

Project Update as of April 1, 2021

Project Contact Information

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Lowcountry Rapid Transit is building toward a number of milestones.

Over the next few weeks we will be ramping up engagement with the local community, businesses and stakeholders with the launch of our Virtual Public Meeting on April 26, Transit Oriented Development Virtual Workshops, neighborhood meetings, on-corridor business outreach, and putting forward our operational branding strategy.

Progress Underway with FTA

Over the next few months, we will be finalizing and submitting the required project management plans to the Federal Transit Administration, which will include schedule, scope, and budget, as well as detailed memos, models, station area plans and engagement records. Our coordination with FTA will continue to guide the direction of our project and we look forward to more direct involvement with the agency as we continue through this year.

LCRT by the Numbers

21.5 miles, one way | **2M+** yearly riders | **20** stations | **6,800+** daily trips on the line | **20 sec.** stops at each station | Service every **10 min.** for most of the day | **19** vehicles | **1 hour** from end to end | **20+ hours** of daily operation



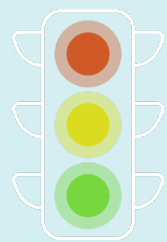
February & March Highlights

- The Revised Vehicle Memo, Fare Review Memo, Traffic Report, Bike/Ped Memo and Bike/Ped Renderings are under review
- Submitted 30% design plans for 4 of the 6 area plans to the SCDOT
- Presented a Virtual Walk-Through of the corridor to the Cities of North Charleston and Charleston, and Charleston County
- Utility and Railroad coordination is ongoing with focus on cost estimations for relocations and right of way acquisition
- Submitted the Draft Documented Categorical Exclusion (DCE) environmental document to FTA for review
- Coordination with consulting parties was initiated in support of the Section 106 process, and in conjunction with SC SHPO consultation
- Began development of project financial plan including detailed cost estimate based on emerging 30% plans

Upcoming Priorities

- Complete 30% plans and perform internal review
- Virtual Public Workshop for North Charleston Station Areas - 4/20
- Submit plans to SCDOT and BCDCOG for the remaining 2 of 6 area plans
- Online Public Meeting Launches - 4/26
- Steering Committee meeting - 4/19
- Conduct Internal Risk Workshop - 4/28-4/29
- TOD Subcommittee meeting planned for 4/9
- Virtual Public Workshop for Summerville Station Area - 4/19
- Discussion with FTA ridership staff on forecasts
- Submittal of Draft FTA Readiness documents for internal review

TSP Study



A pilot project is underway to design and implement a transit signal priority (TSP) system on Dorchester Road. A primary goal of this pilot program is to implement and test TSP technology on existing CARTA routes operating along Dorchester Road. This pilot program will also benefit emergency vehicles and general purpose traffic as well. TSP is used to provide signal preemption to emergency vehicles which can improve response time and reduce crash risk when traveling through intersections.

The program is currently in Phase 1, which consists of data gathering, assessment of the existing infrastructure, and development of a Concept of Operations for TSP on the corridor. The pilot project will help establish a framework to inform TSP on the primary LCRT route.

New Look, More Info

We recently redesigned and launched an enhanced project website to provide the community with easier to access project updates.



www.lowcountryrapidtransit.com

Meetings & Community Events

Meeting	Date
LCRT Updates to MUSC	2/1
Utility Coordination with Dominion Energy	2/2
City of NC Coordination for Shipwatch Public Safety Program	2/2
Neighborhood Meeting with Harleston Village	2/3
LCRT Roll Plot Walkthrough with City of North Charleston pt. 1	2/4
Charleston County Library Team Coordination	2/4
City of North Charleston TOD Pre-Workshop Coordination Meeting	2/5
Town of Summerville TOD Pre-Workshop Coordination Meeting	2/5
City of Charleston Project Coordination and Updates	2/5
Coordination with NEPA	2/8
LCRT West Edge Follow-Up Coordination	2/9
City of Charleston TOD Pre-Workshop Coordination Meeting 1	2/10
SCDOT Coordination	2/11
Utility Meeting with North Charleston Sewer District	2/16
LCRT Roll Plot Walkthrough with City of North Charleston pt. 2	2/19
City of Charleston TOD Pre-Workshop Coordination Meeting 2	2/22
FTA HQ Coordination	2/23
Outreach with Charleston Moves at CARTA Superstop	2/23
Traffic Workshop with SCDOT	2/23
LCRT Roll Plot Walkthrough with Charleston County	2/24
Charleston County Coordination on Shipwatch	2/25
Outreach at Yeamans Hall	2/26
Utility Coordination with AT&T	3/2
VA Hospital Coordination	3/3
Charleston County Library Team Coordination	3/4
Utility Coordination with Comcast	3/9
SCDOT Coordination	3/15
LCRT/SCDOT Dorchester Rd TSP Stakeholder Workshop	3/15
Utility Coordination with WOW!	3/18
SCDOT Coordination	3/22
Berlin G. Myers TOD Station Area Workshop	3/22
Remount Rd TOD Station Area Workshop	3/23
Northwoods Mall TOD Station Area Workshop	3/23
Utility Coordination with Lumen	3/30

Scope & Schedule

We're still on track to apply for federal funds and will be submitting our application to the Federal Transit Administration and completing NEPA this summer.

Project Programming 2016-2019

- ★ Bus Rapid Transit Preferred Alternative Identified
- Half-cent sales tax referendum passed in Charleston County (2016)
- Agency Coordination
- Informal Scoping & NEPA Checklist
- Identify Funding & Schedule (LRTP)
- Existing Conditions Evaluation & Conceptual Design (10%)
- NEPA Class of Action & Initiate NEPA Scoping*
- Request Entry into Project Development*

Capital Investment Grants Program 2019-2023

We Are Here

★ Project Development

- FTA Project Development NTP
- Cultural resources report
- Define optimal alignment
- Public meetings for refined alternative, station locations
- Complete Section 106 consultation
- Obtain commitment of >30% non-CIG funding
- Public meetings for the NEPA alternative
- Submit Draft Categorical Exclusion to FTA

CURRENT PHASE

- Complete NEPA
- Adopt a Locally Preferred Alternative
- Complete 30% Design
- Must Receive Medium Rating for Project Justification & Financial Commitment Criteria* – September 2021
- ★ Engineering
- Significant Progress with Engineering
- Recommended for Construction Grant Agreement

Construction 2023-2026

★ Major Milestones *Federal Transit Administration decision point
Project timeline is estimated under the New Starts Capital Investment Grant program guidelines.

LCRT | Lowcountry Rapid Transit

A program of BCDCOG