#### ~ NOTICE OF MEETING ~ CAPITAL METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS JOINT MEETING WITH AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live

#### ~ AGENDA ~

Board Liaison Ed Easton 512-369-6040

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

12:00 PM

Video Conference Meeting

#### I. Public Comment:

#### II. Discussion Item

1. Update on Project Connect Community Engagement and Recommended System Plan and Locally Preferred Alternatives.

#### III. Action Item

2. Adoption of Project Connect System Plan and Locally Preferred Alternatives.

#### IV. Discussion Item

3. Update on Project Connect Proposed Governance Framework and Funding and Investment Strategy.

#### V. Items for Future Discussion:

#### VI. Adjournment

#### **ADA Compliance**

Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications are provided upon request. Please call (512) 369-6040 or email <u>ed.easton@capmetro.org</u> if you need more information.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Wade Cooper, Chair; Delia Garza, Vice Chair; Eric Stratton, Secretary; Terry Mitchell; Troy Hill; Ann Kitchen, Jeffrey Travillion and Pio Renteria.

The Board of Directors may go into closed session under the Texas Open Meetings Act. In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, consultation with attorney for any legal issues, under Section 551.072 for real property issues; under Section 551.074 for personnel matters, or under Section 551.076, for deliberation regarding the deployment or implementation of security personnel or devices; arising regarding any item listed on this agenda. Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority MEETING DATE: 06/10/2020 Board of Directors (ID # 4611) Project Connect Community Engagement;

nnect Community Engagement; System Plan; LPA

**<u>TITLE:</u>** Update on Project Connect Community Engagement and Recommended System Plan and Locally Preferred Alternatives.

Page 1



# Austin City Council/Capital Metro Board JOINT SPECIAL SESSION

#### JUNE 10, 2020

# AGENDA

- ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY
- HOW DID WE GET HERE & WHY WE NEED TO BUILD
- TODAY'S ACTION
- BREAK
- OVERSEEING THE PROGRAM
- INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
- WHAT'S NEXT



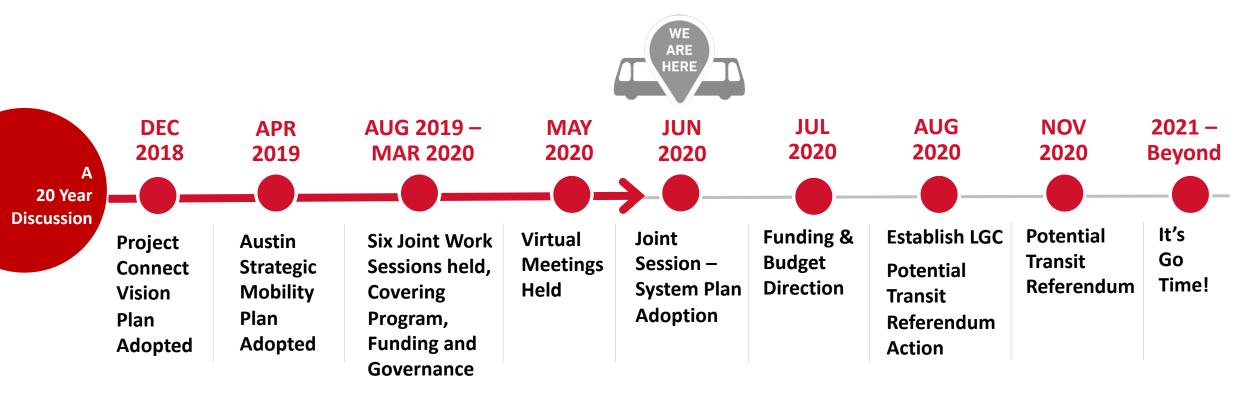
(4611 : Project Connect June2020\_CapMetro\_COA\_Meeting\_FINALP1 Attachment:

# **PROJECT CONNECT** ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY





# **PROJECT CONNECT TIMELINE**



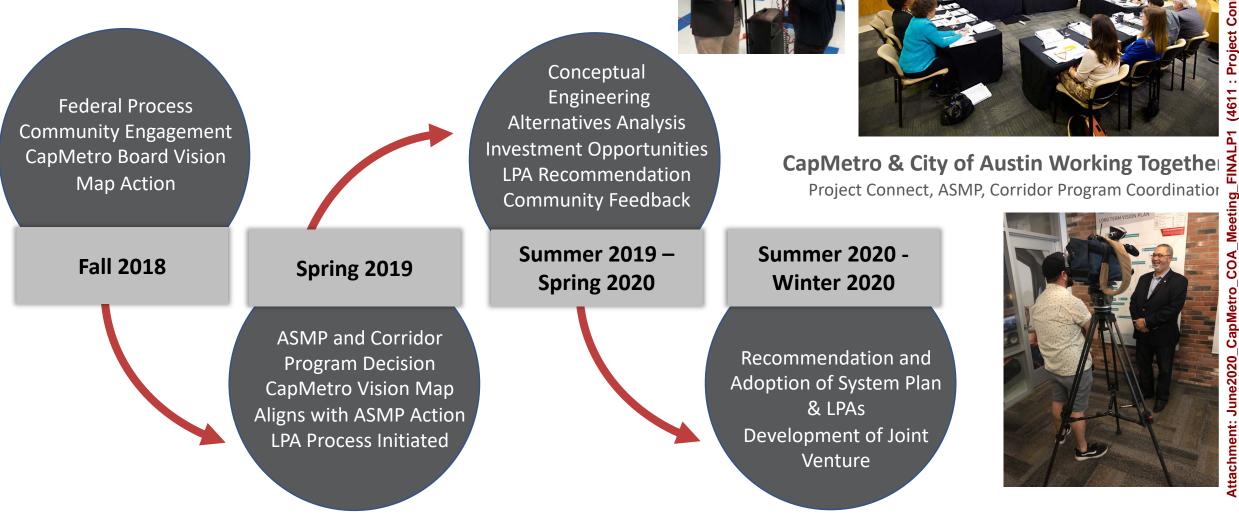
#### **Community Engagement Ongoing**





# **WORKING TOGETHER**

#### **CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY**







2.1.a

WARAN ANY

# LEARNING, LISTENING & COLLABORATING

**LOCAL OUTREACH** More than 57,000 community members engaged through outreach programs IN ADDITION TO ALL ENGAGEMENTS & OUTREACH COMPLETED WITH AUSTIN STRATEGIC MOBILITY PLAN (ASMP)

#### ENGAGEMENTS BY THE NUMBERS

- Street team outreach 15,605 engaged
- Community outreach events 18,761 engaged
- Live and virtual open houses 22,367 engaged

**Corridors Program Coordination Technical Group Reviews STAKEHOLDER GROUPS City Council & CapMetro Joint Meetings ENGAGED** Technical AUG NOV MAR Advisory 6 28 4 Committee (TAC) OCT MAR JAN 9 30 14 **Project Connect** Ambassador JULY AUG JUN Network (PCAN) 7 20 10



Attachment: June2020\_CapMetro\_COA\_Meeting\_FINALP1(4611:Project Connect

# **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

**CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY** 

**Project Connect Ambassador Network (PCAN)** - Group of over 150 community organizations and stakeholders meeting monthly to receive update and provide input to process

Three subcommittees:

- Technical
- Communications
- Placemaking



#### Resolutions of Support from CapMetro's

Access Advisory Committee (AAC)

&

*Customer Satisfaction Advisory Committee (CSAC)* 

# **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

**CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY** 

**Employer-Based Engagement:** Breaking down barriers by engaging with people where they are, by partnering with local industry

**Traffic Jam Events:** Community-wide participation; two-way learning; demonstrating partnerships

**Community and Partner Events:** Focus on target audience that's not likely to come across our materials in other ways

**Build and Maintain Relationships:** Returned to same groups in later phases

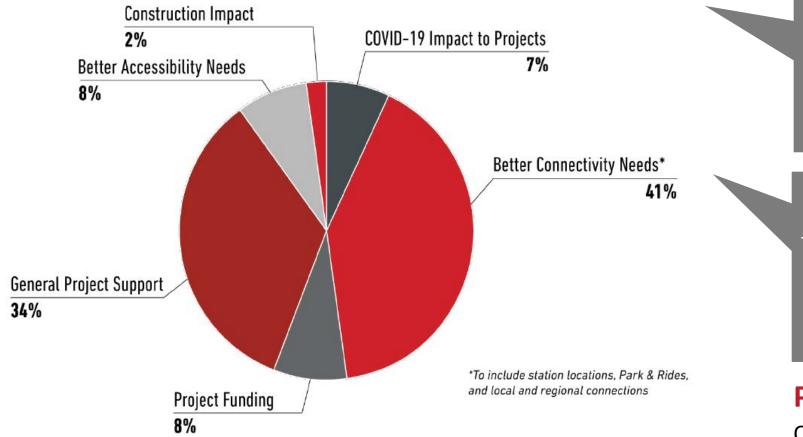






# **VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE**

#### CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY: MAY 7 TO MAY 31



WHAT WE HEARD:

"It is past time for Austin to do this. We are a large, international city and have been for years. This proposal is transformative and enduring. It will be our legacy to future generations."

"I am completely in favor of putting the full system as described with 3 LRT lines and a new river crossing and underground tunnel to a vote this November..."

#### **PARTICIPATION:**

Over 3,500 unique views Over 1,300 survey submissions 2.1.a

\* Percentages may not total to 100% due to number rounding



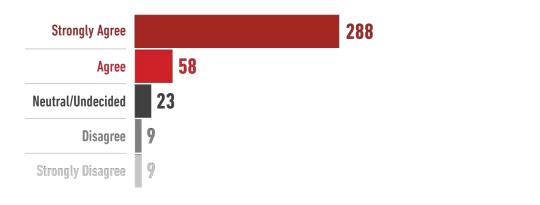
# **VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE**

#### WHAT WE HEARD

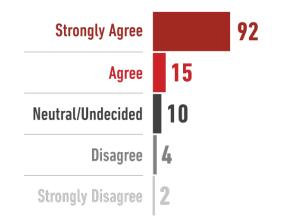
**90%** agree that the Recommended System Plan creates a more accessible transit service.



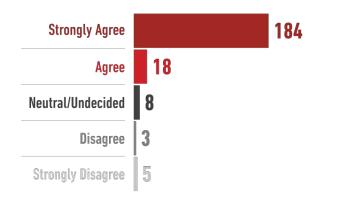
#### **90%** agree the Blue Line and Gold Line should be built.



#### 87% agree 7 new MetroRapid routes should be created



#### 92% agree the Orange Line should be built.

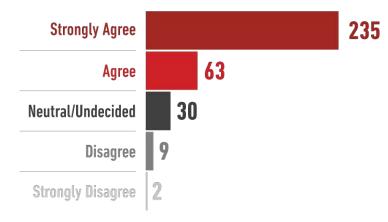




# VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

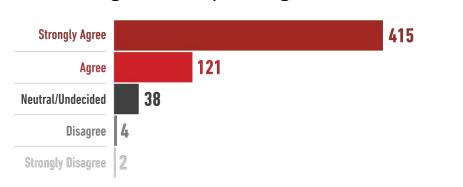
#### WHAT WE HEARD

#### 88% agree on expanding MetroExpress.



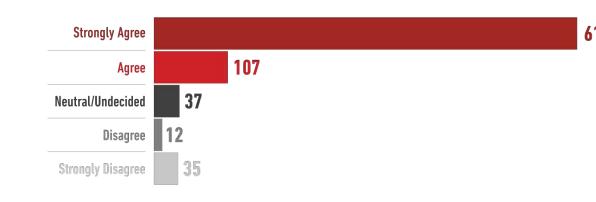
#### **92%** agree on expanding local connections.

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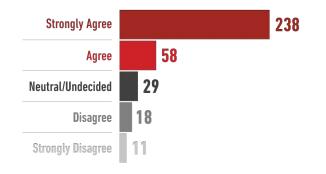


A METRO

**90%** agree we should construct a downtown transit tunnel.

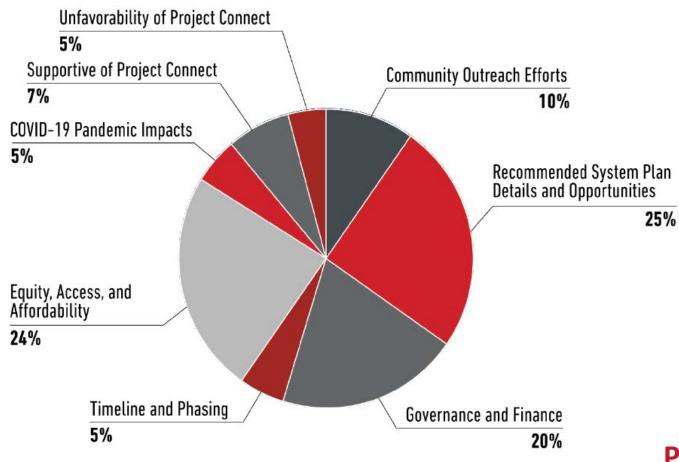


#### 84% agree the Red Line should be improved and the Green Line buil



# VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETINGS

#### CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY: MAY 15 TO MAY 29



**May 15** Greg Casar, City Council Member, District 4 Leslie Pool, City Council Member, District 7 Natasha Harper-Madison, City Council Member, Distri 🚊 1 **May 18** Jeffrey Travillion, CMTA Board Member **May 19** Kathie Tovo, City Council Member, District 9 Wade Cooper, CMTA Board Member & Chair May 20 Jimmy Flannigan, City Council Member, District 6 Troy Hill, CMTA Board Member & Mayor of Leander Eric Stratton, CMTA Board Secretary May 20 Alison Alter, City Council Member, District 10 Terry Mitchell, CMTA Board Member May 26 Steve Adler, Mayor of Austin Wade Cooper, CMTA Board Chair May 28 Ann Kitchen, CMTA Board Member & City Council Member, District 5 Paige Ellis, City Council Member, District 8 May 29 Delia Garza, CMTA Board Vice Chair & Mayor Pro Tem District 2 Sabino 'Pio' Renteria, CMTA & City Council Member, District 3 Over 13,500 unique views **PARTICIPATION:** 

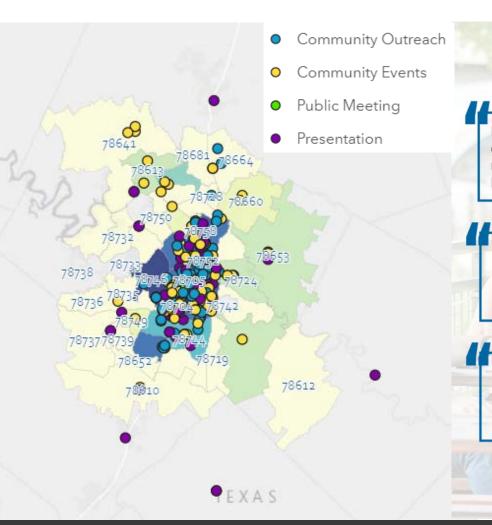
\* Percentages may not total to 100% due to number rounding

# DASHBOARD

**CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY** 

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LOCAL OUTREACH: 57,000



I am completely in favor of putting the full system as described with 3 LRT lines and a new river crossing and underground tunnel to a vote this November in what is likely to be a favorable electorate.

It is past time for Austin to do this. We are a large, international city and have been for years. This proposal is transformative and enduring. It will be our legacy to future generations.

I think this plan is very good and has focused on a lot of key goals like increasing frequency, broadening access to opportunities for marginalized populations, and adding elements to make transit reliable and dignified.

# **PROJECT CONNECT** GATHERING COMMUNITY INPUT



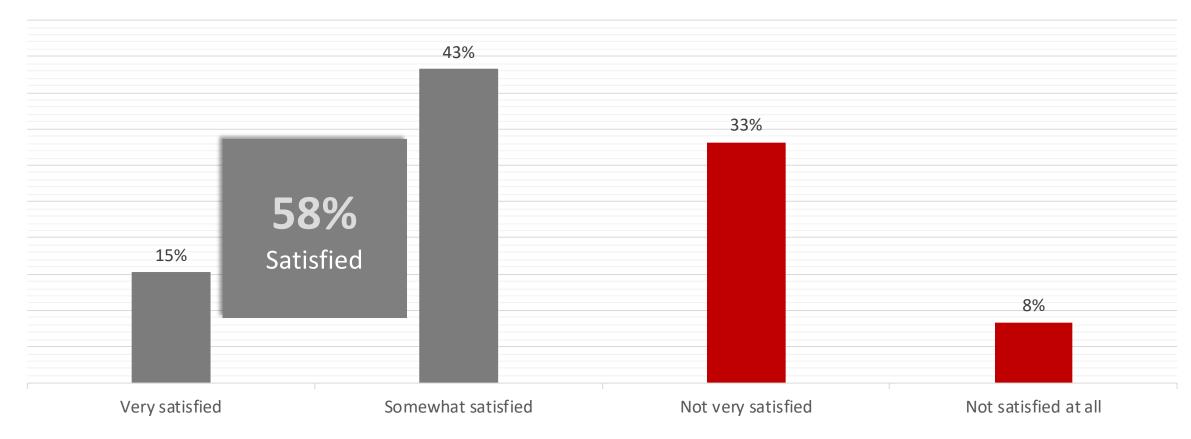
2.1.a

# Methodology

- Online survey using SurveyMonkey platform and Lucid sample providers. Programmed, managed, and analyzed by Sherry Matthews Group.
- Fielding period May 8 27, 2020
- Total sample N=407



# Satisfaction with transit is good, but could be better

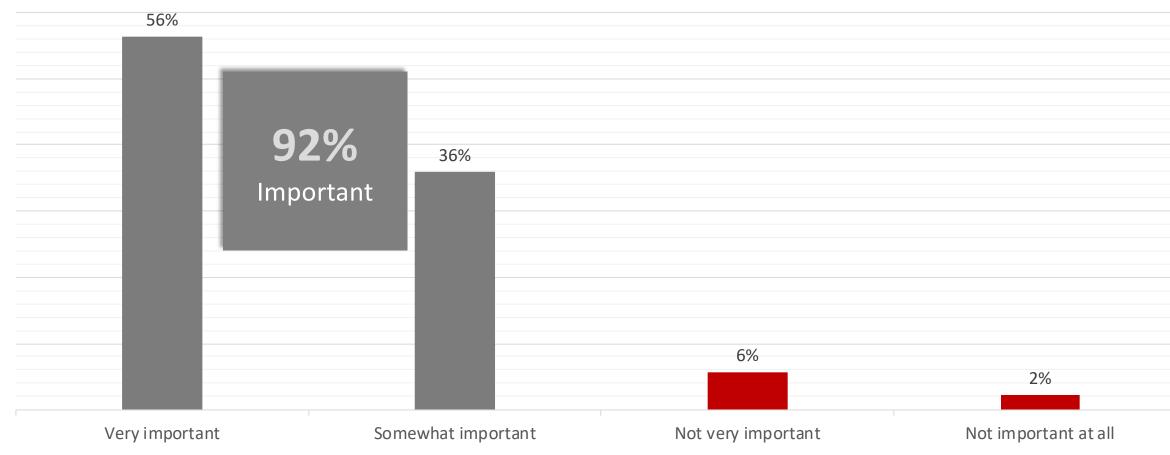


#### Q: How satisfied are you with the quality of Austin's public transit choices?

\* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding



## Improving our transit system is very important.



#### Q: How important is an improved public transit system to Austin?

\* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding



2.1.a

# Austin needs "major city" transit.

As #11 largest city, important to have public transit similar to other large cities

To live up to our potential. Austin should have a public transit system like other major cities.

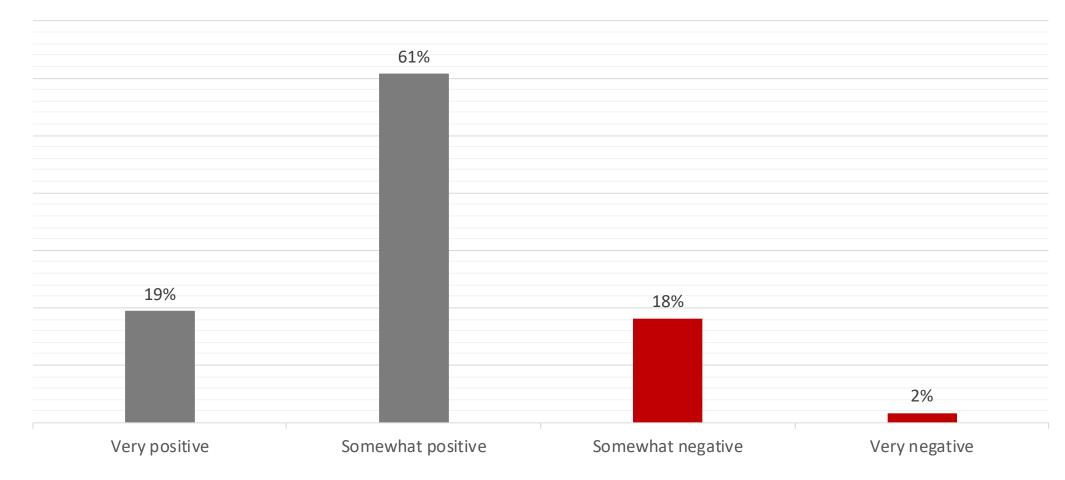
79%				76%			
		<b>98%</b> Important				<b>97%</b> Agree	
	19%	2%	0%		21%	2%	1%
Very important	Somewhat important	Not so important	Not at all important	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree

Q: Austin is the #11 largest city in the country. How important is it for Austin to have a public transit system similar to othe large cities? Q32. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? If Austin is going to live up to its potential, it should have a public transit system as good as other major cities.

June2020\_CapMetro\_COA\_Meeting\_FINALP1(4611:Project Connect

Attachme

# **Positive perceptions of Capital Metro.**



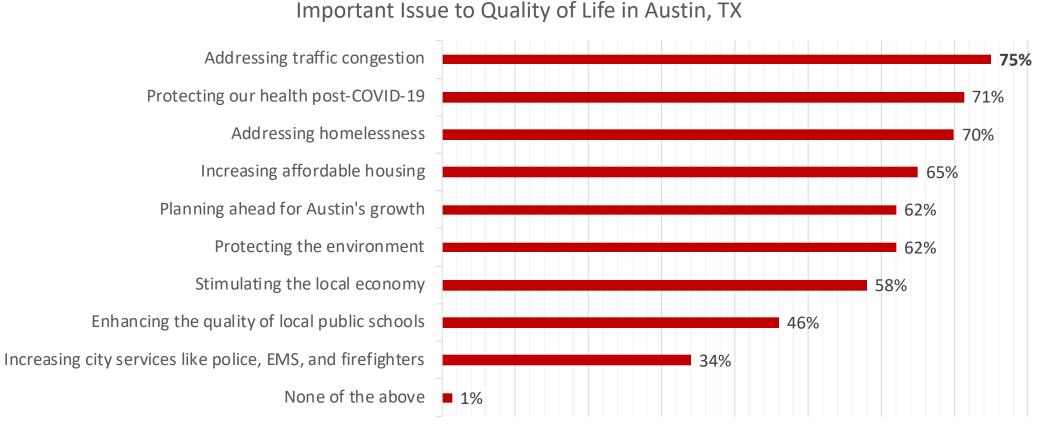
#### **Q: What is your impression of Capital Metro?**

\* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding



2.1.a

## 75% select addressing traffic congestion a top issue.



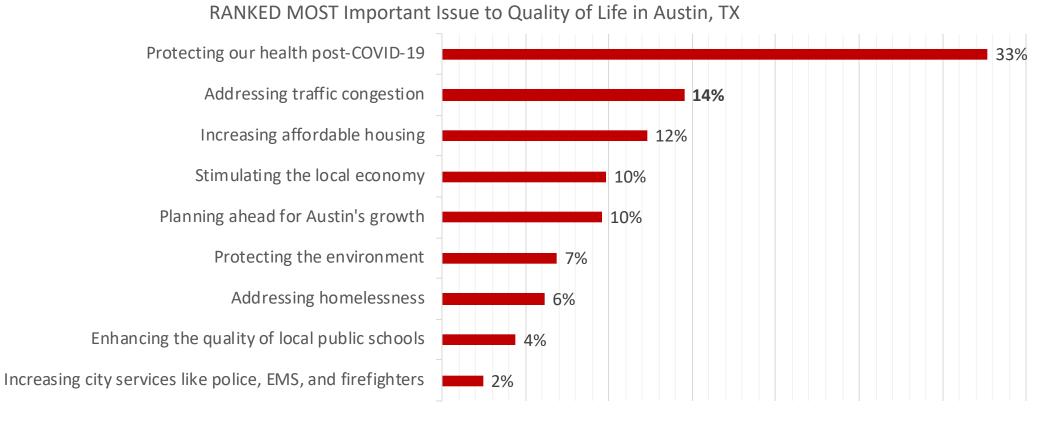
Q: Which of the following are important issues for quality of life in Austin? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. RANKING

\* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding



2.1.a

# Addressing traffic congestion ranked 2nd of the most important issue.



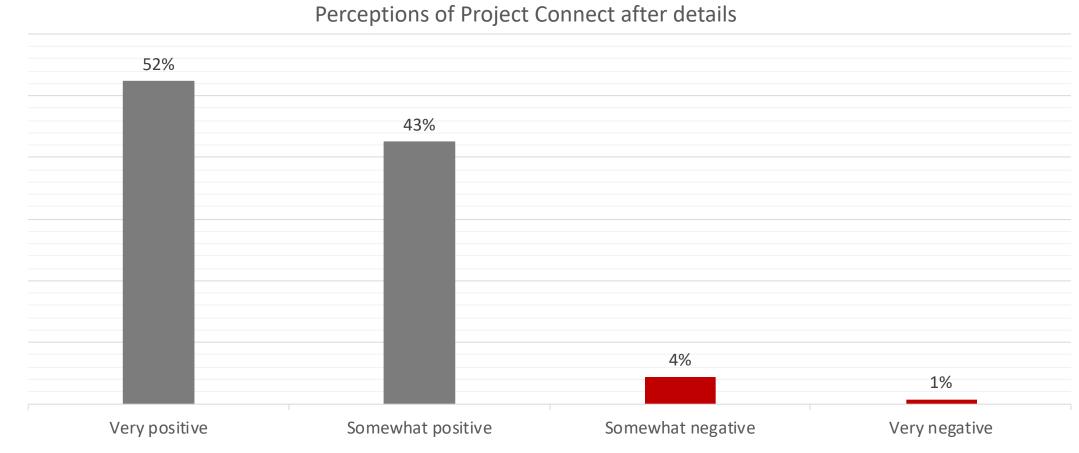
#### Q: Please rank your selection in order of importance (1 = most important).

\* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding



# Attachment: June2020\_CapMetro\_COA\_Meeting\_FINALP1(4611:Project Connect

# 95% positive after seeing details of Project Connect



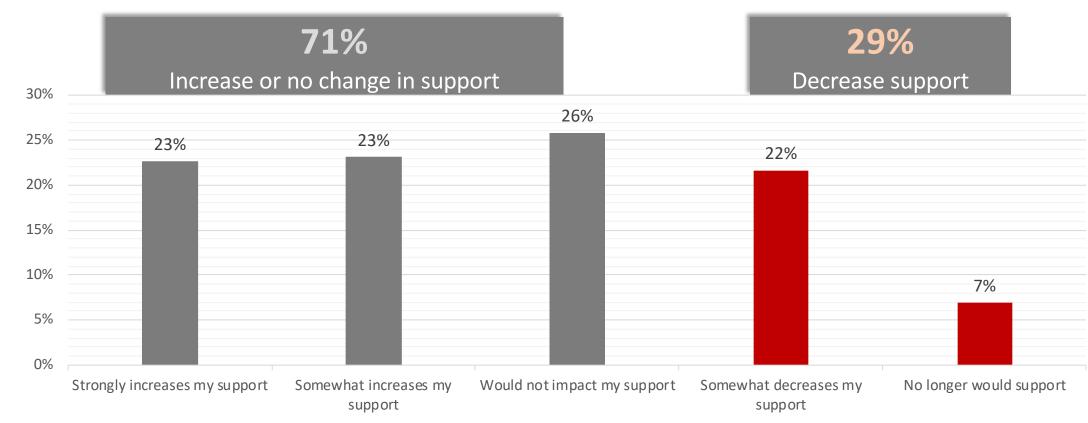
#### Q: Now that you've heard more about Project Connect, how do you feel about it?

\* Percentages may not total 100% due to number rounding



2.1.a

# 71% still support Project Connect after seeing funding source: property tax.



Q. Project Connect will be funded by an annual increase in property taxes averaging \$200 a year plus state and federal grants. How does this impact your support for Project Connect?



Attachment: June2020\_CapMetro\_COA\_Meeting\_FINALP1(4611:Project Connect



# **PROJECT CONNECT** HOW DID WE GET HERE & WHY WE NEED TO BUILD



## THE TEAM

**BUILT TOGETHER TO BENEFIT ALL** 



# AECOM HOR HNTB











# **HOW WE GOT HERE**

#### **EVOLUTION OF THE SYSTEM PLAN**



OCTOBER 30, 2018 INITIAL VISION PLAN

*• project* connect



DECEMBER 17, 2018 ADOPTED VISION PLAN



MARCH 9, 2020 RECOMMENDED SYSTEM PLAN



# HOW WE GOT HERE

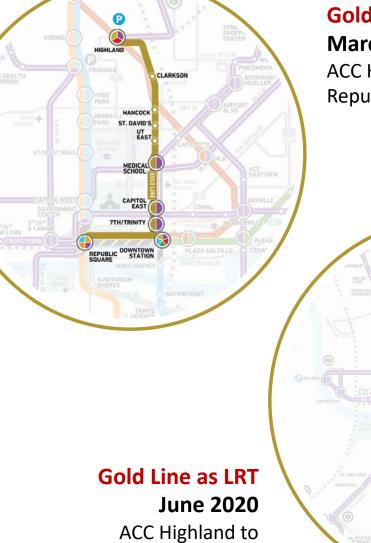
**CHANGES SINCE MARCH 9, 2020** 

- Utilized preliminary 2045 CAMPO demographics for updated system plan ridership
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Analysis of Gold Line as LRT  $\,$
- Red Line Phase II removed

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- Phase I improvements allow 15-minute service which will provide additional ridership capacity
- Major transfer to downtown anticipated at Crestview with Orange Line

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South Congress Transit Center

#### Gold Line as BRT March 2020 ACC Highland to Republic Square

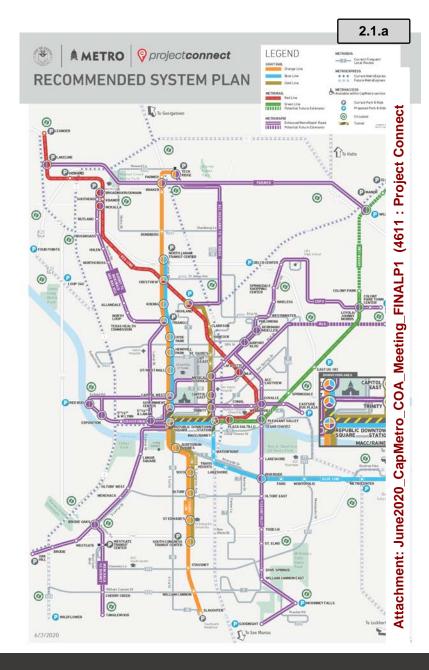


# **RECOMMENDED SYSTEM PLAN**



INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS BUILD UPON EACH OTHER TO COMPLETE THE SYSTEM

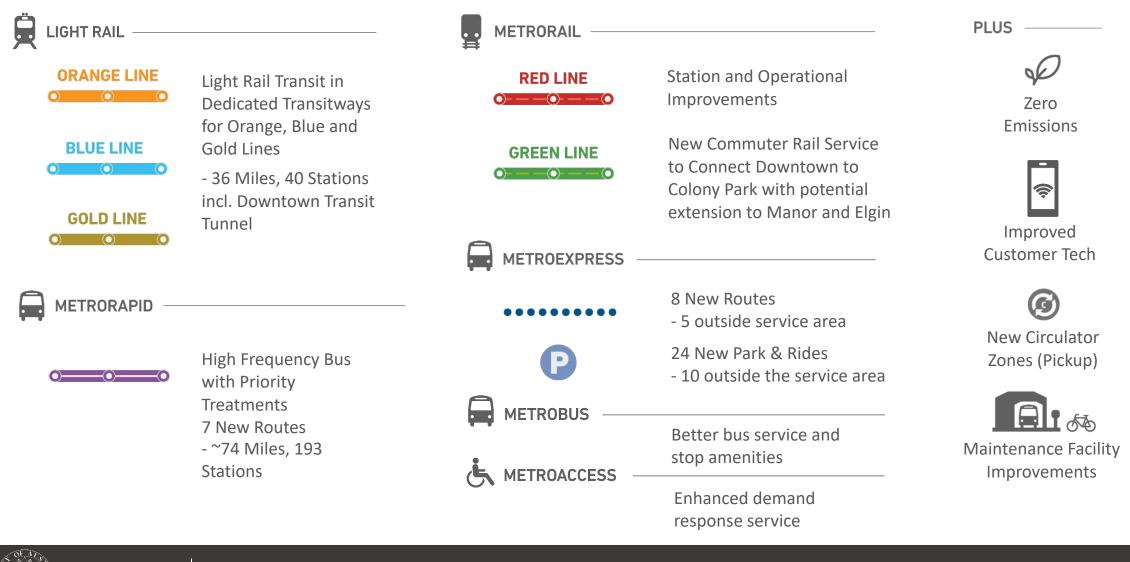
- The Recommended System Plan provides more ways to use transit
- Projected system ridership to nearly triple with the implementation of Project Connect







### **RECOMMENDED SYSTEM PLAN**



# WHY WE NEED TO BUILD

**RECOMMENDED SYSTEM PLAN** 

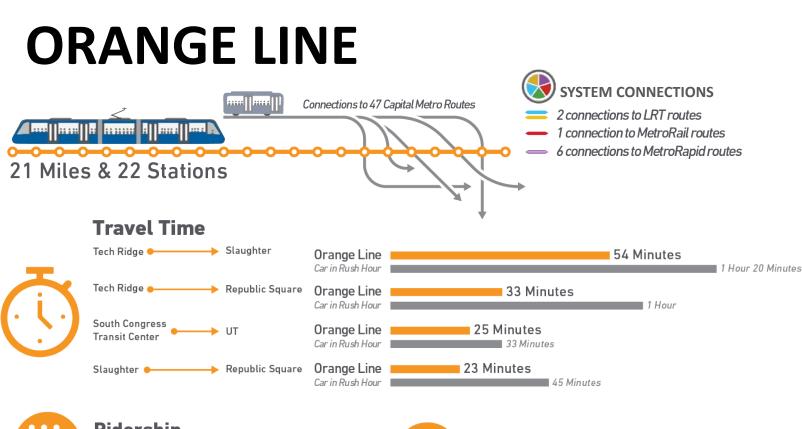


Improves the entire transportation network
 Increases frequency, more service and faster travel
 Supports sustainability and improved air quality
 Expands access to jobs, health care and education
 Improves reliability
 Creates more types of transit

- Creates more types of transit
- ✓ Supports regional plans
- Places investments in the future









**Ridership** Weekday Ridership (2040) 54,000 - 74,400

#### **Demographics**



Zero Car Households in Station Areas 3,400 | 8% Individuals in Poverty in Station Areas 21,900 | 23%

Minorities in Station Areas 45,700 | 48%



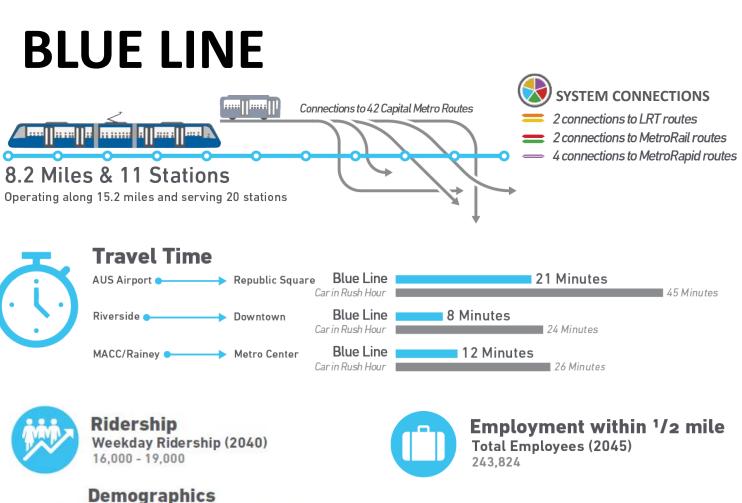


Environmental Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction 107.8 million fewer miles annually Greenhouse Gas Reduction

42,800 tons fewer annually











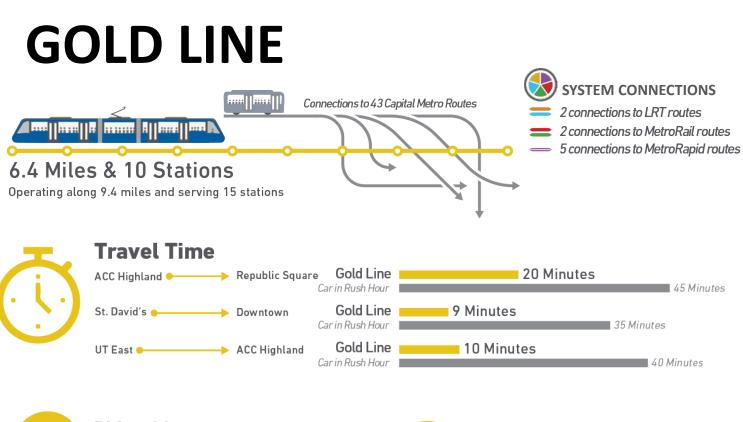


Zero Car Households in Station Areas 3.000 10%

Individuals in Poverty in Station Areas 17.900 26%

**Minorities in Station Areas** 41,100 59%







Ridership Weekday Ridership (2040) 18.000 - 20.000

#### **Demographics**



Zero Car Households in Station Areas 3,000 | 11% Individuals in Poverty in Station Areas 11.400 20%

**Minorities in Station Areas** 25,200 37%



**Employment within 1/2 mile** Total Employees (2045) 207,278

# **Environmental**

Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction 17.4 million fewer miles annually **Greenhouse Gas Reduction** 7,000 tons fewer annually





#### **DOWNTOWN TRANSIT TUNNEL**





**Travel Time Savings** People spend less time traveling overall



**Safety** Enhances safety for everyone in the travel network



Road Conflicts Reduces conflicts with other modes and 20% of traffic signals



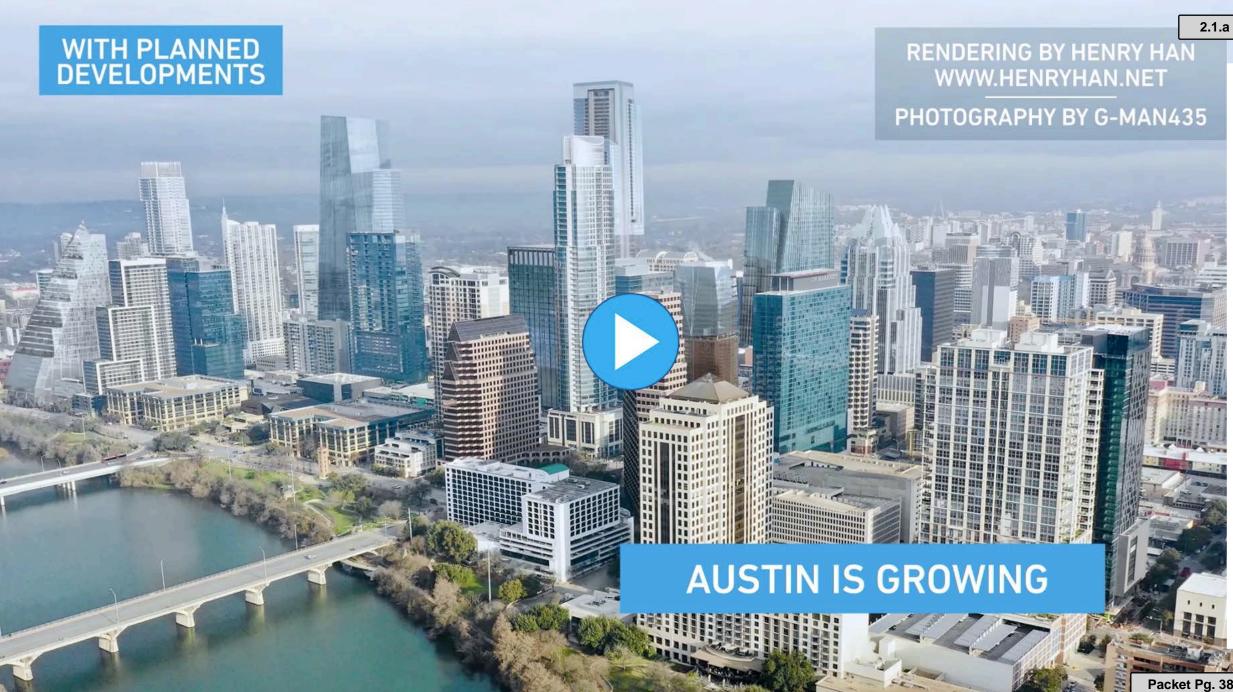
Building Great Places Creates partnership opportunities



Future Operational Flexibility Future proof for increasing train lengths

projectconnect





: Project Connect (4611 FINALP1

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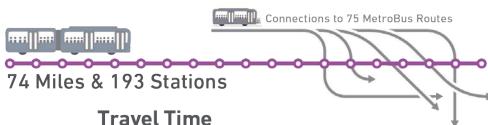
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CapMetro

June2020

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#### **METRORAPID**





5	MetroRapid Existing Transit		ech Ridge 43.3 mins 48 mins
	MetroRapid Existing Transit		ak Hill 46.2 mins 50 mins
		Menchaca to Burne	et/Lamar
	MetroRapid		39.8 mins
	<b>Existing Transit</b>		■ 49 mins

Existing Transit

Crosstown

MetroRapid 31.2 mins Existing Transit 49 mins





Weekday Ridership (2040) 30,000 (for all lines)



**Zero Car Households in Station Areas** 14,555 | 8% of households **Individuals in Poverty in Station Areas** 91.919 20% **Minorities in Station Areas** 

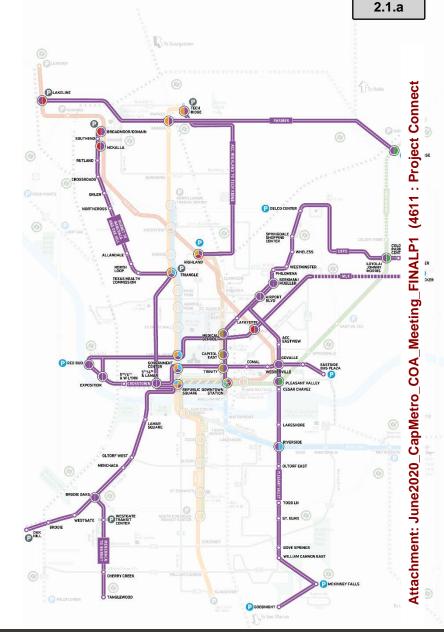


Vehicle-Miles-Traveled 8 million fewer miles annually **Carbon Monoxide Emissions Reduction** 40 Tons fewer annually

SYSTEM CONNECTIONS

3 connections to LRT routes

2 connections to MetroRail routes





262,873 54%



#### **METRORAIL – COMMUTER RAIL**

#### **Red Line:**

- New station at Broadmoor/Domain
- New station at McKalla (Soccer Stadium)
- Serving ten stations along 32 miles of track
- Installation of additional sidings
- 15-minute frequency during peak service and increased weekend service
- Major transfer at Crestview to Orange Line



#### **Green Line:**

- On existing CapMetro Right-Of-Way
- New commuter rail line connecting neighborhoods throughout East Austin
- Initial phase will serve 5 new stations along 8 miles of track to Colony Park
- Compliments the Colony Park master plan
- Provides unique opportunities for more affordable housing
- Provides more households with travel options to jobs, health care, and education



#### **METROEXPRESS and PARK & RIDES**



• Connects to frequent and reliable transit

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- With 16 existing Park & Rides, Project Connect will add an additional 24 (10 outside of the service area)
- Will increase access to transit, provide a welcoming environment and more transportation options

project**connect** 



- Serves outlying areas and neighboring communities
- More direct connections between Park & Ride locations and major employment hubs
- Envisions new MetroExpress service to other parts of the region, including Hutto, Bastrop, Lockhart, Buda and Oak Hill



#### **METROBUS and METROACCESS**



- Zero-emission, all-electric vehicles
- Shelters and benches at bus stops

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 Future connections to the Orange, Blue, Gold, Red and Green Lines, as well as MetroRapid stations and Park & Rides

project**connect** 



- Efficient, affordable transportation to grocery stores, medical treatments, education, and more
- Enhanced customer technology upgrades

2.1.a

#### FIRST MILE, LAST MILE – Circulators & MetroBike



- Connections to and from destinations without driving
- Makes it easier for customers to access the transit system from where they live
- Provides hyperlocal connection for our customers



- Partnership with the City of Austin BCycle Program
- Connecting bikes and transit
- Electrification of bikes
- Expanded service area



#### SMART, CONTACTLESS CUSTOMER TECHNOLOGY



project**connect** 

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A smarter, safer & more equitable way to pay for and use transit.

#### ACCOUNT-BASED SYSTEM



問

Allows for fare capping, a pay-as-you-go solution that gives customers more control over their transit expenses

#### CARD OR APP: CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS

- Just tap and go when you board
- Cards are reloadable and reusable
- Use for smart city options like parking, bike rental, etc.









#### RECOMMENDATION

#### Capital Metro Board Approval of the following:

- The System Plan
  - Orange Line LPA
  - $\circ$  Blue Line LPA
  - o Gold Line LPA
  - o Green Line LPA
  - MetroRapid LPA

- Improvements to MetroRail Red Line
- New Customer Technology
- Local Bus and MetroAccess Improvements
- Maintenance & Support Facilities

#### • Austin City Council:

- Supports the System Plan, LPAs and System Improvements as approved by the Capital Metro Board
- Direct City Manager to initiate a process to amend the ASMP

Adoption of Project Connect System Plan and Locally Preferred Alternatives.

#### RESOLUTION OF THE CAPITAL METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### STATE OF TEXAS

#### COUNTY OF TRAVIS

**RESOLUTION (ID # AI-2020-1273)** 

#### Adoption of Project Connect System Plan and Locally Preferred Alternatives

WHEREAS, Project Connect is a vision for how we move people today and plan for tomorrow, and will create an integrated transit system that eases traffic, brings jobs to our region, improves the environment and better connects people so everyone in our community can thrive; and

WHEREAS, making public transportation a real, viable alternative for more people will make the greatest positive impact for the environment and help achieve the city's goal of shifting commuter modeshare to less than 50 percent single-occupancy vehicles; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the City of Austin's Climate Action Plan and Capital Metro's vision of a zero-emission fleet of transit vehicles, Project Connect will amplify transit's positive effects on air quality in Central Texas; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the Project Connect Vision Plan would generate 20,000 jobs per \$1 billion spent, potentially creating 200,000 new jobs as a result of implementation of the full Project Connect vision; and

WHEREAS, an investment in public transportation is an investment in the economy and we cannot have sustained economic development in this region without a significant investment in transit; and

WHEREAS, investment in transit is an investment in equity, and a significant action we at Capital Metro can take to correct historical inequities is to make the Capital Metro transit system more robust, more affordable and more widely available; and

WHEREAS, prevention of displacement of lower income residents from areas served by Project Connect's new infrastructure is a guiding principle to Capital Metro and the City of Austin, the Austin City Council has passed a resolution (Austin City Council Resolution 20200423-038) calling for data-driven policies and funding that "prevent transportation investment-related displacement and ensure people of different incomes can benefit from transportation investments," and Capital Metro's longstanding Transit Oriented Development Policy has been designed to support equitable growth that acts as a force multiplier for transit's benefits for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, Capital Metro and its partners at the City of Austin have put in more than two years of outreach and engaged nearly 55,000 community members about the



benefits of Project Connect, and those community members have overwhelmingly said they want to see significant improvements to transit, with 93% of survey participants saying it is time to act; and

WHEREAS, infrastructure in Central Texas was not built for the 2 million residents who live and work here now, much less the 4 million who will call the Austin area home by 2040, and Project Connect will allow us to make better use of the physical space we have to support our growth in a more sustainable manner; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Metro Board unanimously adopted the Project Connect Vision Plan in December 2018; and

WHEREAS, Project Connect was included as an integral part of the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan, which was unanimously approved by the Austin City Council in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Orange Line and Blue Line Corridors have been studied in accordance with Federal requirements and refined to identify three separate lines: the Orange, Blue and Gold lines; and

WHEREAS, in order to apply for and receive federal funding through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to assist in building these necessary projects, Capital Metro is required to adopt locally preferred alternatives that incorporate sound technical analysis and community input; and

WHEREAS, Capital Metro intends to enter these projects into the federal funding process upon local voter funding approval; and

WHEREAS, a Locally Preferred Alternative for the Orange Line has been recommended based on its technical merits and the advice and consent of our partners and community, and will serve the city's busiest activity centers like the University of Texas, the State Capitol, Downtown, South Congress and Auditorium Shores, as well as growing neighborhoods along North Lamar Boulevard, in Downtown Austin and on South Congress Avenue; and

WHEREAS, a Locally Preferred Alternative for the Blue Line corridor has been recommended to include the Blue and Gold Lines; and

WHEREAS a Locally Preferred Alternative for the Blue Line has been recommended based on its technical merits and the advice and consent of our partners and community, connecting diverse transit dependent populations in neighborhoods along East Riverside Drive and major employment centers such as the airport and downtown; and

WHEREAS, a Locally Preferred Alternative for the Gold Line has been recommended

Page 2



based on projected growth, its technical merits and the advice and consent of our partners and our community, and will connect downtown to major hospitals, the UT Campus and the ACC Highland area, ensuring its growth is managed sustainably; and

WHEREAS, Locally Preferred Alternatives for a new commuter rail service in the Green Line, which will bring access to jobs, health care and education to East Austin, including Colony Park and surrounding neighborhoods, and improvements to the Red Line, which will increase connections to activity centers like Broadmoor/The Domain and the soccer stadium at McKalla Place; and

WHEREAS, Locally Preferred Alternatives for the MetroRapid Lines have been recommended based on projected growth, their technical merits and the advice and consent of our partners and our community, and will bring Capital Metro's most popular service to more of the region, including Expo Center (Manor Road), Pleasant Valley, Burnet/Lamar to Menchaca/Oak Hill, MLK, Crosstown, ACC Highland to Tech Ridge and Parmer Lane corridors, connecting them to local businesses, hospitals and into the larger Project Connect system; and

WHEREAS, Project Connect includes an expansion of the MetroExpress program with additional Park & Rides throughout the region, additional neighborhood circulators, enhancements to MetroBus and MetroAccess, improved customer technology that makes transit simpler and fairer to use for everyone, and additional maintenance facilities and improvements; and

WHEREAS, changes to the System Plan may be considered and adopted over the course of time to add projects as additional transit studies are performed and completed, which shall include consideration of current studies being conducted by the City of Austin, Capital Metro and CAMPO of the Bergstrom Spur and the MoKan corridor; and

WHEREAS, Capital Metro has established a Capital Expansion Fund and will commit future operations and maintenance funding to Project Connect, and upon local funding commitment will serve as the FTA grantee for federal funding; and

WHEREAS, with the understanding that this cannot be accomplished alone, Capital Metro appreciates the partnership with the City of Austin that will assist in securing the local funding commitment required to move into the federal funding process; and

WHEREAS, Capital Metro further appreciates the partnership with the City of Austin to advance a formal partnership through a Local Government Corporation for guidance and oversight of Project Connect.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors that the attached Project Connect System Plan that

Page 3

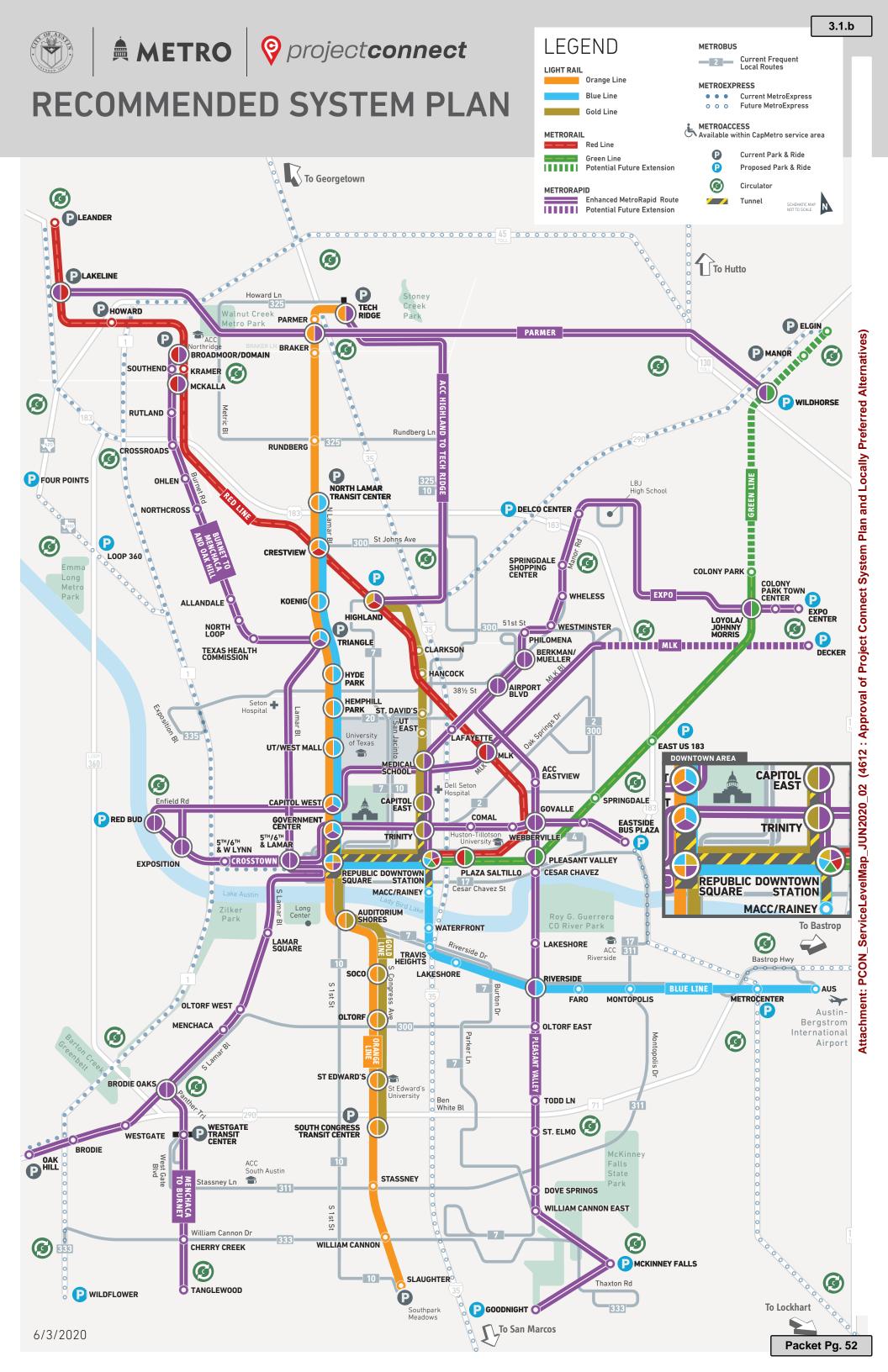


includes the Locally Preferred Alternatives for the Orange, Blue, Gold, Green, and MetroRapid Lines are adopted.

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Project Connect System Plan also includes infrastructure improvements on the MetroRail Red Line, new customer technologies, MetroBus and MetroAccess improvements, and maintenance and support facilities.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary of the Board Eric Stratton



Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority MEETING DATE: 06/10/2020 Board of Directors (ID # 4613) Project Connect Governance and Funding

**<u>TITLE:</u>** Update on Project Connect Proposed Governance Framework and Funding and Investment Strategy.

Page 1

Strategy

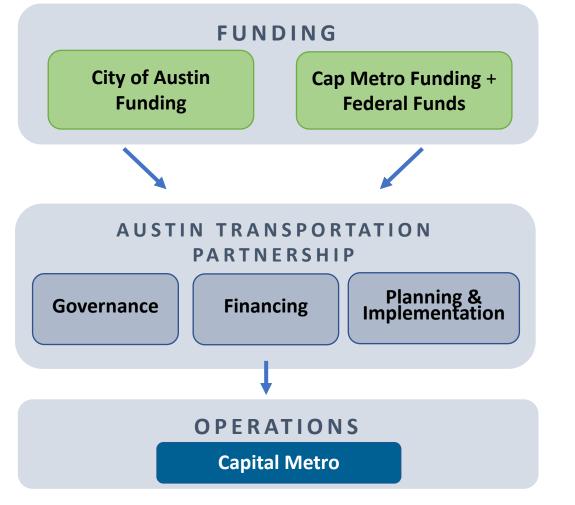
## **OVERSEEING THE PROGRAM**



# (4613 : Project **FINALP2** June2020\_CapMetro\_COA Attachment:

#### **Austin Transportation Partnership**

#### **Partnership Framework**



#### **Guiding Principles**

- Transparency
- Single entity vested with authority and resources to construct and implement Project Connect
- A new independent board
- City Council and Capital Metro Board oversight
- Joint Program Office staffing & management

#### **BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER**





#### **AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP**

A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN CAPMETRO AND CITY OF AUSTIN



## Project Connect Governance

Presentation to Joint Board Meeting



4.1.a

**JUNE 2020** 

#### How can the Austin Transit Partnership govern Project Connect?



What can Austin learn from other transit projects?

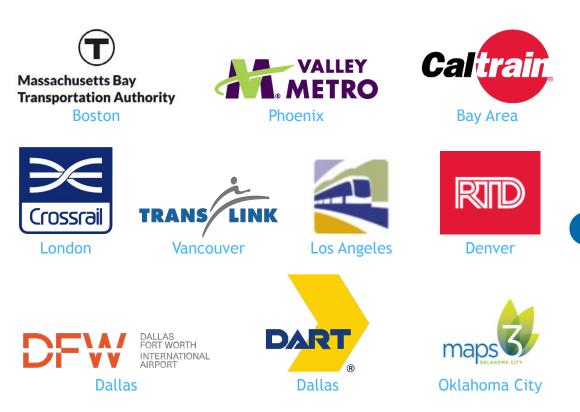


What do Austin stakeholders want from the Austin Transit Partnership?



How should the Austin Transit Partnership be set up for longterm success?

#### Best practices from implementation of transit systems



Case studies chosen from large number of organizations based on identified best practices and seeking diverse set of communities; no single example is a perfect comparison for Austin and Project Connect

- Require **transparency** to elected officials and public
- Establish a **separate body** ATP to drive implementation
- Keep governing body small & empowered
- Involve program funders directly
- Leverage **industry expertise** to improve decision making
- Focus on long-term implementation
- No two transit agencies are alike, but Austin can learn from best practices

#### Feedback from community stakeholders



Austin Mayor & City Council



Capital Metro Board of Directors



50+ Community Stakeholders

- Establish body that can serve as true fiduciary to entire community
- Involve community expertise as well as industry experts
- Ensure **transparency** to funding agencies and public
- Avoid conflicts of interest, both financial and politica
- Require diversity in governing body membership
- Plan for the long-term; establish change and removal processes

# Attachment: June2020\_CapMetro\_COA\_Meeting\_FINALP2(4613:Project Connect

#### Governance recommendations based on best practice

	Board Role	Fiduciary of agencies, focused on implementation		Crossrail - Sponsor Board focused on program implementation, not policy WMATA - Members focused on representing home jurisdictions
	Board Size	5 to 7 members		Valley Metro - 4 members, membership limited to only cities with light rail expansion in their city limits RTD - Program expansion governed by full transit agency board, elected into 15 seats
	Membership	Combination of agencies and independent experts		MBTA FMCB - Experts and MassDOT Board members ensure necessary expertise at the table Valley Metro - No expertise required, board can be inefficient in decision making
	Term	2 to 4 years; no term limits		Most agencies adhere to similar terms
	Appointment Process	Different for each type of seat, involves agencies directly	it: Ali	Translink - Nominated by independent commission, chosen by Mayor's Council BART - Publically elected to sit on transit agency board of directors, limiting ability to plan for the long term
💼 Bes	st practice			Packet Pr

Not recommended

## Project Connect \_FINALP2 (4613: nce in pme Attachment: June2020

#### 4.1.a

#### Austin Transit Partnership Board Recommendation

#### **Recommended Membership**

City of Austin	Capital Metro	(	Community Members	
Representative 1 Seat	Representative 1 Seat	3 Seats ( Jointly appr	<b>&amp; Experts</b> oved by CapMetro Board	and City Council)
1 Seat	i Seut	5 Seuts (Somitiy uppl)	oved by cupilletto bould	und City Council)
Mayor of Austin or a designated member	<ul> <li>Chair of the Capital Metro Board or a</li> </ul>	Finance	Engineering & Construction	Sustainability & Planning
of the City Council	member of the Board designated by board	<ul> <li>10+ years experience in finance, financial management, banking,</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>10+ years experience in engineering or</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>10+ years experience in urban planning,</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Seat cannot be held by an elected official</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>investing, w/ focus</li> <li>in large capital projects</li> <li>Experience in projects</li> <li>over \$500M investment</li> </ul>	construction of large capital projects in any sector (transit, energy, industrial, commercial)	sustainable developme and or environmental planning

#### Term and other requirements

- Chair of the Board is selected by the Board members, cannot be City or Capital Metro representatives
- 2-4 years with no term limits; can be reappointed | Includes diversity consideration for whole board
- All members must be residents of City of Austin

#### Joint Appointment Process for selecting experts

#### Expert #1: Finance

Expert #2: Engineering & Construction

#### Expert #3: Sustainability & Planning

- Candidates apply, are vetted and nominated to a slate; cannot be elected officials
- Jointly approved by the Capital Metro Board and the City Council

	Apply		Vet		Slate		Approve
•	Positions on Project Connect ATP Board are advertised	•	All applications are screened for requirements (e.g.,	•	Nominating committee evaluates applicants to narrow	•	Recommended full slate of nominees must be jointly

- Applicants recruited by City Council. Capital Metro Board, and others; must fill out application
- Additional gualified applicants can apply

- Austin residency) Capital Metro and City •
- staff evaluate based on expertise requirements
- Remaining applications screened by Nominating Committee<sup>;</sup> CapMetro and CoA Board and Council Members

down (if necessary)

#### Committee recommends slate of

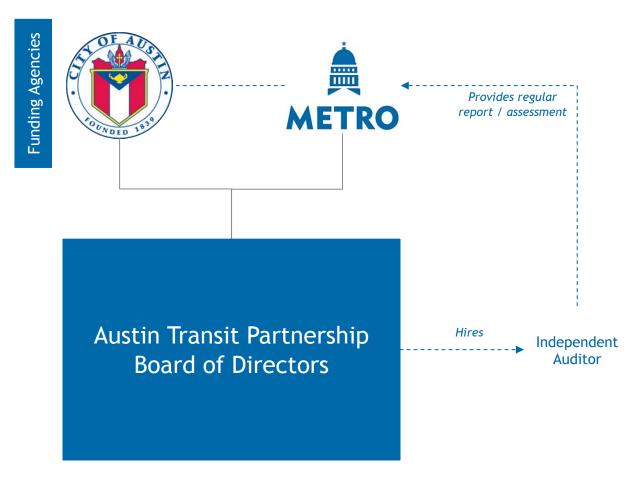
nominees for open positions that meet qualifications



- If approved, nominees join ATP Board
- If rejected, nominating committee forms another slate

Attachment: June2020\_CapMetro\_COA\_Meeting\_FINALP2(4613:Project Connect

## Recommended feedback mechanisms will ensure transparency and coordination



- Approves Project Connect system plan and policies
- Forms ATP, establish policies, select members
- Annually allocates funding to ATP

- Quarterly reports to select City Council and Capital Metro board committees
- Annual comprehensive report to City Council and Capital Metro board; and participation in annual joint meeting
- Independent auditor reports separately to City Council and Capital Metro board
- Manages day to day Project Connect implementation and execution of design and construction
- Ensures close alignment with Capital Metro operations

## **INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**



#### **PROJECT CONNECT:** COST ESTIMATES

Project Connect Program Components	Cost		
Orange Line	\$4.2B		
Blue Line	\$1.3B		
Gold Line	\$700M		
Downtown Tunnel	\$2.5B		
MetroRapid	\$170M		
MetroRail – Green	\$370M		
MetroRail – Red	\$25M		
MetroExpress and Park & Rides	\$100M		
Neighborhood Circulators	\$3M		
Maintenance Facility Improvements	\$300M		
Fare Collection Systems	\$30M		
Total	\$9.8B		
45% Federal	(\$4.4 B)		
Recommended System Plan Local Commitment	\$5.4B		
Program components and total costs have been rounded			

Program components and total costs have been rounded.



#### **PFM Experience**



- Nation's leading independent Financial Advisor for Governmental sector
- Top Ranked in Transportation and Mass Transit
  - Clients include Chicago Transit Authority, Los Angeles MTA, Washington Metro, Dallas Area Rapid Transit and Houston Metro
  - Building Federal Transit Administration (FTA) compliant Integrated Financial Models
  - Developing long-term plans of finance for transit investments
- Working with clients to secure Federal funding
  - \$5.6 billion in FTA grant awards and projects in engineering
  - Advised on over 20 successfully closed Department of Transportation TIFIA and RRIF Loans



#### **Integrated Financial Model**

- We have a developed an integrated financial model
  - Utilized to create a long-term funding and financial plan for Project Connect
  - Collaborative effort with the City, Capital Metro and HDR
- Cash flow requirements for entire Project Connect Program
  - City of Austin property taxes, Capital Metro funds, Federal grant revenues
  - Initial large outlays of capital expenditures funded with revenue ("PayGo"), revenue bonds, federal loans during construction
  - Operations begin in 2023 and scale up as projects are completed
  - Future vehicle replacements
  - Debt service on revenue bonds
- Federal Transit Agency (FTA) compliant model





#### Packet Pg. 69

#### **CONSIDERATIONS IN PURSUING FEDERAL FUNDING**

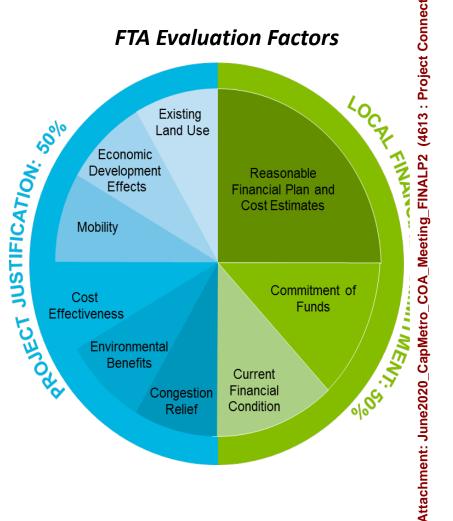
- Federal funding essential for Project Connect
  - CIG (New Starts/Small Starts) for 'big ticket' projects
  - Other federal funding sources for smaller projects and/or supplemental funding
- FTA will evaluate and conduct a risk assessment based on:
  - Technical capacity
  - o Financial capacity

A METRO

- Partner agreements (right of way, utilities, etc.)
- o Program Management Plan thorough and highly detailed
- Track record similar successful projects

project**connect** 

Partnerships required to develop competitive projects...a collective effort



#### **FTA Funding:** *Assumptions*

Existing New Starts FFGA Projects*				
<i>City</i> / Project*	Federal Share			
Los Angeles / Westside Subway 1	44.3%			
Los Angeles / Westside Subway 2	47.5%			
San Diego / Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project	48.1%			
Los Angeles / Regional Connector	47.7%			
Boston / Green Line Extension	43.4%			
Maryland / National Capital Purple Line	37.4%			
Fort Worth / TEX Rail	48.3%			
Lynwood / Link Extension	36.0%			
Seattle / Federal Way Link Extension	25.0%			

\*FFGA Projects with funding in federal fiscal years 2020 and 2021

- Analysis supports a <u>45%</u> Federal participation for Project Connect
- Federal grant funds are received over 20-25 years
- FTA looks for dedicated, on-going revenue stream
  - FTA scores projects on Reasonableness of the Financial Plan and Construction Cost estimates
  - FTA will "stress test" financial plan to handle additional cost contingencies for both capital and O&M



#### Method of Financing: Local Share

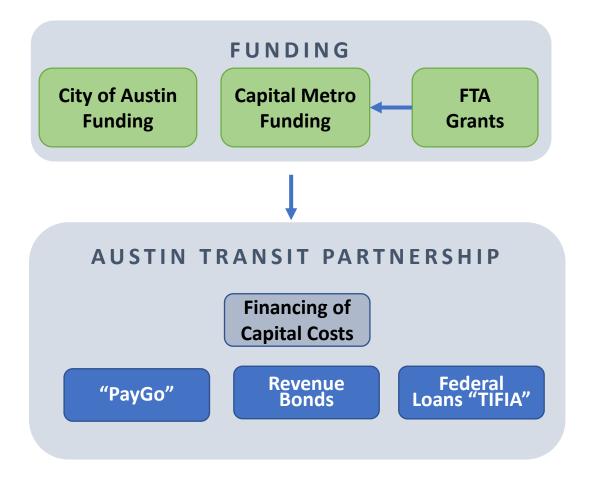
#### FTA looking for local funding for Capital, Operations & Maintenance, and State of Good Repair

- Capital Metro
  - Would allocate one-time capital funds for project development
  - Contributions of on-going revenue begins in FY23
  - Fare and other system revenue
- City of Austin
  - Dedicated property tax revenue via a Tax Rate Election
  - Full system requires an 11-cent TRE
  - Expected to score well for FTA Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA)





#### **Project Financing:** Austin Transit Partnership



- Funds from City, Capital Metro and Federal will flow to ATP
- ATP will fund construction via:
  - "PayGo"
  - Revenue Bonds
  - Federal Loan Programs ("TIFIA")
- ATP will be issuer of new revenue bonds with separate credit
  - Not a City of Austin G.O. credit



#### Packet Pg. 73

#### Integrated Financial Model: Initial Results

 Revenue optimized and sized to cover both capital and O&M

#### <u>Capital</u>

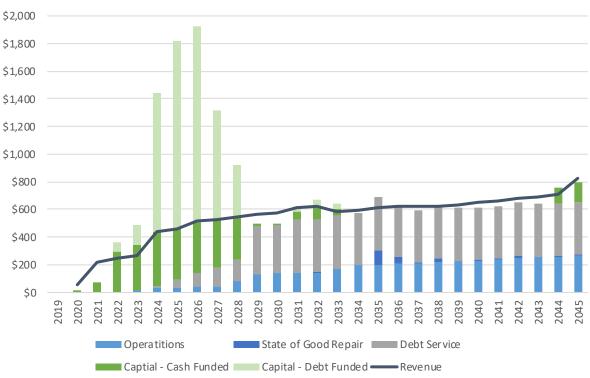
- Local funding and grant receipts significant "PayGo" funding for construction
  - This use of "PayGo" funding reduces amount of debt, and thus reduces overall cost of program
- Long-term financing

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- A mix of revenue bonds and low interest federal loans will be used
- Repaid by ongoing local revenues and federal grant money after operations begin

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: Project Connect

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FINALP2

Meeting

COA

CapMetro\_

June2020

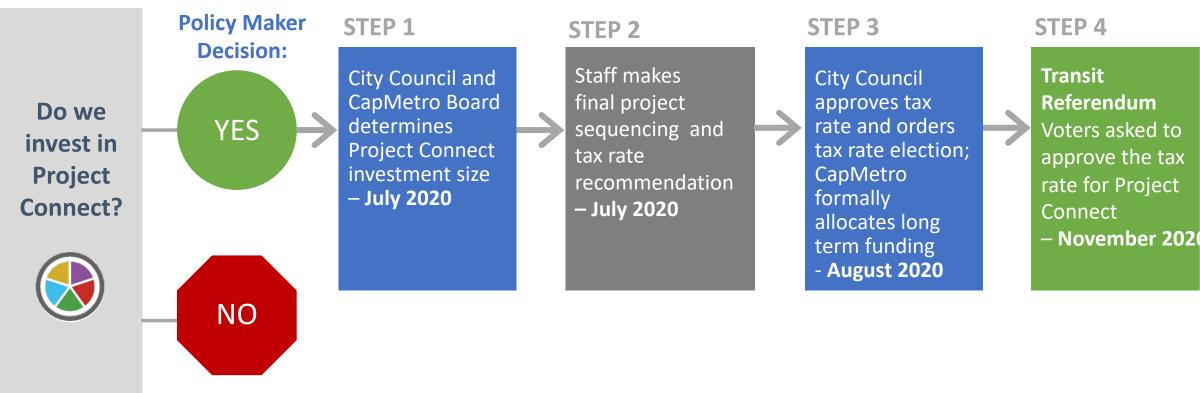
Attachment:

#### **Project Connect:** Investment Policy Decision

**COUNCIL & BOARD DECISION** 

STAFF

#### Once Project Connect System Plan Is Approved, Then...





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## WHAT'S NEXT





#### **TODAY AND UPCOMING DECISION POINTS**



#### **Community Engagement Ongoing**





# Austin City Council/ Capital Metro Board JOINT SPECIAL SESSION

#### JUNE 10, 2020