

**PRESS RELEASE**July 8, 2019

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**Chapel Hill Transit Invites Public to Weigh In on North-South Bus Rapid Transit Station Design and Land Development**

**Chapel Hill, N.C. –** Chapel Hill Transit is inviting the community to attend a series of events to kick off the station design and land use development plan for its North-South Bus Rapid Transit project. The N-S BRT will combine high-capacity buses with exclusive bus lanes, traffic signal priority and level boarding to improve mobility in the corridor.

“The N-S BRT will feature improved transit access along Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., expand pedestrian and bike paths and influence and support the Town and our funding partners’ commitments to sustainable transportation and responsible land use development,” said Matt Cecil, Chapel Hill Transit’s transit development manager.

Station design and land use development around the stations will be the focus of the weekend events, which will kick off on Friday, July 12 with a Town Council workshop led by project team partners AECOM and Dover Kohl. The workshop will be followed by a series of community visioning events, open houses and focus groups with community and business leaders. View the calendar [here](https://nsbrt.org/get-involved/public-meetings/).

On Saturday, July 13, Chapel Hill Transit, AECOM and Dover Kohl will host a community visioning event that will feature interactive stations that will allow attendees to provide ideas for land and station development. The events are the latest in what has been a year-long public engagement program.

“The community’s input in the design of the N-S BRT is critical to its success,” said Cecil, “Over the past several year, we have solicited and received input on the location of the dedicated bus lanes and bus stations and on the expansion of dedicated bicycle and pedestrian lanes. We now want to hear from the public and community leaders as we turn our focus to station design and related land use.”

Development along the N-S BRT will complement the Town’s current land use initiative *Charting our Future.*

“To ensure we meet the goals of the Town’s land use initiative, we have invited Dover Kohl to use its “designing in public” approach to engage the Town Council members, the community and business and community leaders as we move through this process,” said Cecil.

On Monday, July 15, Dover Kohl will present drawings and findings based on input received from the workshops, visioning sessions and focus groups to the Chapel Hill Town Council and its transit partners, the Town of Carrboroand the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill.

The designs will inform the land use plans the Town considers for the areas around the stations. The presentation will be made in the Town Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m.

**Events Schedule
Friday July 12th
Event 1:** Chapel Hill Town Council Work Session
**Time:** 9 a.m.
**Location:**
Council Chambers Town of Chapel Hill Town Hall
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-5705
**Event 2:** Public Q&A/Open House; Focus Groups **Time:** 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
**Location:** The Franklin Hotel
311 W Franklin St,
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

**Saturday July 13th
Event 1:** Community Visioning Session
**Time:** 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
**Event 2:** Public Q&A/Open House; Focus Groups **Time:** 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
**Location:** The Franklin Hotel (Both events)
311 W Franklin St,
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

**Sunday July 14th
Event:** Public Q&A/Open House; Focus Groups **Time:** 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
**Location:** The Franklin Hotel
311 W Franklin St,
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

**Monday July 15th**
**Event:** Presentation to Chapel Hill Town Council
**Time:** 5:30 – 7 p.m.
**Location:** Council Chambers Town of Chapel Hill Town Hall
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-5705

Attendees unable to attend the events can learn more about the project at nsbrt.org.

**About N-S BRT**

Chapel Hill Transit’s N-S BRT will be one of the first BRT systems in the state and will improve transit access along one of the Town’s busiest corridors, expand pedestrian and bike paths and influence and support the Town’s commitment to responsible land use development.

The N-S BRT will combine high-capacity buses with exclusive bus lanes, traffic signal priority and level boarding to improve the customer experience. Additional highlights of N-S BRT include:

* + BRT-only lanes, fewer stops and BRT priority at traffic lights will combine to provide customers with faster transportation along the corridor.
	+ More frequent and reliable service than current routes along the corridor. Service will begin earlier and end later, 7 days a week.
	+ BRT-only, curbside lanes along much of the route will separate buses from cars
	+ Traffic signal priority will move traffic more efficiently along the corridor.
	+ Multi-use paths will provide dedicated space for cyclists and pedestrians along more than 80 percent of the route.

Additional information about N-S BRT and the project team can be found at:

[**N-S BRT**](https://nsbrt.org/)[**AECOM**](https://www.aecom.com/)
[**Dover Kohl**](https://doverkohl.com)
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