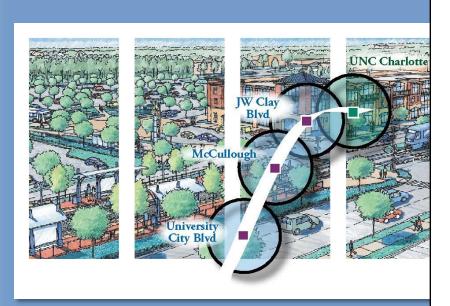




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Meeting Agenda





Blue Line Extension Transit Station Area Plans

Public Kick-Off Meeting December 10, 2013 4:30pm

Introduction (5 minutes)

Welcome and Introductions Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department

Mandy Vari

Overview Presentation (45 minutes)

Brief Project Update John Mrzygod, Engineering & Property Mgmt

What Brings Us Here? Mandy Vari

Putting the Pieces Together

Area Planning Principles and Concepts

Group Exercise

Review and Provide Feedback
On Station Area Concepts

Wrap-up, Questions and Next Steps (10 minutes) Mandy Vari

Information about the BLE Station Area Plans will be posted on our website throughout the planning process. Tonight's presentation will be on the website by Friday, December 13, 2013.

www.charlotteplanning.org

Planning Mandy Vari Phone: 704/336-5718 avari@charlottenc.gov CATS Judy Dellert-O'Keef 704/432-0477 Engineering
Jim Keenan
704/336-4252
jkeenan@charlottenc.gov

Transportation
Ben Miller
704/432-1535
bgmiller@charlottenc.gov





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Meeting Format

1. Staff Presentation

- BLE Update
- University City Area Plan process

2. Land Use Activity

- At work stations
- Staff available to answer questions

3. Wrap Up & Questions





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

All Questions:

- Please hold questions
- Questions will be answered during Wrap-Up after land use activity
- Staff available for questions during land use activity
- Staff will answer group questions after land use activity





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



LYNX Blue Line Extension

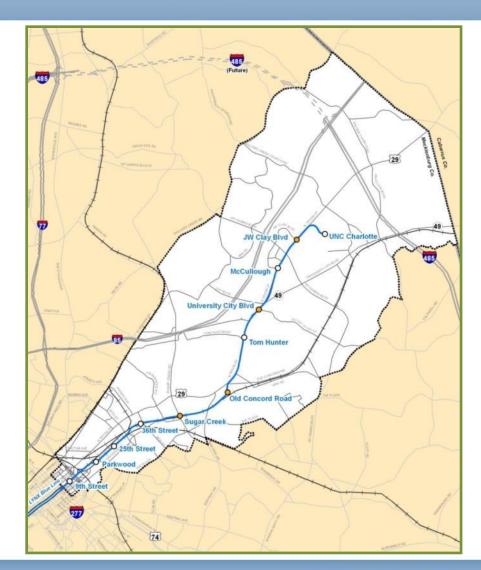




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Project Overview

- 9.3 miles, 11 stations
- 4 park and ride facilities
- Approximately 3,100 parking spaces
- Accommodates 3-car trains
- 25,000+ daily riders
- Improvements to North Tryon St.
- Connects UNC Charlotte campuses
- 22 minutes from Uptown to UNC
 Charlotte
- Initial peak period service 7.5 minute frequency
- Connecting bus services
- Revenue service in 2017





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Advanced Utility Relocation

Expected Completion: June 2014





Civil Construction

Expected to Start: March 2014





Track and Systems Construction

Expected to Start: April/May 2014









Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



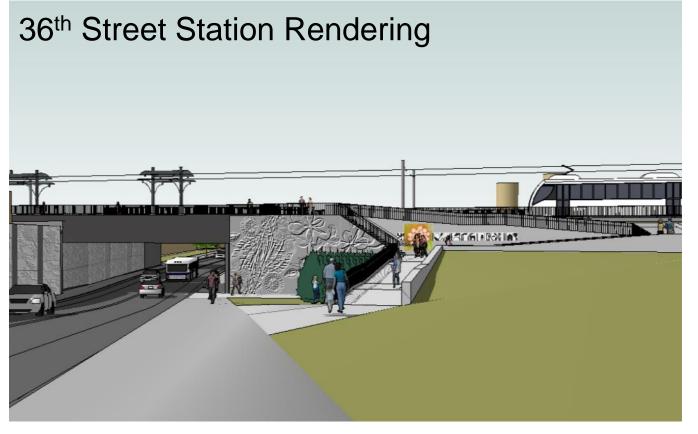
Construction at 36th Street will be a lengthy process:

- Lower 36th Street
- Build the bridge for NS rail road
- Move NS tracks onto the bridge
- Build a 2nd bridge
- Build LYNX Blue Line tracks on 2nd bridge





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



- Signed detour to 30th Street (Matheson Avenue)
- Sugar Creek
 Road available
 for detour until
 Eastway Drive
 reopens
- Closure approximately 2 years



Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Lengthening of the Eastway Drive Bridge



- Allows room for the BLE tracks next to NS tracks
- No vehicular or pedestrian access over the bridge
- Curtiswood Drive and Howie Circle will remain open
- Closure is anticipated to last until December 2014/January 2015

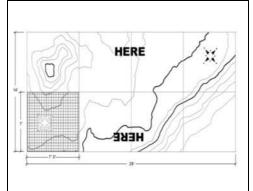


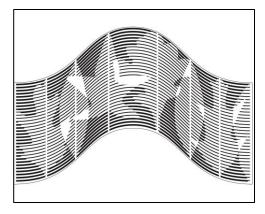


Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

University City Boulevard, McCullough, JW Clay Boulevard, UNC Charlotte Stations







Station Art

- Windscreens
- Column Cladding
- Platform Inlay
- Seating
- Fencing





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

How You Can Stay Informed

- www.CharlotteFuture.com
 - Notify Me



- bluelineextension@charlottenc.gov
- telltransit@charlottenc.gov
- CATS Customer Service: 704-336-RIDE (7433)
- Future public involvement opportunities

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook:



Facebook.com/CATSBlueLineExtensionUpdates



Be Informed. Be Connected. Be In The Know.





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

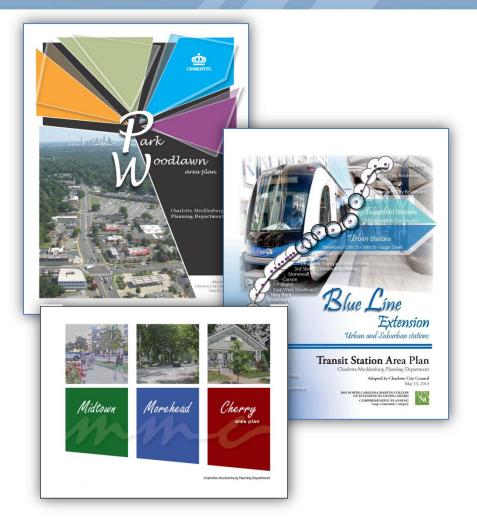


Area Plans – Policy Context





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



What's an Area Plan?

Tool used to:

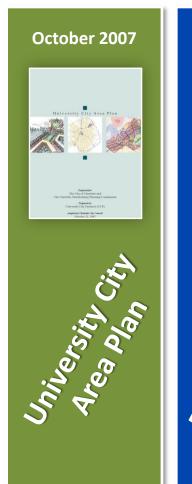
- Identify and provide policies to address development opportunities and issues
- Identify public and private investments needed to achieve vision
- Possibly recommend zoning changes in appropriate locations
- Guide more appropriate development

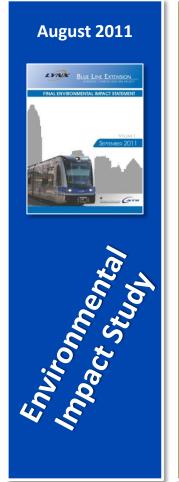


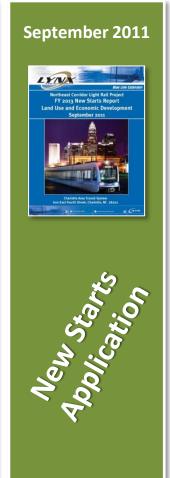


Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor













Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

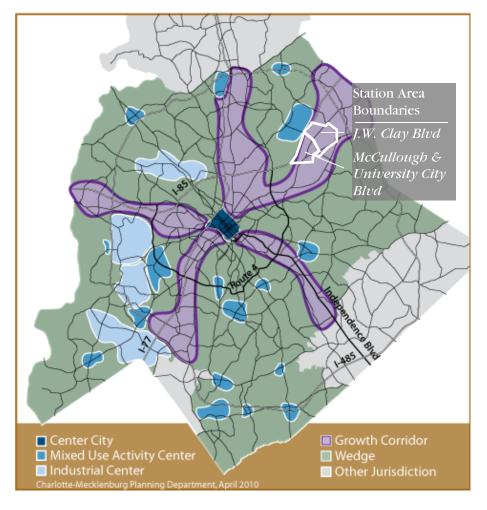
Activity Centers

- Center City
- Mixed Use Center
- Industrial Center

Growth Corridors

- Established Neighborhood Areas
- Transit Station Areas
- Interchange Areas
- General Corridor Areas

Wedges





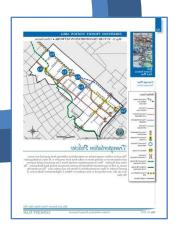


Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor









What is a Station Area Plan?

- Framework for Future Growth and Development
- Land Use and Community Character
 Recommendations for each Station Area
- Considers Environmental, Infrastructure, and Public Facility Policy
- Identifies Public and Private Investments and Strategies
- Represents a Shared Vision for the Future





Networks

Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Transit Station Area Principles



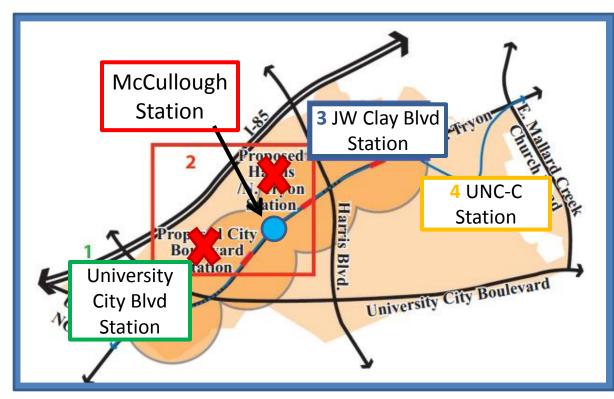




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

University City Area Plan: Why an Update?

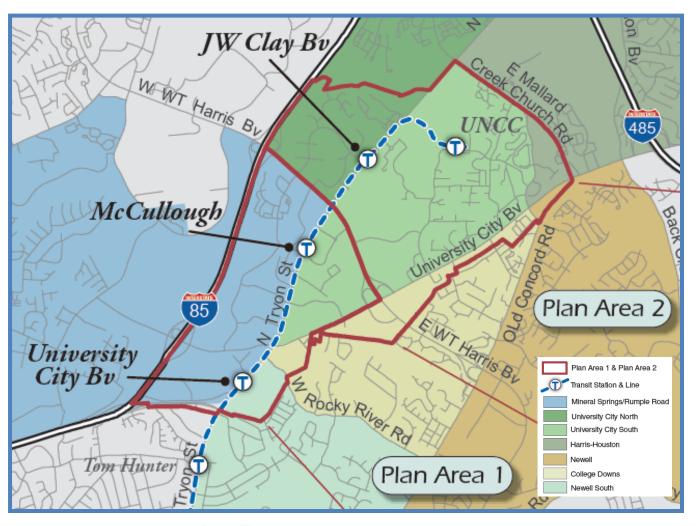
- Blue Line Extension
 Transit Stations relocated
- Impact on Land Use, Community Character, and Transportation Recommendations
- Planning Department will lead the update to the Area Plan







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



Plan Boundaries

- Compatible with *University City Area Plan* boundary
- Properties within ½
 mile of the transit
 station and "edge"
 areas
- Includes some properties in neighborhoods zoned single family





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



The Vision





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Vision (University City Area Plan, 2007)

University City will be transformed into a distinct and vibrant <u>people-oriented place</u> that is urban in scale and design. It will be <u>energized</u> by the highly successful <u>Blue Line Extension (BLE) Light Rail</u>

Transit (LRT) line that will operate along the North Tryon corridor and will be a popular and accessible <u>destination</u> for people of all ages, income levels, and backgrounds, offering diverse and unique <u>choices</u> for living, shopping, working, learning, and enjoying leisure time.

The Blue Line Extension Transit Station Areas, from uptown Charlotte into University City, will become a **series of vibrant**, **sustainable**, **and accessible destinations** along the Northeast Corridor.



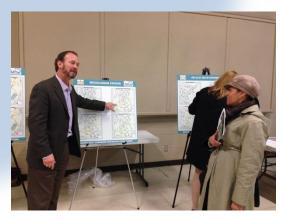


Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Review of December 10th Meeting: What we heard

- Support for Mixed-use districts and Transit
 Supportive Uses
- Consideration for parks and open space in the University City area – access
- Desire for design guidelines, especially related to new multi-family development
- Concern about impacts on other modes of transportation (pedestrians, cyclists, automobiles) with the addition of BLE infrastructure
- Access to/from the transit stations







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Review of February 18th Meeting: What we heard

- Existing Connectivity Issues
 - Access to destinations like library, UNC-C campus, hospital, transit stations
- Desire for "Green" or environmentally responsible development
- Importance of ground floor retail along parking decks and on public streets, especially in transit station areas
- Major landmark for University City needed



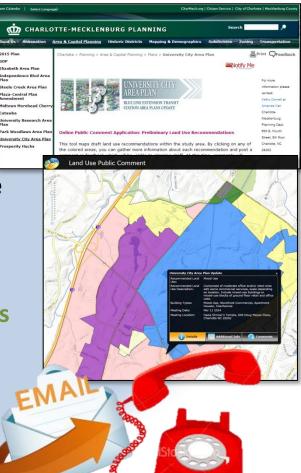




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Review of Other Public Comments: What we heard

- Preservation of wetlands and the natural environment
- Higher density residential in areas that encourage walking or biking to UNC-C campus
 - Reduce parking needs
 - Increase safety
- Need gateways, defining elements in key locations
- Use of open space to connect destinations (e.g. UNC-C Campus and JW Clay Station Area
- Town Center concept in the area
- Smaller block lengths







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



DRAFT Recommendations





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

How the Concept Plan pieces fit together:

- Development Concept
- Development Plan
- Structure Plan
- Mobility Plan







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Development Concept

- Considers the vision and goals
- Illustrates the recommended development pattern
- General in nature and to provide guidance for policies







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Development Plan

- Provides policy guidance for
 - Land Use
 - Community Design
 - Transportation
 - Infrastructure & Public Facilities
 - Natural Environment
- Keys directly to Implementation Guide

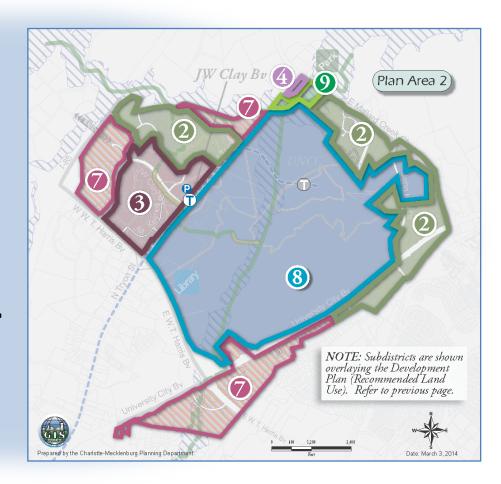




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Structure Plan

- Provides details
 - Building Types
 - Building Design
- Community's vision for development



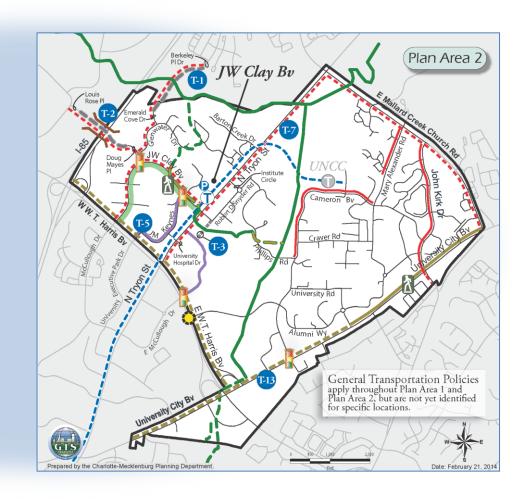




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Mobility Plan

- Provides policy guidance for
 - Future capital projects
 - Land development improvements
- Keys directly to Implementation Guide





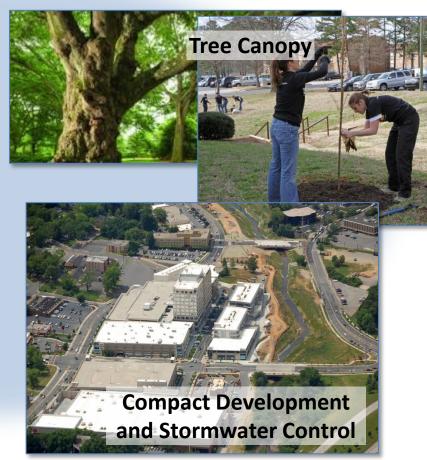


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Infrastructure & Public Facilities



Natural Environment





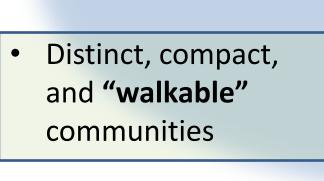


Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Community Design Guidelines

 Corridor as a premier public space Design buildings to front on public streets or on open spaces, with minimal setbacks and with windows and doors at street level.

Encourage redevelopment of suburban style office and retail to more compact, urban, mixed use developments within ¼ to ½ mile of transit stations.





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Bringing it all together...



POTENTIAL REDEVELOMENT

Parking Location







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Bringing it all together...



POTENTIAL REDEVELOMENT

Street network & Block Size







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Bringing it all together...



Plazas



POTENTIAL REDEVELOMENT





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Bringing it all together...



POTENTIAL REDEVELOMENT



Mix of uses & Building Location





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Bringing it all together...



POTENTIAL REDEVELOMENT



Pedestrian Experience





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Bringing it all together...



Open Space

POTENTIAL REDEVELOMENT









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Bringing it all together...



POTENTIAL REDEVELOMENT







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Plan Comments





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Different Ways to Provide Comments on the Plan

- Submit a comment at any time during this meeting.
- Use the online comment form at: http://UCAP.charlotteplanning.org
- Email your comment to:









Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



Implementation





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Future Development

What Happens **After Plan Adoption?**

Northeast Corridor Infrastructure Program (NECI) University City Area Plan

The Crystaffer
The Cardens Notebooker Planting Constitute
The Cardens Notebooker Planting Constitute
The Cardens Notebooker Planting Constitute
Target Planting Constitute
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Public-Private Partnerships Joint Use Development Opportunities

Corrective Rezonings

Transit Supportive Rezonings





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

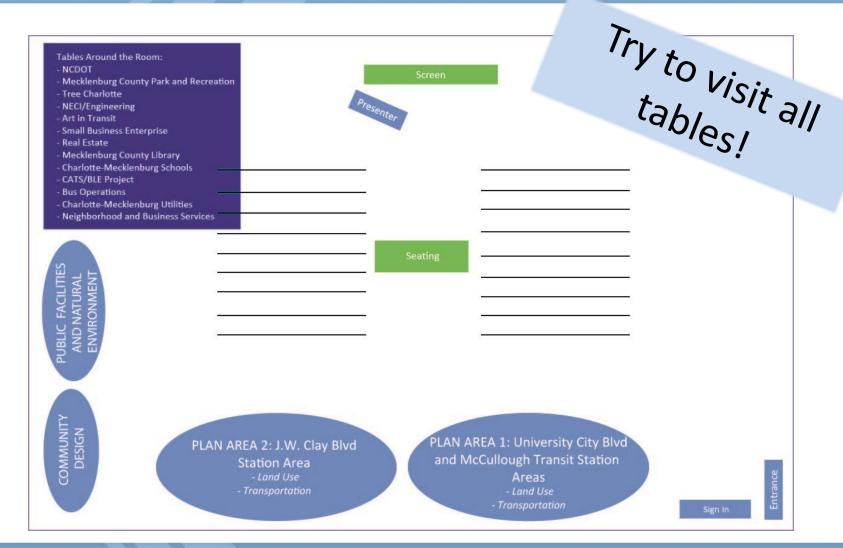


Break for Open House





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Recap: Plan Area 1 (University City Blvd/McCullough(

Recap: Plan Area 2 (JW Clay Blvd)

- N. Tryon is not pedestrian friendly encourage walking and biking
- Need to make sure relationship between other area plans is consistent

- Opportunities for more small scale retail
- Support for north bridge and McCullough Drive extension

Recap: Community Design, Infrastructure & Public Facilities, and Natural Environment

- Make sure public safety and police presence are considered
- Like the look of Birkdale
- Protect wildlife at University Place when new development occurs





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



Next Steps





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor







MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

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- Sign-up for "Notify Me"
- Will announce by email and on website when document is available.
- Hard copy available at **University Regional Library and Sugar Creek** Library.





BLEstationareaplans@charlottenc.gov

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