S Congress Transit Center

The South Congress Transit Center is located just west of South Congress Avenue, along the south frontage road of Ben White Boulevard (Route 71 / US 290). Parking is for vanpool only, with plans to expand to Park & Ride. This hub connects the MetroRapid 801 service with several local MetroBus routes. North of Ben White, the station area includes the Berkshire SoCo mixed-use development and the US Post Office. The quadrant southeast of Ben White consists entirely of commercial, industrial, and logistical businesses, with mixed use development in progress. The southwest quadrant, by contrast, contains a large residential neighborhood along West St. Elmo Street, including several apartment complexes as well as single-family homes. One-half mile west is St. David’s Medical Center, a general hospital, surrounded by associated medical offices. The Bergstrom railroad tracks offer a possible future east/west transit connection. Imagine Austin refers to this area as an activity corridor node.

Station Features...
- Digital real-time information display
- Shelter/Bench/Destination Map/Lighting
- MetroRideShare vanpool parking spaces (32)
- Free bike racks (32 spaces)
- MetroBike shelter (24 spaces)

System Connections...
- Local bus: 1, 30, 228, 300
- Last Mile: Car2Go Service area

Access to...
1. Salvation Army Store
2. Ben White Business Park
3. St. David’s Medical Center

Missing Elements...
- Grid streets, paths and sidewalks
- Public realm improvements, including shade, pedestrian-scale lighting, and sidewalks on South Congress Avenue and Ben White Boulevard
- Pedestrian and bicycle connections and crossings
- Compact mixed-use development
- Signage and wayfinding

Demographics
- Population (2040): 5,990
- Population Density (2010): 4,100 ppl / sq. mile
- Employment (2040): 9,710
- Households (2010): 1,430
- Households (2040): 2,630
- Median HH Size (2010): 2.23
- Housing Units (2010): 1,670
- Affordable Housing (2013): 0
- Median HH Income (2010): $39,100
- Zero Car HH (2014): <10
- Senior Population Age 65+ (2010): 180

Connectivity
- Medium

Market Strength
- Medium

Land Availability
- Medium

Government Support
- Low

Safety and Security
- Lighting in parking lots, along sidewalks, and at stations
- Wayfinding to St. David’s Hospital
- Activate area

Streetscape improvements
- Crosswalk improvements
- Bike lane along Radam Lane
- Improved bicycle/pedestrian connection across US 290/US 71/Ben White Boulevard

Redevelopment opportunities
- Union Pacific railway right of way
- Vacant lots offer opportunity to connect with St. Elmo PUD - market potential in the area

Station amenities
- Additional parking
- Shade: trees or shade structure
- Pedestrian-scale streetlights
- Gated courtyard with benches/vending
- Transit center, activated space

Other amenities
- Wayfinding to note areas within a “10 minute walk”
- Public/placemaking/art opportunity
- Limited placemaking opportunity
- Potential for functional art

Catalyst Projects
- ADA Sidewalk & Ramp Improvements Group #17 City-Wide (Public Works)
- ADA Sidewalks Group #15 (Public Works)
The predominant land uses in the ½ mile station area include streets and roads, commercial, warehousing, and single family residential.

The ½ mile station area is estimated to contain 2.2 million built square feet.

Average employment density in the ½ mile station area is 3,900 employees per square mile.

Average employment density in the ½ mile station area is 3,500 employees per square mile.

Average population density in the ½ mile station area is 4,100 residents per square mile.

Average population density in the ½ mile station area is 4,22 million built square feet.