



METRO

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2020

Quarterly Report



Prop A Passes, Project Connect Funded

On November 3, voters gave Capital Metro and our partners with the City of Austin overwhelming support to go ahead with Project Connect. Years of study, community engagement and planning were rewarded with their approval, but that action only marks the beginning of the real work!

With that approval, CapMetro and the City set up the Austin Transit Partnership (ATP) as a separate organization that will oversee financing and construction of the Project Connect program of projects.

In December, ATP's board of directors was formed, including:

- **Steve Adler**, Mayor of Austin (Austin City Council Representative)
- **Eric Stratton**, CapMetro Board Member Representative
- **Colette Pierce Burnette**, Community Representative with Expertise in Planning and Sustainability
- **Veronica Castro de Barrera**, Community Representative with Expertise in Engineering and Construction
- **Tony Elkins**, Community Representative with Expertise in Finance

As the new year continues, ATP will begin to staff up and work with CapMetro and the City of Austin to move forward with the next phase of community engagement, as well as environmental analysis and review for the Orange and Blue Line projects, and the first MetroRapid corridors.

Open for Business!

October saw the grand opening of our new Downtown Station, topping off years of planning, construction and productive partnerships with both state and federal government ... **ahead of schedule and under budget.**

We've built a facility that both serves our MetroRail customers and provides a grand welcome to downtown. The new Downtown Station will create a great public plaza that ties together transit services with our thriving downtown, plus it will allow us to take advantage of the full potential of our MetroRail service.

The first platform opened in October with additional platforms opening this winter.





RIDE WITH

C A R E

Return with CARE

Throughout the pandemic, Capital Metro has worked to serve our community, provide needed transportation for essential trips and to do so in a way that preserves the safety and health of our customers and our staff.

In addition to returning to more regular service in the fall, CapMetro added trips on certain busy routes so our customers have more space to maintain social distancing measures. This lets them ride with confidence and assurance that Capital Metro has their back.

We also continued our partnerships with HEB and local food providers to deliver more than 800,000 meals to those with the most need.



Awards Season Already?

As the year reached its conclusion, state and national organizations began to recognize the quality of CapMetro's service and operations. Among the awards coming our way were:

- Gold Safety Award from the American Public Transportation Association
- Award of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association
- Clean Fleet Grant Award from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

In addition, we were among transit agencies nationwide to receive federal funding from the pandemic relief bill passed by Congress in December. Capital Metro received about \$66 million in relief funding, which will go toward operational funding and to help defray costs associated with COVID-19, including service recognition pay for frontline staff, personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies and to cover costs for vaccinations.

