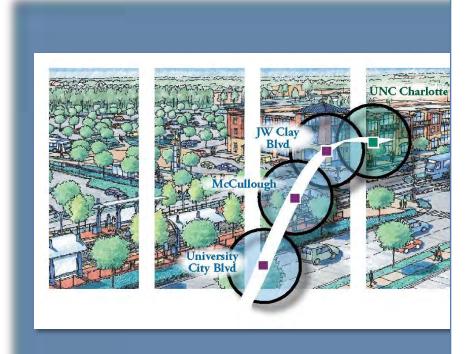




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Meeting Agenda





University City Area Plan Update

Including Blue Line Extension Transit Stations

Community Workshop #2 February 18, 2014 4:30pm

Introduction (5 minutes)

Welcome and Introductions

Mandy Vari

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department

Overview Presentation (30 minutes)

BLE Construction Update What we've heard Putting the Pieces Together

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department

Elements of Structure Plans

Alan Goodwin Community Design Basics

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department

How will we get around in the station areas?

Street Type Basics

Charlotte Department of Transportation (CDOT)

Group Exercise (20 minutes)

Review and Provide Feedback

On Mobility Plans and Community Design

Wrap-up and Next Steps (10 minutes)

Mandy Vari

Information about the University City Area Plan will be posted on our website throughout the planning process. Tonight's presentation will be on the website by Friday, February 21, 2014.

www.charlotteplanning.org

Planning	CATS	Engineering	Transportation
Mandy Vari	Judy Dellert-O'Keef	Jim Keenan	Ben Miller
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University City Area Plan nttp://UCAP.charlotteplanning.org



YNX Blue Line Extension Project





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Meeting Format

1. Staff Presentation

- BLE Update
- University City Area Plan Presentation

2. Transportation & Community Design

- 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 activity

Staff available for questions during activity





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



LYNX Blue Line Extension

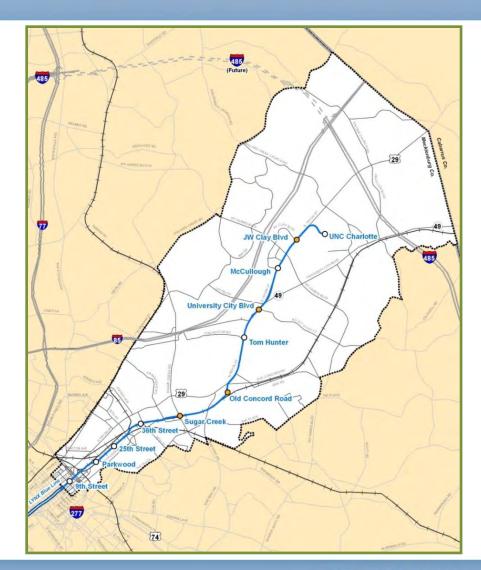




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

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

Types of work:

- Grading and drainage
- Public and private utilities
- Joint duct banks
- Retaining walls
- Duke transmission





Likely impacts of construction:

- Traffic
- Parking
- Access
- Visibility





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Civil Construction, Begins March 2014

Types of work:

- Roadway
- Bridges
- Retaining walls
- Traffic Signals

Likely impacts of construction:

- Traffic
- Parking
- Access
- Visibility











Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Track and Systems Construction

Types of work:

- Trackway
- Overhead Wire
- Substations

Likely impacts of construction:

- Traffic
- Access





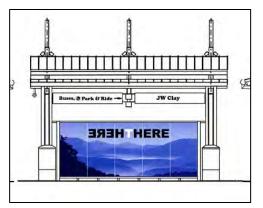


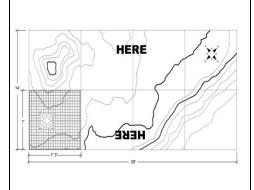




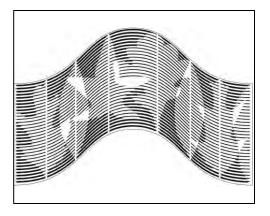
Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

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





7 CC4,007



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
- o 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



Update to University City Area Plan





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Update to University City Area Plan

- Why an Update?
- Summary of last meeting
- Community Design and Transportation
 Overview
- Receive Feedback on the draft Area Plan community design and transportation concepts

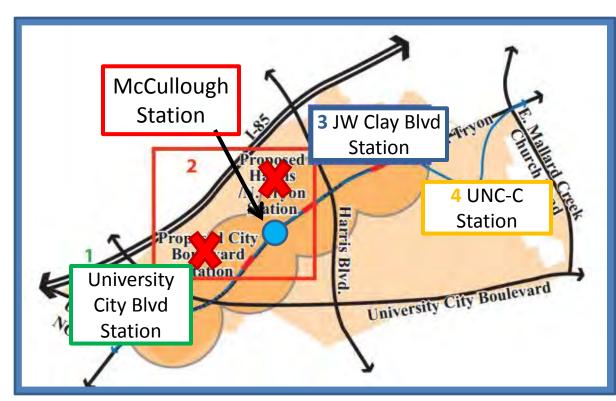




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

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

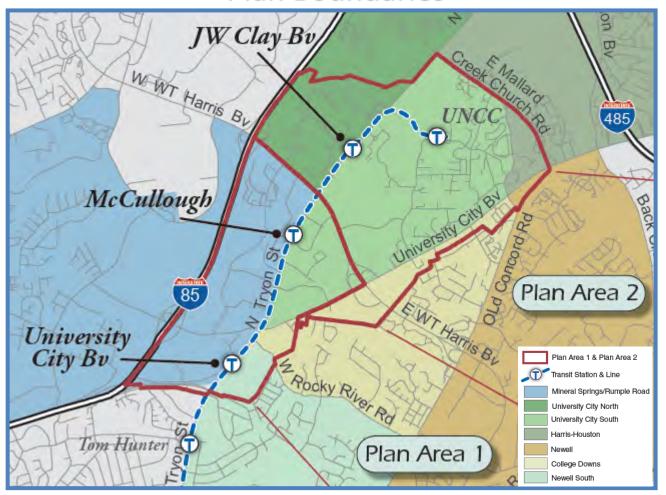






Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Plan Boundaries







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



Summary of Community Workshop #1





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

- Presentation
 - BLE Project Update
 - Purpose of Area Plans
 - Introduced the University City Area Plan
 Initiative and Described Process
- Open House
 - Provided feedback on the Draft Concept Plan and Draft Land Development Plan





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

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

How the Concept Plan pieces fit together:

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



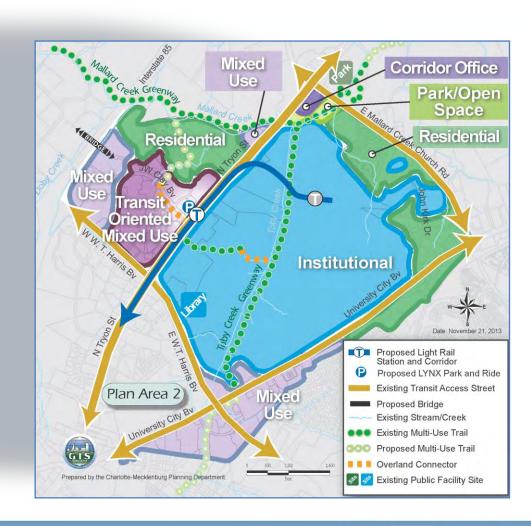




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

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

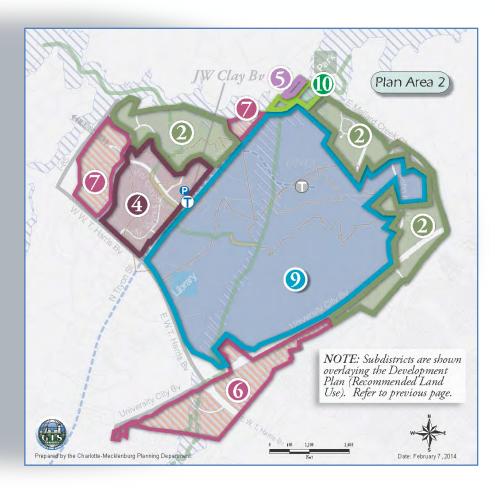




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Structure Plan

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



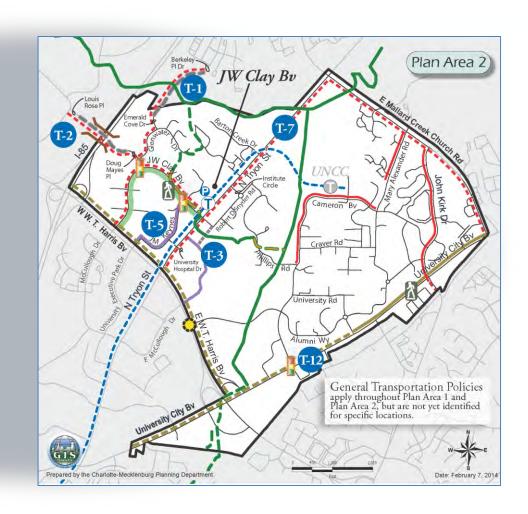




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Mobility Plan

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







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



Community Design





EXISTING CHARACTER

Existing Urban Design Character (from University City Area Plan 2007)

The design character of University
City MSD can be described as
automobile-oriented. Buildings
typically have large setbacks with
parking lots fronting them, and
traditional suburban style
architecture is most common. In
some areas, particularly along North
Tryon Street south of Harris
Boulevard, curb cuts are numerous,
and inter-connectivity between
properties is limited. While individual
properties are landscaped, little, if
any, landscaping or other amenities
exist in the public rights-of-way.

Overall, the area is devoid of design elements that would visually or functionally tie the area together.





VISION AND GOALS

University City Area Plan (2007)

Goal 1:

Promoting and designing the Northeast **light** rail corridor as a premier public space and gateway in University City;

Goal 2:

Identifying opportunities for and encouraging the development of lively, well designed transit station areas in which a variety of urban housing types, retail and employment uses and public open spaces are integrated to create distinct, compact and "walkable" communities;

Goal 3:

Encouraging development/redevelopment of areas at the edges of the MSD that is compatible with transit-supportive development, pedestrian-oriented and blends with adjacent uses;

Goal 4:

Improving connectivity throughout
University City to reduce reliance on the
major thoroughfares, accommodate
transit riders, encourage walking and
bicycling and better connect existing
institutions with the rest of the
community;

Goal 5:

Creating a **network of public open spaces, parks and greenways** to help define the public realm; and

Goal 6:

Supporting a healthy natural environment.













DESIGN POLICIES

- One way of achieving the vision and goals of the area plan is through a system of good urban design policies and guidelines.
- Charlotte has some good design policies already in place.
- Area plans can supplement them by including additional design policies and guidelines specific to the plan area.





DESIGN POLICIES

Community Design Policies...

- ...help ensure that new development complements the existing or desired character of the plan area.
- ...are used to strengthen how various land uses fit together.



...consider how people move through the area as pedestrians, bicyclists, or automobile drivers.





Massing





Scale





Height







110 feet

10 stories

Setback





Building Architecture





Open Space





Street Walls/Articulation





Streetscape





REVISING CITY DESIGN STANDARDS

- The design guidelines we have now have produced good development
- We can enhance our design policies and requirements to improve the quality of future development
- Revising the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and Transit Supportive Overlay (TS) districts
- Developing new standards for multi-family design







ISSUE: CONNECT TO STREET





First floor uses are not directly connected to the street.





ISSUE: CONNECT TO STREET





First floor uses are not directly connected to the street.





DESIGN POLICY





Design buildings to front on public streets or on open space, with windows and doors at street level <u>connected</u> to the <u>public realm</u>.





ISSUE: FIRST FLOOR DESIGN





First floor is not visually distinguished from upper floors.





ISSUE: FIRST FLOOR DESIGN





First floor is not visually distinguished from upper floors.





DESIGN POLICY





Provide taller floor-to-floor heights and larger openings at the ground floor.





ISSUE: ACTIVATE CORNERS





Building corners at intersections are not designed to take advantage of the corner location with active uses or special design treatments.





ISSUE: ACTIVATE CORNERS





Building corners at intersections are not designed to take advantage of the corner location with active uses or special design treatments.





DESIGN POLICY



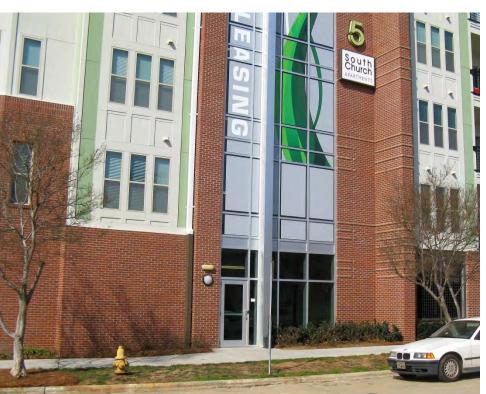


Require corners to have active uses and meet first floor design standards.





ISSUE: BUILDING ENTRANCES



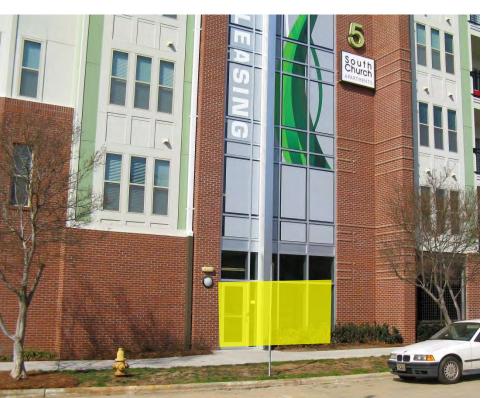


Building entrances are not clearly identifiable. Insufficient separation of residential entrances from the public sidewalk leads to a lack of privacy and sense of security.





ISSUE: BUILDING ENTRANCES





Building entrances are not clearly identifiable. Insufficient separation of residential entrances from the public sidewalk leads to a lack of privacy and sense of security.





DESIGN POLICY





Building entrances should be prominent and easily identifiable. Residential unit entrances fronting streets should be well-designed and provide vertical and/or horizontal separation from the sidewalk.





ISSUE: GROUND FLOOR PARKING





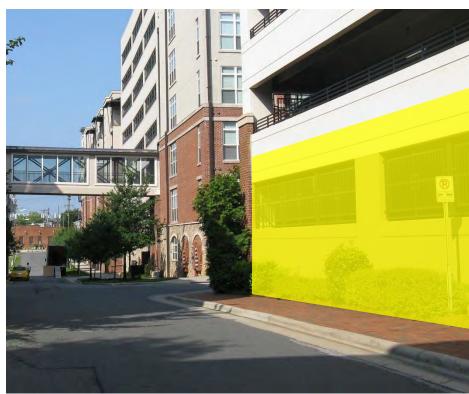
Structured parking at ground level along public streets does not contribute to a pedestrian-friendly environment.





ISSUE: GROUND FLOOR PARKING





Structured parking at ground level along public streets does not contribute to a pedestrian-friendly environment.





DESIGN POLICY



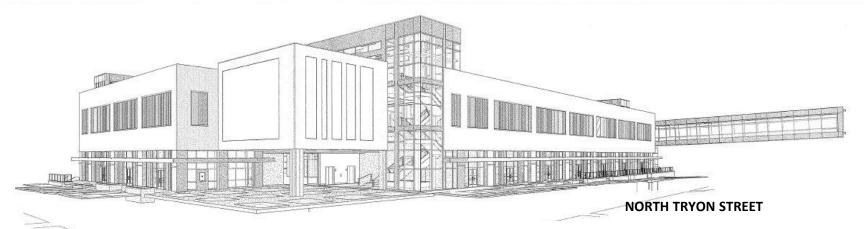


Include active uses on the ground floor of parking structures. No ground floor parking should face onto a street or public sidewalk.

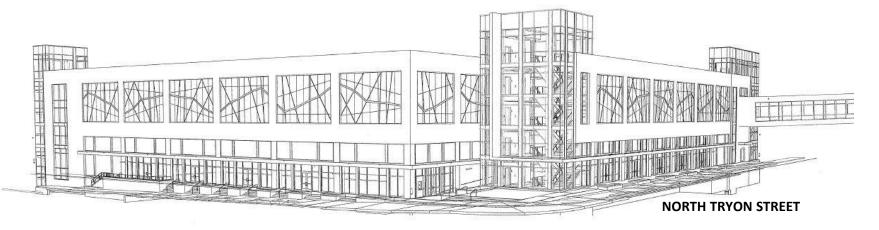




CATS PARKING DECKS



CATS Parking Garage at J.W. Clay Station

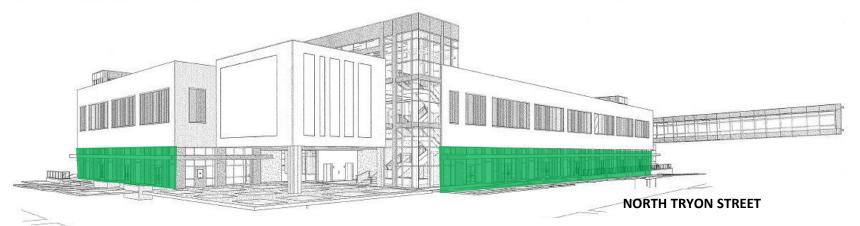


CATS Parking Garage at University City Blvd. Station

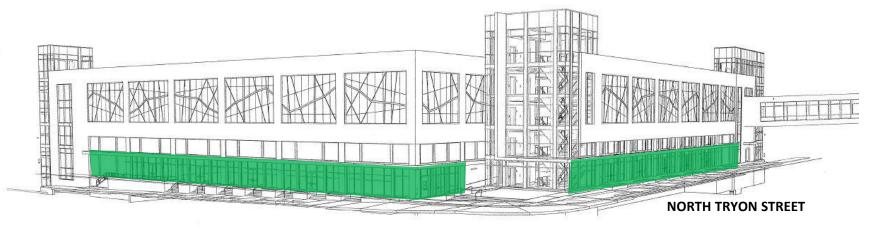




CATS PARKING DECKS



CATS Parking Garage at J.W. Clay Station



CATS Parking Garage at University City Blvd. Station





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



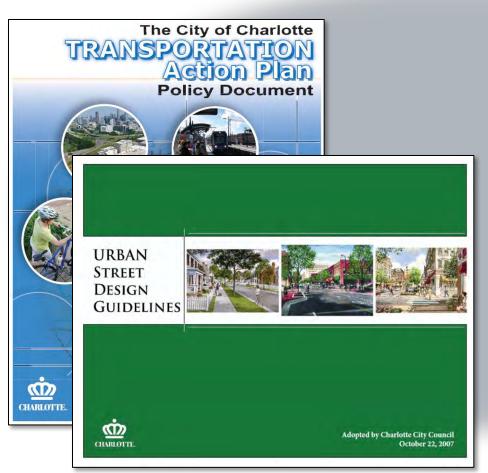
Mobility





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Citywide vision + public input + previous work



"...provide convenient and efficient transportation facilities to improve safety and neighborhood livability, foster economic development, promote transportation choices and meet land use objectives."







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Northeast Corridor Infrastructure Program (NECI)



vcle and o light rail

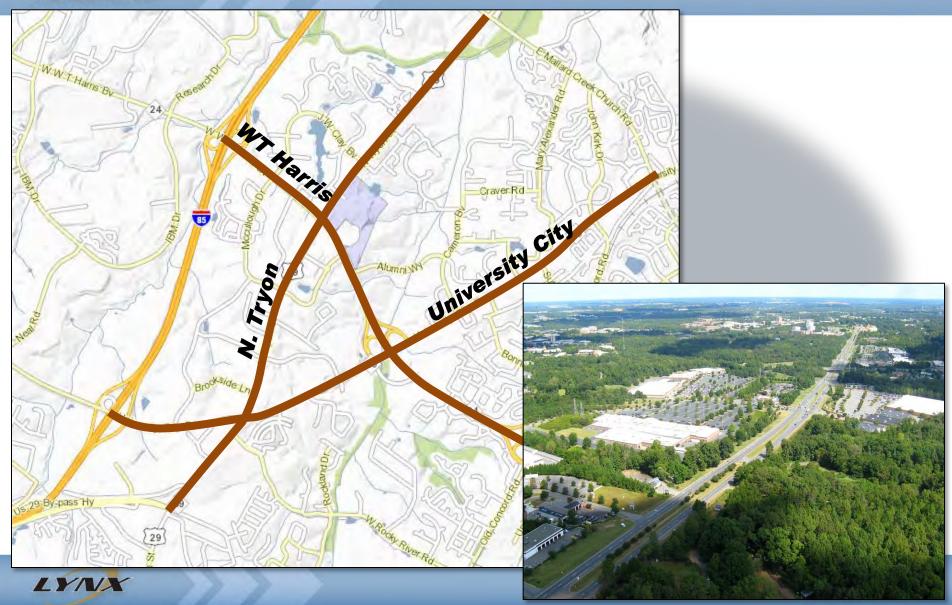
- ✓ Streets
- ✓ Intersections
- ✓ Sidewalks/crosswalks
- ✓ Bicycle facilities
- ✓ Streetscape & public space
- ✓ Storm water
- ✓ Water & sewer

Provide and enco





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



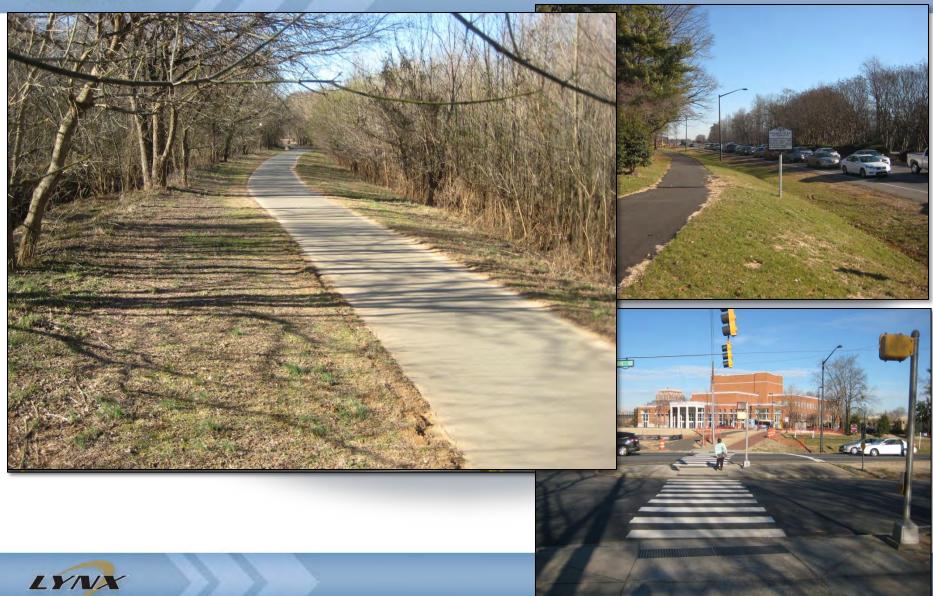


MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor





MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Mobility Plan

- Street Classifications
- Street Cross-Sections
- Transportation Policies





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Pedestrian-Oriented **Street Types**

- Auto Oriented

Main Street Avenue Boulevard Parkway

Local Street

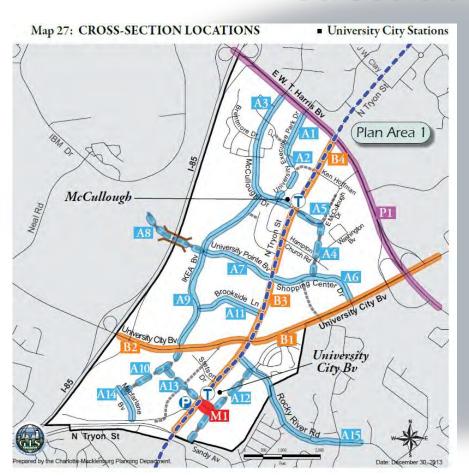


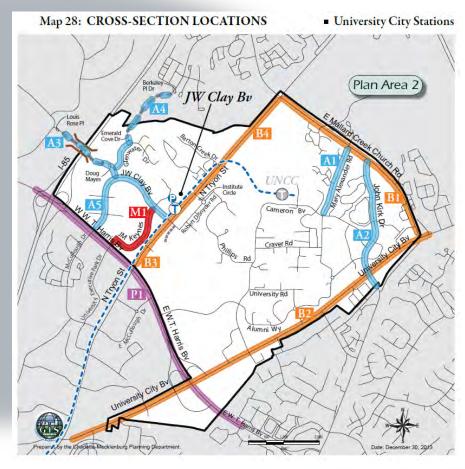




Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Street Classifications



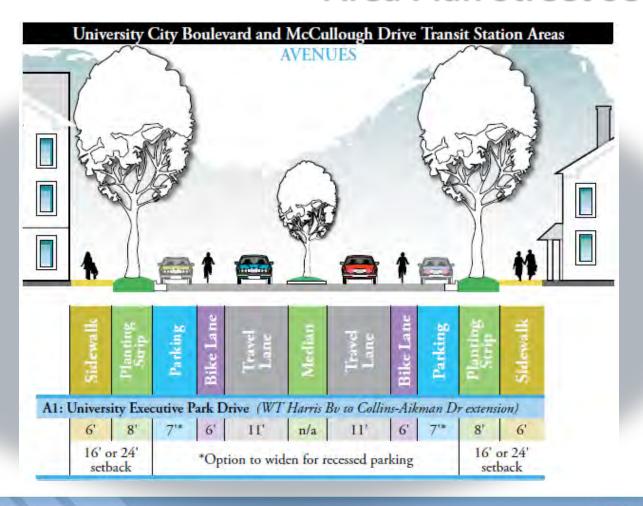






Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Area Plan Street Sections

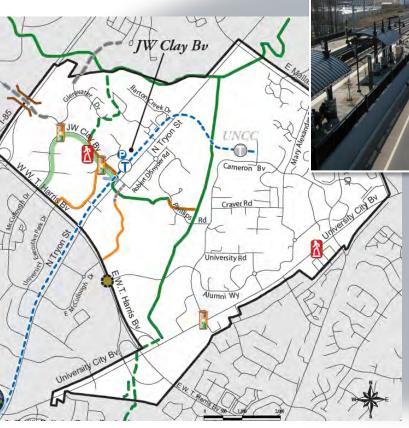






Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Area Plan Policies





New Streets



Bike Lanes



Pedestrian Crossings



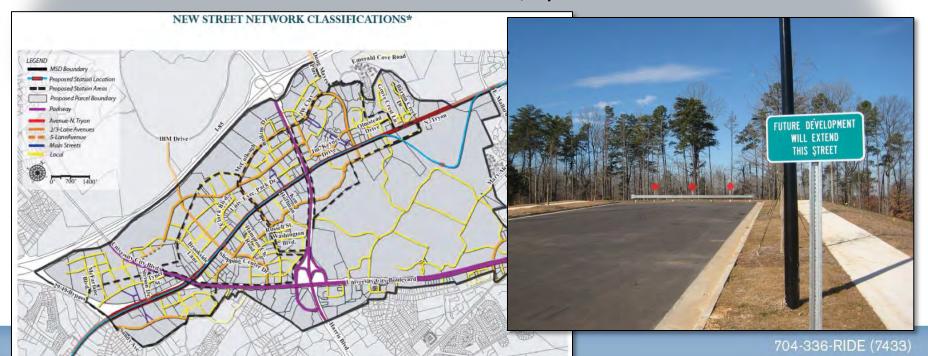


Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

charlottefuture.com

T-1 through T-4: Importance of Connectivity

- Travel choices and route options
- Shorter trip distances
- Reduces need to widen intersections and thoroughfares
- Connected streets make it easier to walk, cycle and use transit





MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor













MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor













Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

2 Activities

- Community Design
- Mobility



Instructions

- Listen to the overview of the proposed concepts and review the maps.
- Discuss any questions with your group facilitator.

Notes

 You are encouraged to talk to your neighbors about your comments.

Time

30 Minutes.





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Recap: Transportation University City Blvd/McCullough

- Tie library to light rail
- Connections will be useful
- How do I get from light rail station to X

Recap: Transportation JW Clay

 Connectivity needed from hospital to UNC campus

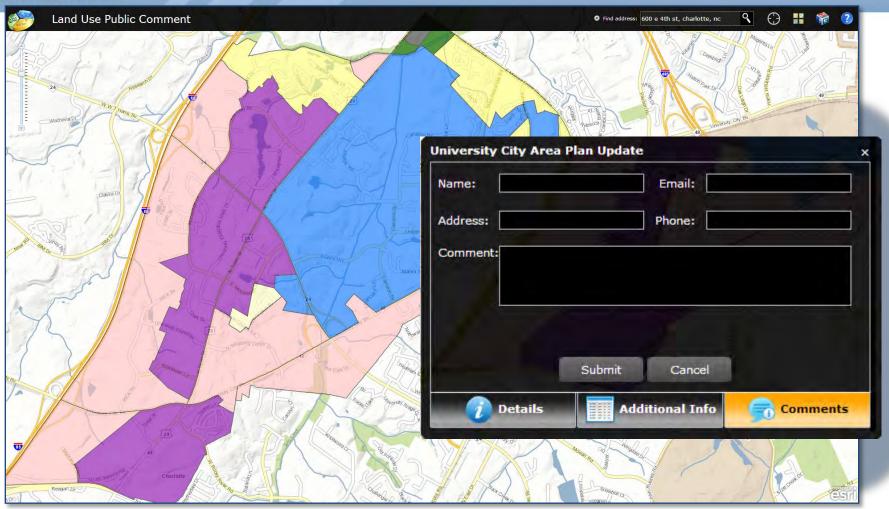
Recap: Community Design

- Green parking lot designs
- More parks in the University City area
- Incentivize redevelopment of abandoned
- Façade materials
- Need major landmark at N. Tryon and WT Harris
- Needs to be ground floor retail on parking decks on public streets





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor



Land Use Public Comment Tool: http://UCAP.charlotteplanning.org





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

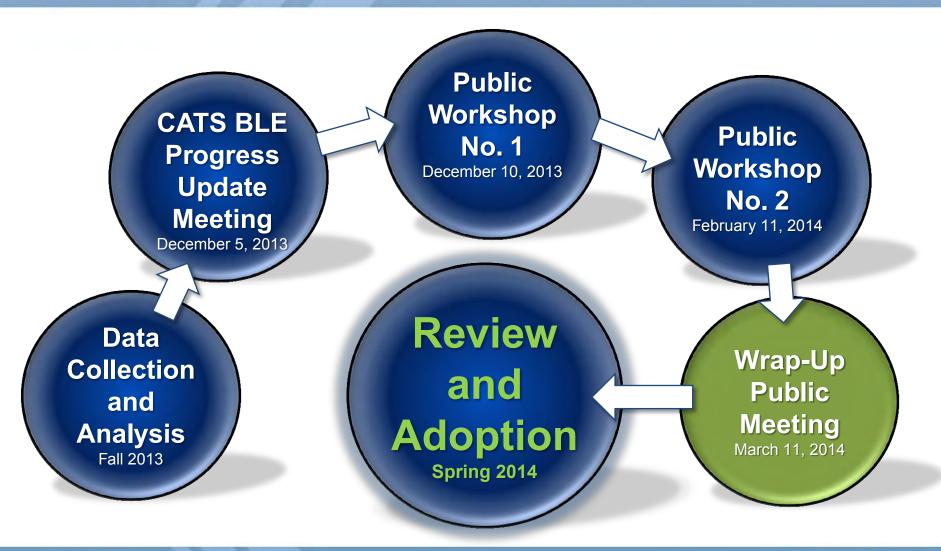


Next Steps





Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor







MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor







Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Thank You!

Website: http://UCAP.charlotteplanning.org

Email: <u>bluelineextension@charlottenc.gov</u>

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Facebook.com/CATSBlueLineExtensionUpdates





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Harris Blvd Area



