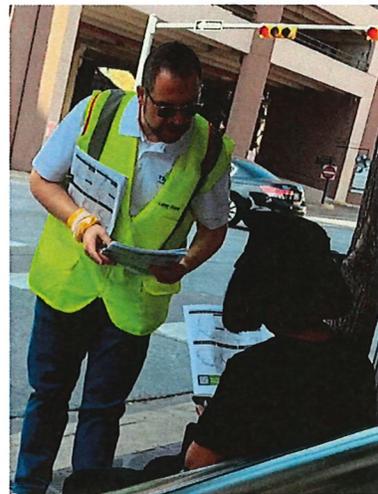
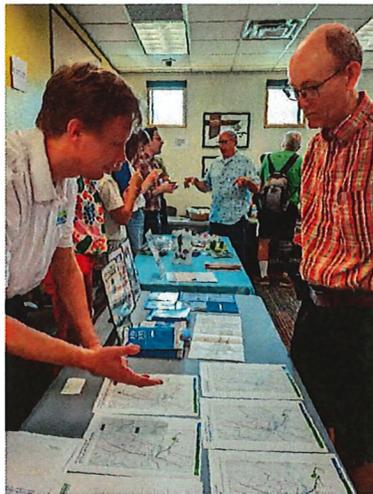




AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP

AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE
MARCH 21 – MAY 2, 2023



www.atptx.org

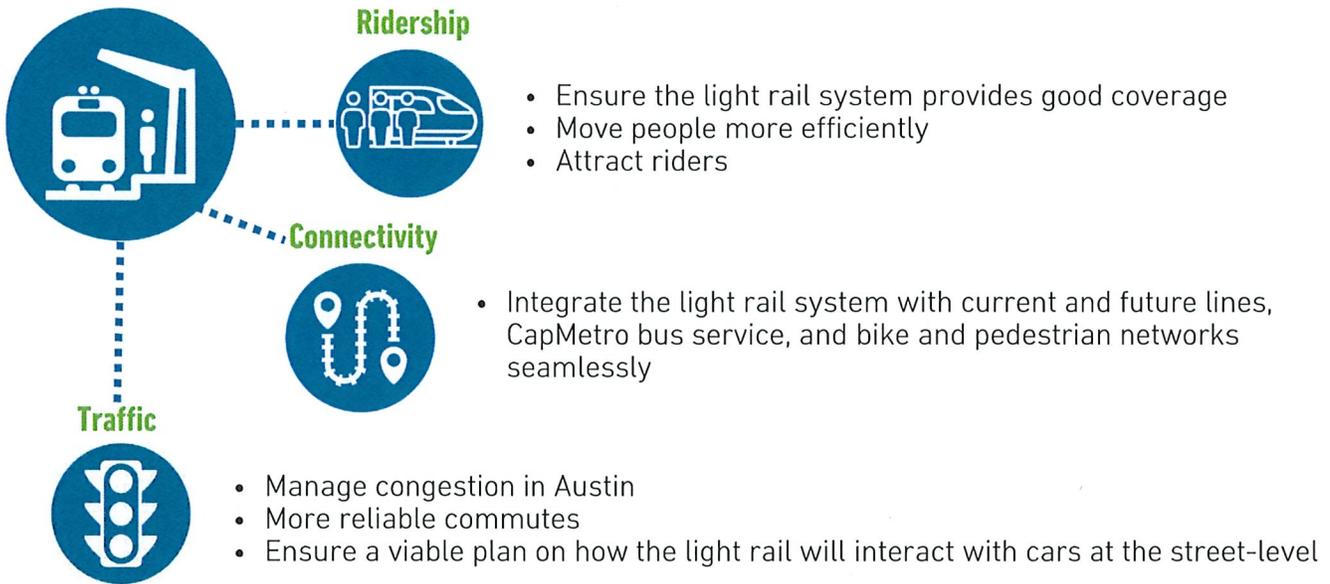
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SECTION 1: COMMUNITY FEEDBACK THEMES

What We Heard the Most



Mobility and Customer Experience: Light Rail should provide convenient and good transit service.



Access To Opportunities: Light Rail should make meaningful connections, especially for the people who need them most.



2

SECTION 2: HOW WE LED ENGAGEMENT

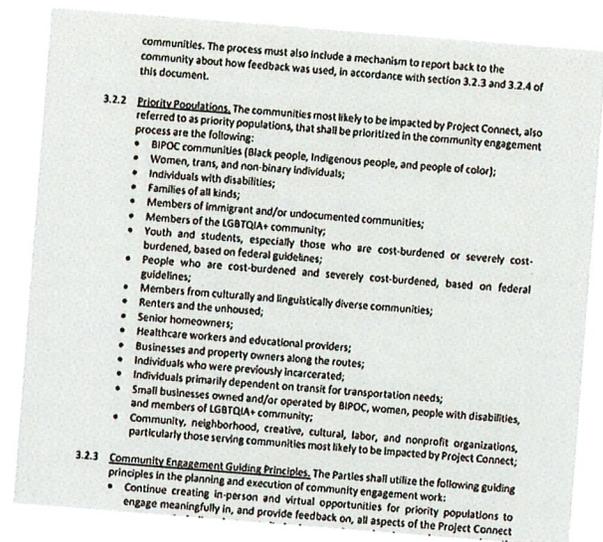
Engagement Strategy



Priority Populations Guided Engagement

ATP is committed to engaging directly with "priority populations," or communities most likely to be impacted by Project Connect. Last May, ATP assessed previous Project Connect engagement efforts and identified outreach gaps in the following priority populations:

- Youth (ages 18-24)
- Spanish-speaking communities
- Black and Latino communities
- People with disabilities
- Low-income communities



Focus Groups Prioritized Community Values For Light Rail

The engagement strategy evolved to adjust and increase the quantity and quality of interactions with priority populations to respond to the outreach gaps. Focus group participants self-identified as a member of a priority population group mentioned above.

ATP conducted 11 Light Rail Focus Groups between December 2022 and January 2023 in advance of the public launch of light rail options.

Focus Group Goals

- Engage with Priority Populations
- Receive Community Values Criteria feedback
- Evaluate perceptions on key destinations that light rail could serve



Focus Group Results

Participants indicated the project team should prioritize:

- Access to Opportunities
- Affordability Benefits
- Who we serve
- Connectivity
- Traffic

Light Rail Alternative Options Selected Based On Priority Community Values

Following the conclusion of the focus groups, ATP Community Engagement team provided data collected during the community values exercise to the Engineering & Planning teams to incorporate the feedback (along with previous feedback) into the analysis of feasible option alternatives for Austin's first light rail project.

2

SECTION 2: HOW WE LED ENGAGEMENT

Values and Principles Guiding Engagement



When combined, core community values and guiding principles formed the framework for how ATP analyzed feedback to identify community priorities.

Community Values Criteria

Reflect goals rooted in the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan, Climate Equity Plan, and other previous documents in the criteria that will be applied to our work.



Guiding Principles

Build equity, sustainability, and accessibility into community outreach to priority populations and the overall decision-making processes at ATP.



Comment Analysis

Analyze and prioritize the principles and values most important to our community and incorporate feedback into the staff recommendation for the Light Rail Implementation Plan.

Community Values Criteria

MOBILITY AND CUSTOMER SERVICE Are we providing convenient and good transit service?			
RIDERSHIP	BIKE & PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIVITY	TRAFFIC	TRANSFERS TO BUS AND RAIL
ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES Are we making meaningful connections, especially for the people who need them most?			
CURRENT & FUTURE POPULATION DENSITIES	DEMOGRAPHIC DATA	ACCESS TO KEY DESTINATION POINTS	
LAND USE AND HOUSING Are we creating links between affordable/attainable housing and transit?			
AFFORDABILITY BENEFITS	CURRENT HOUSING & FUTURE GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES	SUPPORT ANTI-DISPLACEMENT & EQUITABLE TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (ETOD) INITIATIVES	
ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS How do options compare in terms of potential impacts on sensitive environmental resources and climate change?			
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS	IMPACTS ON COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND AMENITIES	WATER RESOURCES AND FLOODPLAIN IMPACT	

2

SECTION 2: HOW WE LED ENGAGEMENT

Engagement Activities & Highlights



On March 21, 2023, ATP unveiled five light rail plan options to the community that aligned with community values and needs. This launched a six-week community dialogue process from March 21 through May 2, allowing the community the opportunity to comment on the options.

In-Person Open House Participation

532 people attended March 21st Austin Light Rail Open House and provided 423 handwritten comments



Virtual Open House Participation

Over 19,000 views, ~2,000 participants, and over 5,049 comments received on the site



Priority populations and broader engagement tactics included:

- Virtual Open House and virtual meetings in English and Spanish
- Media engagement in English and Spanish-language markets
- Partnered with community groups to support deeper connections with priority populations
- Spoke to core transit riders through outreach at bus stops and train stations
- Attended meetings in community spaces and public events
- Partnered with City Council Members to engage with their constituents
- Presented to City of Austin Boards and Commissions and CapMetro and ATP Committees
- Ensured access to ATP staff for all questions via email, phone, in person, etc.

Bus Stop/Train Station Outreach

Outreach occurred at 45 unique locations around Austin connecting with 3,469 people



Community Conversations, Events, and Boards, Commissions and Committees

Adopting a “say yes” policy to any group or individual who asked for a meeting, ATP participated 90+ events during the six-week dialogue period.



Virtual Community Update

On April 6, ATP staff presented to 149 community members and answered more than 90 questions live



2

SECTION 2: HOW WE LED ENGAGEMENT

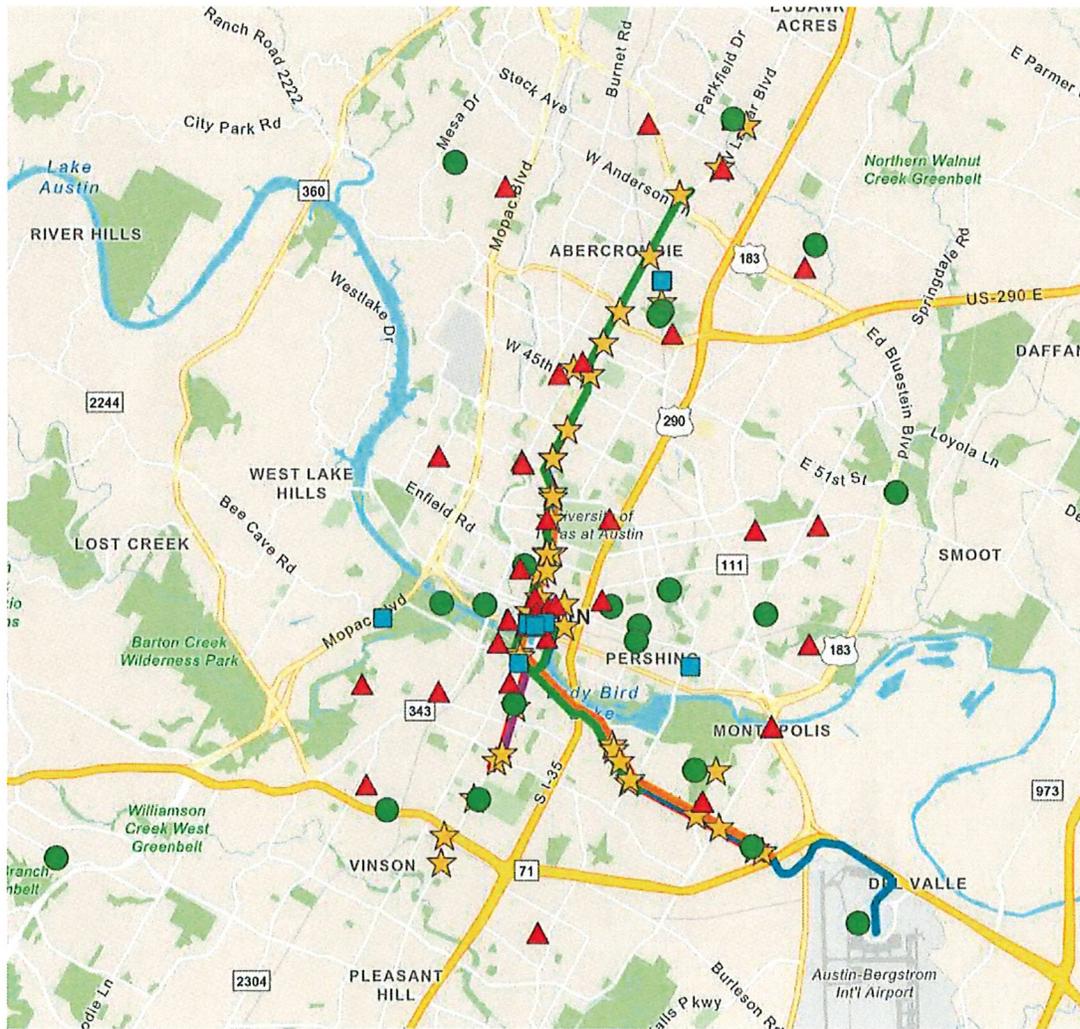
Engagement Map



- Boards, Commissions, and Committees
- ▲ Community Conversation
- Community Event
- ★ Bus Stop / Train Stop Outreach

8,000+ Direct Interactions

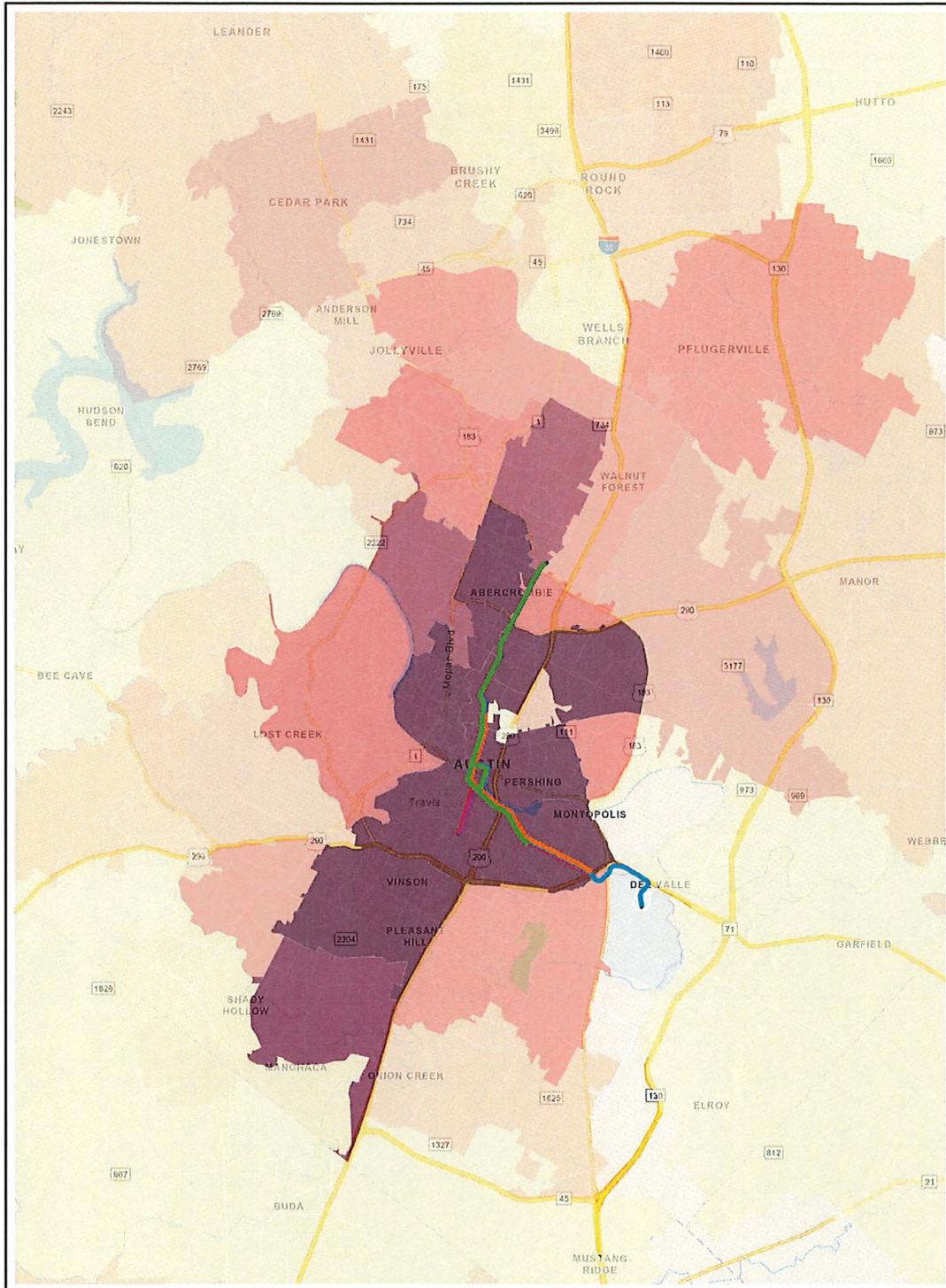
Includes interactions with attendees counted at in-person outreach events, bus/train stop outreach, and self-reported virtual open house participants.



Map shows community interactions conducted between March 21, 2023 and May 2, 2023. See Appendix (A2-A4) for more information on engagement locations and data by zip code.

<https://tinyurl.com/lightrailoutreachmap>

Virtual Open House Comments by Zip Code



LEGEND

Simplified LRT Options

- 38th | Oltorf | Yellow Jacket
- Airport

- NLTC | Pleasant Valley
- Partial Elevated
- Partial Underground

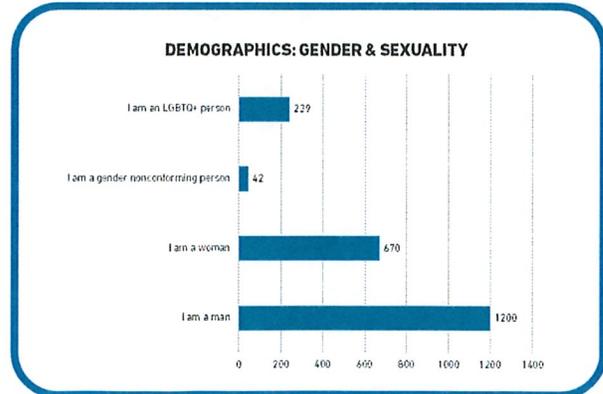
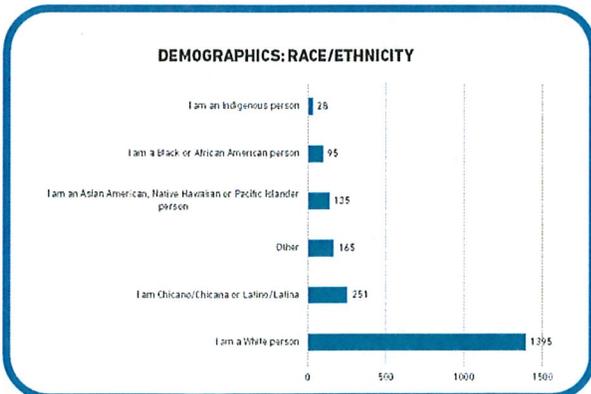
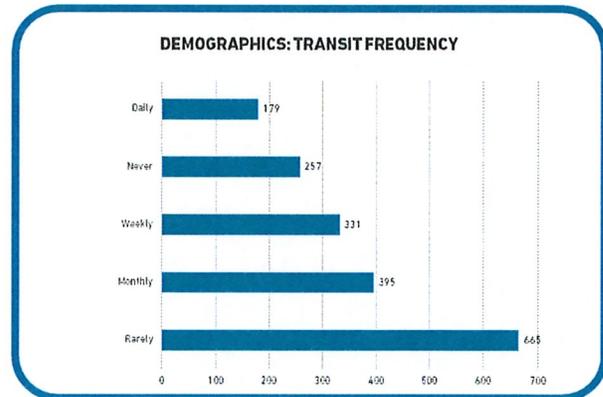
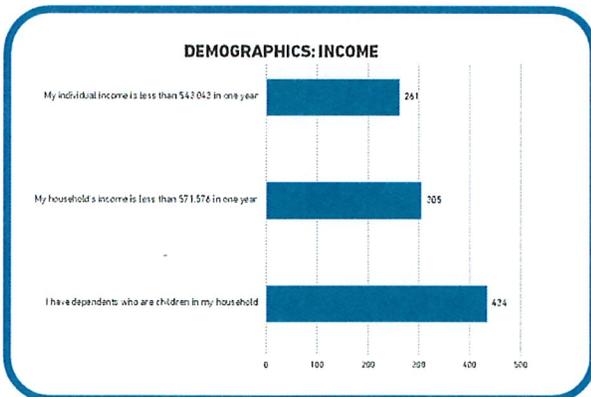
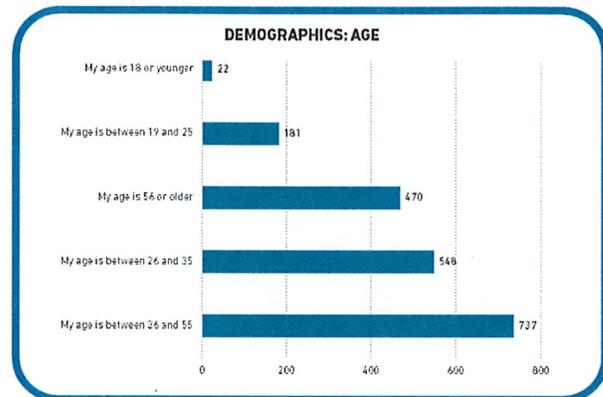
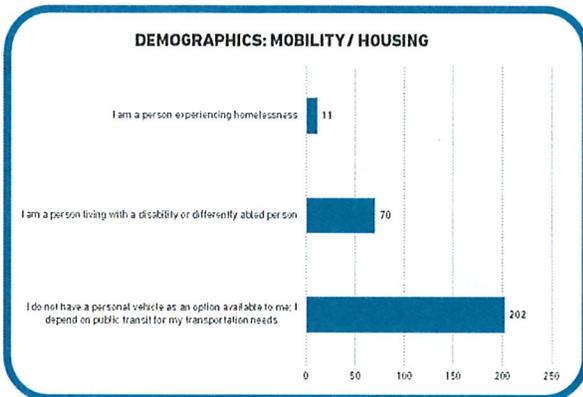
Collected Zip Codes from VOH





Demographic Data Analysis

Demographic information was requested, but not required, throughout the community dialogue period to inform ATP about who we were hearing from. The following charts show the demographic information, household income, and transit behaviors of individuals who participated in the Virtual Open House and chose to answer at least one demographic question.



AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

JUNE 8, 2023

JOINT PARTNERSHIP OUTCOMES

- Action Item 1
 - Approval of a resolution adopting the Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan

AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

LEGEND

- AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL PHASE I
- AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL PHASE I PRIORITY EXTENSION
- FUTURE AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL
- MAJOR TRANSFER POINT
- PARK & RIDE



9.8 MILES OF NEW LIGHT RAIL

15 LIGHT RAIL STATIONS

TRANSIT CONNECTIONS

- METRORAPID
- HIGH FREQUENCY BUS
- RED LINE
- PROPOSED GREEN LINE

ESTIMATED TRAVEL TIME

23 MINS 38TH - OLTORF

31 MINS 38TH - YELLOW JACKET

ESTIMATED AVG. # OF DAILY RIDERS SERVED (2040)

28,500

20,000+ AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS SERVED (SUBSIDIZED)

ACCESS TO

136,000+ CURRENT JOBS

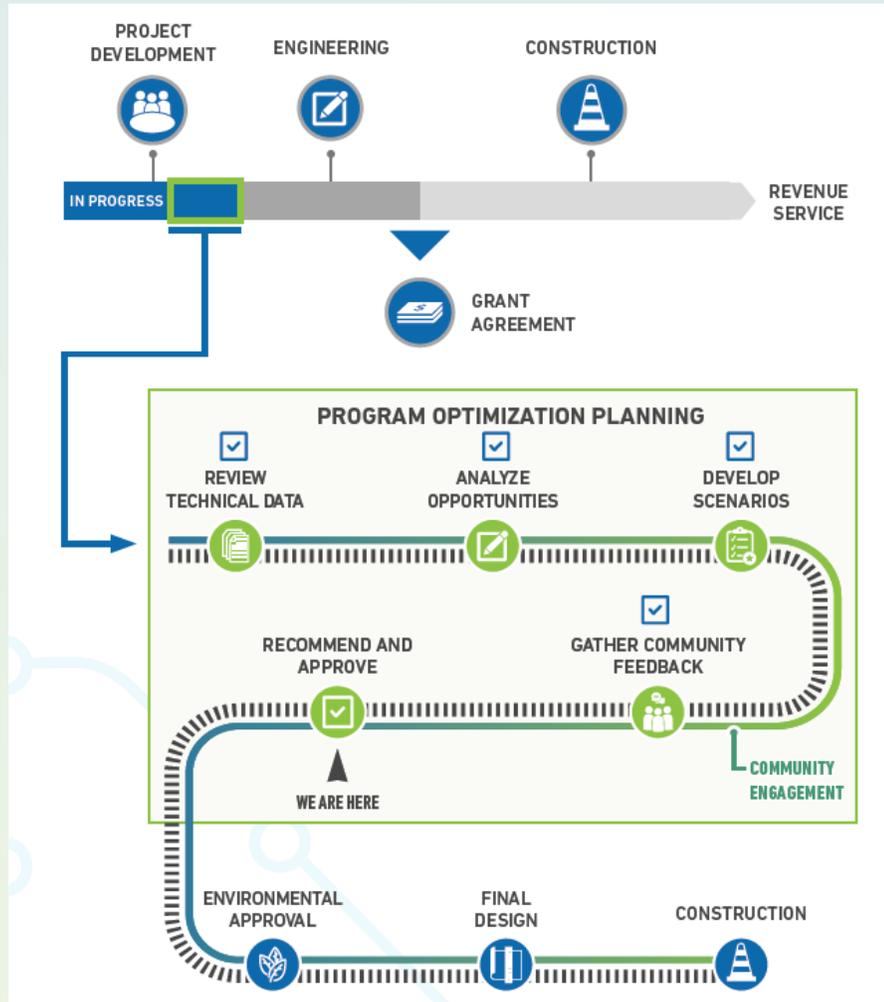
200,000+ FUTURE JOBS

ANTICIPATED CAPITAL COST (CURRENT DOLLARS)

\$4.5-\$4.8B LOCAL AND FEDERAL DOLLARS

MOVING FORWARD

Federal Capital Investment Grant Process



The CIG program will constitute the majority of federal assistance to construct the light rail project.

ATP is seeking approximately 50% of capital project costs from the federal government through the CIG program.

Upon adoption of the Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan, ATP will progress through a multi-year process of continuing project development, environmental review, and coordination with FTA on federal grant funding.

JOINT PARTNERSHIP OUTCOMES

- Action Item 2
 - Authorize execution of an amendment and supplement to the Joint Powers Agreement
- Action Item 3
 - Approve amendments to Community Advisory Committee's bylaws

STAFF UPDATES

**AUSTIN
TRANSIT
PARTNERSHIP**

THANK YOU!



**HOUSING &
PLANNING**



**AUSTIN HOUSING
FINANCE CORPORATION**

COMMUNITY INNOVATION

Project Connect
Community Initiated Solutions
Project Summaries



Community Initiated Solutions Programs

\$20 million awarded to nonprofit organizations and partnerships for the following priorities:



Renter/tenant stabilization



Expansion and preservation of homeownership opportunities



Other anti-displacement strategies



Project Descriptions – Tenant Stabilization

- El Buen Samaritano *We Belong Here : Nuestros Hogares*
- Austin Voices for Education and Youth - *North Austin/Rundberg Community Stabilization Project*
- Meals on Wheels Central Texas: *Client Assistance Program*
- Communities in School of Central Texas: *CIS Student and Family Assistance: Relational, Timely Support to Prevent Housing Displacement*
- Mama Sana Vibrant Woman: *Rental Assistance for Families of Color in Austin's Eastern Crescent*
- Catholic Charities of Central Texas: *Financial Stability Program*
- Workers Defense Project Building And Strengthening Tenant Action: *Combatting Displacement Through Tenant and Worker Power*
- Austin Tenants Council (TRLA): *Preserving, Asserting & Growing the Rights of Austin Tenants*



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HOUSING &
PLANNING

AUSTIN HOUSING
FINANCE CORPORATION

Project Descriptions – Homeownership Expansion

Austin Cooperative Business Foundation Asociación de Residentes
Asociación de Residentes North Lamar Anti-Displacement Improvements

Del Valle Community Coalition
Homeowner Resilience Program

Business & Community Lenders
The Austin Community Land Trust Accelerator



HOUSING &
PLANNING



AUSTIN HOUSING
FINANCE CORPORATION

Project Descriptions – Economic Mobility

Goodwill Industries of Central Texas

Connections to Work

Life Anew Restorative Justice Inc.

Life Anew Anti-Displacement Property Ownership

Interfaith Action of Central Texas_iACT

iACT Financial Education & Literacy Program



**HOUSING &
PLANNING**



**AUSTIN HOUSING
FINANCE CORPORATION**

Thank you