

# Project Update as of June 1, 2021

## Project Contact Information

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21.5 miles of regional transit like never before

## Opportunities Abound

Over **3,000 visitors** recently attended the Virtual Public Meeting that was live from April 26 to May 26. The public was invited to take a closer look at opportunities and enhancements that LCRT can bring to our communities and region. The project team has **responded to over 100 comments** since the meeting launched.

To demonstrate the local community's support for LCRT, the project team is initiating a **letter writing campaign** to FTA for our stakeholders. Whether municipalities, developers or NGOs, there are opportunities for each interested stakeholder to support LCRT and get the project **one step closer to obtaining federal funding.**

### Locally Preferred Alternative



## May Highlights

- Final Traffic Report and Bike/Ped Memo shared with stakeholders
- Completed SCDOT review of remaining 30% Plans
- Final Documented Categorical Exclusion (DCE) submitted to FTA
- 30% Design Plans Submitted to FTA
- FTA Readiness Documents submitted to FTA
- Virtual Public Meetings Launched (April 26-May 26) with 3k visitors
- Received and replied to comments from the Virtual Public meeting

## Upcoming Priorities

- Discussion with FTA ridership staff on forecasts
- Engagement of PMOC, RPA Consultants
- Conduct FTA/PMOC Risk Workshop
- Receive NEPA Clearance from FTA
- Completion of Draft IGA with Project Partners
- Completion of Municipal Agreements and Other Third Party Agreements
- Continued coordination on TSP Conops for LCRT

## Meetings & Community Events

Date	Meeting	Type
5/3/2021	FTA - NEPA Coordination	Stakeholder Meeting
5/5/2021	Dorchester Rd. TSP/ITS CARTA Coordination	Stakeholder Meeting
5/10/2021	N. Charleston - Durant Ave. Coordination	Stakeholder Meeting
5/12/2021	Fairgrounds Station Coordination	Stakeholder Meeting
5/12/2021	ITS Network Coordination	Stakeholder Meeting
5/12/2021	Pacific Box & Crate/Half-Mile North	Stakeholder Meeting
5/13/2021	N. Charleston Farmers' Market	Community Event
5/18/2021	WTS - LCRT Presentation	Stakeholder Meeting
5/20/2021	Eastside/ECDC Presentation	Community Event
5/21/2021	Gadsden Green Presentation	Community Event
5/25/2021	FTA Coordination	Stakeholder Meeting
5/26/2021	CRDA Board Presentation	Stakeholder Meeting
5/26/2021	Elms Plantation Presentation	Community Event
5/27/2021	Charleston County - Shipwatch Square Coordination	Stakeholder Meeting
5/27/2021	N. Charleston - TOD Coordination	Stakeholder Meeting
5/27/2021	SCDOT/Charleston County - IGA Coordination	Stakeholder Meeting
6/1/2021	North Charleston Shipwatch Square Coordination	Stakeholder Meeting

## 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
- Submit Final DCE

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.

## What the public has to say... (submitted via the recent formal comment period)

“Very impressed with the level of detail presented in this virtual public meeting. I cannot begin to describe how excited I am to soon have a speedy and reliable transit system to get downtown. As a retiree living in the Ladson area, I’m looking forward to sharing this news with neighbors, and to being a steady LCRT customer!”

“Very excited to see this plan come to fruition. When people bike to stations, I hope there will be provisions to allow more bikes on the buses. I’ve seen multiple buses go by and someone has to wait for an open space to load their bike on the front of the bus. I hope schools and universities will encourage student usage with discounted/no cost passes like they offer in other cities to encourage ridership. Thank you!”

“Love the improvements for pedestrians along Rivers - it’s such a walker-unfriendly area now, and you can see pedestrians need to use it.”

“Great plans here! I hope the next goals are to expand this into Mount Pleasant and to James Island by the 2030s.”