

BLE PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Blue Line Extension project team will hold public meetings to inform the community on progress of the light rail extension, answer questions, and share the overall vision for the Blue Line Extension alignment.

CATS Bus Operations will also be in attendance to solicit feedback on the Bus Rail Integration proposals for the BLE and other bus operations issues.

Public meetings will be open house forum style. A presentation will be given 15 minutes after start time.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Sugaw Creek Church
101 W. Sugar Creek Road
Charlotte, NC 28213

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12
12:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

No presentation at this meeting.

Charlotte Main Library
300 E. 7th Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

New Hampton Presbyterian Church
211 Hampton Church Road
Charlotte, NC 28262

STAY CONNECTED

CATS has developed tools for you to stay informed about BLE construction updates. We want to hear from you! Your feedback is important to us. Let us know your questions or comments. Here are some ways to make your voice be heard:

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter:



www.facebook.com/CATSBLEExtensionUpdates



[@BLEupdates](https://twitter.com/BLEupdates)

Register to Receive Updates:



www.charlottefuture.com



704.336.RIDE (7433)
www.charlottefuture.com



MOVING CHARLOTTE FORWARD

Blue Line Extension: Northeast Corridor

Summer 2016

MOVING RIGHT ALONG

Few rainy days this summer means more productive working days! The civil contractor has been preparing for final paving along North Tryon Street. Crews are installing subsurface drainage in the median areas, grading the planting strips, installing sidewalks and curbs, paving driveways, and installing permanent traffic signals. As we approach fall, crews will be installing crosswalks at signalized intersections, placing top soil and seeding the planting strips, and continuing work on curbs, sidewalks, and roadway. All of this work leads up to crews paving the final layer of asphalt on North Tryon Street.



Crew paving N Tryon Street near OCR

North Tryon Street will have a new surface layer of asphalt from approximately Old Concord Road to Mallard Creek Church Road. Some areas of existing sound pavement will not be fully demolished; instead just the top layer of asphalt will be removed to make room for the new surface layer. Long continuous stretches of North Tryon Street will be paved at a time. Typically, these stretches will be between major intersections, for example, Old Concord Road to University City Boulevard. This technique minimizes seams in the pavement to create as smooth a surface as possible. Weather permitting, crews will begin paving the final layer of asphalt this fall. In order to ensure quality, crews cannot pave during rain or cold temperatures.



Paver compacting asphalt near Tom Hunter Station

DID YOU KNOW?

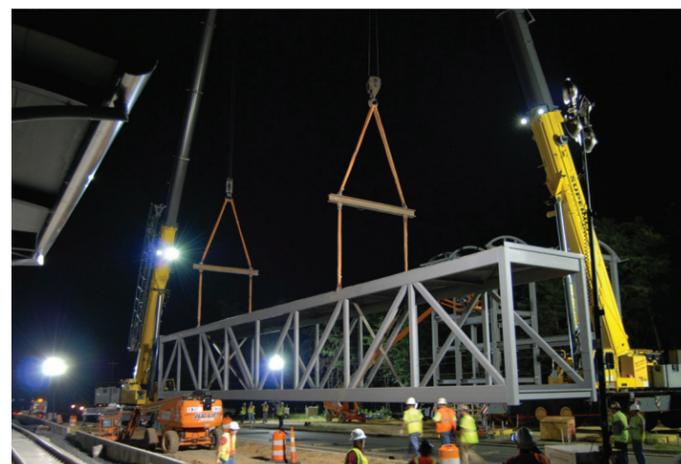
When the Blue Line Extension is operational it will take approximately **45 minutes** to ride from I-485 to UNC Charlotte.



Crew installing OCS along N Tryon

North Tryon Street isn't just full of civil construction. The track and systems, parking deck, and station finishes contractors have also been hard at work. Crews have been working on track in the median of North Tryon Street and are beginning to install the overhead catenary system (OCS). This is the system that provides the electricity for the light rail vehicles that moves them along the track.

At the end of August, crews installed the second pedestrian bridge at the JW Clay parking deck that spans over northbound North Tryon Street. The station finishes contractor continues to work on all of the station platforms and canopies along the alignment.



The lift begins



Above the two towers



And it slips into place



The whole shebang

SAFETY TIPS

As crews continue to work in the North Tryon right of way, lane closures will be frequent. Lane closures not only provide the space crews need to perform the work, but they also create a safety buffer between motorists and work crews. The speed limit on North Tryon Street is 35 MPH. Please be aware of your speed as you travel near construction zones. Watch out for flaggers and signage. Please slow down, pay attention to vehicles entering and exiting the work area, and plan your trip ahead.



If you are a pedestrian or cyclist in the project area, please be sure to cross North Tryon Street at signalized intersections. With the track construction making rapid progress, it could be very hazardous to cross North Tryon Street in the track area and it is also trespassing. **Please be safe!**

UNIVERSITY CITY BOULEVARD EXIT 43

The BLE construction work along N Tryon often results in congested travel in the northbound lanes between the I-85 Connector and University City Boulevard.

If you are traveling north on I-85 and your destination is on University City Boulevard or north of there, we suggest the use of the University City Boulevard Exit, Exit 43. This is known as the Ikea Boulevard exit.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Line Extension is adding over 3,000 parking spaces to the northeast corridor.