# BLUE LINE

### >> THE PROJECT

The proposed Blue Line Project is an 8.2-mile light rail transit (LRT) corridor that would operate from Republic Square in downtown Austin to the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS). The transitway is proposed to operate in a tunnel through downtown under 4th and Trinity Streets. The transitway would cross Lady Bird Lake on a new dedicated transit bridge, and travel along East Riverside Drive and State Highway 71 to the airport.

### >> PURPOSE AND NEED

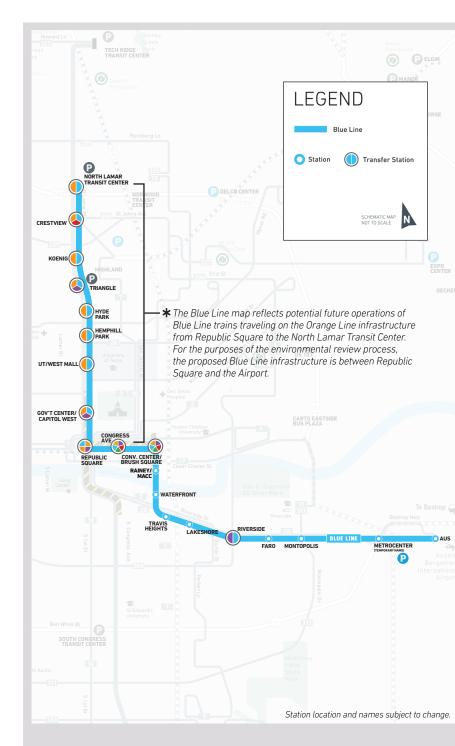
The need for the Blue Line Project is demonstrated by worsening highway congestion, a lack of mobility options and limited roadway capacity, inadequate transit access, increasing travel demand and travel times, decreasing mobility and additional travel costs.

The Blue Line Project would provide:

- Improved high-capacity transit that operates faster and has better reliability.
- Improved connectivity to affordable housing, employment, activity centers and the airport.
- Links to other future transit corridors.

The Blue Line Project would address:

- Sustainably supporting Austin's population and economic growth.
- Increasing transportation network capacity to meet increasing travel demand.
- Supporting Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) growth in air travel.
- Providing better transit options linking affordable housing and jobs.
- Supporting growth of and connectivity to activity centers.



#### Proposed alignment for the **BLUE LINE PROJECT**

RESTROOM

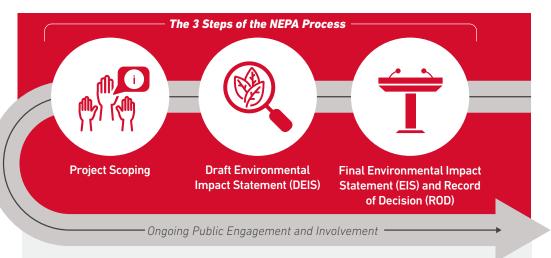
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#### >> ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

Capital Metro and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have initiated the development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidelines and other regulatory requirements.

The NEPA process:

- Helps us to learn more about and better define the project
- Allows the community to understand and help guide project development
- Fulfills requirement to receive Federal funds



Scoping is an early and open process that allows the public and agencies to provide input on issues the project aims to address and identifies any significant issues related to the project.

## 2

After the scoping process, work begins on the Draft EIS to more fully assess the potential benefits and impacts of the project.

# 3

Comments received from the Draft EIS are addressed and the proposed action, environmental findings, and mitigation requirements of the project are stated in the Final EIS/ROD.

## >> GET INVOLVED

We welcome your input. Share your comments and questions with the project team.

- Call our comment line at (512) 369-7774
- Send us an email at BlueLine@capmetro.org
- Send mail to Blue Line Project Team, Capital Metro, 607 Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 78701

Blue Line Project information online: **projectconnect.com** 

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