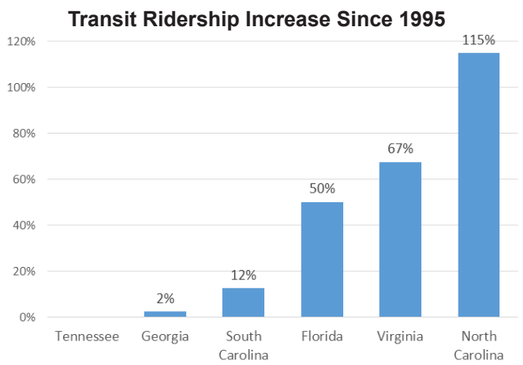
North Carolina Transit Moves Millions:

In 2016, the state's transit systems provided 74 million trips connecting riders to jobs, health care, education and retail. North Carolinians enjoy transit service in all 100 counties — in major urban centers, small towns and rural areas, from Murphy to Manteo. With combined state, local and federal investment and strong community partnerships, the state's transit ridership has grown by more than 115 percent since 1995. Thanks to the North Carolina General Assembly, the state's annual transit investment reached $93 million for 2018, helping connect even more North Carolinians to opportunities.



Source: National Transit Database 2016 Time Series

Changing North Carolina:

One of the nation's fastest-growing states, North Carolina expects to see its population exceed 13.7 million by 2040 (a 44 percent increase from 2010). Along with this growth, our state will see:

- More urbanization: Metropolitan areas will absorb most of the growth. By 2040, 70 percent of our residents will live in urban areas.
- Less rural growth: Smaller towns and rural areas will grow more slowly, and some rural counties will continue to lose population.
- A rapidly aging population: By 2036 there will be more than 1 million North Carolinians age 65 or older — a 65 percent increase over 2016.
- More low-wage earners: Between 2014 and 2024, when 550,000 jobs will be added across the state, 35 percent of new jobs are expected to pay less than $650 per week.

Combatting Traffic & Peak Period Delays:

Traffic congestion weakens our quality of life and economic competitiveness. Transit investments, more compact land uses, and innovations such as Bus on Shoulder can make transit trip times more competitive, and broaden employers' access to skilled workers.

Embracing Innovation & Technology:

North Carolina employs the latest management tools to deliver greater operating efficiencies and a better customer experience. Every transit system providing more than 300 daily passenger trips uses advanced scheduling software. Transit agencies are embracing vehicles powered with electricity, compressed natural gas and propane to reduce operating costs and emissions. NCDOT and NCSU have partnered on the EcoPRT personal rapid transit demonstration project to move passengers between Centennial Campus and Main Campus. Driverless vehicles like this may one day reduce transit costs and improve accessibility for persons with disabilities and other mobility challenges.

Connecting North Carolinians to Opportunities:

For North Carolinians with financial constraints or impairments that prevent them from operating personal vehicles or driving long distances, transit service means the difference between being stuck in one place and getting to education, training, jobs, medical appointments and other needs. Increasingly, our transit network provides a vital connection to opportunities for North Carolinians.

Nicholi Nazare has big dreams. Someday, he hopes to move to New York City and become an actor on Broadway. For now, though, he'd be happy with better options for getting to and from school.

A second-year student at Southwestern Community College (SCC) in Sylva, Nazare lives about 30 miles away in Swain County. Each day, his mother drops him off at the Bryson City Museum's bus stop on her way to work. Swain County Transit picks Nazare up and gives him a lift to SCC, where he is working toward associate degrees in business administration and college transfer — just in case the acting career doesn't work out.

He is thankful for the transportation but has ideas on improving the service. "If they weren't so strict on their hours," Nazare said, "I could take evening classes and get my degrees sooner." Once he earns those degrees, there's no limit on where he could go.

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

STRATEGIC PLAN

Connecting North Carolinians to Opportunities

NORTH CAROLINA'S TRANSIT STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Vision

Connecting North Carolinians to opportunities

Mission

Improve quality of life for North Carolinians by:

- Building healthy communities;
- Supporting job creation and economic development; and
- Providing equal opportunities so all people can thrive

Strategies

- Building thriving, healthy communities—Partner for a successful future
- Improving access to jobs and economic development—Support local transit systems
- Connecting communities to opportunities—Build The Connected Statewide Network

Tactics

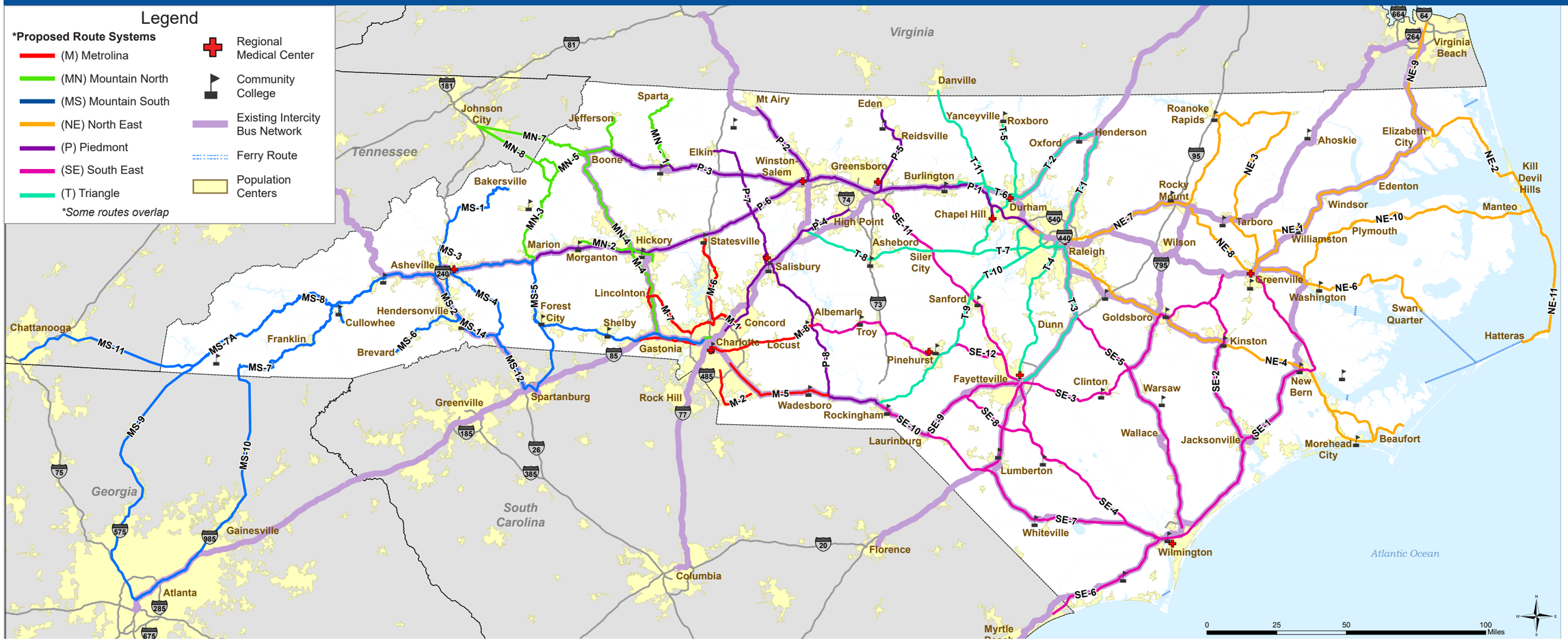
- Provide enhanced access for seniors, veterans and persons with disabilities
- Build quality transit stops and safe pedestrian crossings
- Support transit-friendly land use
- Establish regional multi-county commuter services
- Enable new local services
- Engage the business community in strengthening job creation and economic development
- Push planning beyond local boundaries
- Support and enable greater flexibility in funding transit investments
- Build The Connected Statewide Network

SEE CONNECTED STATEWIDE NETWORK MAP INSIDE

NCDOT.GOV/NCTRANSIT/STRATEGICPLAN/

THE CONNECTED STATEWIDE NETWORK

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC PLAN
Connecting North Carolinians to Opportunities



Route	Communities Served
NE - 1	Elizabeth City, Greenville
NE - 2	Elizabeth City, Kitty Hawk, Nags Head, Manteo
NE - 3	Roanoke Rapids, Murfreesboro, Greenville
NE - 4	Beaufort, Havelock, New Bern, Kinston, Goldsboro, Raleigh, Chapel Hill
NE - 5	Davis, Havelock, New Bern, Greenville
NE - 6	Swan Quarter, Belhaven, Washington, Greenville
NE - 7	Roanoke Rapids, Rocky Mount, Raleigh
NE - 8	Rocky Mount, Greenville
NE - 9	Elizabeth City, Norfolk, Va.
NE - 10	Greenville, Plymouth, Manteo
NE - 11	Manteo, Hatteras

Route	Communities Served
SE - 1	Wilmington, Jacksonville, New Bern, Greenville
SE - 2	Jacksonville, Kinston, Greenville
SE - 3	Fayetteville, Clinton, Goldsboro, Greenville
SE - 4	Wilmington, Elizabethtown, Fayetteville
SE - 5	Wilmington, Warsaw, Benson, Raleigh
SE - 6	N. Myrtle, SC, Calabash, Shallotte, Wilmington
SE - 7	Wilmington, Whiteville, Lumberton, Fayetteville
SE - 8	Elizabethtown, St. Pauls, Raeford
SE - 9	Laurinburg, Raeford, Fayetteville
SE - 10	Rockingham, Laurinburg, Pembroke, Lumberton
SE - 11	Greensboro, Siler City, Sanford, Fayetteville
SE - 12	Albemarle, Troy, Pinehurst, Fayetteville

PROPOSED ROUTES BY REGION:

Many of North Carolina's 100 transit agencies provide out-of-county services to major medical centers and community colleges. The Connected Statewide Network would operate these routes on regular schedules, enabling all residents to take advantage of the services.

In 2017, the North Carolina General Assembly provided $2 million in funding to encourage transit agencies to work together and begin formalizing these regional routes.

The Connected Statewide Network shown here focuses on providing access to major medical centers, community colleges, major employers and transportation hubs. It is a conceptual plan that will grow over time through state and local partnerships.

Route	Communities Served
MN - 1	Sparta, North Wilkesboro
MN - 2	Morganton, Hickory, Newton
MN - 3	Boone, Marion, Asheville
MN - 4	Boone, Lenoir, Hickory, Charlotte
MN - 5	Boone, Banner Elk, Elk Park, Newland, Linville, Morganton
MN - 6	West Jefferson, Boone
MN - 7	Boone, Johnson City, Tenn.
MN - 8	Newland, Johnson City, Tenn.

Route	Communities Served	Route	Communities Served
MS - 1	Mitchell County, Mars Hill, Asheville	MS - 7A	Murphy, Bryson City, Sylva
MS - 2	Asheville, Hendersonville	MS - 8	Bryson City, Sylva, Cullowhee
MS - 3	Madison County, Weaverville, Asheville	MS - 9	Murphy, Atlanta, Ga.
MS - 4	Columbus, Chimney Rock, Asheville	MS - 10	Hayesville, Atlanta, Ga.
MS - 5	Asheville, Rutherfordton, Shelby, Charlotte Douglas Airport	MS - 11	Murphy, Chattanooga, Tenn.
		MS - 12	Columbus, Spartanburg / Greenville, SC
MS - 6	Rosman, Brevard, Etowah, Asheville	MS - 13	Rutherfordton, Spartanburg / Greenville, SC
MS - 7	Hayesville, Franklin, Sylva, Asheville	MS - 14	Asheville, Hendersonville, Columbus

Route	Communities Served
M - 1	Huntersville, Concord Mills, Harrisburg
M - 2	Monroe, Waxhaw, Arboretum Shopping Center
M - 3	Kings Mountain, Gastonia, Charlotte Douglas Airport
M - 4	Asheville, Hickory, Lincolnton, Charlotte Douglas Airport
M - 5	Wadesboro, Monroe, Matthews Independence Point Park and Ride
M - 6	Statesville, Mooresville, Davidson, Huntersville, Northlake Mall
M - 7	Lincolnton, Stanley, Mt. Holly, Northlake Mall
M - 8	Charlotte, Albemarle

Route	Communities Served
P - 1	Greensboro, Mebane, Chapel Hill
P - 2	Mt. Airy, Winston-Salem
P - 3	Boone, Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Elon, Mebane, RDU
P - 4	High Point, Thomasville, DCC, Lexington, Salisbury, China Grove, Ryder Transit Center, UNC Charlotte LRT
P - 5	Eden, Reidsville, Greensboro
P - 6	Greensboro, Asheville
P - 7	Elkin, Yadkinville, Mocksville, Salisbury
P - 8	Rockingham, Wadesboro, Albemarle, Salisbury

Route	Communities Served
T - 1	Henderson, Raleigh
T - 2	Henderson, Oxford, Duke, Chapel Hill
T - 3	Fayetteville, Benson, Raleigh, NCSU, RDU
T - 4	Fayetteville, Lillington, Raleigh
T - 5	Roxboro, Durham, Duke
T - 6	Greensboro, Burlington, Mebane, Hillsborough, Duke
T - 7	Siler City, Pittsboro, Raleigh
T - 8	Thomasville, Asheboro, Siler City, Pittsboro, Chapel Hill
T - 9	Rockingham, Pinehurst, Southern Pines, Sanford, RDU
T - 10	Sanford, NCSU, Raleigh
T - 11	Yanceyville, Hillsborough, Chapel Hill