



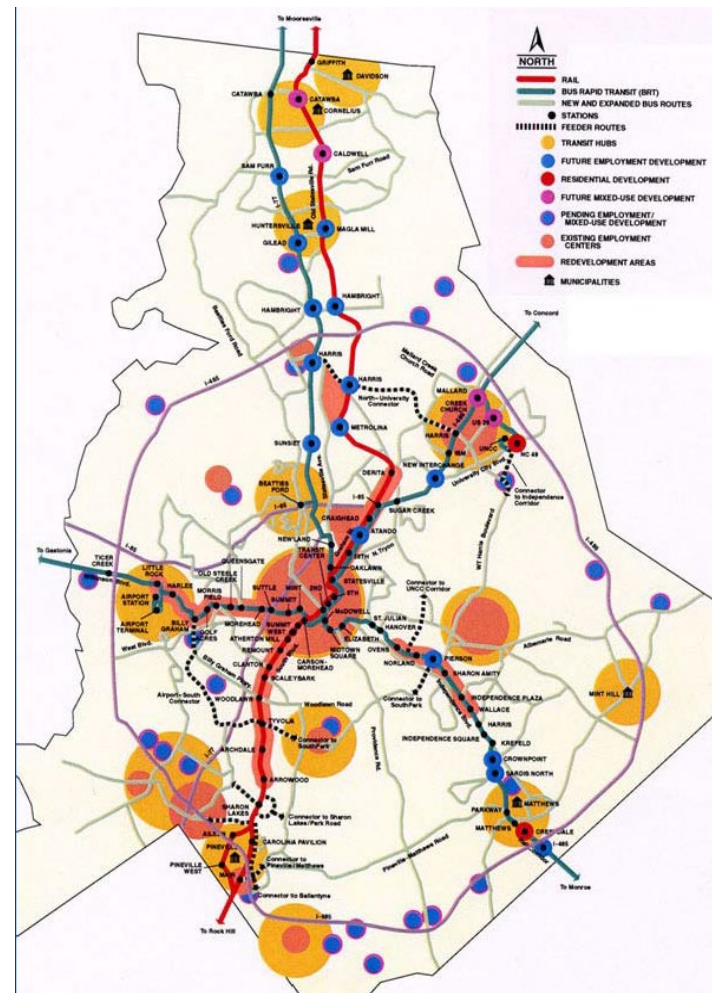
LYNX SYSTEM UPDATE

Planning Commission

March 4, 2019



- Vision for a long-term growth management strategy
- Integrates rapid transit and mixed-used development along 5 transportation corridors
- Expands transit system to serve between the rapid transit corridors
- Provide more transportation choices to meet mobility needs
- Support sustainable growth for region
- Updated in 2006
2030 Transit System Plan



BUS RAPID TRANSIT



- Intended for a variety of trips from regional to local
- Operates in a variety of ROW scenarios
- Service throughout the day and on weekends

STREETCAR



- Intended for short-distance trips in urban areas
- Typically operates in mixed traffic
- Service throughout the day and on weekends

LIGHT RAIL



- Intended for a variety of trips from regional to local
- Typically operates in dedicated ROW
- Service throughout the day and on weekends

COMMUTER RAIL

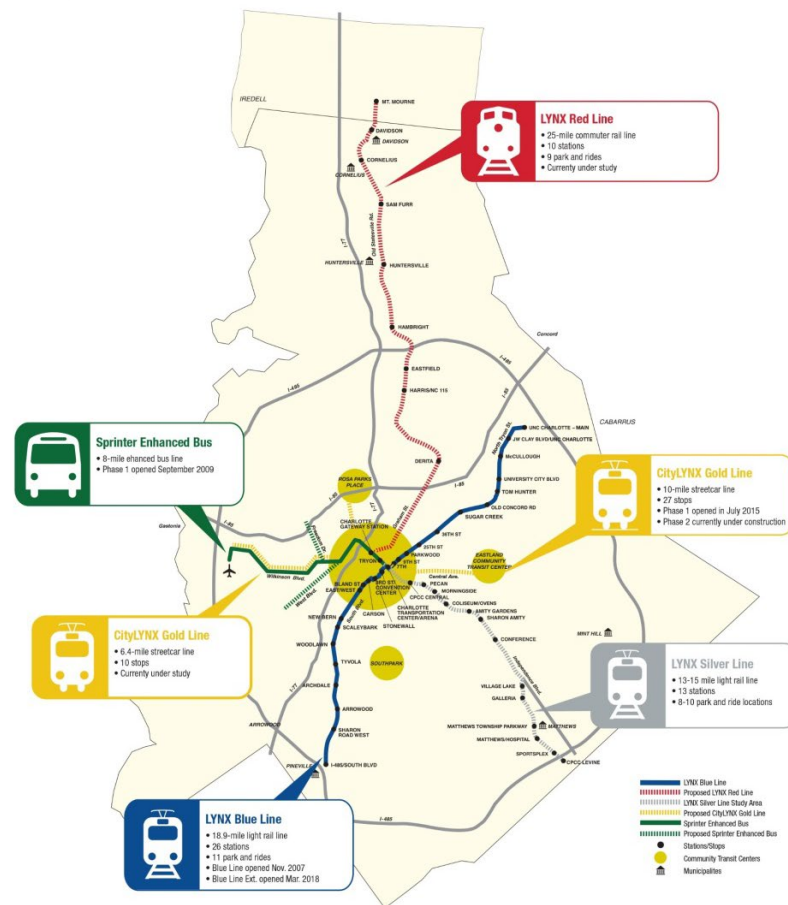


- Intended for longer-distance commute trips from suburbs into a central city
- Operates in dedicated ROW
- Service during peak hours of travel M-F

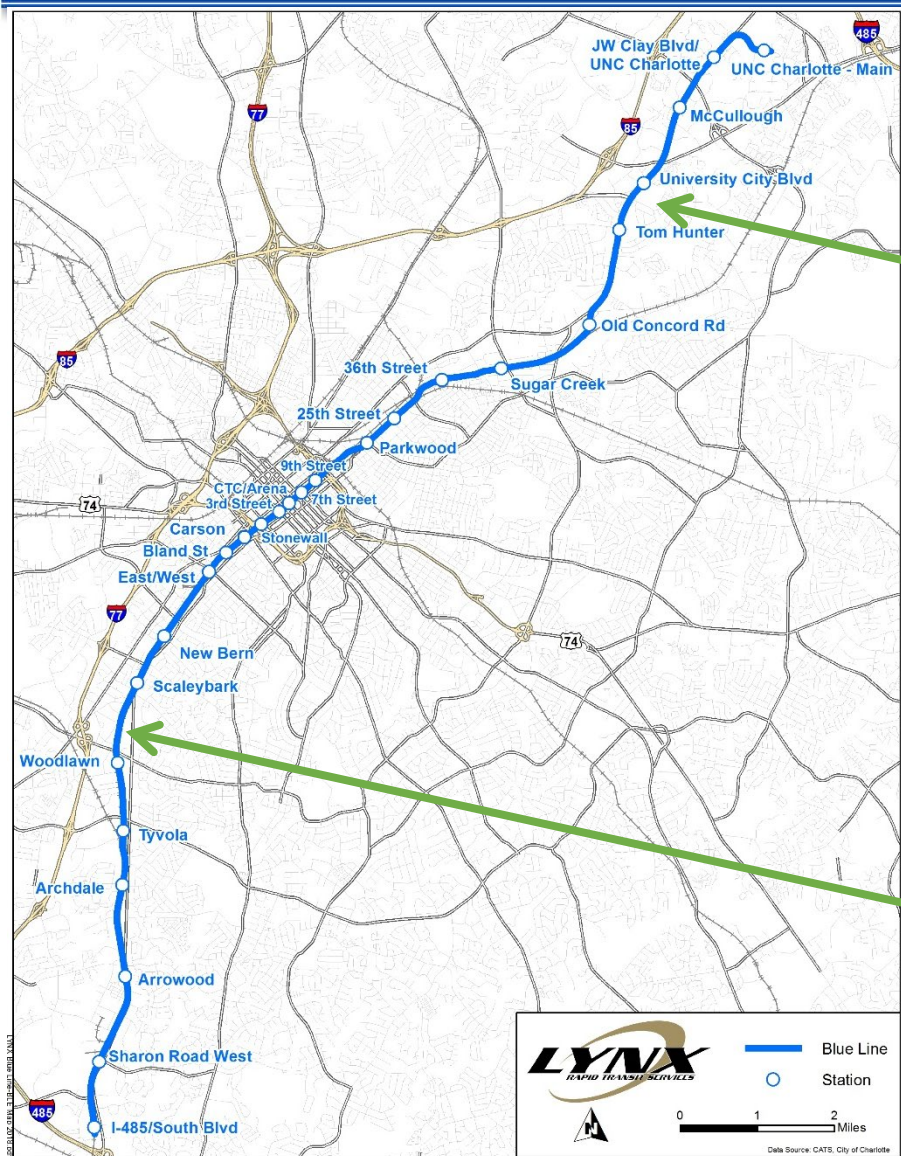
- 2002—2025 Transit System Plan
 - Streetcar Beatties to Central Ave
 - BRT SE/W...continue to study LRT
 - LRT Northeast Corridor
 - CRT North Corridor
- 2006—2030 Transit System Plan
 - Streetcar Central/Beatties confirmed
 - Streetcar New West LPA
 - BRT SE...continue to study LRT
 - LRT Northeast advanced
 - CRT North Corridor alternative funding
- 2007-LYNX Blue Line opens
- 2009-Sprinter Airport Enhanced Bus
- 2015-CityLYNX Gold Line Phase 1 opens
- 2016-LYNX Silver Line LRT LPA adopted
- 2017-LYNX System update
- 2018-LYNX Blue Line Extension Opens
- 2019 Charlotte Gateway RFQ
- 2019 MTC Updates System Plan

Answer...A Lot

LYNX SYSTEM MAP



04/18



2018

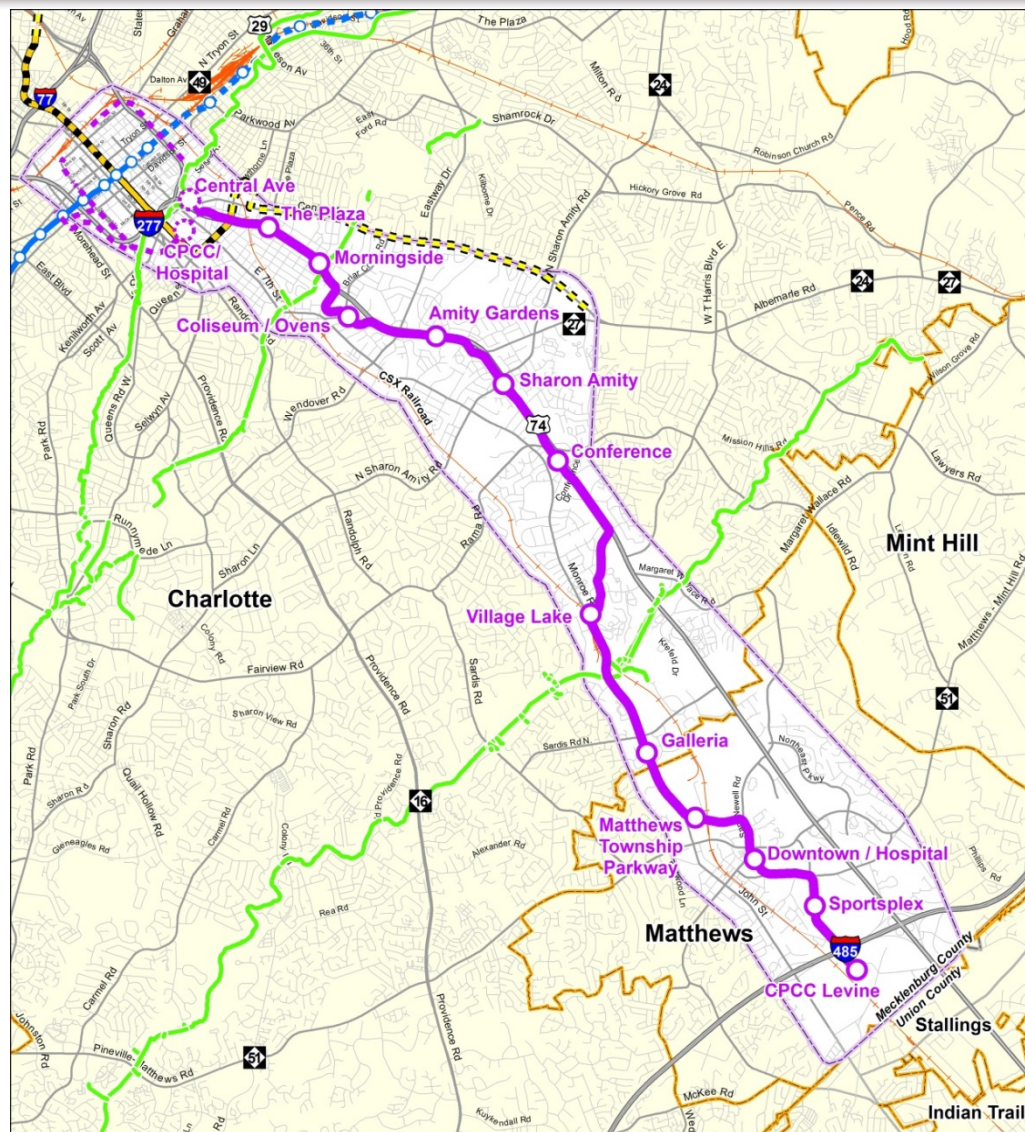


2007



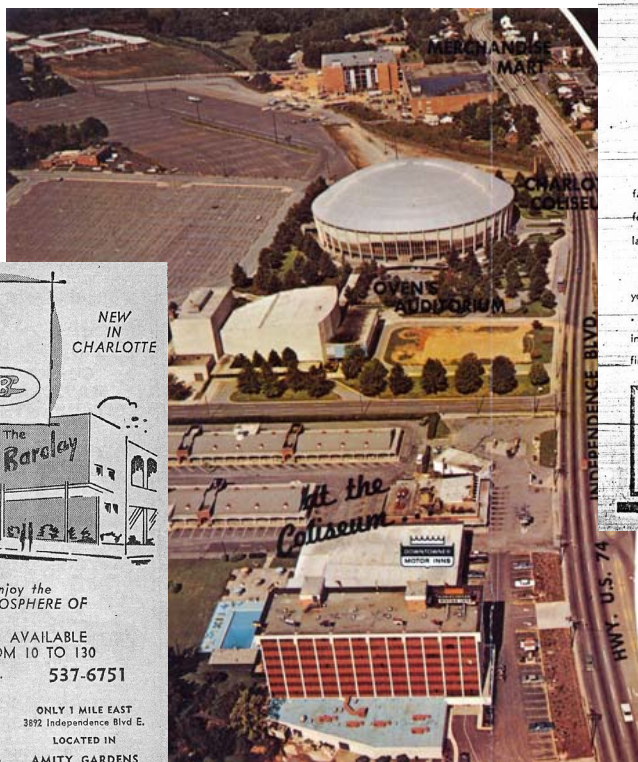


- MTC approved recommendation of light rail LPA in November 2016
- 13-15 miles long
- 13 stations with 8-10 park and ride locations
- Identified possible extensions to the West
- Center City alignments to be considered as part of LYNX System Update.

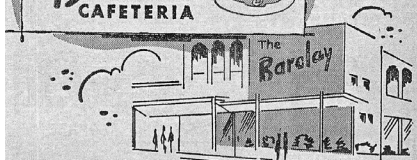


Independence Boulevard

- Originally constructed in 1950 the roadway was North Carolina's first urban expressway.
- Suburban communities quickly developed along the spine.
- Commercial strip retail and entertainment facilities quickly developed.



THE Barclay CAFETERIA NEW IN CHARLOTTE



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Ervin Construction Company welcomes two new members to the fast expanding Amity Gardens "One-Stop" Shopping Center . . . Cato's, featuring the latest fashions for women and girls and Econ-O-Wash laundrette. Both firms are having their Grand Openings today!

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"THE FAMILY SHOPPING CENTER"

Many new additions are planned for this popular shopping center. For further information, contact . . .

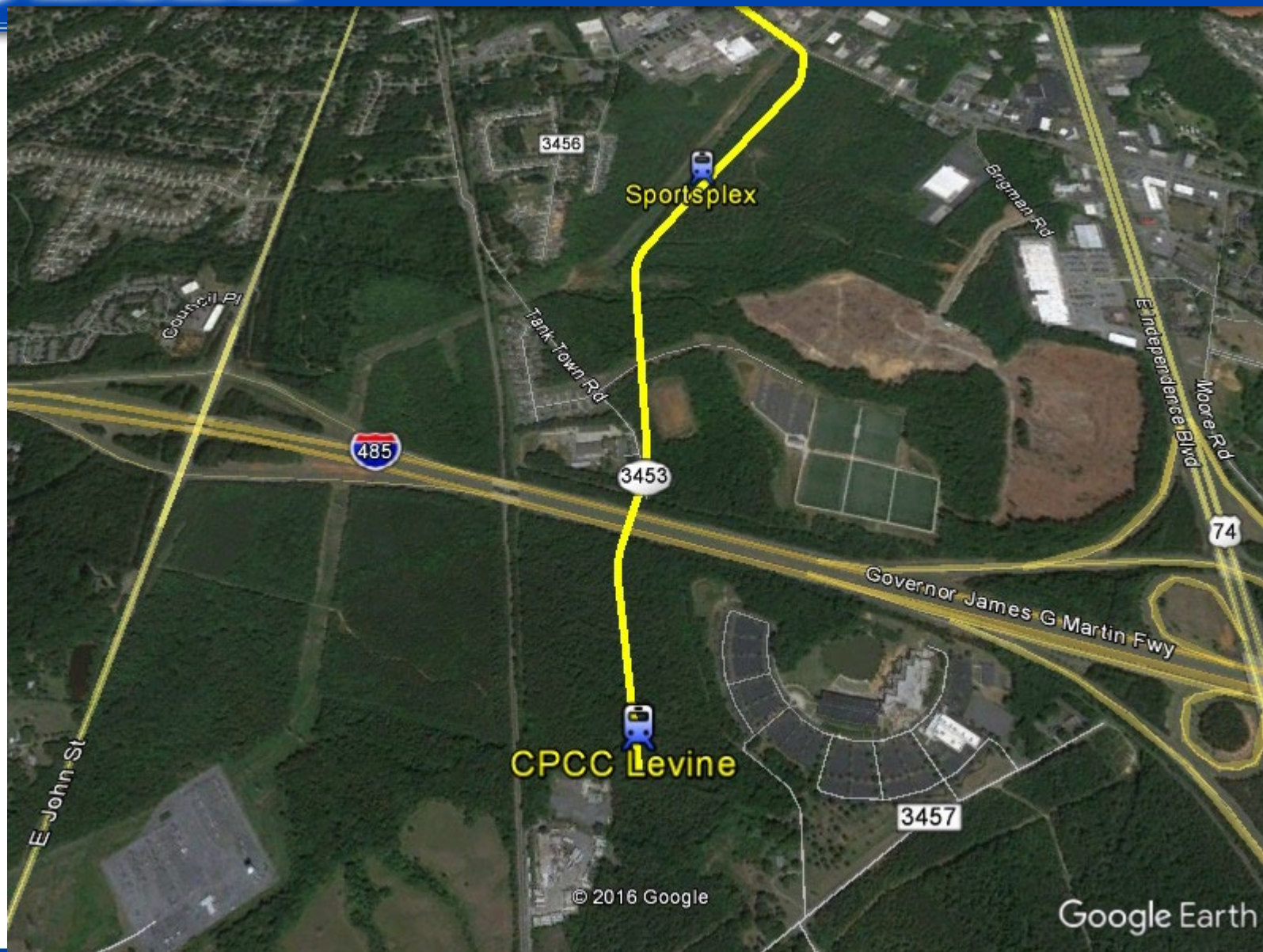
NOW OPEN:	STORES TO OPEN SOON:	FUTURE ADDITIONS:
CATO'S	AMITY CLEANERS	DOCTOR'S CLINIC
ECON-O-WASH	HERIT FAMILY SHOE STORE	DRUG STORE
WINN-DIXIE	GIFT SHOP	BEAUTY SHOP
WOOLWORTH'S		HOME FURNISHING CENTER
A.B.C.		
BARBER SHOP		



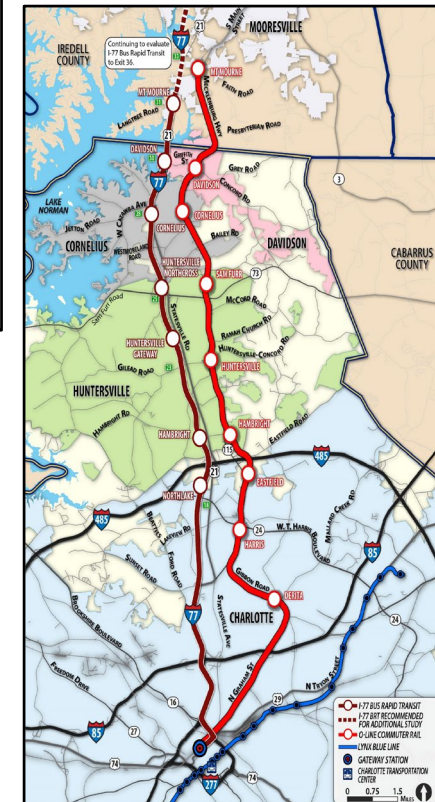
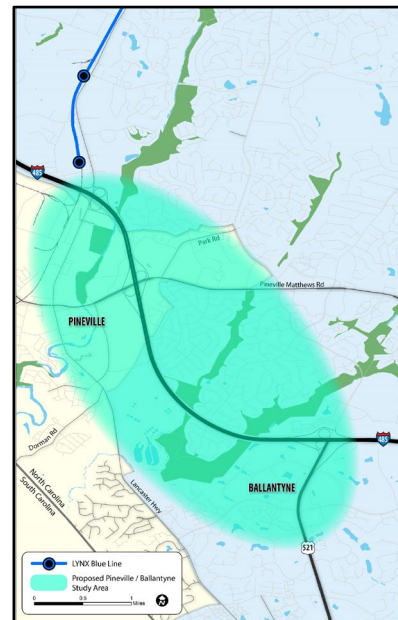
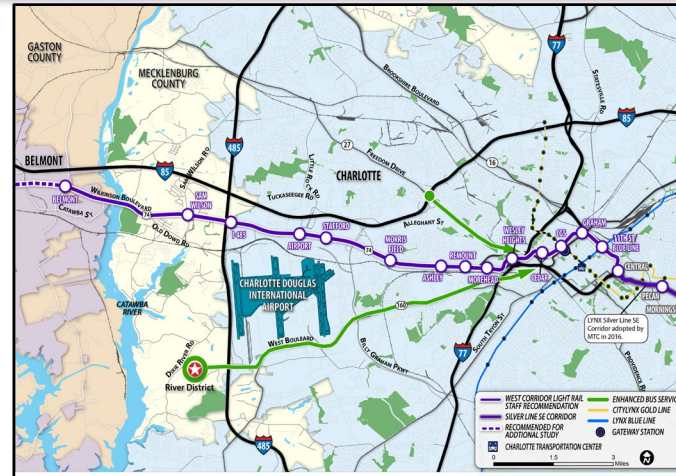
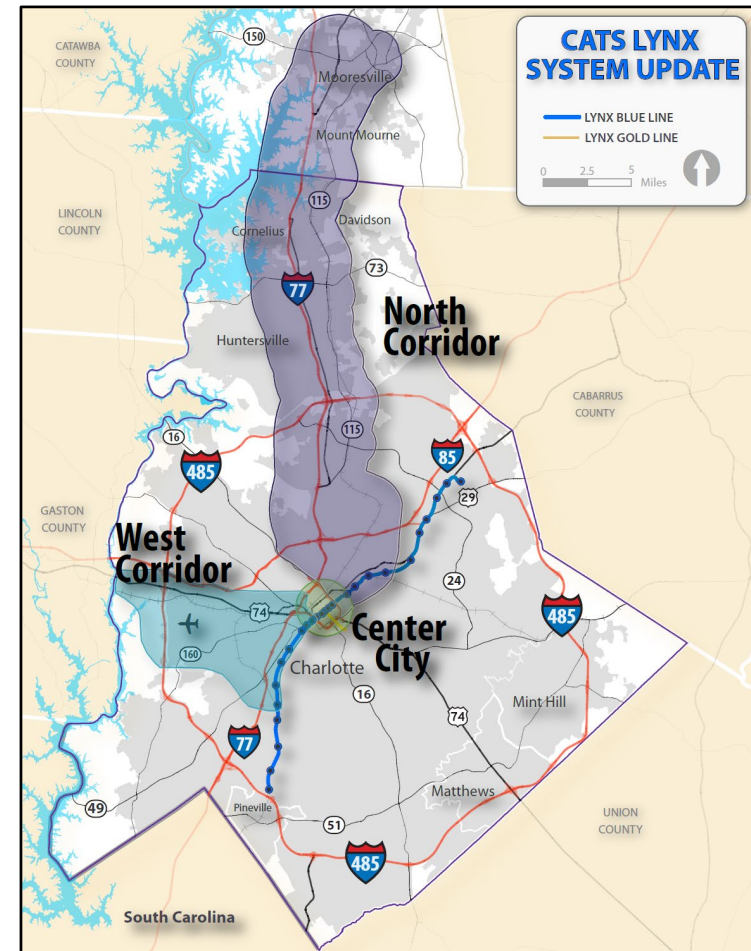
Independence Boulevard

The conversion of Independence Boulevard from a commercial arterial into a limited-access expressway has changed the character of the surrounding land uses



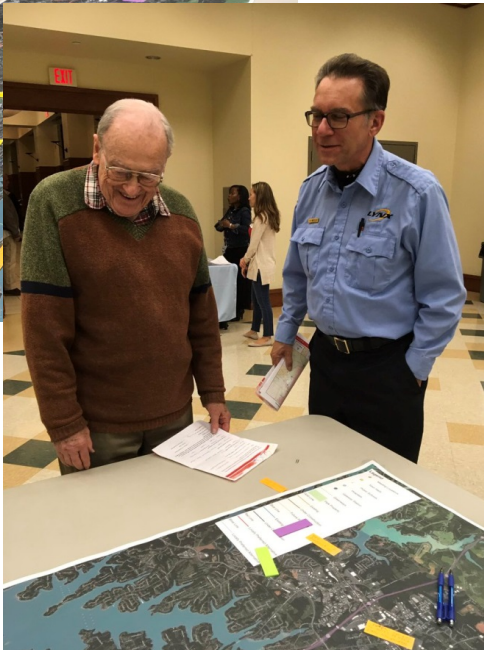


CATS Presented the LYNX System Update Staff Recommendations as an information item at the January 23, 2019 Metropolitan Transit Commission Meeting



19 Public Workshops

600+ Attendees at
Public Workshops



Cornelius Town Hall
October 17, 2017



19 Public Workshops

600+ Attendees at
Public Workshops

Gaston College, Belmont
August 21, 2018







Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) was live.

August 9 at 3:15 PM · 🌐

LYNX Red Line public meeting is underway this evening at Charles Mack Citizen Center in Mooresville. We will be here until 7:30 discussing future transit options. Can't stop by? Watch the public meeting LIVE now and comment with your questions!

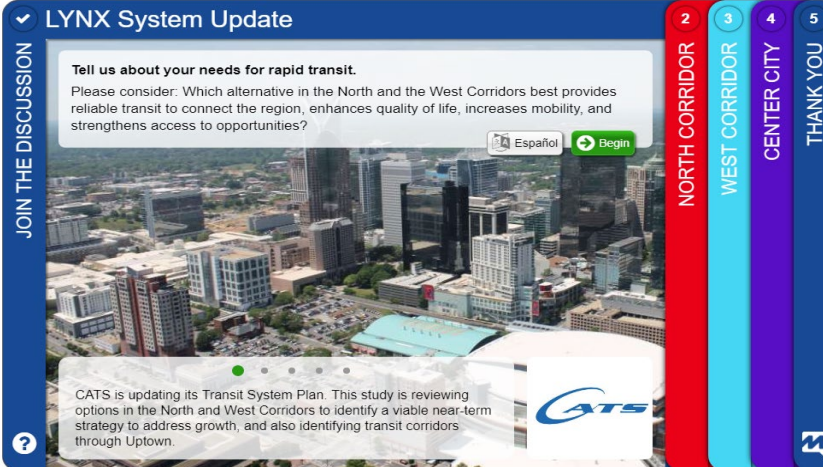


3,200+ Survey Participants

2,800+ Facebook Live Public Workshop Video Views

CATS LYNX System Update

Progress



70

Stakeholder, Civic
Organization, and
Neighborhood Meetings



2,000 + Engaged



Establish **reliable transit** to connect the region, enhance quality of life, and strengthen access to opportunities



Use transit to **influence and shape growth** while respecting community character



Increase mobility in each corridor through effective transit investments

Short Term

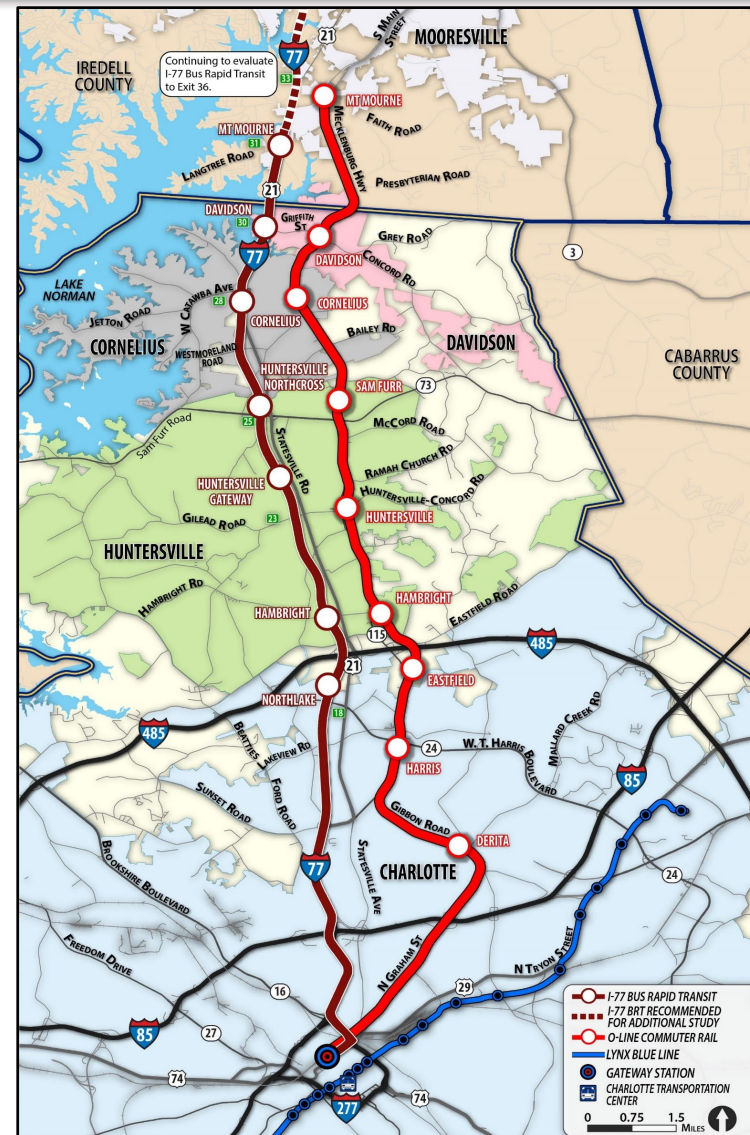
- Village Rider and Express bus stop amenity improvements
- Continued express lane bus service improvements as recommended in the North Corridor Mobility Study and Envision My Ride

Medium Term

- Implementation of an I-77 Bus Rapid Transit service from Charlotte Gateway Station to Mooresville to include:
 - All day service including nights and weekends
 - Four new park and rides and two new express lane direct connects
 - Integrated BRT stations into mixed use developments that also incorporate emerging mobility technologies for first/last mile.

Long Term

- Continue dialogue with Norfolk Southern on use of the "O" Line corridor for a Rapid Transit project



Flatiron Flyer BRT on US 36 in Colorado Denver to Boulder



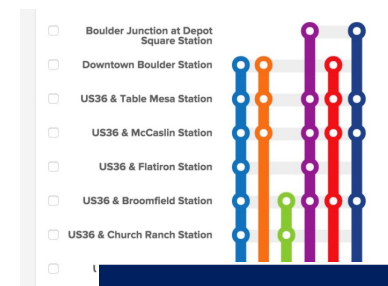
- 6 stations
- 6 routes
 - Some express
 - Some serve all stations
 - Some stop on-street in Boulder and downtown Denver
- Frequent peak service
- Off-peak service all day, nights, and weekends
- Branded coach buses



Use of express lanes

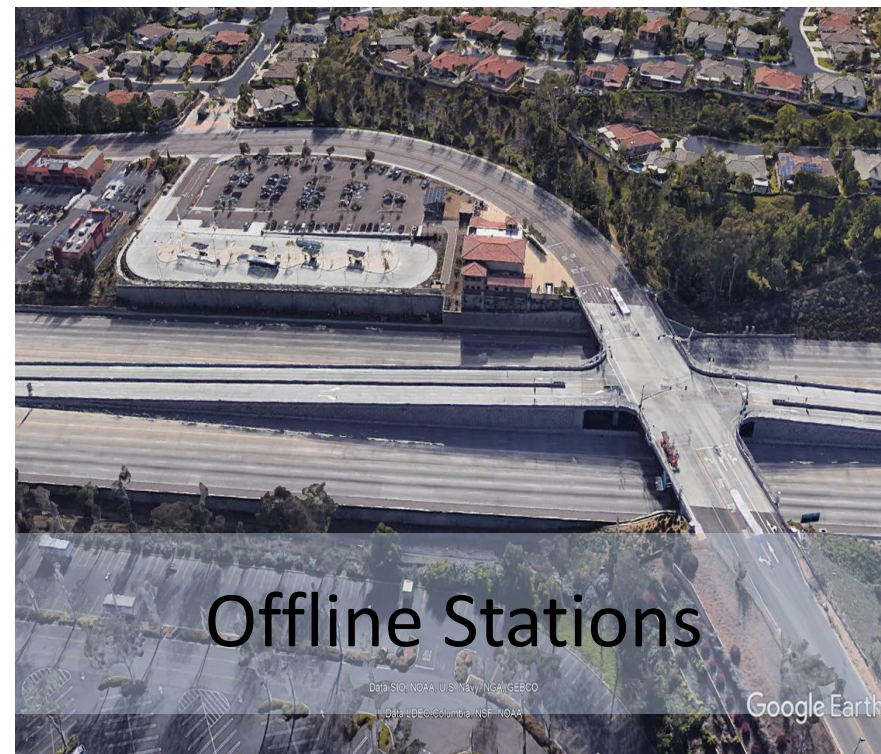
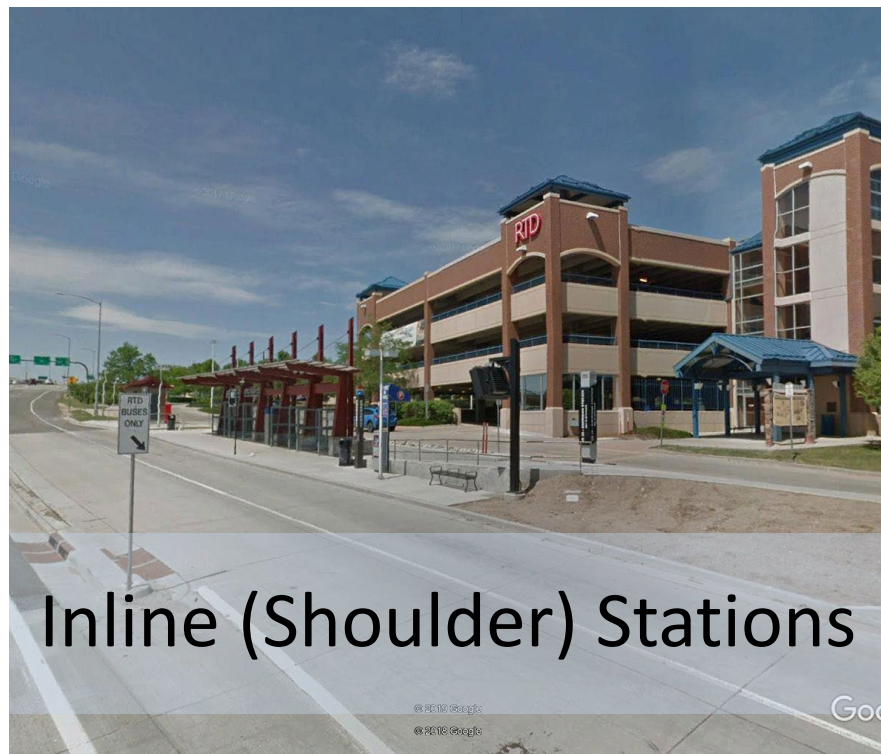


Stations functioning as local mobility and development hubs

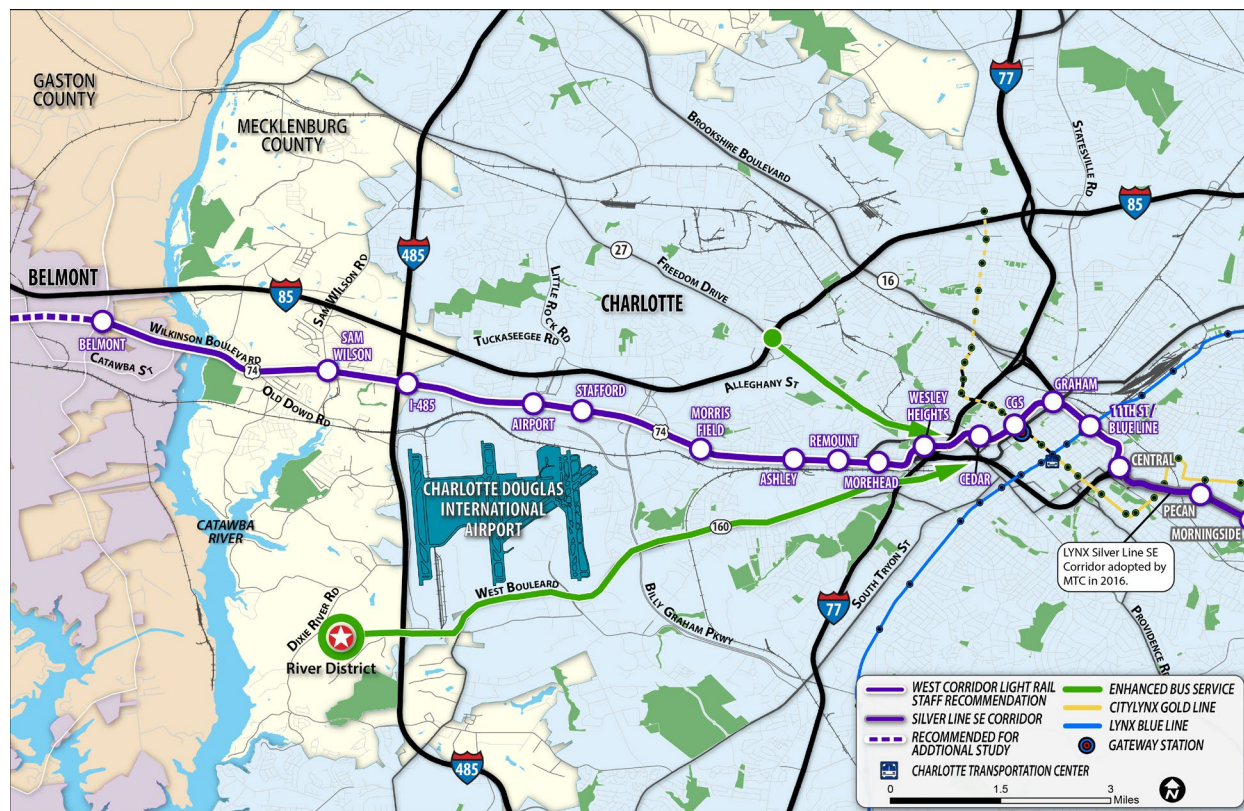


Robust service plan

I-77 BRT – Types of Stations



- Light rail replace streetcar as the West Corridor Transit Mode.
- Wilkinson Blvd as the light rail alignment including planning for rail trail
- West Corridor be included in the LYNX Silver Line project
- Extend light rail across the Catawba River to the City of Belmont
- As part of the Regional Transit Study, evaluate light rail to downtown Gastonia
- Implement enhanced bus services and bus stop capital improvements along West Blvd and Freedom Drive





STONEWALL STREET in 2015



STONEWALL STREET in 2018

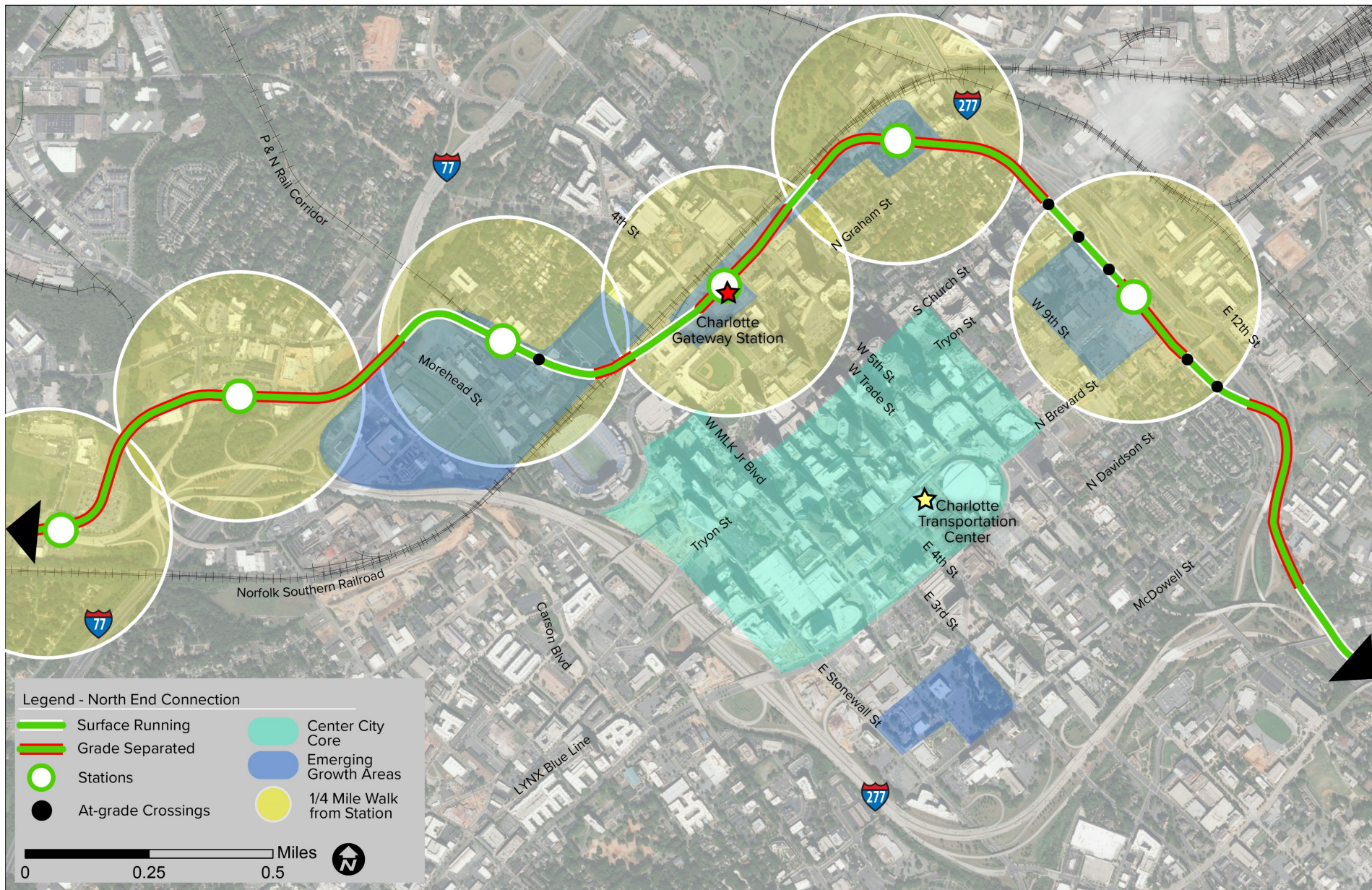
Time is of the essence for selecting a preferred Center City transit approach.

CATS cannot advance its System Plan without certainty on how all the transit pieces fit together.

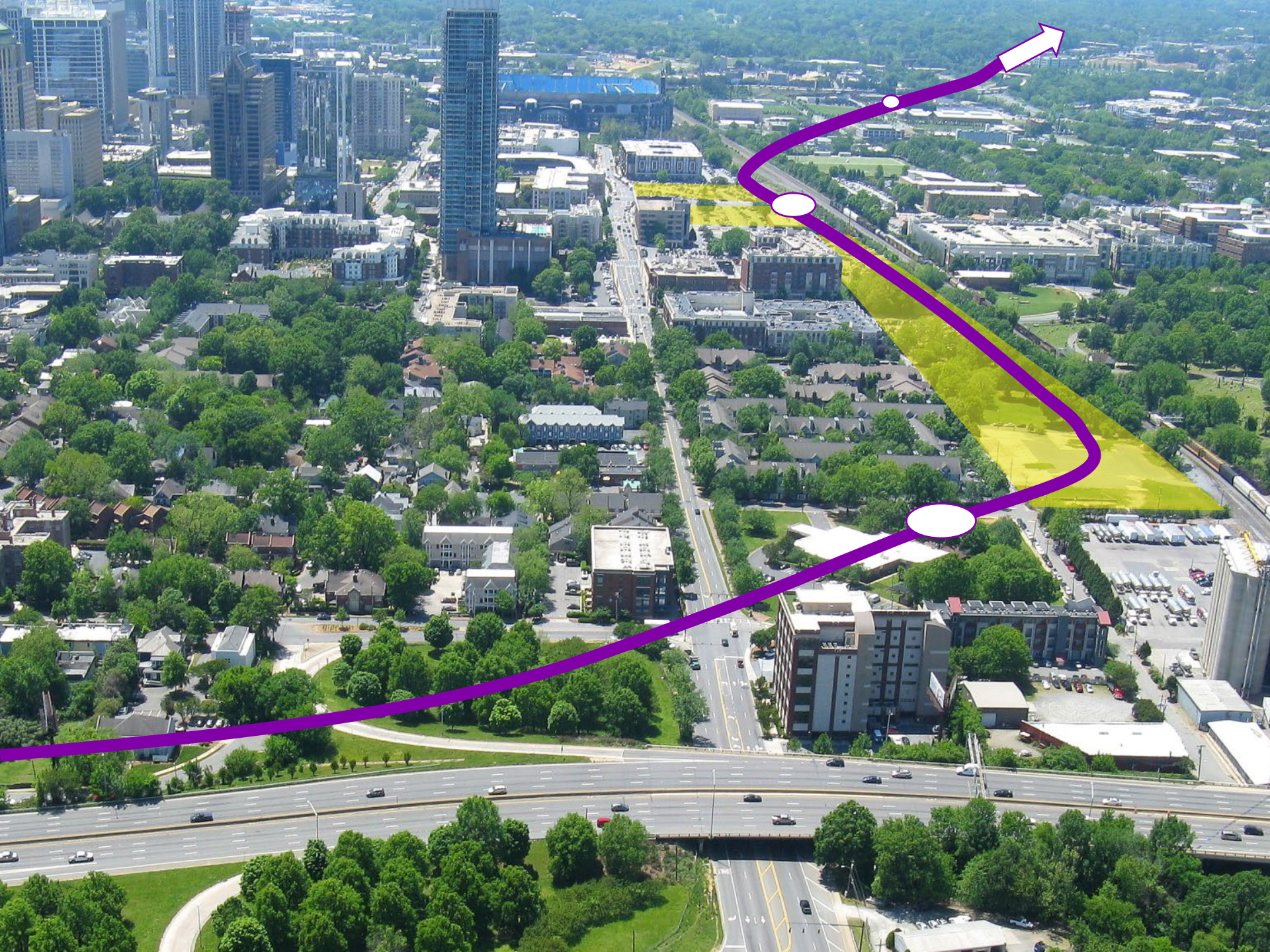
Finding an approach will only get more difficult as Center City continues to develop.

CATS Center City Silver Line

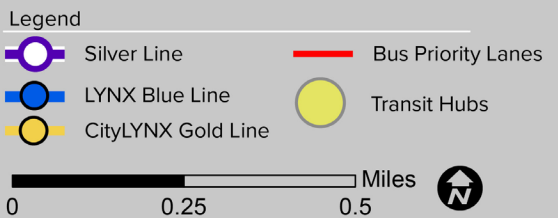
Staff Recommendation

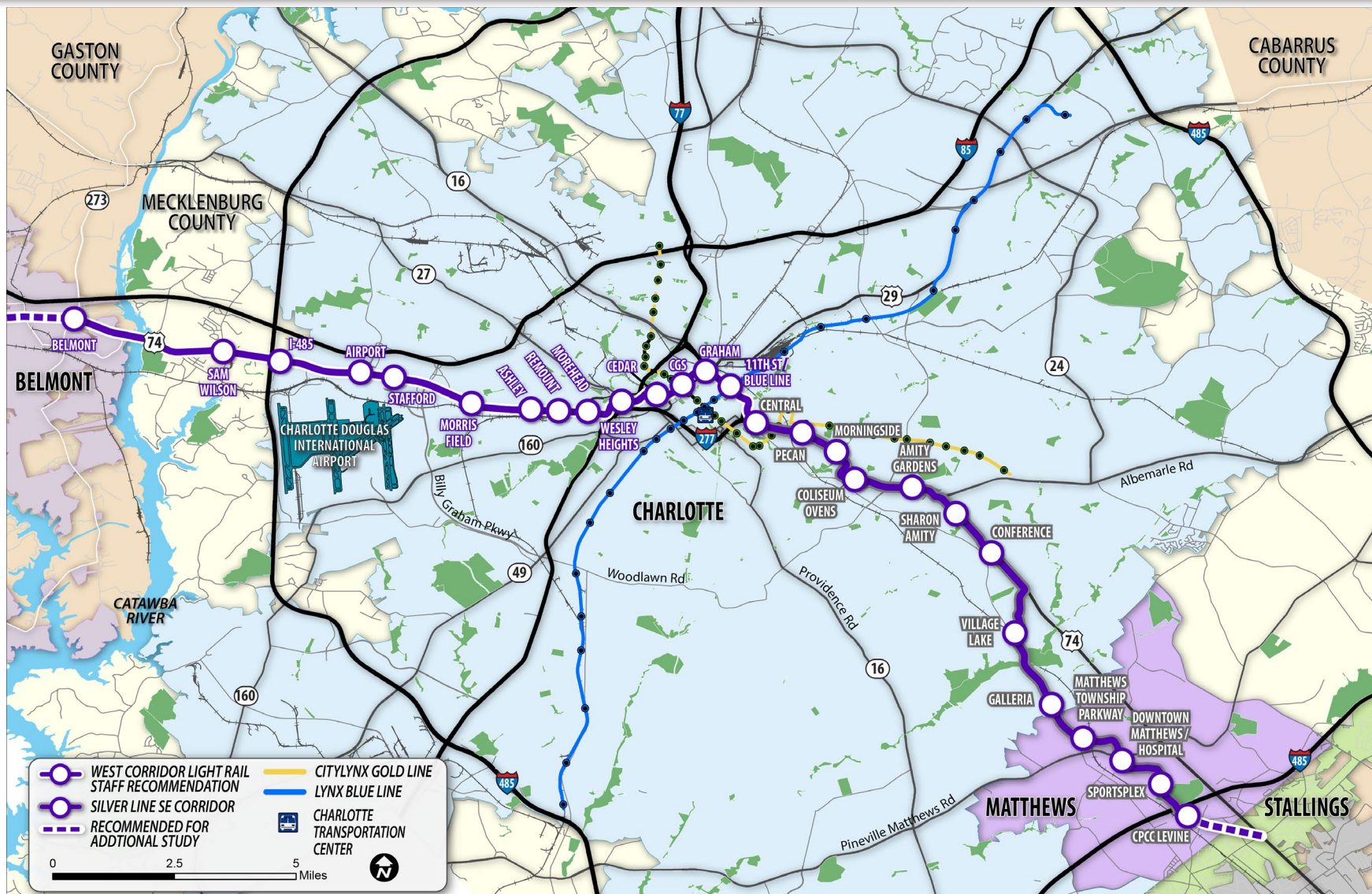






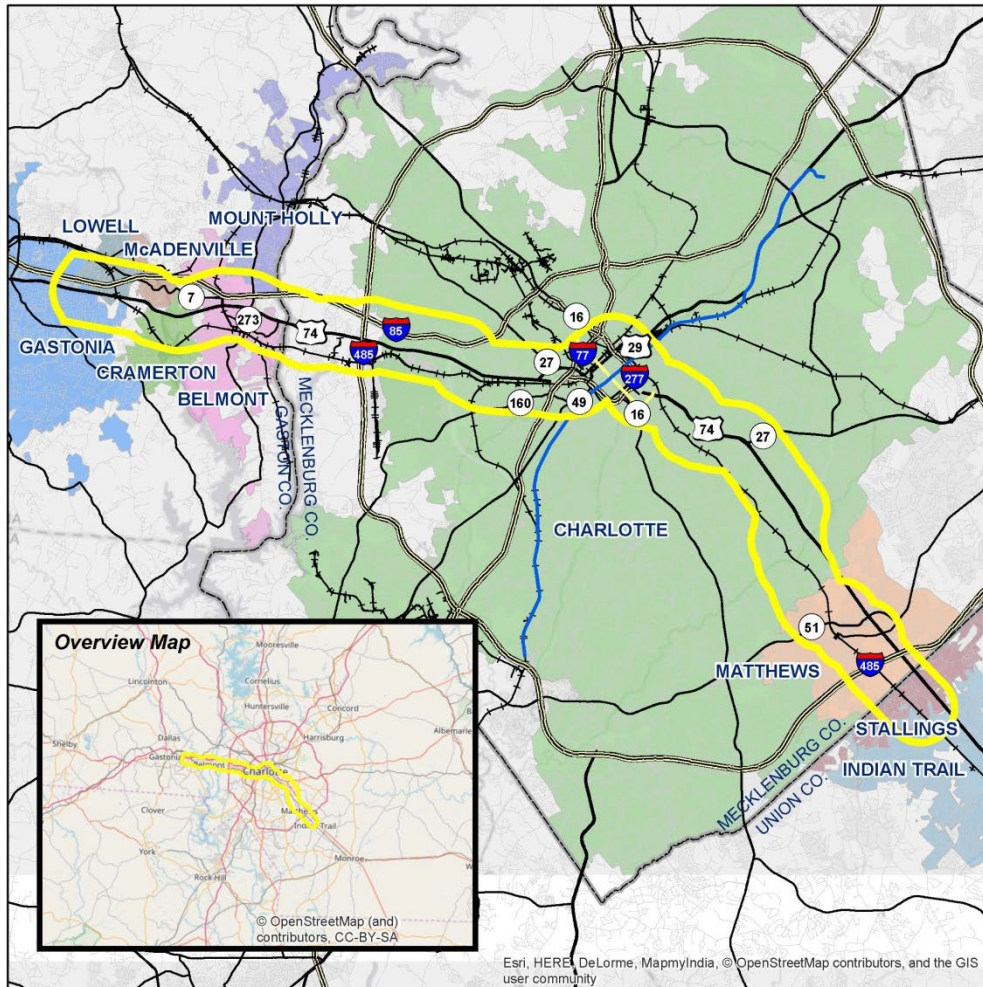






CATS in partnership with Charlotte Planning, Design + Development Department, City of Gastonia, City of Belmont, Town of Matthews, Town of Stallings, and Town of Indian Trail were awarded a planning grant for TOD planning from the Federal Transit Administration.

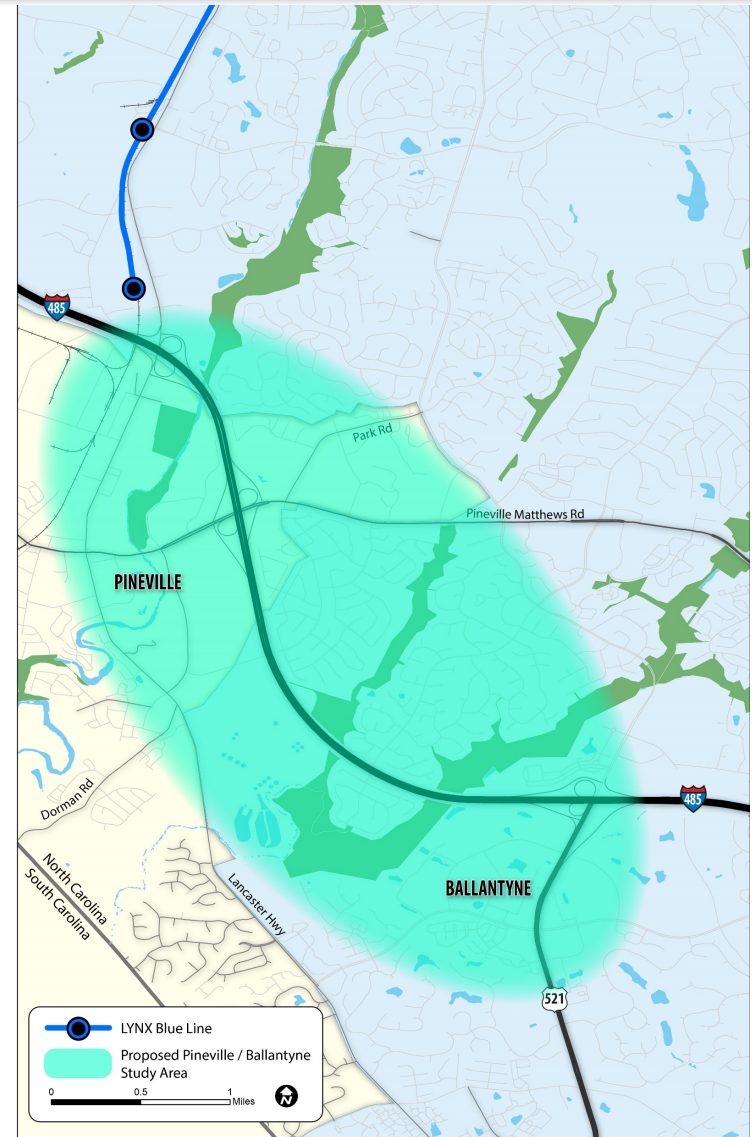
Silver Line Study Area



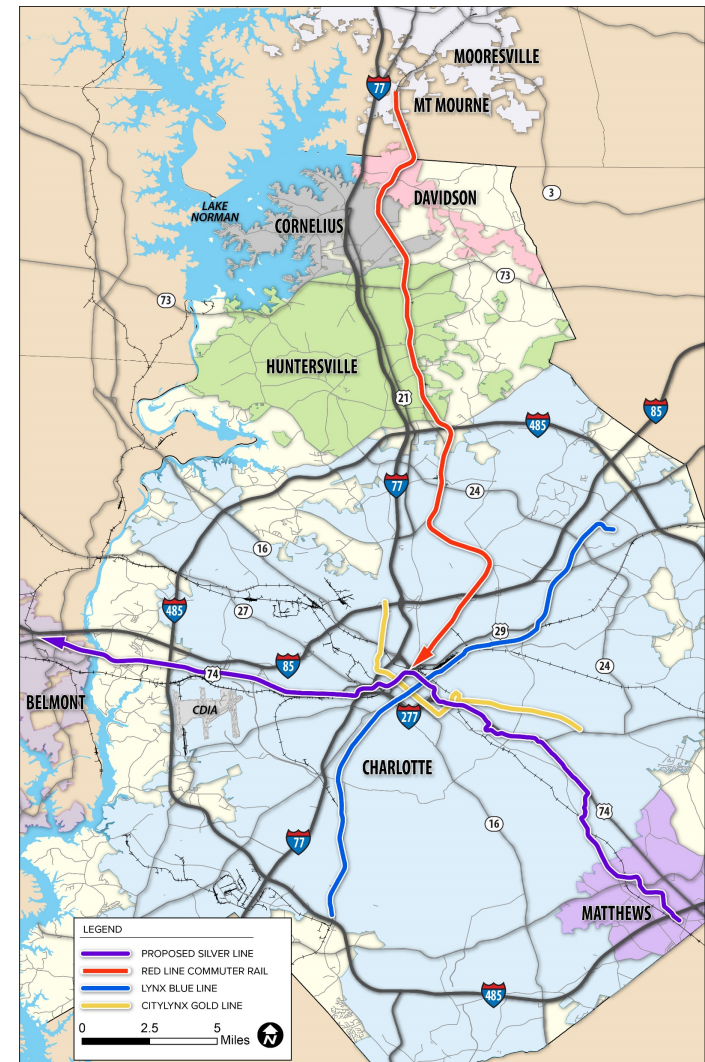
Specific outcomes of this work will include:

- Determining future land use around stations
- Identifying supporting infrastructure
- Advance actions for corridor preservation and affordable housing
- Identifying innovative economic development and financing strategies

- During the LYNX System Update and the Regional Transit Engagement Series there was significant interest in rapid transit to Pineville and Ballantyne
- CATS recommends continuing the LYNX System Update study to evaluate rapid transit options including a light rail extension to the Town of Pineville and the community of Ballantyne



- Provides additional transportation choice
- Provides access to economic opportunities
- Must be coordinated with affordable housing goals
- Creates a framework for growth
- Increases regional economic competitiveness





LYNX SYSTEM UPDATE

Staff Recommendations

Questions?

