

Transit and Rail Project Recommendations

Transit Improvements Projects Included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2045

The following transit projects were identified as part of the 2045 MTP funded list of projects. Projects were selected based on local agency coordination, analysis of existing service characteristics (e.g., ridership), and public input.

WS-Tran-040 Upgrade WSTA Administrative and Maintenance Building

The existing WSTA Administrative and Maintenance Building, located at 1060 Trade Street in Winston-Salem, is in need of modernization and capacity enhancements to further WSTA's mission. Design services for the new building are anticipated to be procured in Fall 2020. The estimated planning-level cost estimate for this facility is \$20 million, pending a feasibility study.

WS-Tran-047 Increase Frequency on WSTA Route 96

This project would improve WSTA Route 96 all day headways from 60-minutes to 30-minutes. Route 96 is the second highest ridership route in the WSTA system, serving 13,563 customers in October 2019. Route 96 serves Downtown Winston-Salem, New Walkertown Rd. & Dellabrook Rd., Teresa Ave. & Carver School Rd., and Butterfield Dr. & Oak Ridge Dr. Improving the headway of this route can lead to increased ridership by allowing customers to better fit their transit trip to their schedule, whether getting to a job, shopping for groceries, or visiting friends. It is estimated that one additional bus and operator will be needed to operate Route 96 with 30-minute headways. The capital cost of one additional WSTA bus is \$800,000 while annual operating expenses were calculated to be approximately \$500,000.

WS-Tran-054 Increase Frequency on WSTA Route 92

This project would improve WSTA Route 92 all day headways from 60-minutes to 30-minutes. Route 92 is the third highest ridership route in the WSTA system, serving 12,893 customers in October 2019. Route 92 serves Downtown Winston-Salem, Cleveland Ave & 25th St., Patterson Ave. & Indiana Ave., and Oak Summit Rd. & Old Rural Hall Rd. Improving the headway of this route can lead to increased ridership by allowing customers to better fit their transit trip to their schedule, whether getting to a job, shopping for groceries, or visiting friends. It is estimated that one additional bus and operator will be needed to operate Route 92 with 30-minute headways. The capital cost of one additional WSTA bus is \$800,000 while annual operating expenses were calculated to be approximately \$500,000.

WS-Tran-055 Improve PART Route 1 Mid-Day Service

PART has identified the need to improve their urban express routes including Route 1 (Winston-Salem Express), Route 2 (Greensboro Express), and Route 3 (High Point Express). All three routes meet near the Piedmont Triad Airport at the CTC. These three routes currently operate with 30-minute peak headways and hourly off-peak headways. Enhancing midday service will allow for improved regional transit connections throughout the day. PART estimated that the improvement to these three routes would result in 5,904 additional operating hours per year and would necessitate additional annual operating funds of \$820,990.56.

Additional Transit Improvements

The table below illustrates public transportation improvements (new service routes, improvements to existing routes, transit facilities and park-and-ride lots) that were not included for funding in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan financial plan but were recommended for inclusion in the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

Table 5 - Public Transportation Improvements - Not Included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2045 Financial Plan

MTP ID	Project Description
WS-Tran-001	Improvements to Clark Campbell Multimodal Transportation Center
WS-Tran-002	Construct bus shelters throughout WSTA system
WS-Tran-003	Expand vanpool fleet
WS-Tran-004	Construct park-and-ride lot in Lewisville
WS-Tran-005	Construct transit center at Hanes Mall
WS-Tran-006	Construct park-and-ride lot along Peters Creek Parkway
WS-Tran-007	Construct transit center at Winston-Salem State University
WS-Tran-008	Construct transit center at Summit Square
WS-Tran-009	Construct park-and-ride lot in Rural Hall
WS-Tran-010	Construct park-and-ride lot in Walkertown
WS-Tran-011	Construct transit center in Kernersville
WS-Tran-012	Construct transit center in Union Cross
WS-Tran-013	Construct Winston-Salem urban circulator streetcar
WS-Tran-014	Implement Piedmont Gold Line BRT between Winston-Salem and Greensboro
WS-Tran-015	Introduce express bus service connecting Lewisville, Hanes Mall, and downtown Winston-Salem
WS-Tran-016	Establish express bus service between Clemmons, Hanes Mall, and downtown Winston-Salem
WS-Tran-017	Implement express bus service connecting Rural Hall, downtown Winston-Salem, and Hanes Mall
WS-Tran-018	Introduce express bus service between Walkertown and downtown Winston-Salem
WS-Tran-019	Establish express bus service connecting High Point, Kernersville, and downtown Winston-Salem
WS-Tran-020	Implement express bus service between High Point, Union Cross, and downtown Winston-Salem
WS-Tran-021	Introduce crosstown local route between Hanes Mill, Wake Forest University, and Hanes Mall
WS-Tran-022	Establish crosstown local route along Sprague Street between Union Cross, Forsyth Tech Community College, and Hanes Mall
WS-Tran-024	Extend WSTA Route 94 to Kernersville
WS-Tran-025	Introduce crosstown local route between Union Cross and Kernersville
WS-Tran-027	Establish Kernersville Circulator route within Kernersville
WS-Tran-028	Extend WSTA Route 109 along NC 67 to Yadkin County Line
WS-Tran-030	Implement express bus service along US 311 between Stokes County Line and downtown Winston-Salem
WS-Tran-031	Introduce crosstown local bus service along Silas Creek Parkway and Sprague Road
WS-Tran-032	Construct fixed guideway transit along the Norfolk Southern K-Line/S-Line corridor
WS-Tran-033	Construct high speed rail along the Norfolk Southern K-Line and CSX W-Line corridor
WS-Tran-034	Construct fixed guideway transit between Wake Forest University, downtown Winston-Salem, and Winston-Salem State University
WS-Tran-035	Establish local bus service along Kernersville Road and Main Street in Kernersville
WS-Tran-036	Implement local bus service along High Point Road
WS-Tran-039	Construct park-and-ride lot in Clemmons

MTP ID	Project Description
WS-Tran-041	Increase service on PART Route 6 (Surry County Express)
WS-Tran-042	Increase service on PART Route 17 (Kernersville Express)
WS-Tran-044	Improve WSTA Route 83 headway to every 30 minutes
WS-Tran-046	Improve WSTA Route 87 headway to every 30 minutes
WS-Tran-049	Implement transit emphasis corridor between Smith Reynolds Airport and downtown Winston-Salem
WS-Tran-050	Implement transit emphasis corridor along Peters Creek Parkway
WS-Tran-051	Implement transit emphasis corridor between Hanes Mill and downtown Winston-Salem
WS-Tran-052	Implement transit emphasis corridor between Hanes Mall and downtown Winston-Salem
WS-Tran-058	Implement access to transit improvements within the City of Lexington
WS-Tran-059	Expand on-demand transit services

Passenger and Freight Rail Improvements

The table below illustrates passenger and rail freight improvements that require additional study. They were recommended for inclusion in the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

Table 6 – Rail Improvements (Additional Study Required)

Project ID	Route Description/Railroad	Project Description
WS-RR-01	I-40/I-77/US-311, Charlotte to Winston-Salem to VA State Line	Evaluate separation of freight rail line from local streets in Mooresville and/or planning for at-grade crossing separation along corridor in order to relocate traffic movement from existing substandard crossings
WS-RR-02	Piedmont Triad International Airport, Greensboro, Guilford Co	Construct a rail spur at Piedmont Triad International Airport, Greensboro, Guilford County
WS-RR-03	I-85/US 29, SC state line to VA state line, NS	Traffic separation study along Corridor 05 (K Line) from Corridor 06 (NS Mainline) west towards Forsyth Co
WS-RR-04	Piedmont Corridor, Charlotte to Greensboro, NCRR/NS	Piedmont Corridor Passenger service travel time improvements, new stops and station improvements
WS-RR-05	Asheville to Winston-Salem to Greensboro	Statewide Thruway bus service, motorcoach service expansion
WS-RR-06	Winston-Salem to Greensboro, NS	Commuter Rail from Winston-Salem to Greensboro along NS Line
WS-RR-07	FRA-Designated Route, Washington DC-Richmond-Raleigh-Greensboro-High Point-Charlotte	Southeast High-Speed Rail Corridor (SEHSR). High Speed Rail from Washington DC to Atlanta via Raleigh, Greensboro, High Point, Charlotte

The Southeast High Speed Rail (SEHR) is expected to connect Atlanta to Washington, DC and is one of the five original high-speed rail corridors designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation². Over time, the corridor has been expanded to include additional connections. Various segments of the corridor have undergone environmental studies, with the latest study focused on a Tier I Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Atlanta to Charlotte Passenger Rail Corridor Investment Plan. The Tier 1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) for the proposed Atlanta to Charlotte Passenger Rail Corridor Investment Plan has been published in the federal register as of September 20, 2019³. The section from Charlotte to Washington, DC was studied in a Tier I EIS, for which the Federal Railroad Administration and the Federal Highway Administration issued a Record of Decision (ROD) in 2002.⁴ Further planning and consideration is needed for how to best connect WSUAMPO communities with the SEHR route stations with local and express bus routes, such as expanding frequency on existing PART Route that connects Winston-Salem to High Point Amtrak Station.

² U.S. DOT Federal Railroad Administration. Southeast High-Speed Rail: Atlanta to Charlotte Passenger Rail Corridor. <https://railroads.dot.gov/environment/environmental-reviews/southeast-high-speed-rail-atlanta-charlotte-passenger-rail>

³ Georgia DOT. Programs: Rail. <http://www.dot.ga.gov/IS/Rail/AtlantatoCharlotte>

⁴ U.S. DOT Federal Railroad Administration. Southeast High-Speed Rail: Atlanta to Charlotte Passenger Rail Corridor. <https://railroads.dot.gov/environment/environmental-reviews/southeast-high-speed-rail-atlanta-charlotte-passenger-rail>