MLK Jr. Station

MLK Jr. MetroRail Station at the intersection of Alexander Avenue and East 17th Street in central east Austin. The station has a stage one center platform (stage two will double in length), and feeder buses connect riders to University of Texas and the Capitol complex. This station is the main stop serving the University of Texas and the State Capitol complex. The station is near a collection of non-profit services in the historic Chestnut neighborhood. A mixed-use/multifamily community and retirement village are under construction and a mixed-use creative office development is planned near the station. The area is located close to art galleries, education centers, multi-family residential, rehabilitation centers, restaurants, and entertainment venues. It is surrounded by small lot single-family detached residential, with local schools and churches nearby. Completion of the Upper Boggy Creek Trail is scheduled for 2017. Imagine Austin designates this area as a Neighborhood Center; Austin’s TOD ordinance defines it as a Neighborhood Center.

Station Features...
- Digital real time information display
- Shelter/Benches/Destination map/Lighting
- Capital Metro MetroBike Shelter (24 spaces, air)
- Free bike racks (8)

System Connections...
- MetroBus 18, 44, 44S

Access to...
1. Creative Action
2. PeopleFund
3. M Station Apartments
4. Center 41
5. Sustainable Food Center

Missing Elements...
- Shade, pedestrian-scale lighting
- Public realm improvements, including shade, street furniture, and pedestrian-scaled lighting
- Pedestrian and bicycle connections and enhanced crossings
- Wayfinding

Ridership/Service
Weekday Ridership (April 2016) 240 on / 272 off
Saturday Ridership (April 2016) 44 on / 43 off
Sunday Ridership (April 2016) None
Target Weekday Ridership 580 on
Level of Service 30 min peak/60 min off-peak

Demographics
- Population (2010) 3,550
- Population (2040) 8,440
- Population Density (2010) 4,500 ppl / sq. mile
- Employment (2010) 830
- Employment (2040) 2,060
- Employment Density (2010) 1,100 emp / sq. mile

- Households (2010) 1,562
- Households (2040) 3,688
- Medium HH Size (2010) 2.35
- Housing Units (2010) 1,640
- Affordable Housing (2013) 199
- Median HH Income (2010) $37,400
- Zero Car HH (2014) 55
- Senior Population Age 65+ (2010) 920
- Senior Population Age 65+ (2010) 480

MLK Jr. Station | MetroRail Red Line 550

FACTS
- Segment: Central
- Service Open: 2010
- Target Weekday Ridership: 580
- Profile Date: 2016

PLACE TYPOLOGY
- TOD Village
- Emerging

READINESS SCORE
- Connectivity: Medium
- Market Strength: Medium
- Land Availability: Medium
- Government Support: Medium

READINESS METRICS
- Safety and security:
  - Lighting needed on sidewalks and pavement illumination of crosswalks at MLK Jr. Boulevard
  - Enhanced safety visibility for pedestrian paths and bicycle routes
  - Enhancements to bring more “eyes on the street” to the community garden area
  - More activity at/overlooking the MetroRail platform area
  - With completion of construction on the west side of Alexander, a midblock crossing will be needed

- Streetscape improvements:
  - Intersection improvements, all ways, to improve safety for all travel modes at Alexander Avenue, MLK Jr. Boulevard
  - Bike/pedestrian connections
  - Shade trees along Alexander Avenue
  - Traffic calming, increasing pedestrian/bike safety at track crossing on MLK Jr. Boulevard

- Redevelopment opportunities:
  - Redevelopment in north, west quadrants underway indicates potential in the area
  - Infill potential within vacant properties remain
  - Housing preservation within the station area

- Station amenities:
  - Pedestrian scale lighting
  - Shade trees or shade structure near Alexander Avenue
  - Street furniture

- Other amenities:
  - Continuation of pedestrian/bicycle trail: Upper Boggy Creek Trail in 2017
  - Wayfinding to note areas within a “10 minute walk”

- Public/placemaking/art opportunity:
  - Limited placemaking opportunity
  - Potential for other functional art
  - Potential for collaboration between private/public interests
  - Safe design

CATALYST PROJECTS
- Austin Heights Neighborhood Water System Upgrades (Austin Water)
- Group 21 - Residential and Collector Streets Central East (North) (Public Works)
- BGG - MLK-TOD Stormwater Improvements Phase 1 (Watershed Protection)
- MLK Jr. Blvd. Station Area Plan & Regulating Plan (Planning andZoning)
Land Use

The TOD priority tool includes land use categories such as commercial, educational, and transportation facilities.

Population Density

Average population density in the TOD station area is 4,500 residents per half mile.

Infrastructure-Roads

Average employment density in the TOD station area is 1,100 employees per half mile.

Employment Density

The TOD station area is estimated to contain 3,333 million dollar square feet.
MLK Jr. Station is home to a variety of non-profit businesses and services, including PeopleFund. Chestnut Commons is pictured on the left.

M Station is an affordable housing community that includes day care, training, and more.

Established and new detached single-family residences within a ½ mile walk.

The Sustainable Food Center includes a community garden on Upper Boggy Creek Trail at the station, which continues north to the Mueller Development.

Roundabout at MLK Jr. Station with PeopleFund and Chestnut Commons

Mixed-use development, townhomes, and senior living is under construction on Alexander Street, 17th Street, and MLK Jr Boulevard at the station.