



Concord Kannapolis Area Transit Commission

February 28th, 2025 – 8:30AM

Rider Transit Center
45 Transit Court NW, Concord, NC

Agenda

1) Call to Order & Quorum

Chair Dusch

- Quorum & Introduction of Guests - Changes or Additions to Agenda
- Public Comments from the Floor – 3 minutes per speaker

2) Approval of the 12/19/24 Meeting Minutes

Chair Dusch

3) Long Range Transit Plan Task Order Approval

Rider Staff, Benesch Staff

Information: Presentation of the task order process, firm recommended for award, and a presentation of the work plan recommended for award by staff by the project manager with Benesch.

Recommendation/Action: Review and consider approval of staff recommendation for approval of the task order.

4) Public Art in Transit

Sarah Gay, Doyle Bussey, Public Art Commission

Information: Receive a presentation and request from the Concord Public Art Commission to place public art on the exterior of one of Rider Transit's buses.

Recommendation/Action: Review and consider approval of the request from the Concord Public Art Commission.

5) CRMPO Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Phil Conrad, CRMPO

Information: Discussion with MPO staff regarding the transit component updates for the Cabarrus Rowan MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan, which was last updated in April 2022. It was based upon future projects (17) and service expansions for the Cabarrus County Long-Range Public Transportation Master Plan (LRPTMP). The MTP will be updated again in 2030 to incorporate the *next* LRPTM.

Recommendation/Action: Review and consider the request to re-endorse the current LRPTM for inclusion in the 2055 MTP and regional travel model (multiple counties including Mecklenburg).

6) Reports / Other Business

Rider Staff

- Replacement Van Update
- 2024 Ridership Update
- Other Business
- Next Meetings – April 2025 and beyond – TBD by the CKTC

RIDER TRANSIT NEW SERVICE PROVIDER RFP

Kannapolis City Council Meeting
February 9th, 2025

CONNECTING COMMUNITY



Concord Kannapolis Area Transit

CONCORD KANNAPOLIS TRANSIT COMMISSION

2/28/2025

- **Call to Order & Quorum**
 - Quorum & Introduction of Guests
 - Public comments (3 minutes)
- **Approval of the October 24th, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

QUESTIONS?

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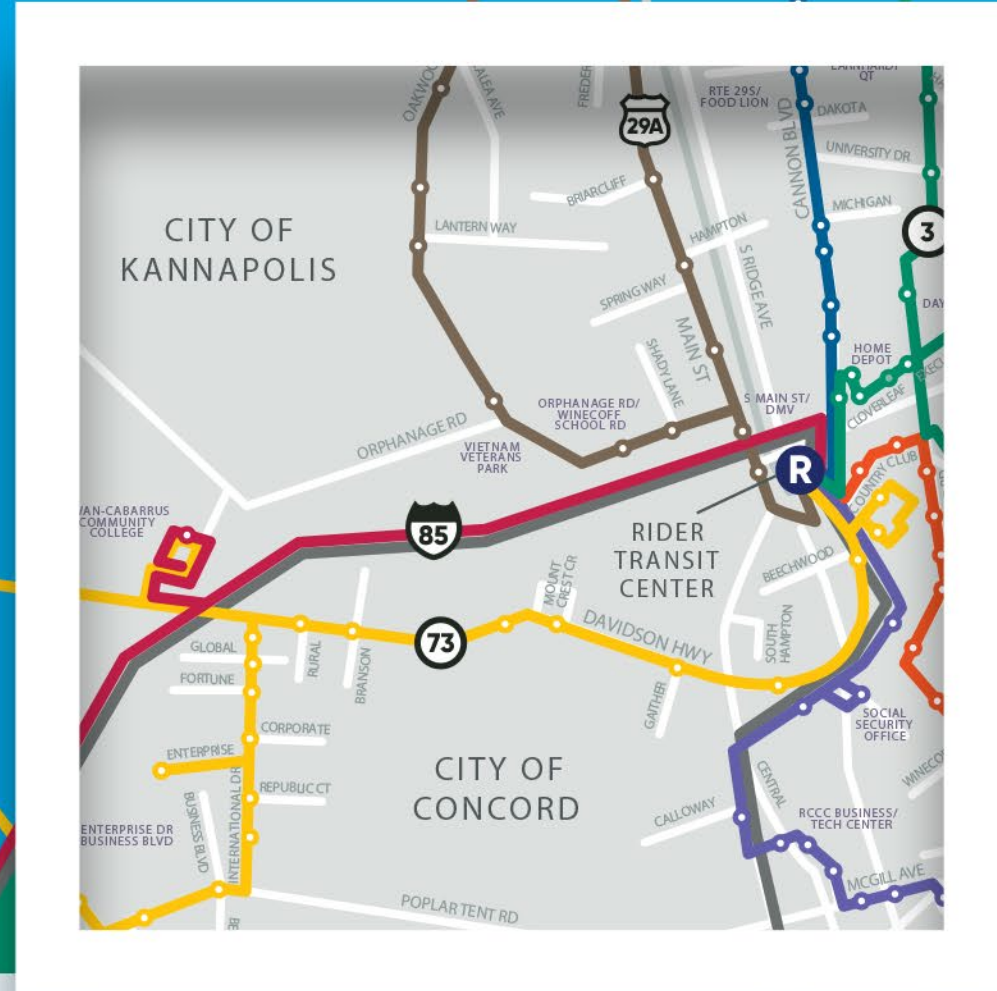


Concord Kannapolis Area Transit



Cabarrus County Long Range Public Transit Plan

Work Plan Presentation
February 28, 2025



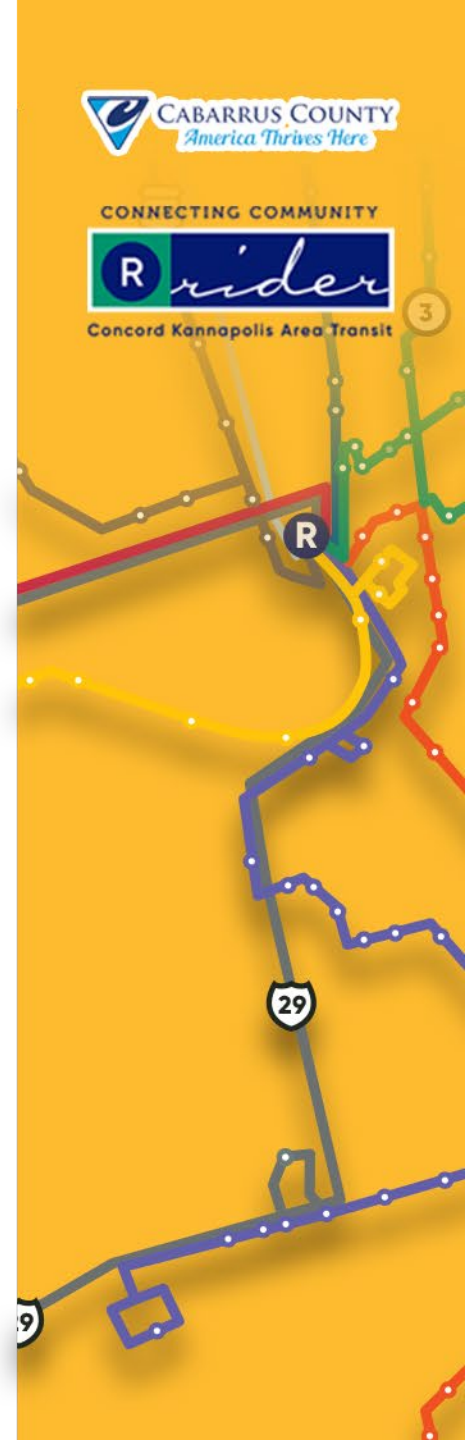
Project Team



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Concord Kannapolis Area Transit



Key Staff



Joel Rey, PE, AICP
Project Director, Benesch



John Muth, PE
Senior Advisor, VHB



Arin Gray
Outreach & Engagement, CD&P



Taylor Cox
Deputy Project Manager, Benesch



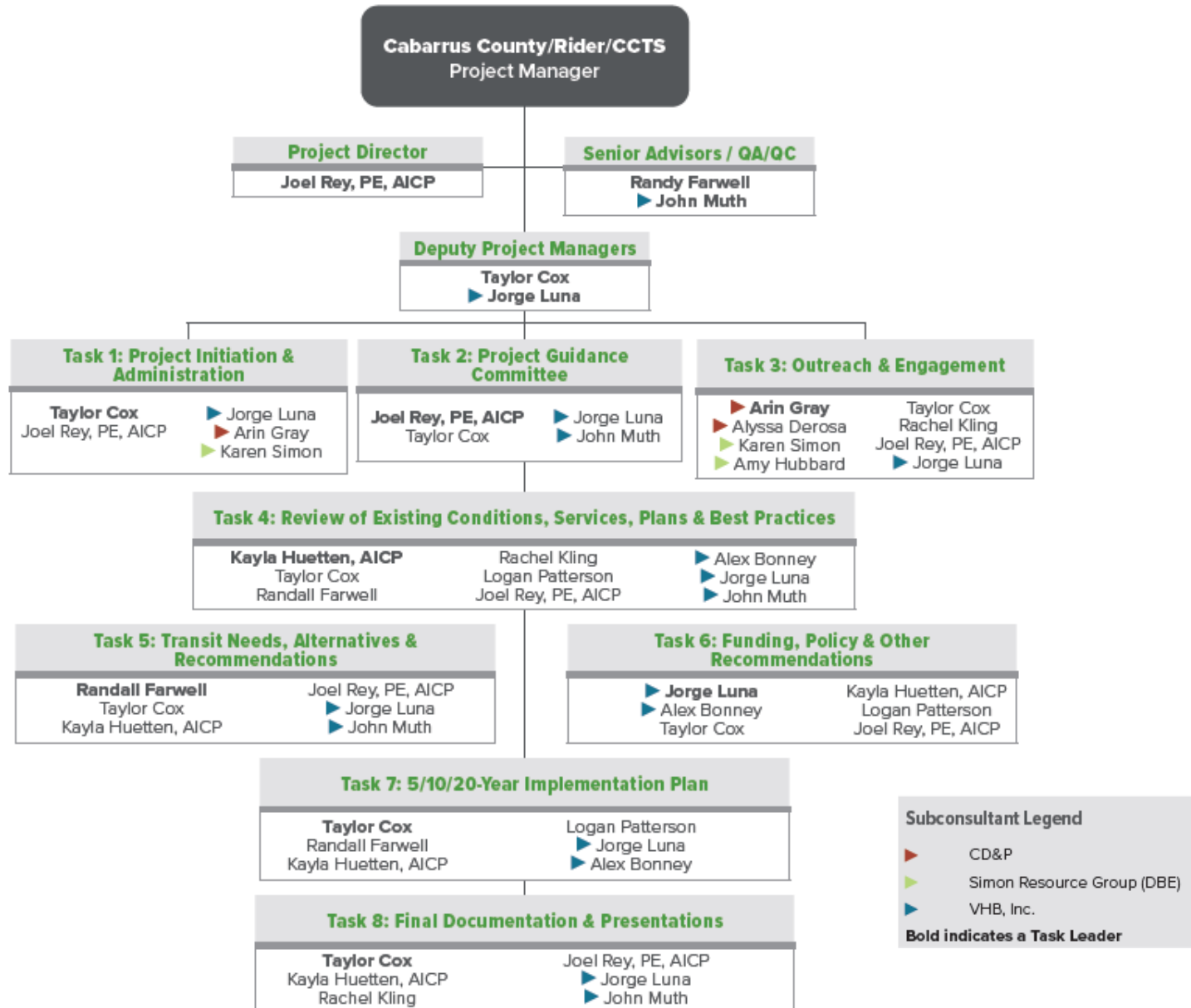
Jorge Luna
Deputy Project Manager, VHB



Karen Simon
Outreach & Engagement, Simon Resources

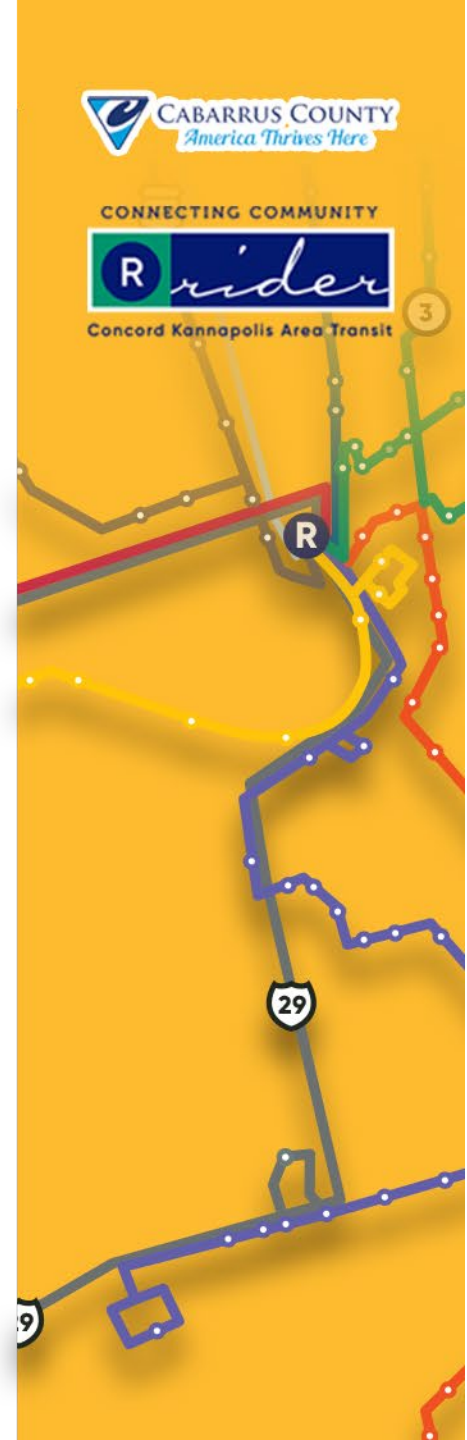


Team Organization Chart



Project Work Plan

- T1: Project Initiation & Management
- T2: Project Guidance Committee (PGC)
- T3: Outreach & Engagement
- T4: Review of Existing Conditions, Services, Plans & Best Practices
- T5: Transit Needs, Alternatives & Recommendations
- T6: Funding, Policy & Other Recommendations
- T7: 5/10/20-Year Implementation Plan
- T8: Final Documentation & Executive Summary



T1: Project Initiation & Management

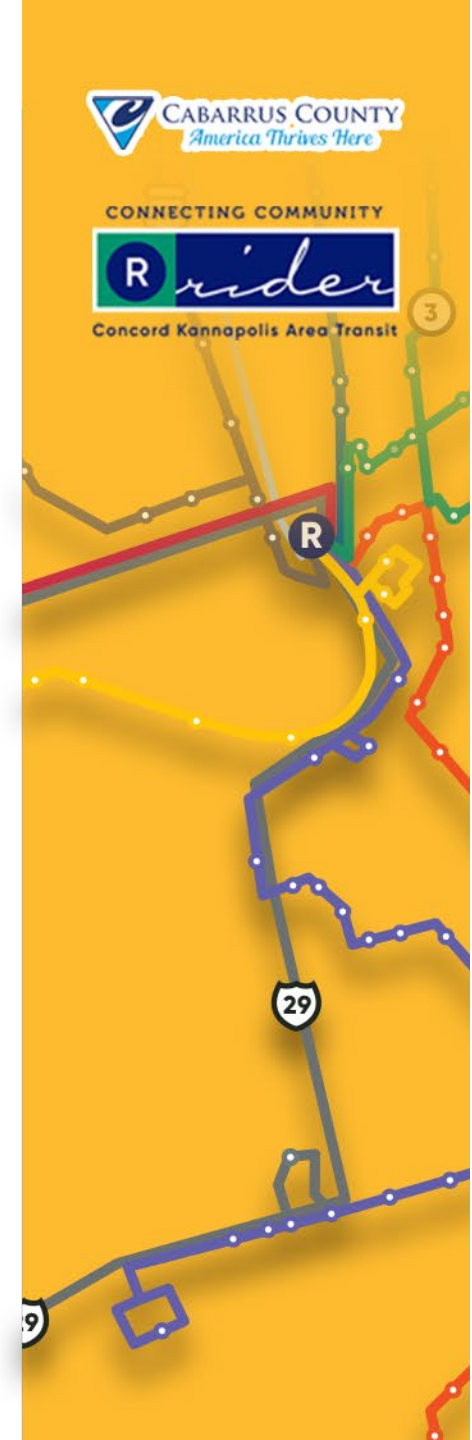
- 1.1: Project Management Plan
- 1.2: Kickoff Meeting
- 1.3: Project Administration



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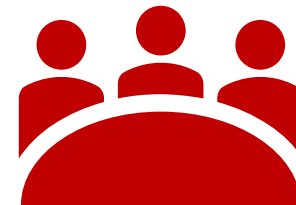


Concord Kannapolis Area Transit



T2: Project Guidance Committee

- 2.1: Committee Creation
- 2.2: PGC Meetings
 - #1 – Kickoff event at project outset
 - #2 – After existing conditions analysis & during engagement activities to discuss interim findings
 - #3 – After service analysis to review results & discuss possible options to address issues
 - #4 – During development of alternative service recommendations for addressing needs
 - #5 – During development of implementation & financial plans to verify assumptions
 - #6 – Meeting toward end of project to review draft plan
- 2.3: PGC Kickoff Meeting



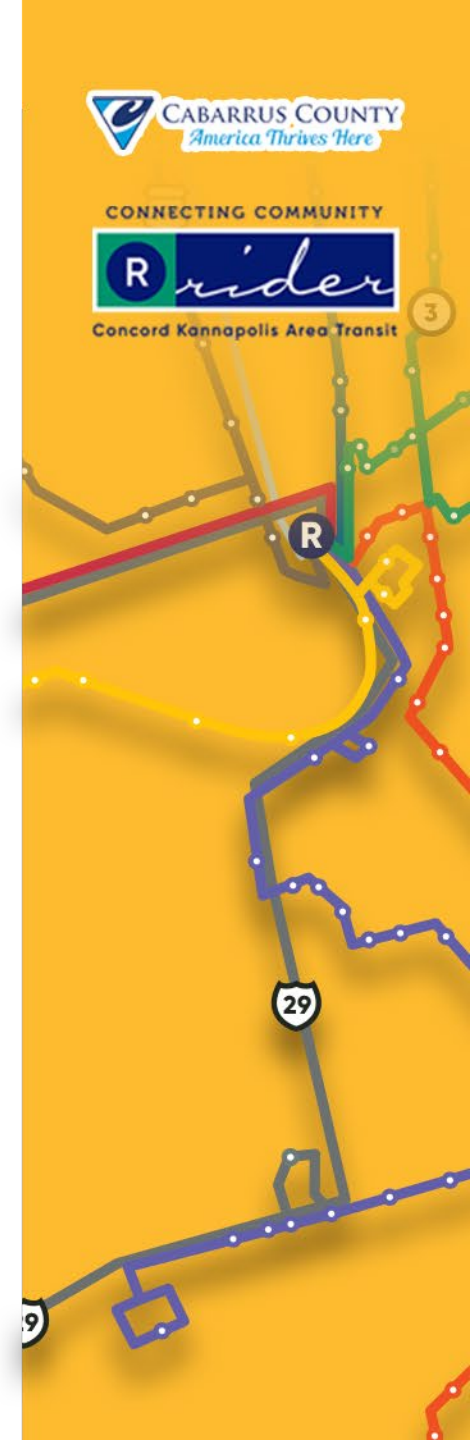
T3: Outreach & Engagement

- 3.1: Public Engagement Plan
- 3.2: Stakeholder Interviews (30)
- 3.3: Community Workshops (10)
- 3.4: Transit Patron Survey (750 survey target)
- 3.5: Public Online Survey & Virtual Room
- 3.6: Discussion Group Workshops (10)
- 3.7: Public Meetings (6)
- 3.8: Transit Operator/Staff Meetings
- 3.9: Social Media, Online Project Materials & Video Testimonials
- 3.10: Technical Memorandum



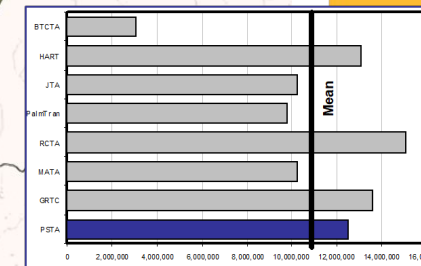
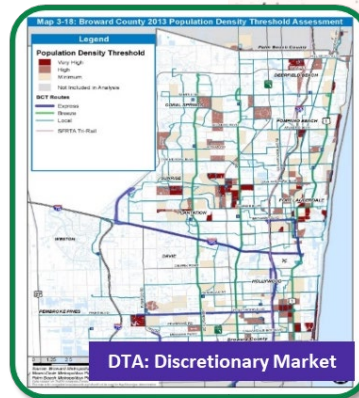
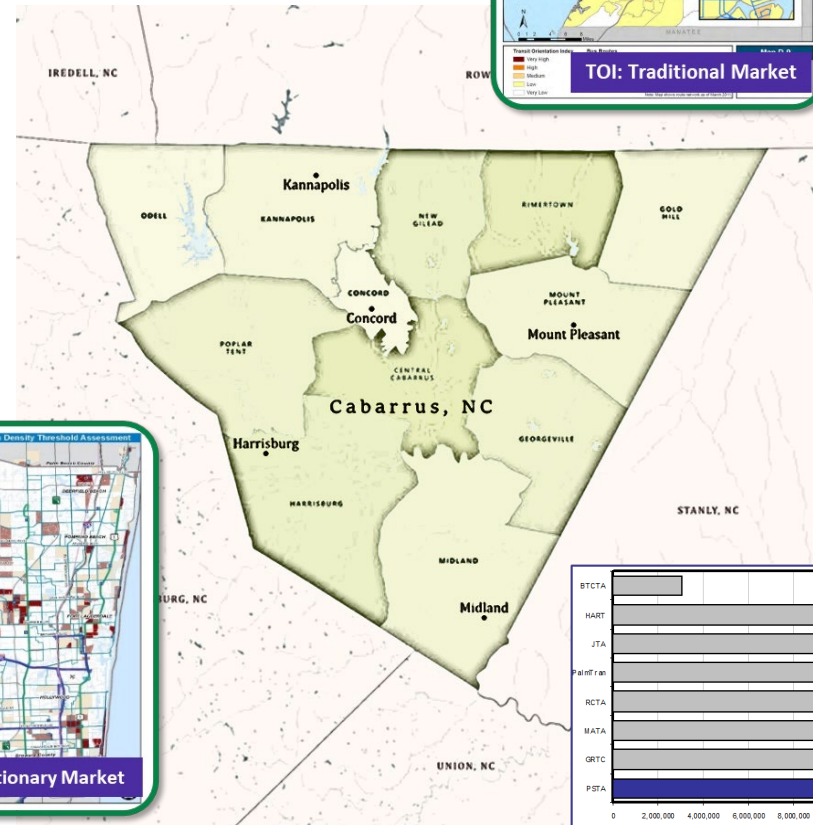
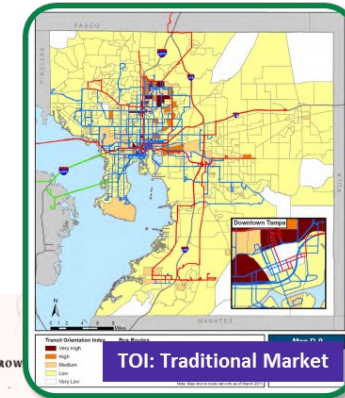
“Human-Centric” Engagement

- Identify underrepresented communities across Cabarrus
- Reach out to resource agencies that support these groups
 - County Department of Human Services
 - Salvation Army
 - Opportunity House
- Partner with community groups to gain “trusted voice”
- Go to where these groups (i.e., piggyback on existing events)
- Prepare materials, surveys, etc., in both English & Spanish
 - LEP populations in Cabarrus are primarily Hispanic (10%)
- Work with senior centers/assisted living facilities to involve seniors
- Track zip codes to ensure geographic representation
- Goal of creating Champions for Transit



T4: Review of Existing Conditions, Services, Plans & Best Practices

- 4.1: Existing Operating Environment Analysis
- 4.2: Latent Demand Analysis
- 4.3: Existing Services Analysis
- 4.4: Local Plans & Policies Review
- 4.5: Peer Case Studies (5)
- 4.6: Technical Memorandum



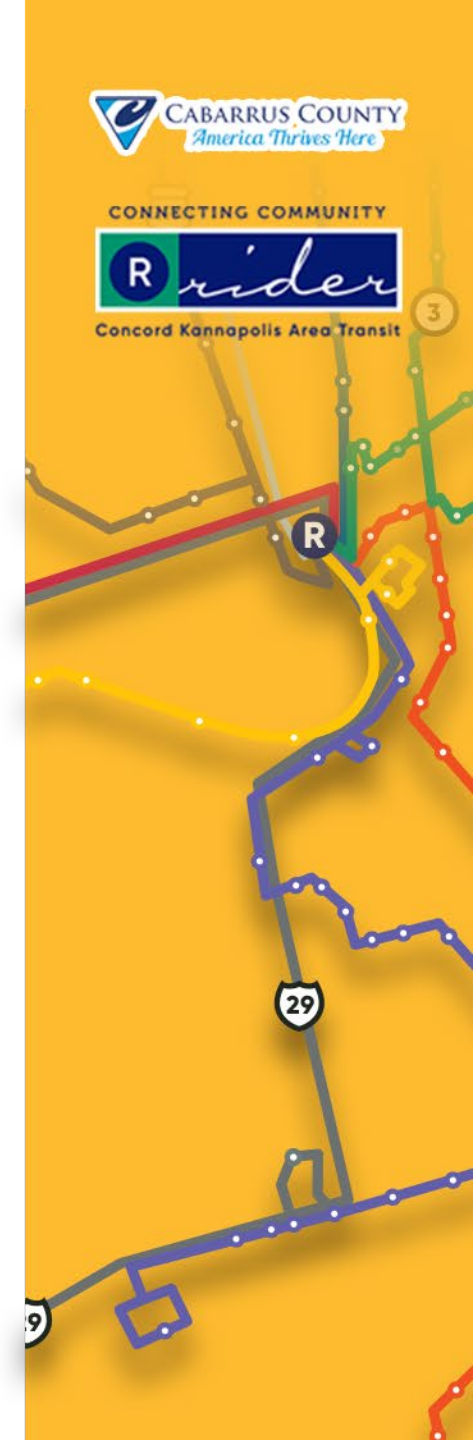
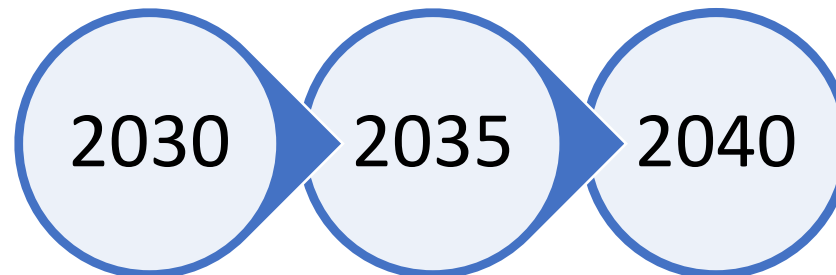
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T5: Transit Needs, Alternatives & Recommendations

- 5.1: Transit Needs Identification
- 5.2: Transit Improvement Alternatives & Tiered Plan Scenarios
- 5.3: Phased Recommendations
 - Short-Term (within 1-5 years)
 - Medium-Term (within 6-10 years)
 - Long-Term (within 10-20 years)
- 5.4: Technical Memorandum



T6: Funding, Policy & Other Recommendations

- 6.1: Consolidation of Services
- 6.2: Coordination of Regional Services
- 6.3: Funding Sources
- 6.4: Transit-Supportive Policies
- 6.5: Technical Memorandum



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Concord Kannapolis Area Transit



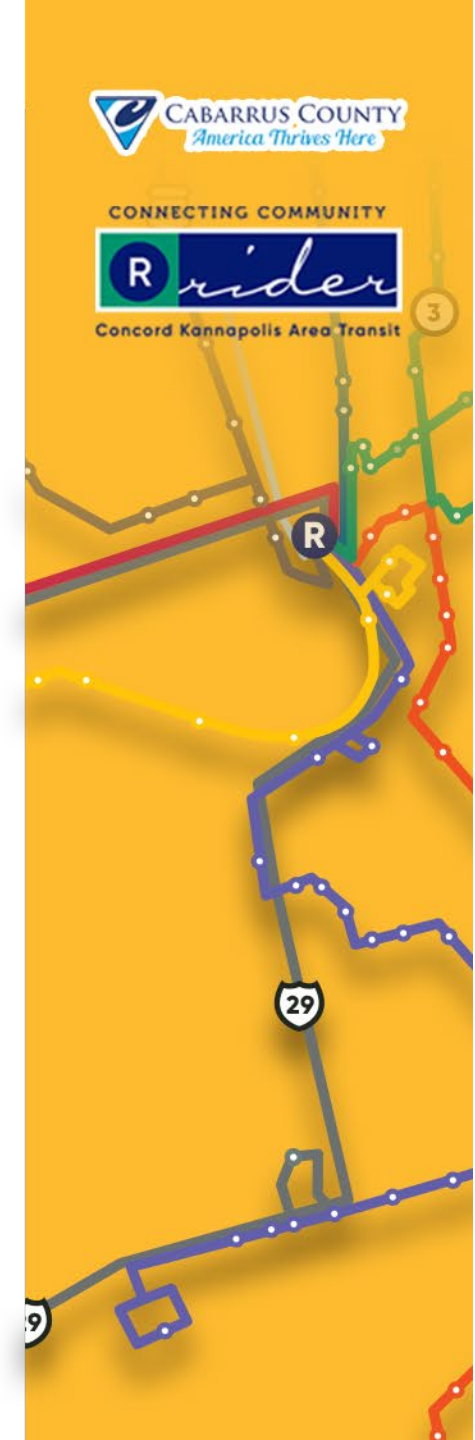
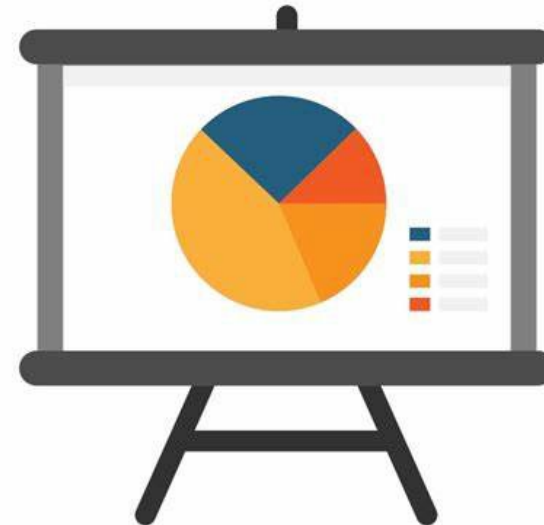
T7: 5/10/20-Year Implementation Plan

- 7.1: Tiered Implementation Plans
 - Needs Plan
 - Moderate Growth Plan
 - Cost Feasible Plan
- 7.2: Tiered Financial Plans



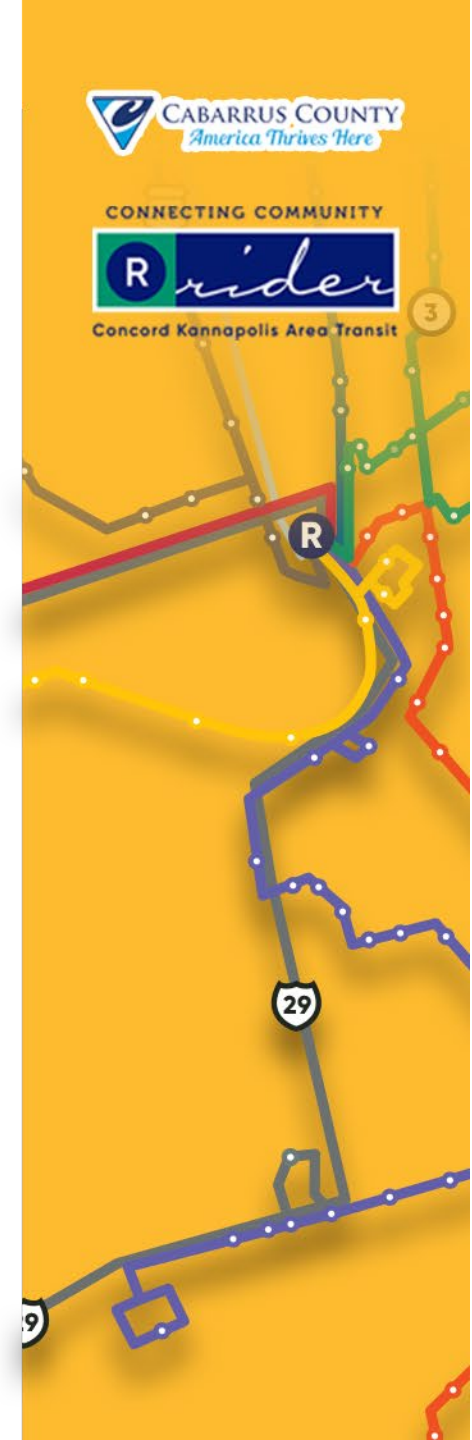
T8: Final Documentation & Executive Summary

- 8.1: Draft & Final LRTP
- 8.2: Draft & Final Executive Summary
- 8.3: Presentations (15)



Project Budget

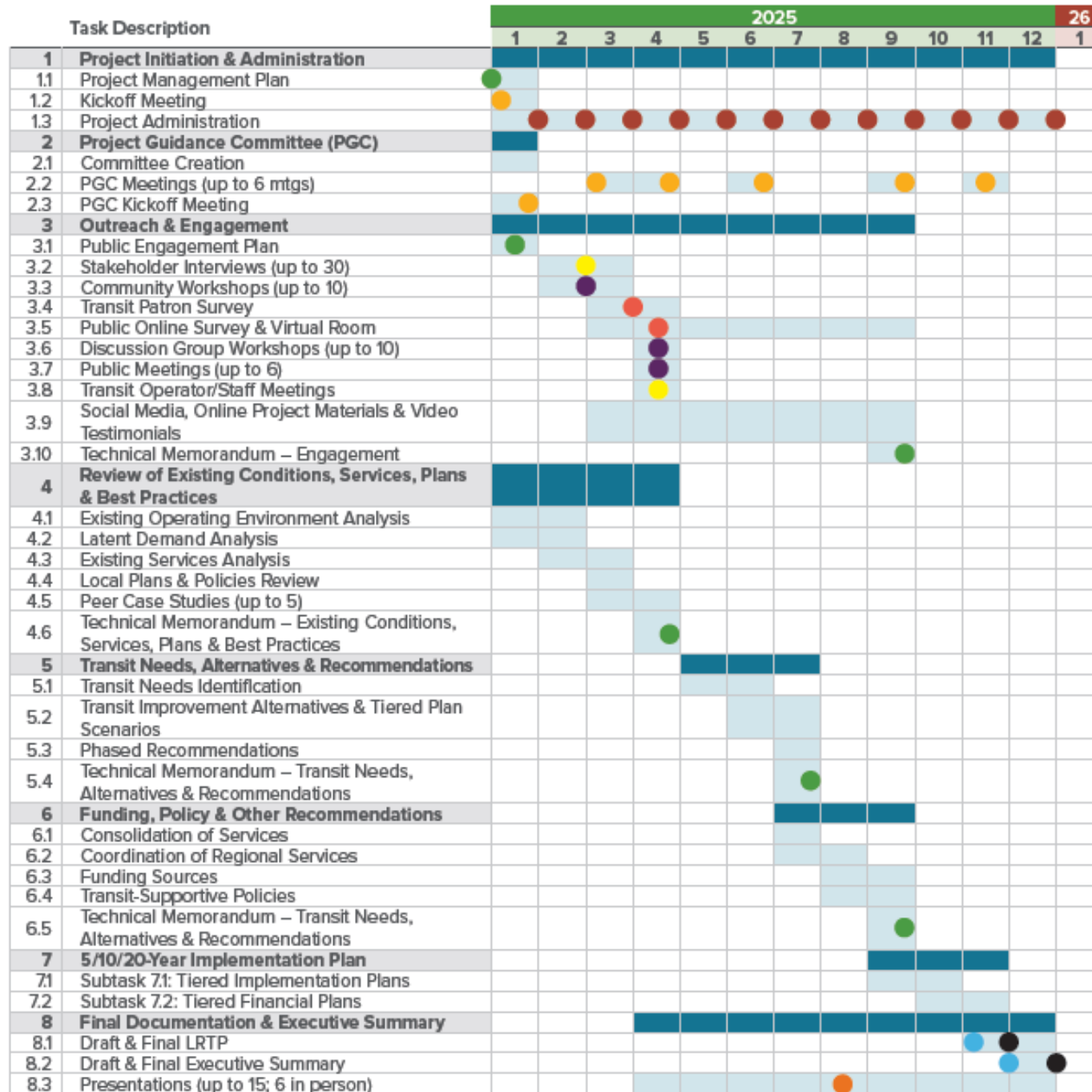
Task Description		Task Totals	
		Hours	Fee
Task 1	Project Initiation & Management	126	\$24,045
Task 2	Project Guidance Committee (PGC)	144	\$28,782
Task 3	Outreach & Engagement	1002	\$151,436
Task 4	Review of Existing Conditions, Services, Plans and Best Practices	399	\$63,121
Task 5	Transit Needs, Alternatives & Recommendations	190	\$32,874
Task 6	Funding, Policy & Other Recommendations	223	\$38,171
Task 7	5/10/20-Year Implementation Plan	120	\$23,758
Task 8	Final Documentation & Executive Summary	174	\$32,712
Total Direct Labor (all tasks, all consultants)		2,378	\$394,899
Total Direct Expenses (survey labor, videographer, travel, printing, etc.)			\$45,598
Total Fee			\$440,497



Proposed Schedule

Legend

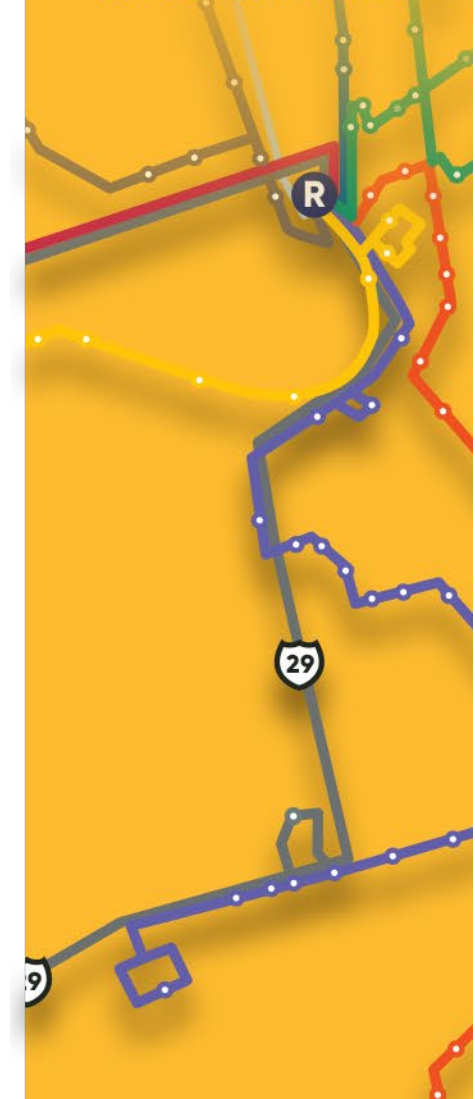
- Monthly Status Report
- PMP/Summary of Findings
- Kickoff/Coordination Meeting
- Workshop/Public Meetings
- Draft Study Report
- Final Study Report
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Presentations
- Patron/Online Surveys



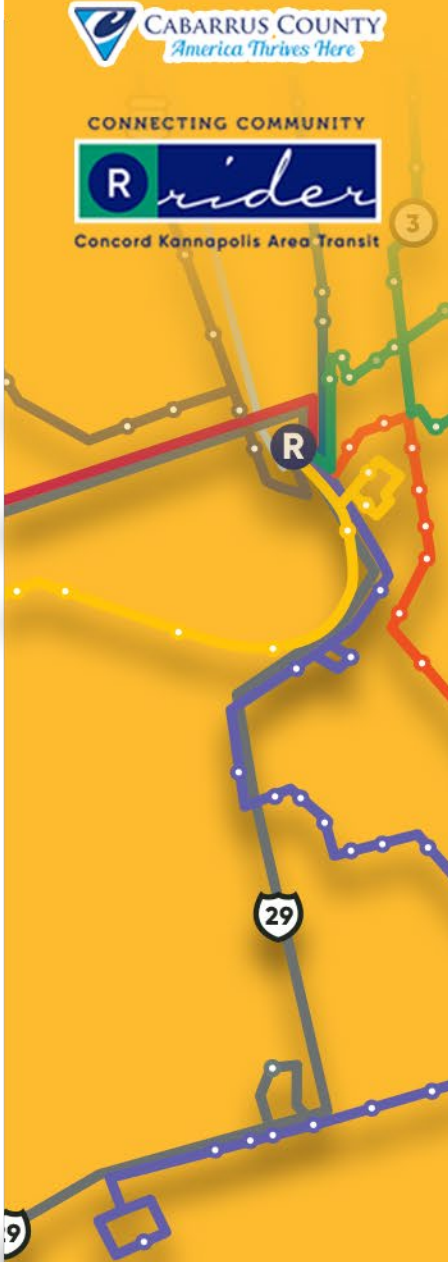
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Concord Kannapolis Area Transit



Questions & Discussion



MINUTES

Concord Kannapolis Area Transit Commission

February 28th, 2025, 8:30 am

Rider Transit Center

MEMBERS:

Mayor Darrel Hinnant-City of Kannapolis
Diane Berry-City of Kannapolis
Darrell Jackson- City of Kannapolis
Betty Stocks-City of Concord
John Sweat-City of Concord

OTHERS:

Doyle Bussey-Clearwater Arts Studio
Andy Christy-Rider Transit
Phil Conrad- CRMPO
Taylor Cox-Benesch
Randall Farwell-Benesch
Sarah Gay-Clearwater Arts Studio
Wilmer Melton-City of Kannapolis
Obdulio Oden-Transdev
Joel Rey-Benesch
Kristin-Roe-City of Concord
Joshua Smith-City of Concord
Kelly Strong-Cabarrus County
Paige Tamaro-City of Concord
Jaime Tippet Poe- Rider Transit
L.J. Weslowski- Rider Transit

Call to Order, Quorum, and Approval of Minutes

Mayor Hinnant called the meeting to order at 8:31 am, declared a quorum.

No individuals were present for public comment.

Mayor Hinnant requested a motion to approve the minutes of the Concord Kannapolis Area Transit Commission meeting from 10/24/2024.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve; Ms. Stocks second. Minutes approved unanimously as presented.

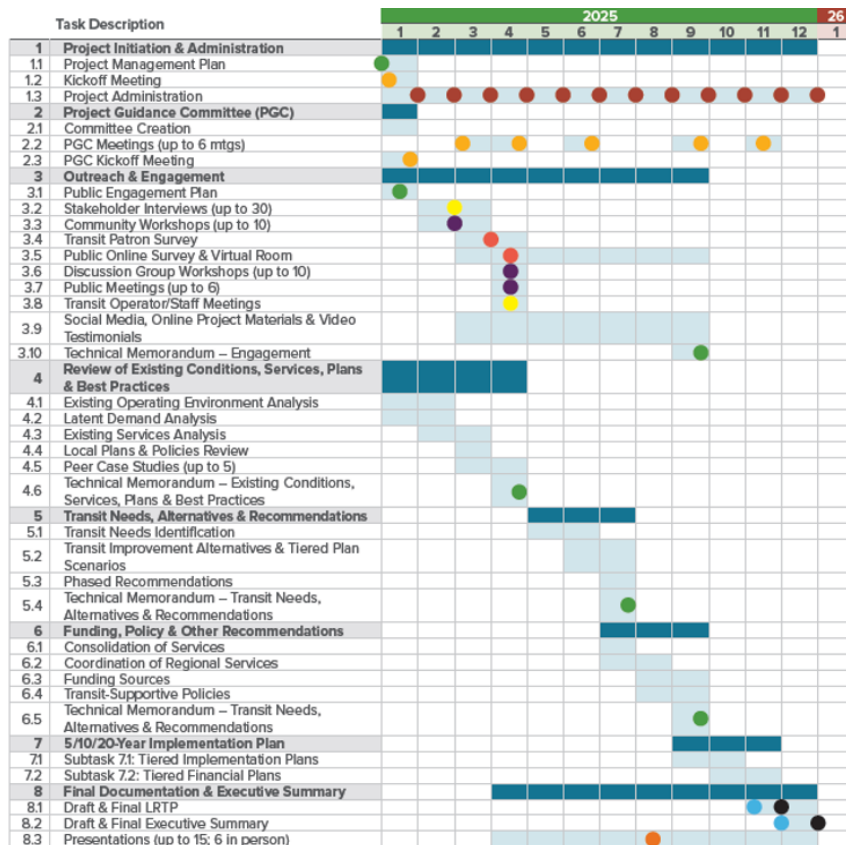
Mr. Weslowski introduced Joel Rey with Benesch, and Sarah Gay and Boyle Bussey with Clearwater Arts Studio.

Long Range Public Transit Plan Task Order Approval

Using PowerPoint, Mr. Rey presented.

Mr. Rey gave an overview of the Project Work Plan and information about each task, the project budget of \$440,497, and the proposed schedule.

Task Description		Task Totals	
		Hours	Fee
Task 1	Project Initiation & Management		
		126	\$24,045
Task 2	Project Guidance Committee (PGC)		
		144	\$28,782
Task 3	Outreach & Engagement		
		1002	\$151,436
Task 4	Review of Existing Conditions, Services, Plans and Best Practices		
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		120	\$23,758
Task 8	Final Documentation & Executive Summary		
		174	\$32,712
Total Direct Labor (all tasks, all consultants)		2,378	\$394,899
Total Direct Expenses (survey labor, videographer, travel, printing, etc.)			\$45,598
Total Fee			\$440,497



Mayor Dusch stated that he could see the need to understand how the bus service is helping our citizens but asked about the funding for the study and the funding for after the study. Mr. Weslowski stated that funding for the study is 80% federally funded and 20% local, which is 10% from Concord and 10% from Kannapolis and is in the budget. As far as after that study, any implementation would likely need a sales tax referendum to pay for the plan, but it will help us decide how the future of transit looks.

Mayor Dusch clarified that this would help us to go after additional federal funding. Mr. Weslowski stated that that is correct. You must have a plan for it first to be able to unlock any additional funding down the road.

Mr. Jackson asked if the primary motivation for this plan is to allow us future funding. Mr. Weslowski stated that the primary motivation is what the community wants in transit, but it could open future funding.

Mr. Jackson stated that we have done studies like this before. Mr. Weslowski agreed that we have and the only thing we got done out of the last Long-Range Plan was the Consolidation Study, which has not moved forward to date either.

Mayor Dusch asked how we go after additional funding without this plan. Mr. Weslowski stated that we do not.

Ms. Stocks asked how long the plans were able to be applicable. Mr. Weslowski stated that outside of COVID, the plans were completed every 5 years, but with microtransit and changes in mobility, we felt the need to redo the study completely instead of just updating it.

Mr. Christy stated that without the plan, we just maintain the status quo. Mayor Dusch stated that we are one of the fastest growing communities.

Mr. Conrad stated that a lot has changed in the last 5 years and asked what role transit staff sees the Transit Commission taking in this study. Mr. Weslowski stated that he would like all the Transit Commission to partake in the process and keep us guided.

Ms. Berry asked what the last grant we got was. Mr. Weslowski stated that we have only received bus and bus facility funding for replacement vehicles.

Mr. Berry asked how we know we can provide the service if we are asked for it by the community. Mr. Weslowski stated that that would be the decision of the Transit Commission.

Mr. Melton commented that Kannapolis has already budgeted their 10% local share of the budget. Mr. Jackson reiterated that this plan would put us in a position to qualify for federal funding.

Recommendation/Action: Review and consider approval of staff recommendation for approval of the task order.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve award of Benesch for Long Range Transit Plan Ms. Stocks second. Unanimous

Public Art in Transit

Using a PowerPoint, Mr. Gay and Mr. Bussey presented.

Public Art Commission (PAC) key aspects:

- To feature and support local Cabarrus County artists, bolstering local creative community.
- Wrapped bus will provide a moving art experience throughout the community.

- Bus down time for wrap application: approximately 1 day
- Vendors request indoor area for best install.
- Wraps can last at least 5 years. Plan is to remove after 3-5 years.
- Removal within 5 years ensures wrap removal warranty. Installation vendor can remove.
- Concord staff will manage project and associated contracts.

Mr. Jackson clarified that the cost would be covered by the Cabarrus Public Art Commission budget or if there would be sponsorship.

Ms. Gay stated this is an ambassador project and if it is successful they may be able to pull in sponsors for the future.

Recommendation/Action: Receive a presentation and request from the Concord Public Art Commission to place public art on the exterior of one of Rider Transit's buses.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve the request from the Concord Public Art Commission to solicit designs for bus wraps from local artists and return to CKTC with final design. Ms. Sweat second. Unanimous

CRMPO Long Range Transportation Plan Update

Mr. Conrad presented that MPO staff are updating the Cabarrus Rowan MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan to incorporate the changes from the last Cabarrus County Long-Range Transportation Master Plan. The MPO's last update was in April 2022. The MTP will be updated again in 2030 to incorporate the next LRPTM.

Recommendation/Action: Review and consider the request to re-endorse the current LRPTM for inclusion in the 2055 MTP and regional travel model (multiple counties including Mecklenburg).

Mr. Sweat made a motion to re-endorse the current LRPTM for inclusion in the 2055 MTP and regional travel model. Ms. Berry second. Unanimous

Reports/Other Business

- Replacement Van Update-Mr. Weslowski stated that all four LTVs have been replaced with the 4 Ford Transit Vans.
- 2024 Ridership Update-Mr. Weslowski presented that our ridership is currently at 60,500 passengers higher than in 2023.

Concord Kannapolis Area Transit Ridership Summary

Fixed Route Ridership								
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	32527	29366	35154	32795	19946	13670	26317	26781
February	33599	30321	32851	31073	23498	20251	25535	28616
March	34813	32443	35038	25626	36652	23914	28482	31228
April	32820	33153	33822	15732	36209	24336	26145	32730
May	32719	35578	36735	18489	36769	24132	28564	32920
June	33987	38320	36931	22239	35537	26252	27521	32708
July	32776	36564	35282	22975	27155	24776	27290	33752
August	37535	42211	38455	22020	27824	26857	31323	37532
September	33850	35060	35590	21712	27014	27278	27870	33401
October	35584	39504	37727	24501	28779	27419	29829	38060
November	33804	33595	32930	22073	25692	25003	27854	33670
December	32746	30693	32848	19994	24882	24418	26707	32915
TOTALS	406760	416808	423363	279229	349957	288306	333437	394313

Fixed Route Passengers Per Revenue Hour								
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	11.56	10.59	10.32	9.62	5.94	4.77	7.72	7.90
February	12.12	10.91	10.37	9.52	7.42	6.39	8.06	8.71
March	11.28	9.98	10.07	7.31	10.39	6.78	8.07	8.98
April	11.46	9.80	9.92	4.62	11.26	7.19	7.78	9.64
May	10.97	10.44	10.78	5.50	11.61	7.13	8.38	9.68
June	11.40	11.32	10.99	6.53	11.14	7.7	8.08	9.74
July	11.15	10.80	10.81	6.65	8.51	7.37	8.12	9.91
August	12.16	11.96	10.97	6.33	8.4	7.61	8.88	10.72
September	11.85	10.82	10.90	6.60	8.22	8.3	8.49	10.27
October	11.61	11.20	10.69	6.99	8.27	7.88	8.51	10.79
November	11.75	10.25	10.09	6.76	8.06	7.6	8.6	10.32
December	11.14	9.82	9.71	5.87	7.25	7.16	8.11	9.73
TOTALS	11.54	10.66	10.47	6.86	8.87	7.16	8.23	9.70

ADA Paratransit Ridership								
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	727	786	1014	1233	1166	1291	1877	1690
February	755	887	1050	1238	1175	1358	1573	1646
March	932	972	1066	887	1558	1626	1781	1590
April	804	903	1117	550	1555	1349	1565	1435
May	864	1005	1015	637	1464	1530	1609	1523
June	837	893	918	997	1370	1638	1629	1410
July	819	840	956	1065	1305	1500	1597	1432
August	862	995	1134	1191	1233	1740	1978	1595
September	864	895	1137	1234	1286	1553	1511	1466
October	957	1147	1175	1211	1304	1550	1728	1625
November	881	972	1132	1221	1424	1731	1594	1428
December	885	781	1087	1247	1463	1651	1465	1407
TOTALS	10187	11076	12801	12711	16303	18517	19907	18247

Total System Ridership (since April 2004)	
Fixed Route	7,854,937
Paratransit	151,613

- Other Business-Mr. Christy presented that the City of Concord Finance Department has plans to provide status updates of projects including budgets to actuals, which may start in the next meeting in April.
- Ms. Berry asked if there was any additional information regarding the previously discussed VA transportation.
Mr. Weslowski stated that there has not been a follow-up from VA staff at this time.
Mr. Melton mentioned a possible rekindling of the Rowan Express
Mr. Weslowski stated that there was discussion about initiating a true express service to link Concord and Kannapolis to Salisbury and then to VA with limited hours, but no additional information at this time.
- Next Meetings – April 2025 and beyond.

Mayor Hinnant requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Berry made a motion; Ms. Sweat second. Unanimous. With no additional discussion or items on the agenda; meeting adjourned at 10:03 am.