Chapel Hill transit

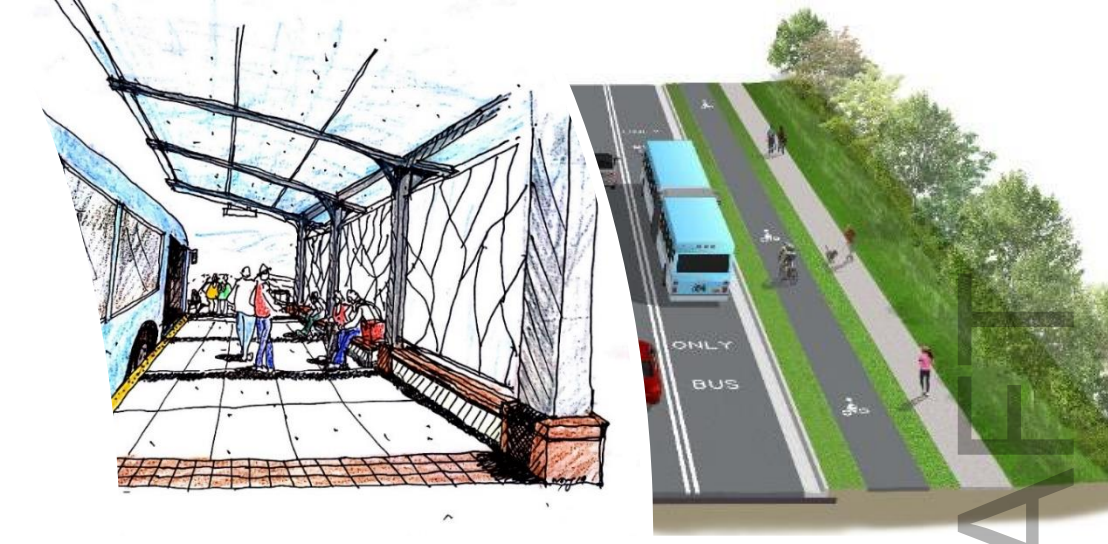
NORTH SOUTH BUS RAPID TRANSIT

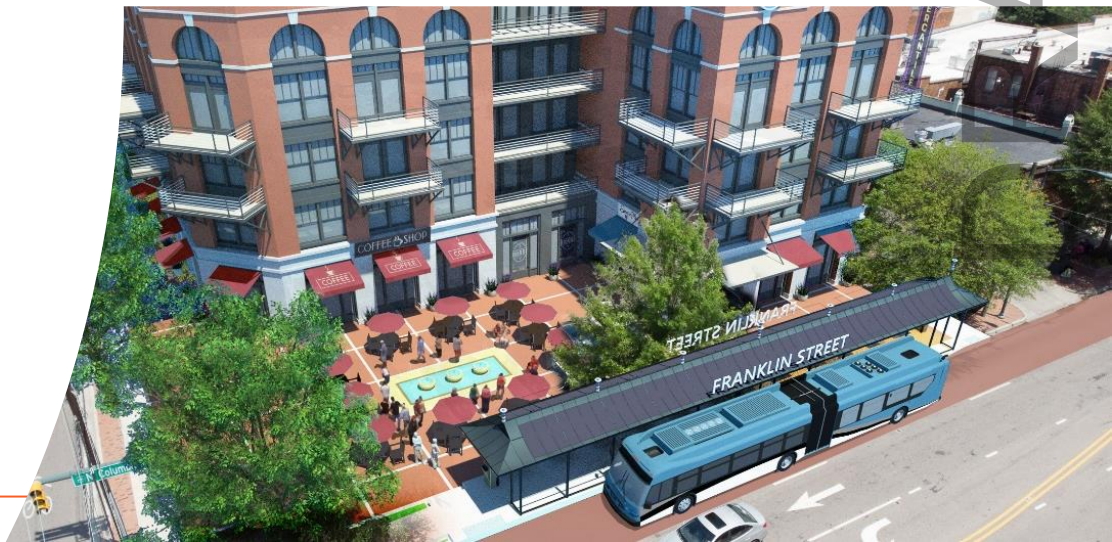
PROJECT UPDATE

January 24, 2024

AGENDA

- Project Team Introduction
- Brief Overview
- Project Update: 60% Design/Engineering & Station Design
- Next Steps
- Discussion





YOUR NSBRT PROJECT TEAM

STAFF

Matt Cecil
Transit Development Manager & NSBRT Project Lead

Caroline Dwyer, AICP
Transit Planning Manager

Brian Litchfield
Transit Director

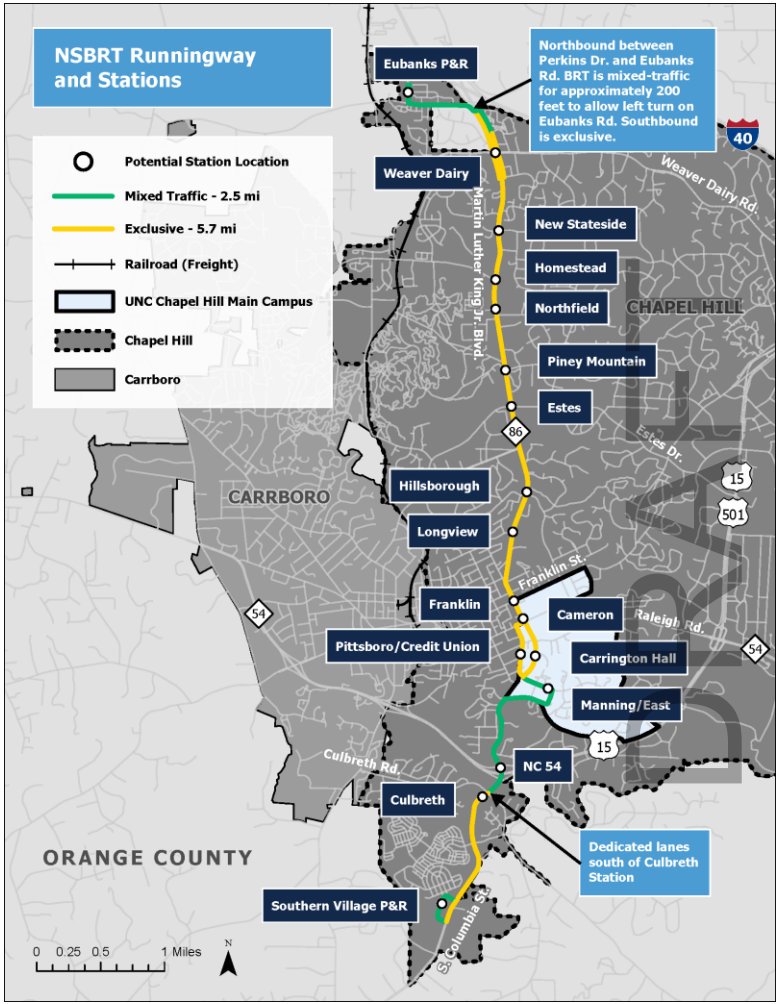
CONSULTANT TEAM
AECOM (Prime)

*Subconsultants**
SRF Consulting Group
Kimley Horn & Associates
Alta Planning & Design
CES Group Engineers
Connectics Transportation Group
CH Engineering
Dover, Kohl & Partners
Hamlin Communications
Neighboring Concepts
PR Pros
Public Participation Partners
Terracon
**Available, as needed*

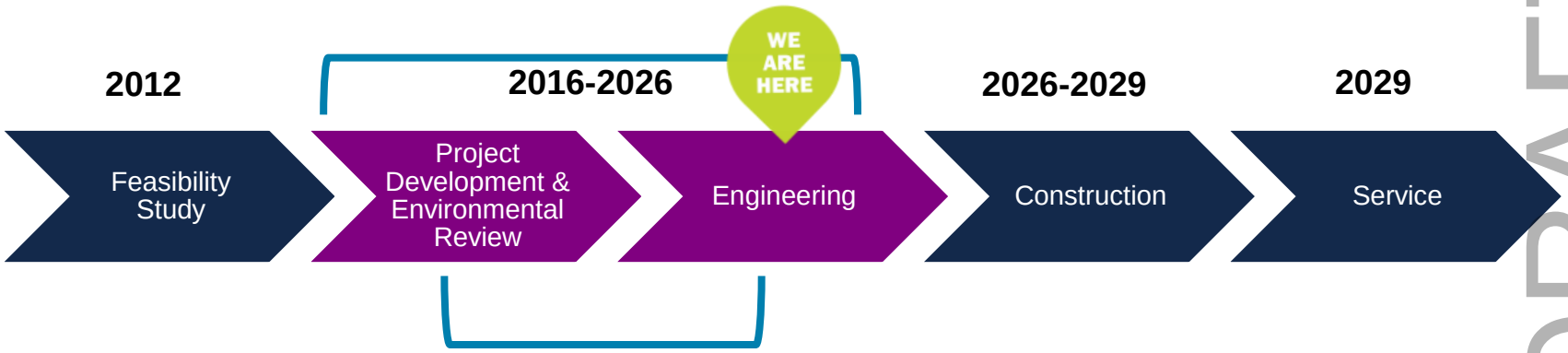
N-S CORRIDOR CONTEXT

More than just "better" bus service, NSBRT is a landmark investment in Chapel Hill's transportation future.

- 8.2-mile route
  - 5+ miles bus-only
- 17 station areas
- Regional transit service connections
- Transit signal priority (TSP)
- Off-road multiuse path
- Completed sidewalk network and enhanced pedestrian crossings



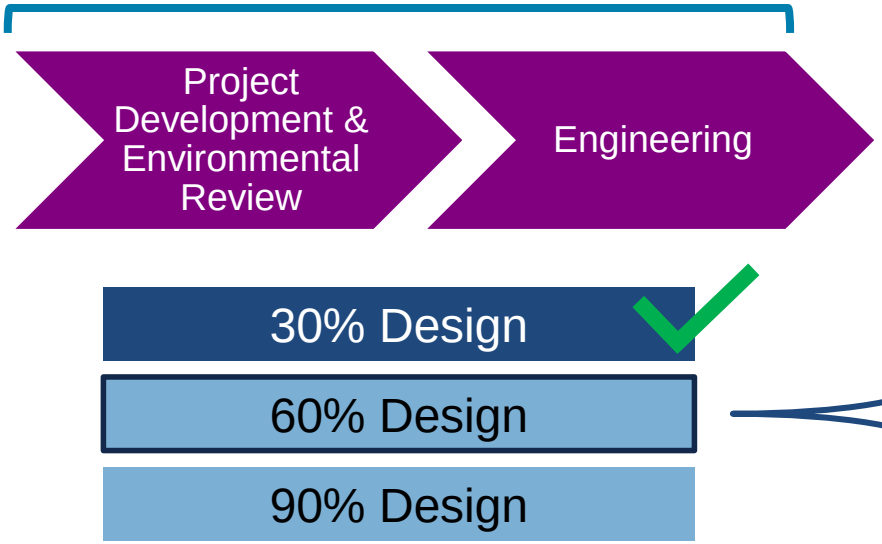
NSBRT PROJECT TIMELINE



MILESTONES

- 30% design
- **60% design**
- 90% (final design)

60% DESIGN & ENGINEERING: OVERVIEW



PHASE INCLUDES:

- Surveying
- Right-of-way and easement mapping
- Roadway & **station design**
- Drainage and erosion control
- Preliminary utility planning
- Preliminary ITS, signals, traffic control, pavement marking and signage

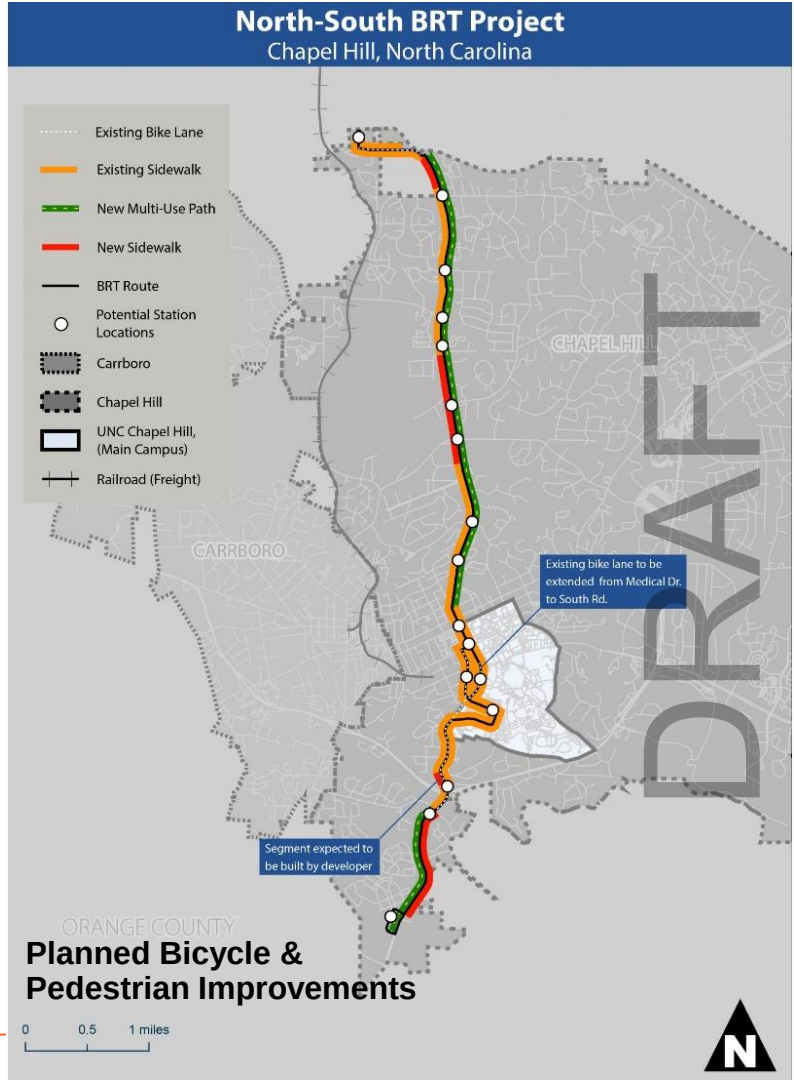
60% DESIGN & ENGINEERING: PROGRESS:

COMPLETED

- ✓ Survey and mapping of corridor
- ✓ Bicycle & Pedestrian Design Guidance Draft Memo
- ✓ Interdepartmental/interagency roadway design review and work session (corridor segments 1 & 2)
- ✓ Station design

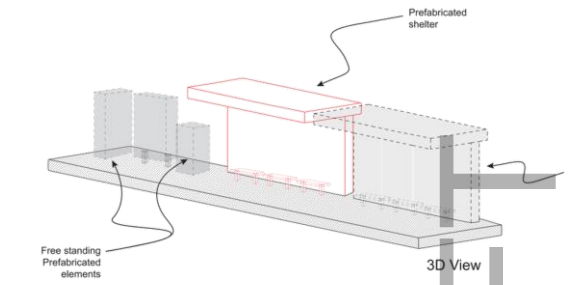
ON DECK

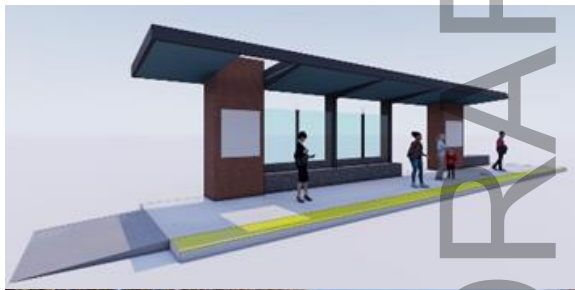
- Utility Coordination Kickoff
- Transit Signal Priority (TSP) Workshop



STATION DESIGN: OVERVIEW

- Iterative, three-phased process developing a design concept for NSBRT stations
- Station design integrated into 60% design & engineering
- Includes station canopy, platform, vertical elements, signage, lighting, and preliminary amenities
- Considers station access and circulation patterns



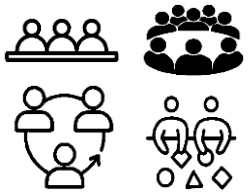


STATION DESIGN: THREE PHASED PROCESS

July 2023 | August 2023 | September 2023 | October 2023 | November 2023 | December 2023

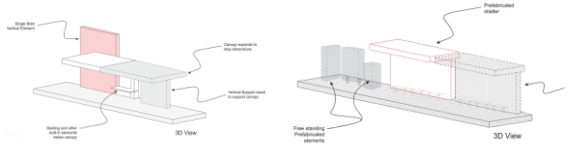
Engagement in All Phases - Workshops, Listening Sessions, Pop Ups, Online Surveys

1 INFORMATION GATHERING



- Precedent Studies
- Site Analysis

2 DRAFT DESIGN CONCEPTS



- Feedback Analysis
- Reporting
- Introduce Draft Concepts

3 DESIGN REFINEMENT

- Feedback Analysis & Reporting
- Refined Concepts

STATION DESIGN

Engagement in All Phases - Workshops, Listening Sessions, Pop Ups, Online Surveys

WHO:

- Town of Chapel Hill interdepartmental staff group & urban designer
- UNC Chapel Hill
- UNC Hospitals
- NSBRT Technical and Policy Committees
- Town Boards & Commissions
- EZ Rider Committee (accessibility & paratransit)
- Topical focus groups (cyclists, land use, economic development, accessibility)
- Students
- Commuters
- Businesses
- Members of the public
- And more!

STATION DESIGN GOALS

Operation + Maintenance
- Minimize operational and customer challenges

Local Context
- Reflect community character

Cost
- Maintain cost-efficiency, within project budget

Passenger Experience
- Provide a unique and elevated transit experience

Brand Consistency
- Establish a unique NSBRT brand that complements established CHT brand/identity

Kit of Parts
- Consistent elements can be adapted/ configured based on location

Technology
- Integrate high-tech features

PHASE 1: INFORMATION GATHERING

STATION DESIGN WORKSHOP #1

Goal: Identify community and stakeholder preferences and priorities for station:

- Materials
- Form
- Amenities

WHAT WE LEARNED:

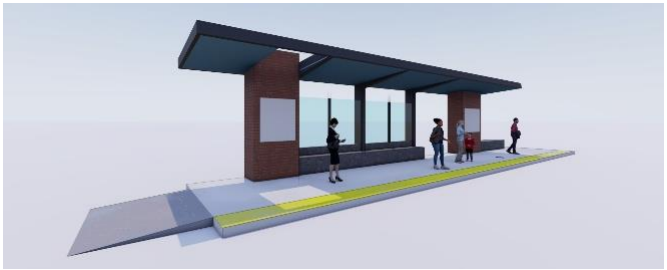
Community priorities include:

- Context sensitive design and materials (brick, stone, etc.)
- Maximized canopy coverage
- Ample, uniform lighting
- Safety and comfort

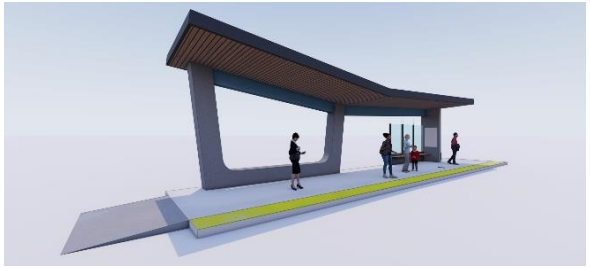
PHASE 2: DRAFT DESIGN CONCEPTS

STATION DESIGN WORKSHOP #2

Goal: Gather feedback and direction for design refinements (materials, form, signage, and more) by responding to three station concepts



CONCEPT 1



CONCEPT 2

CONCEPT 3

WHAT WE LEARNED

Community members and stakeholders preferred a combination of elements from Concept 1 and Concept 3.

PHASE 3: DESIGN REFINEMENT

STATION DESIGN WORKSHOP #3

Goals: Review design refinements and identify preferences for lighting, seating, materials, and signage

WHAT WE LEARNED

Preferences include:

- Ample, responsive, context-sensitive lighting
- Context-sensitive materials (including stone, brick, and metal) based on station location
- Comfortable seating
- Well-lit and easy-to-read signage

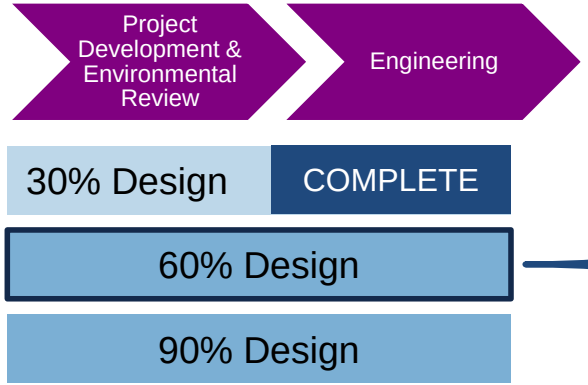
FINAL STATION DESIGN CONCEPT

1 INFORMATION GATHERING + 2 DRAFT DESIGN CONCEPTS + 3 DESIGN REFINEMENT

INSERT FINAL CONCEPT GRAPHIC

NEXT STEPS

60% design is an iterative process; there will be additional touchpoints with the community and Town Council over the next 12-18 months



Early 2024

- Coordinate with utility providers
- Technology integration
- Complete surveying/mapping informing ROW design
- Continue interdepartmental and interagency coordination/review

LOOKING AHEAD

2024

- Receive Updated FTA Rating & Congressional Allocation*
- Complete Corridor & Utility Surveys
- Continue 60% Design & Engineering
- Begin FTA Risk & Readiness Reviews
- Execute Third Party Agreements

2025

- NCDOT SPOT Funding Announcements
- Finalize Local Funding Commitments
- Complete 60% Design & Engineering
- Complete FTA Risk & Readiness Reviews

2026

- Execute FTA Small Starts Grant Agreement
- Implement Real Estate Acquisition & Management Plan
- Begin Utility Relocation
- Complete 90% Design
- Construction Bidding & Contracting

2027-2029

Construction

2029

NSBRT Service Launches

**pending release of President's FY25 budget*

Town Council Approvals

THANK YOU!

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