

Project Connect

January 2014



Regional Challenges & Opportunities

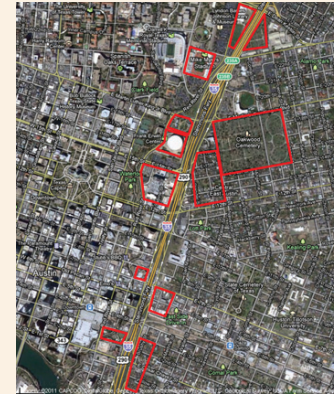
Centers



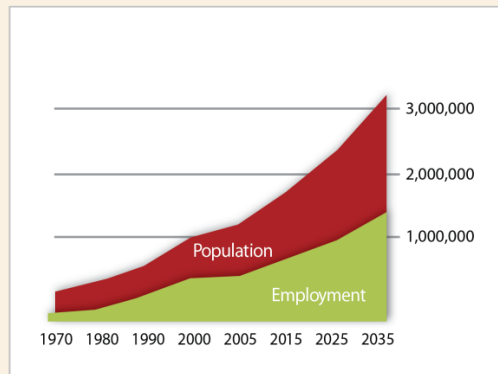
Core



Constraints



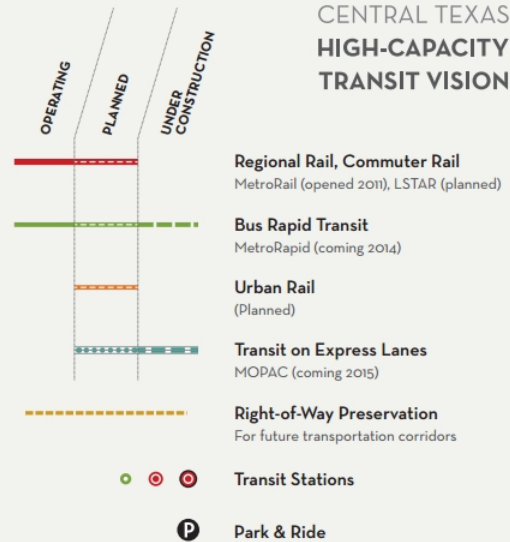
Growth



Congestion

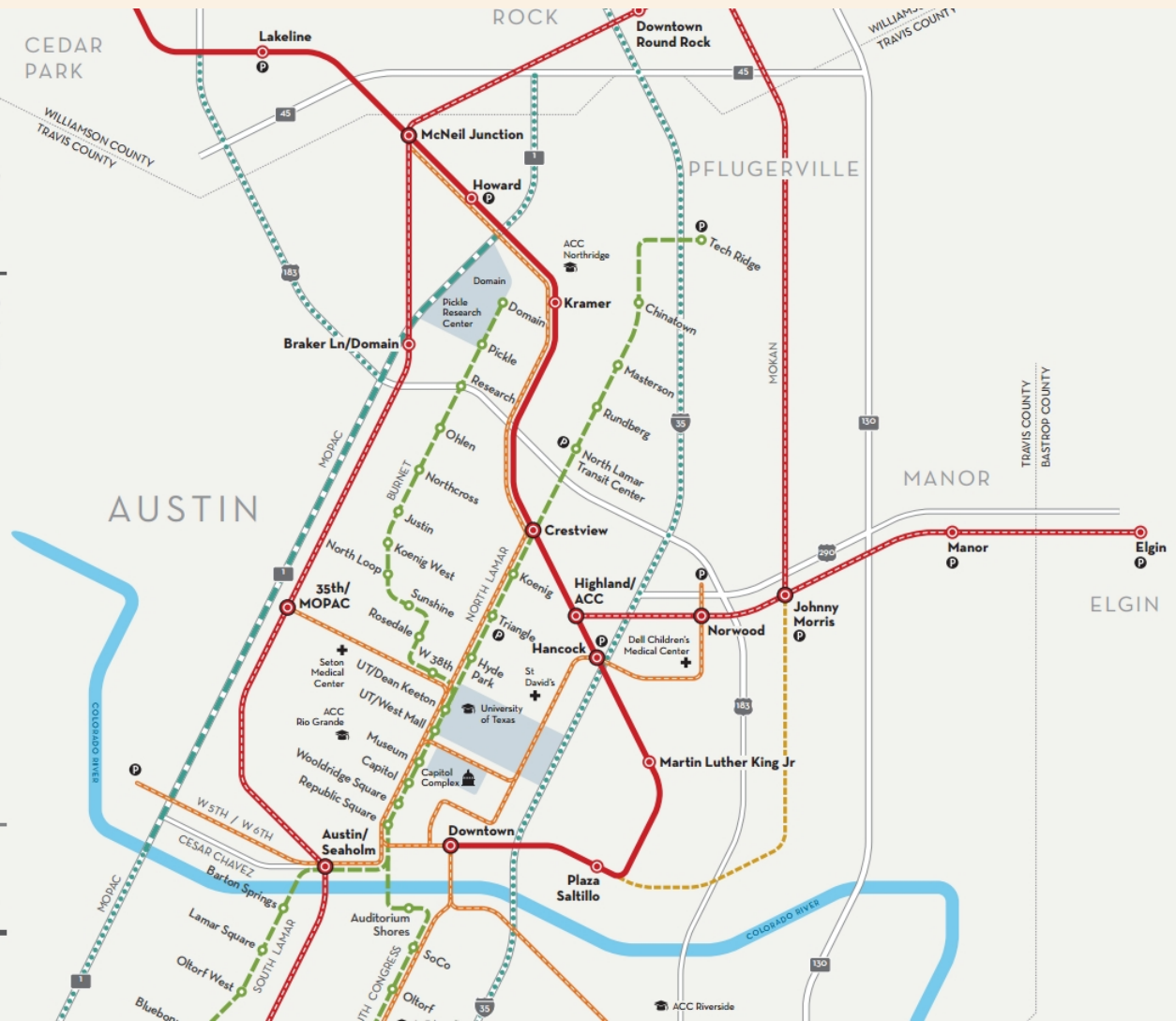
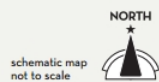


Project Connect Vision

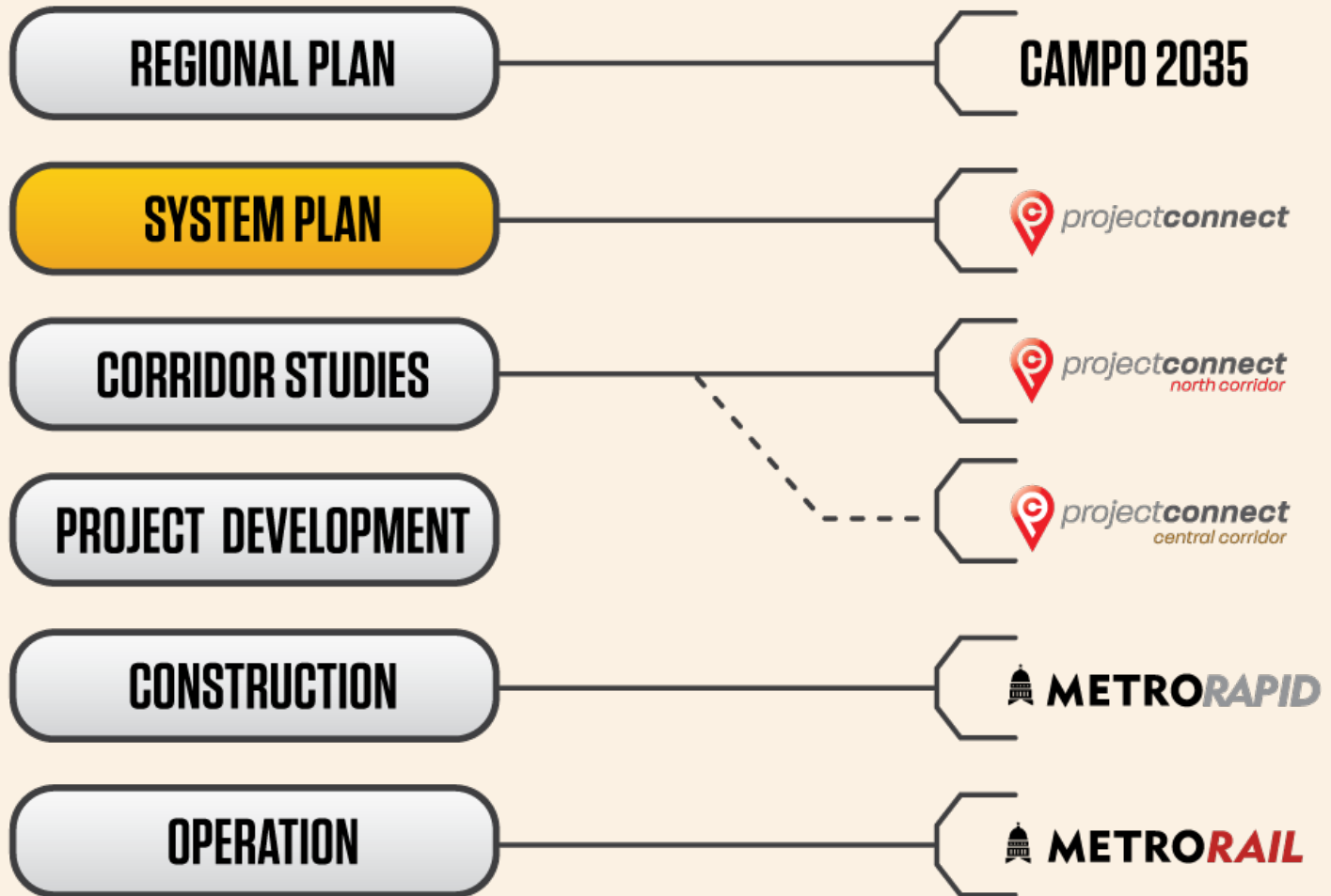


Planned corridors, stations, routes and modes of transit for planned lines are conceptual only.

ADOPTED JUNE 2012 Map Revised June 2013



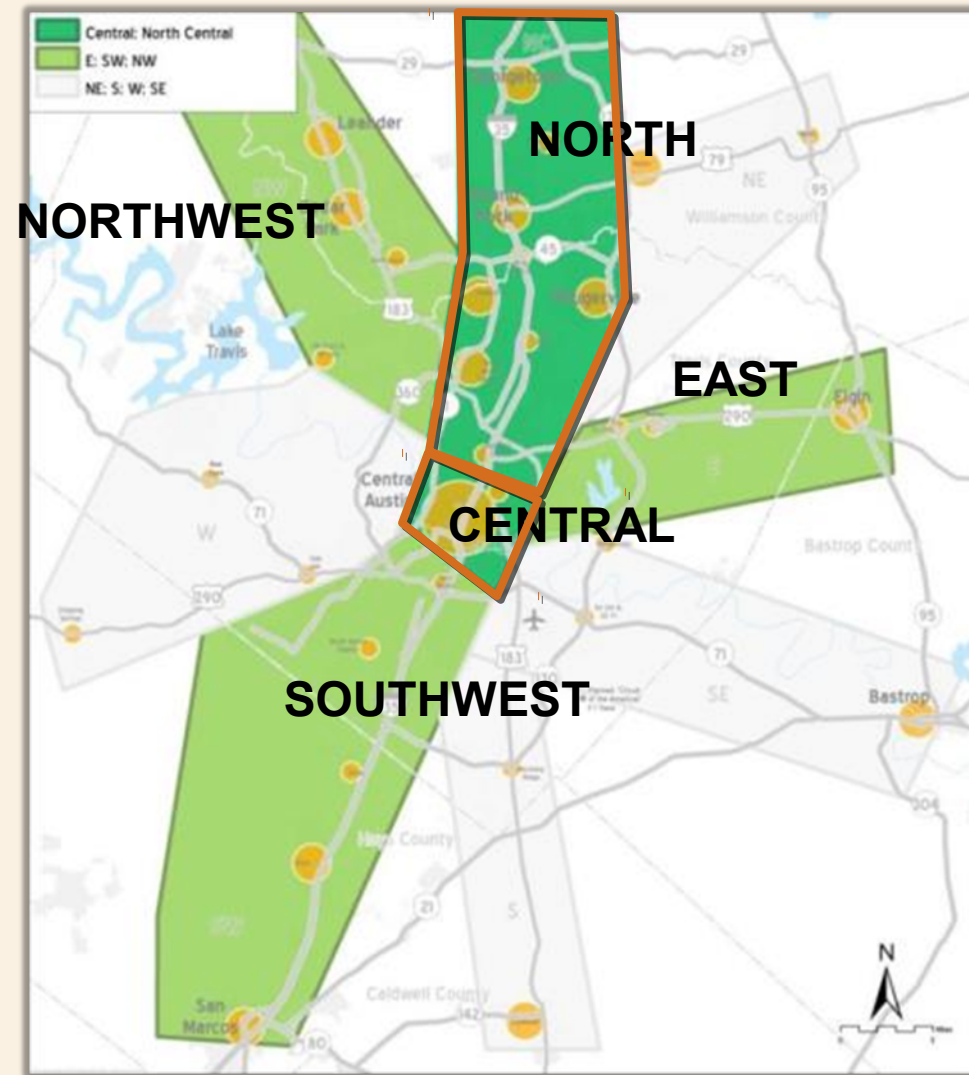
Project Development Process



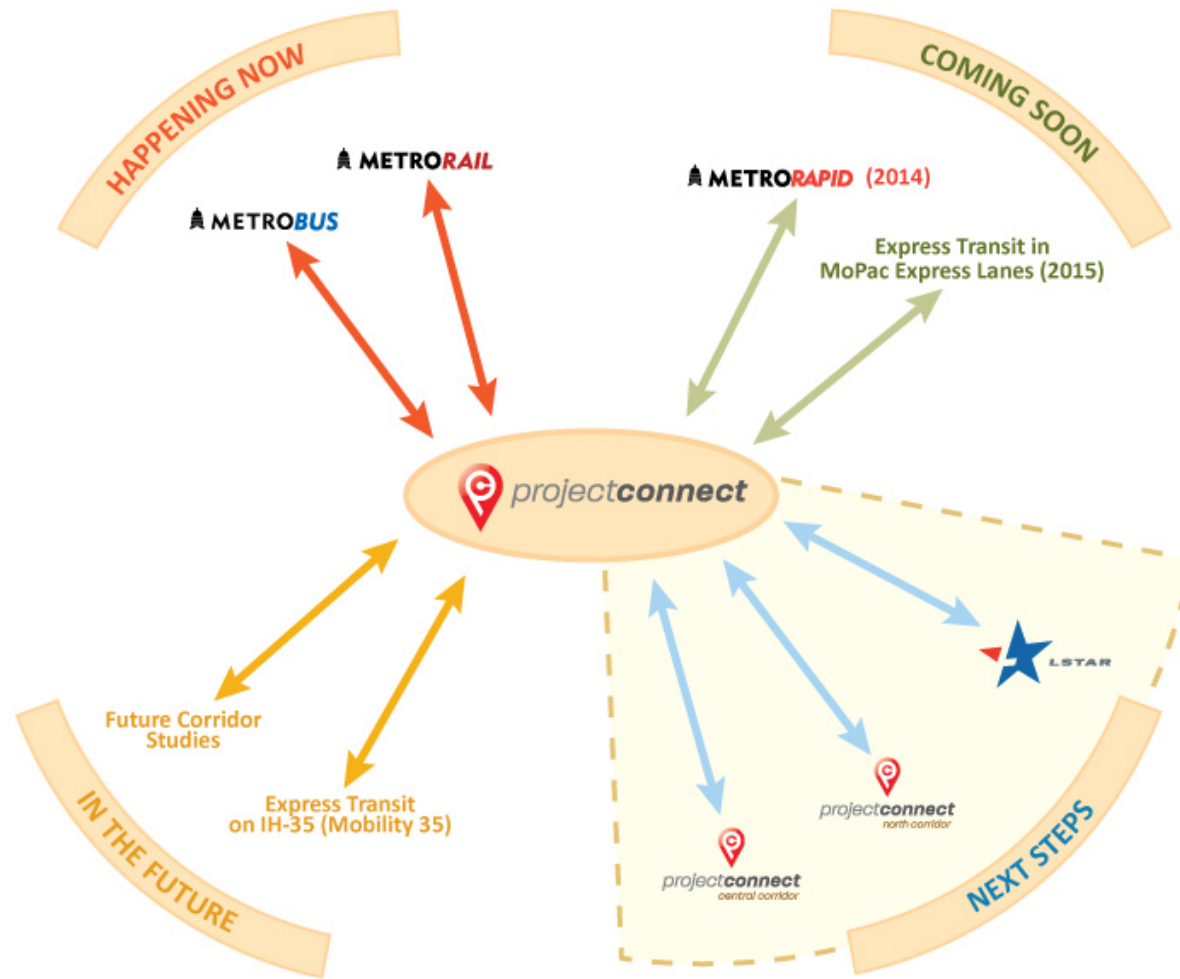
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Project Connect Corridors

- **9 Project Connect Corridors**
- **5 High Priority:**
 - North
 - East
 - Southwest
 - Northwest
 - Central



Project Connect Next Steps

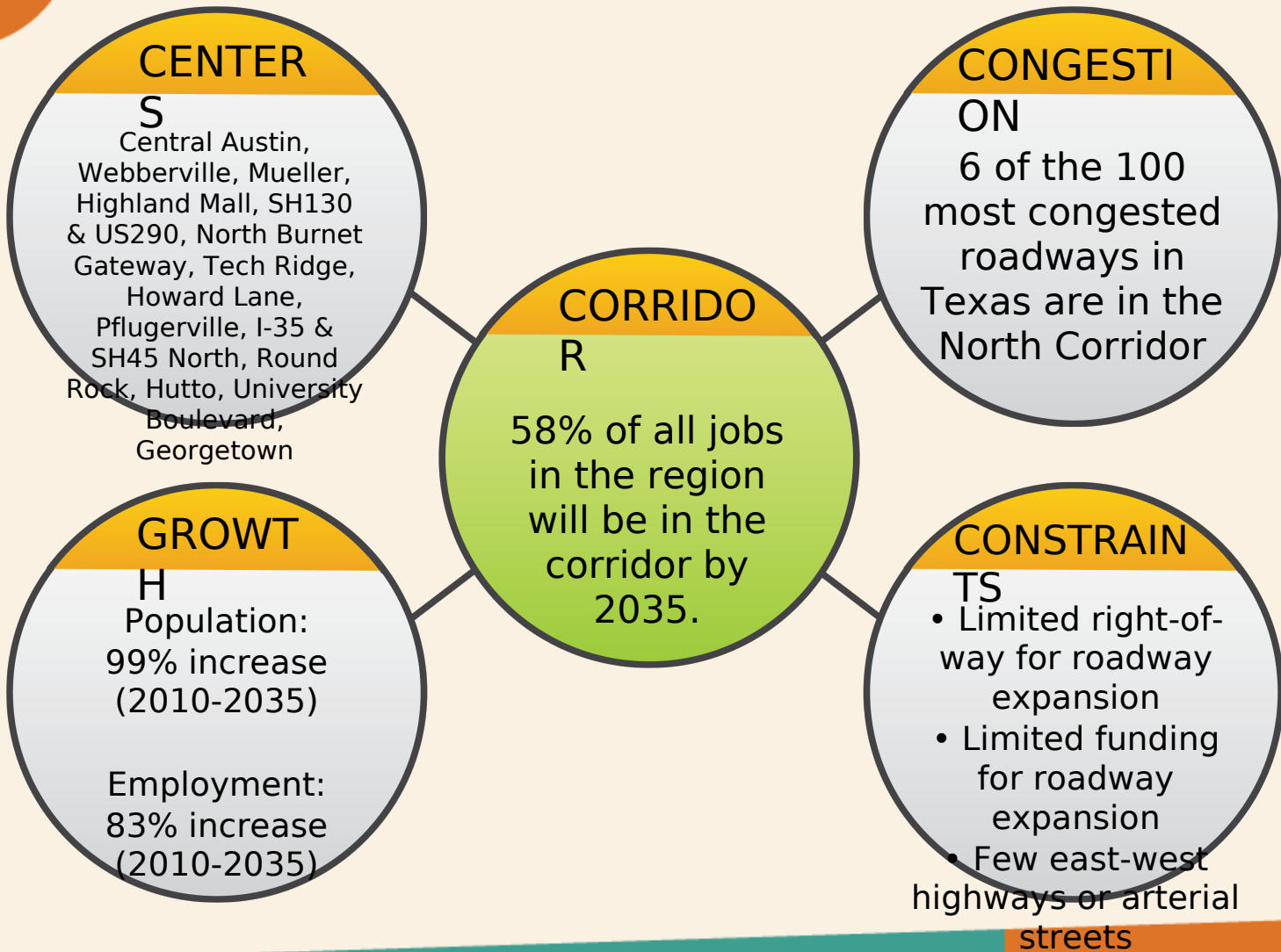




North Corridor

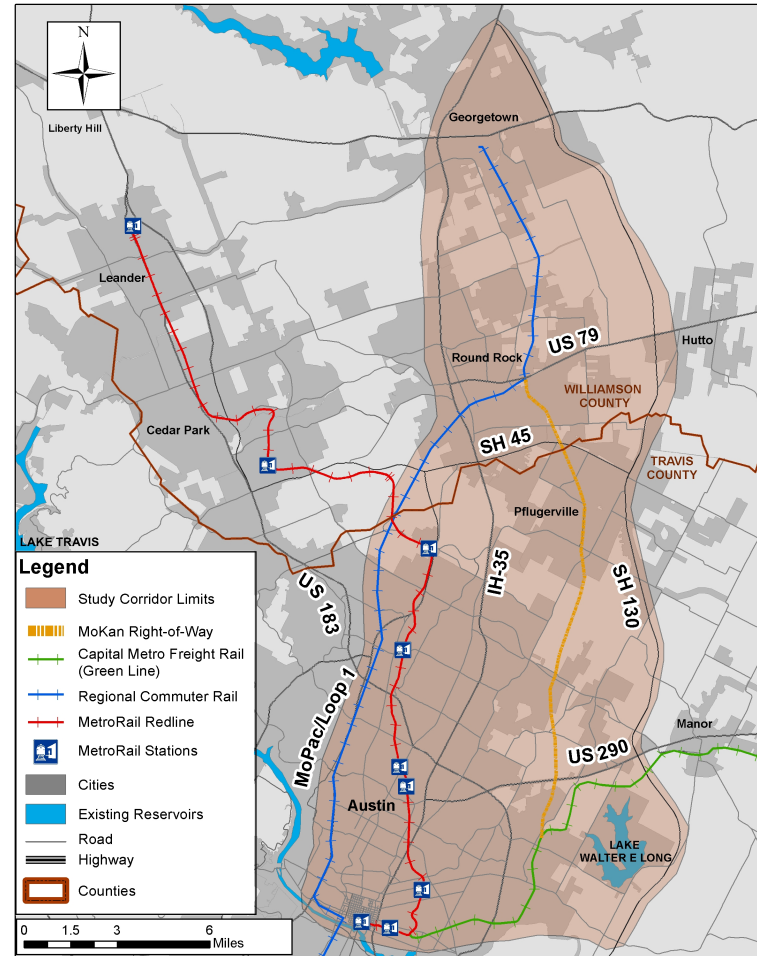


North Corridor Purpose & Need



North Corridor Study Area

- Georgetown to Downtown Au
- Bounded by MOPAC on west and SH-130 on east





North Corridor Alternatives Analysis

What are the mobility problems in the corridor?

What are their underlying causes?

What are the viable options to address these problems?

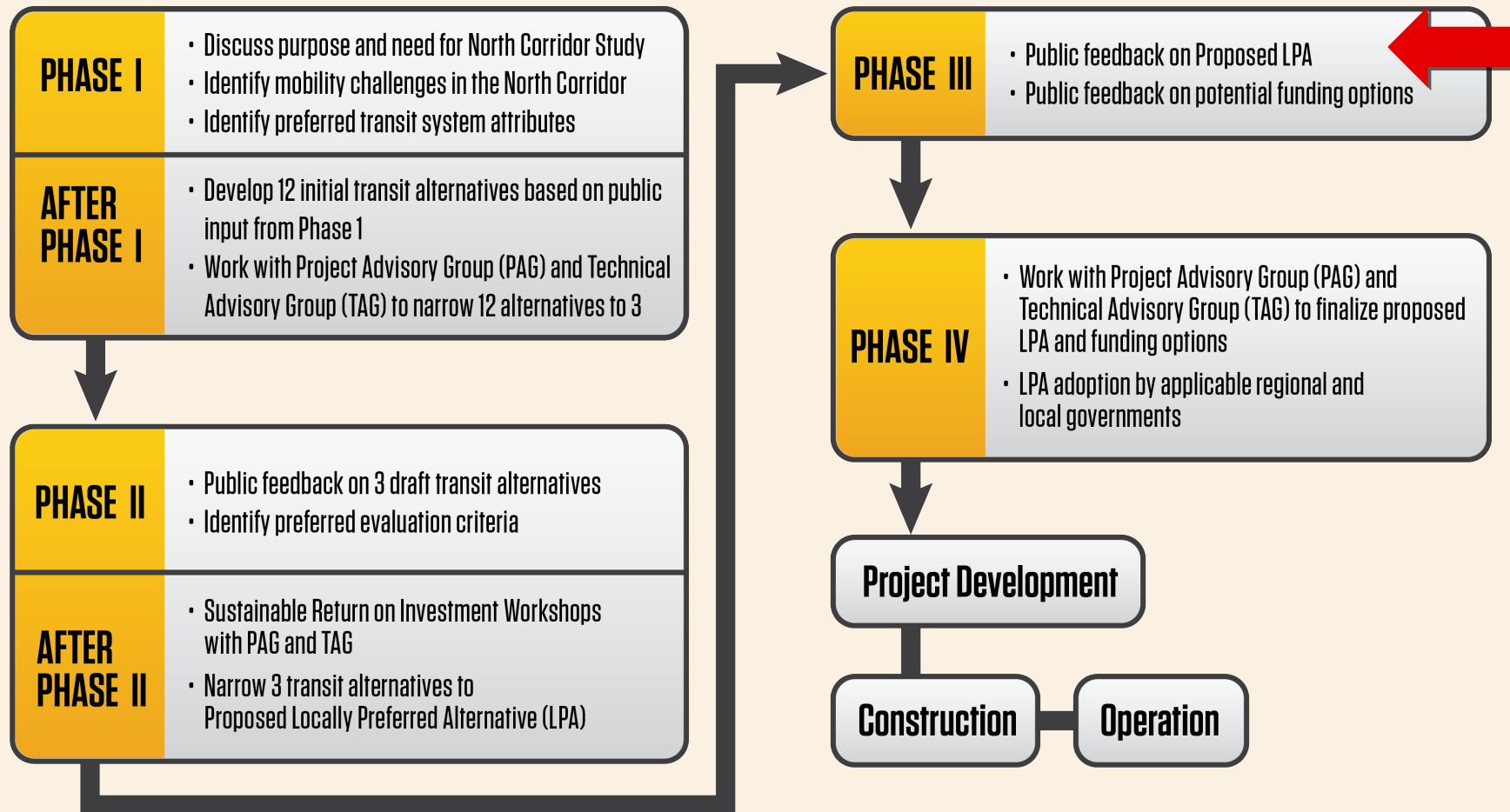
- What are their costs?
- What are their benefits?
- What are the constraints?



Feedback from Phase 1

- ✓ Include SH 130/Hutto
- ✓ Connect centers, not just downtown Austin
- ✓ Must be convenient to home & work (via Park & Rides)
- ✓ Use SH 130 in some alternatives
- ✓ Concern running MoKan through Pflugerville

North Corridor : Planning Process



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Central Corridor

2

Central Corridor Work Plan Phases

Decision-Making Process

- Phase 1: Select Priority Sub-Corridor

- ‘Where are we going... next?’

- Phase 2: Select Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA)

- ‘How will we get there?’



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Central Corridor Public Involvement

3

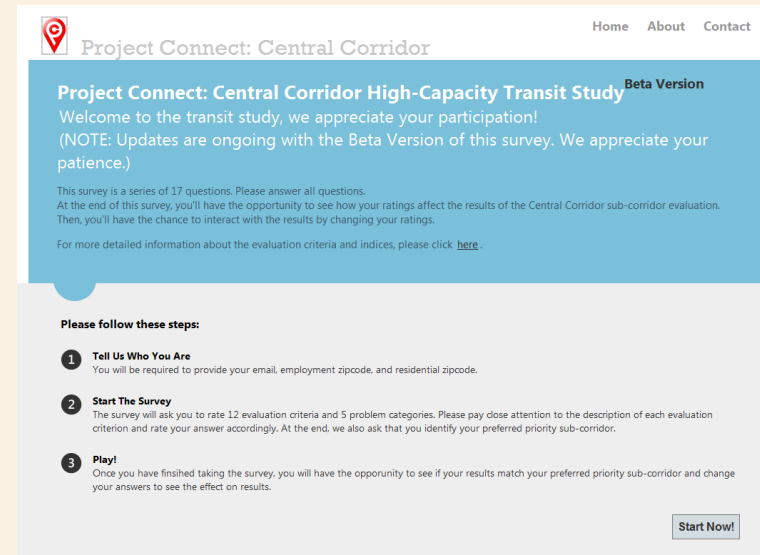
Step 3 Public Involvement

- **Three public workshops**
 - **Norris Conference Center (Anderson Lane) 11/5 —40+ participants**
 - **Faith United Methodist (South Lamar) 11/6 — 30+ participants**
 - **St. David's Episcopal (Downtown) 11 /7— 50+ participants**
- **Webinar 11/6 - 60 participants**

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Step 3 Recent Public Engagement

- **Online Survey/Evaluation Tool**
 - **Beta live 11/8**
 - **Unprecedented transparency**
 - **210+ surveys**
- **Stakeholder Group Briefings, including**
 - **12/4 Alliance for Public Transportation**
- **Televised Community Conversation - 11/26**



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Recommendation Summary

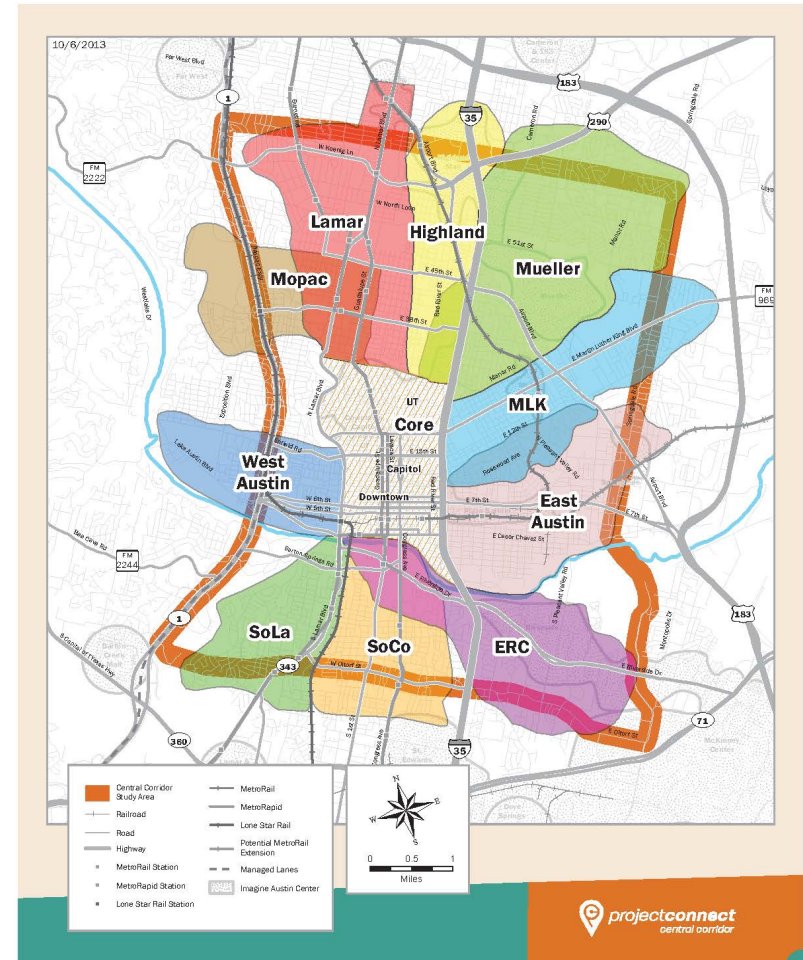
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Evaluation Approach

- 10 sub-corridors identified + Core
- Comparison of sub-corridors for high-capacity transit (HCT) suitability
- No single factor tells the whole story

Central Corridor High-Capacity Transit Study

COMBINED SUB-CORRIDORS



Evaluation Results

Current Focus	Future Focus
1. Customer-Centricity	1. Personalization
2. Operational Efficiency	2. Automation
3. Employee Engagement	3. Upskilling
4. Product Innovation	4. Digital Transformation
5. Sustainability	5. ESG Integration

- **ERC & Highland are top performers**
 - **From various perspectives**
- **Weightings do not change the overall results**
- **All sub-corridors could support**

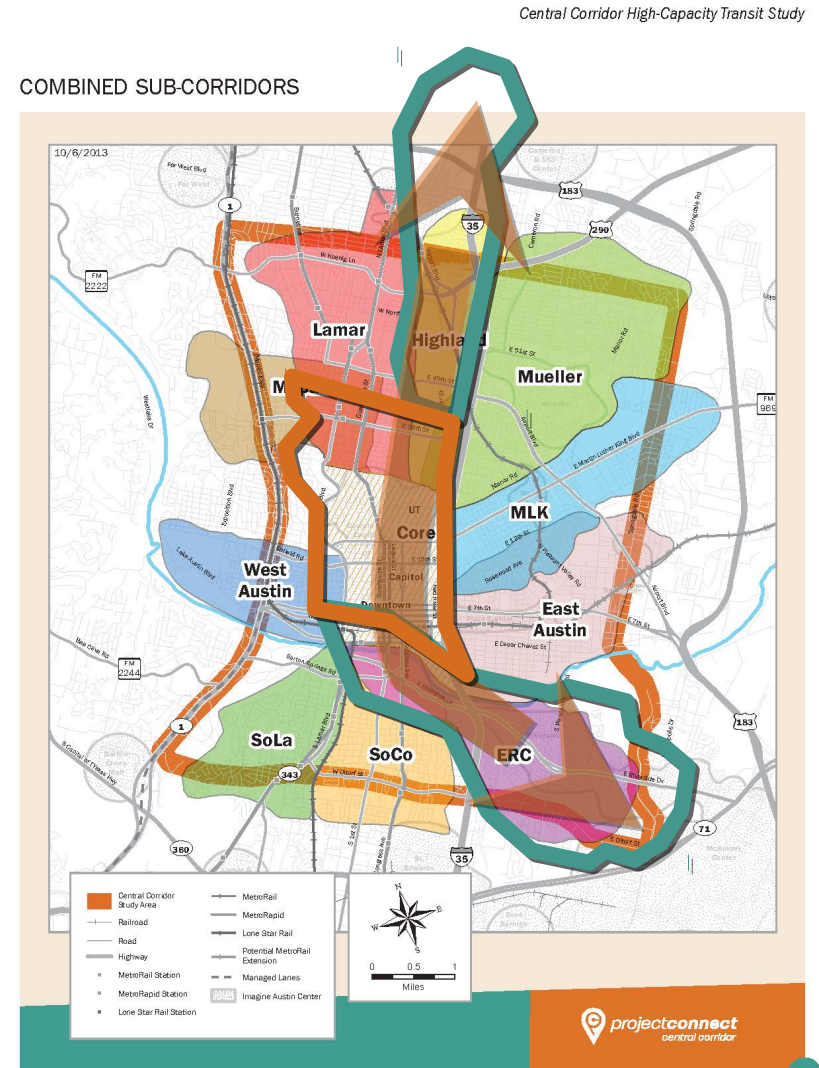
*Three public workshops input.

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Initial Recommendation

East Riverside & Highland

- **East Riverside (ERC) and Highland are consistently in the top two**
- **Advance both into Phase 2**
 - Develop best project
- **Balanced recommendation**
 - System Development
 - Shaping Characteristics
 - Serving Characteristics



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Evaluation Summary

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Evaluation Results

Current
FocusFuture
Focus

Project Team		CCAG		Public*		Equal Weight		Serving Criteria Only		Shaping Criteria Only	
ERC	70	ERC	58	ERC	72	ERC	60	ERC	55	ERC	57
Highland	61	Highland	58	Highland	65	Highland	57	East Austin	53	Highland	52
Lamar	53	Mueller	51	Mueller	56	Mueller	51	Lamar	53	Mueller	44
Mueller	52	Lamar	48	Lamar	51	Lamar	50	West Austin	52	Lamar	42
East Austin	50	East Austin	45	East Austin	49	East Austin	47	Highland	47	SoCo	38
SoCo	44	SoCo	41	SoCo	46	SoCo	43	Mueller	45	East Austin	34
West Austin	33	West Austin	32	West Austin	42	West Austin	32	SoCo	37	West Austin	28
MLK	27	SoLa	22	MLK	30	MLK	25	Mopac	36	SoLa	21
Mopac	27	MLK	22	Mopac	29	SoLa	22	MLK	31	MLK	18
SoLa	24	Mopac	18	SoLa	28	Mopac	21	SoLa	16	Mopac	11

Key Findings

- **ERC & Highland are top performers**
 - From various perspectives
- **Weightings do not change the overall results**
- **All sub-corridors could support**

Evaluation scores can only be compared within each column.

*Three public workshops input.

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Toward a Recommendation – Highland

- **Keys to Highland**
 - Scored in the top two due to Growth and Congestion criteria
 - Strong in all other criteria
 - Significant development plans
 - Limited additional roadway network and capacity
 - A focal point of all three Project Connect: North Corridor final alternatives
 - Served by MetroRail (Highland Station)
 - TIGER Grant-funded improvements
 - Added track/sidings will reduce headways from 34 minutes to 17 minutes at peak times
 - Allows 4 train runs during peak hours instead of 2

	Highland
Ranking	2
Congestion	5
Congestion Index	22
Travel Demand Index	52
Constraints & Growth	23
Growth Index	55
Constraint Index	33
Core	6
Affordability Index	19
Econ Development Index	25
Centers	8
Centers Index	25
Consistency with Plans	16
System	19
Future Ridership Potential	21
Current Ridership Potential	10
Connectivity Index	13
Transit Demand Index	12

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Toward a Recommendation - ERC

- **Keys to East Riverside (ERC)**
 - **Scored #1 in all scenarios**
 - **Best responds to all problems**
 - Highest on 3 of 5, Congestion, Centers, and System
 - Second highest on Growth and Core
 - **High existing densities and potential growth**
 - Population and employment
 - **High existing ridership**
 - **High *future* ridership potential**
 - **Not currently served by HCT**
 - **Constraints are a challenge**
 - Lady Bird Lake and I-35 crossings

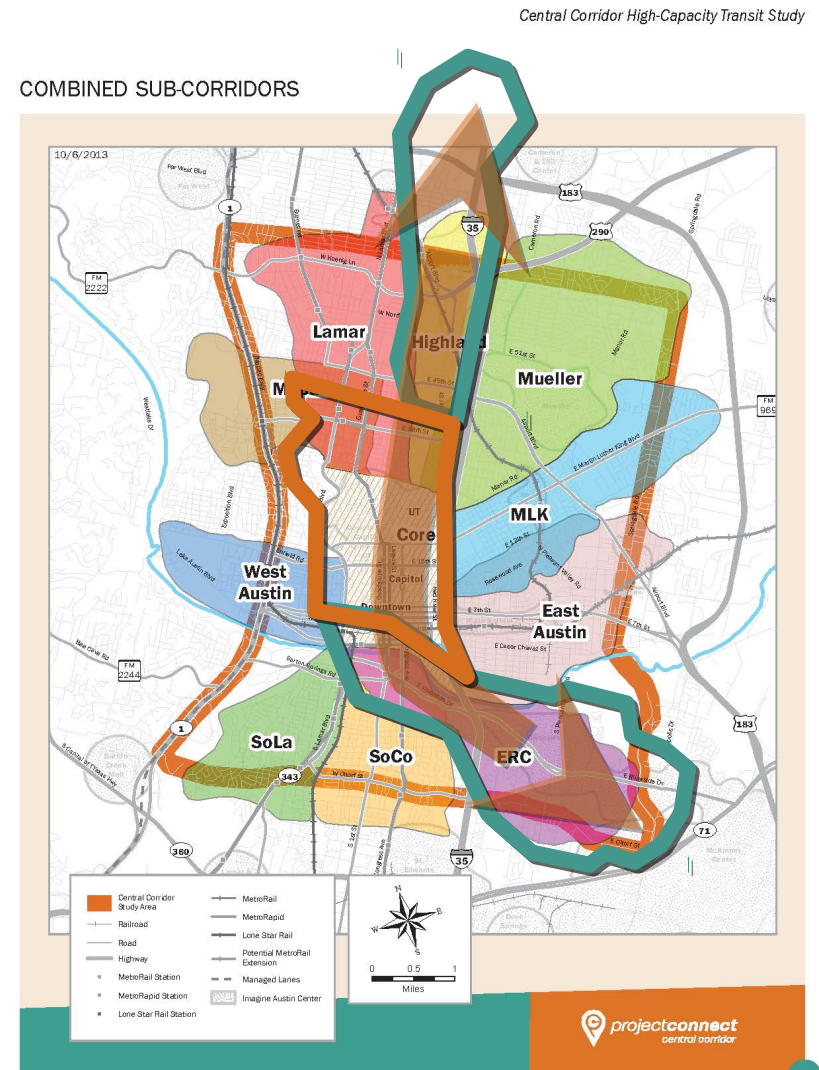
	ERC
Ranking	1
Congestion	5
Congestion Index	25
Travel Demand Index	57
Constraints & Growth	19
Growth Index	56
Constraint Index	16
Core	8
Affordability Index	27
Econ Development Index	33
Centers	10
Centers Index	40
Consistency with Plans	8
System	27
Future Ridership Potential	29
Current Ridership Potential	16
Connectivity Index	22
Transit Demand Index	15

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Initial Recommendation

East Riverside & Highland

- **East Riverside (ERC) and Highland are consistently in the top two**
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Central Corridor Next Steps

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The Road to the Priority Sub-Corridor

CCAG

Meetings

- **November 1**
 - Present Data (2 of 2)
 - Evaluation Process
 - *Public Comment*
- **November 15**
 - Evaluation Results
 - Project Team Recommendations
 - *Public Comment*
- **December 6**
 - *Public Comment*
 - CCAG Action

Board & Council

Briefings

- **December 10**
 - **Austin City Council**
- **December 11**
 - **Capital Metro Board**
- **March 7**
 - **Lone Star Board**

Decision-Making Process

•Phase 2: Select Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA)

				2013						2014							
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
				Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Phase 2 Select Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA)	Step 4: Identify Preliminary Alternatives	Task 9	Project P&N/Problem Statement														
		Task 10	Methodology/Criteria														
		Task 11	Identify Preliminary Alternatives – Alignment & Mode														
	Step 5: Define Final Alternatives	Task 12	Define Final Alternatives – Alignment & Mode														
	Step 6: Evaluate Alternatives	Task 13	Evaluate Alternatives														
	Step 7: Select LPA	Task 14	Select Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA)														
			Decision														
				- Project Team Activities						- Public Involvement Activities							

THANK YOU

More Information:

Project Connect & Central Corridor HCT Study

projectconnect.com

