What is MetroRAPID BRT North Corridor?

As the Northern Mecklenburg and Iredell Counties Region grows, the transportation demands increase at the same rapid pace. In July 2017, CATS conducted a transit planning study called the LYNX System Update to evaluate future rapid transit plans. In 2019, CATS completed an update to the 2030 Transit System that recommended a North Corridor Rapid Transit Strategy. It envisioned a near term BRT project utilizing the I-77 Express Lanes serving the towns of Mooresville, Davidson, Cornelius, Huntersville and the City of Charlotte. Additionally, the project would implement mobility hubs and Park and Rides, as well as first/last mile connections. We invite you to learn more about this effort.

What is Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)?

MetroRAPID service provides direct Express bus service from four Park and Ride locations in North Mecklenburg (Cornelius, Northlake, Huntersville-Gateway, Huntersville-Northcross) to Uptown Charlotte utilizing the I-77 Express Lanes at no additional cost to the rider. The Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) brings high speed and reliability of the point-to-point service in the Express Lanes. It combines the capacity and speed of rail service and the flexibility of bus service.

What are we hoping to achieve?

- Establish reliable transit to connect the region, enhance the 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

What will the recommendations include?

- All-day Bus Rapid Transit service, including nights and weekends
- New Park and Ride locations and I-77 Express Lane direct connects
- Transit stations integrated into mixed-use developments that also incorporate emerging mobility technologies for first/last-mile connections

Areas of Consideration

- Mooresville
- Davidson
- Cornelius
- Huntersville
- Charlotte
How are we planning this project?

A Technical Advisory Team made up of staff from Charlotte, Huntersville, Cornelius, Davidson, Mooresville, NCDOT, Mecklenburg County and CATS identified potential sites for Park and Rides and I-77 Express Lane direct connects. We took into consideration many different criteria including existing and planned land use, connection to I-77 and local transit and potential for mixed-use development and mobility enhancements. CATS is facilitating a public meeting to inform the public and request feedback from the North Corridor communities.

Your BRT Journey:  

Sarah and Jonathan are residents of the I-77 North Corridor. Check out the scenarios when the BRT and Park and Ride (PnR) locations are fully functional in the future.

Sarah works and lives in Cornelius. She schedules an on-demand ride through a CATS app to meet up with a friend in Mooresville. Her ride arrives and heads to the Park and Ride in Cornelius, where she takes the BRT; she arrives at Mooresville and walks to the café near the station.

Jonathan lives in Cornelius and works in Charlotte. Jonathan can drive to the Cornelius PnR, take the BRT and get off at the Charlotte PnR, where he can choose between different transportation methods to get to his destination.

Mobility Hubs

Mobility Hubs are designated spaces to connect residents with various transit options. These could include express buses, local buses, bike share, rideshare and other emerging mobility technologies. In addition, they could offer other amenities, such as electric vehicle charging stations, wifi, greenspace and more.

Park and Ride locations can be designed to be more than a parking lot. Explore with us what you will like to see.