



NORTH CAROLINA
Department of Transportation

NCDOT's Integrated Mobility Division (IMD)

Multimodal Updates

March 25, 2026

Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina



Agenda

- Presentation: *MEENC Program Overview and Update* – Darcy Downs, NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division
- Presentation: *GoCary Explorer - Maximizing Your Transit Experience* – Fabian Rodriguez, Town of Cary
- Integrated Mobility Division Updates
 - IMD Director Comments
 - Toll Credits
 - Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Work Plan
 - NC By Bus Ridership Statistics
 - Bicycle Helmet Initiative
 - Bike to School Day (May 6)
 - Multimodal Planning Grant Program and Call for Applications
 - Statewide Active Transportation Plan



NORTH CAROLINA
Department of Transportation

Mobility for Everyone, Everywhere in NC

IMD Multimodal Update Webinar

March 25th, 2026



Connecting people, products and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina

Agenda

Mobility for Everyone, Everywhere in North Carolina

- Program Purpose
- Pilot Program Implementation Snapshot
- Celebrations & Achievements
- Coalition Meeting (02/04/26)
- Program Check-up - Ridership
- Looking Ahead



Program Purpose

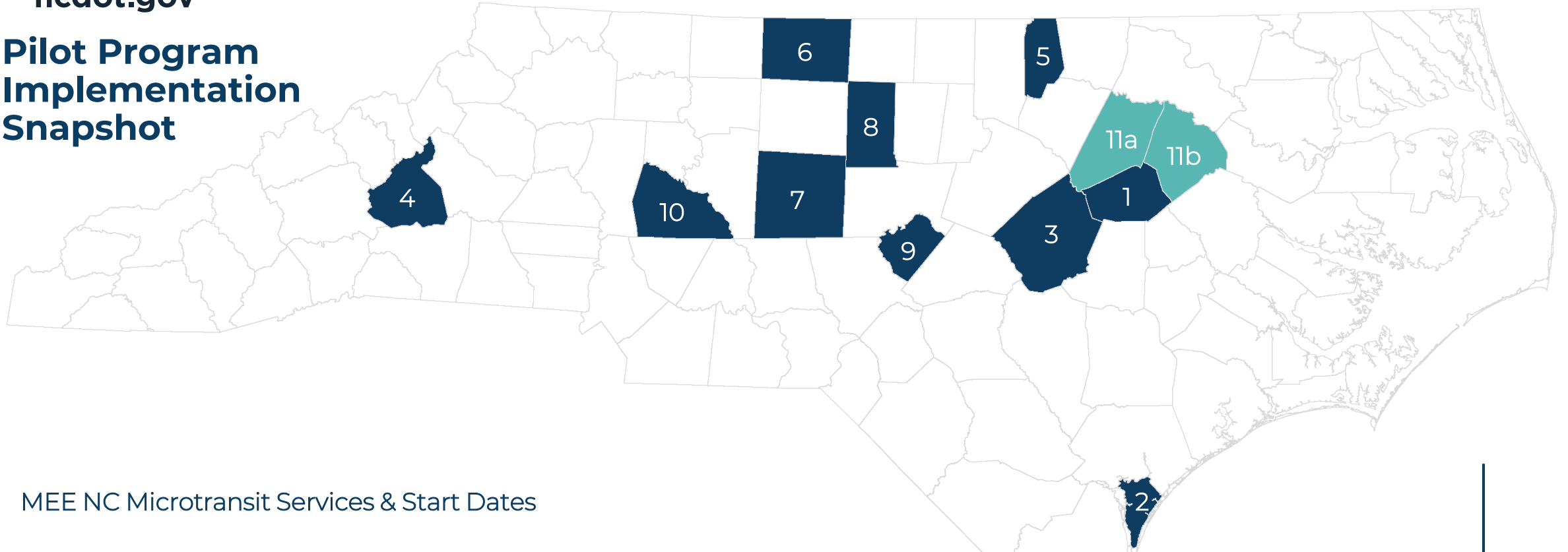
Program Purpose

From the original grant proposal:

Mobility for Everyone, Everywhere in NC (MEE NC) will accelerate the deployment of high-quality, on-demand transit services to rural, low-income communities throughout North Carolina, leading to more equitable mobility and improved access to opportunities, services, and resources for transportation disadvantaged populations.

Pilot Program Implementation Snapshot

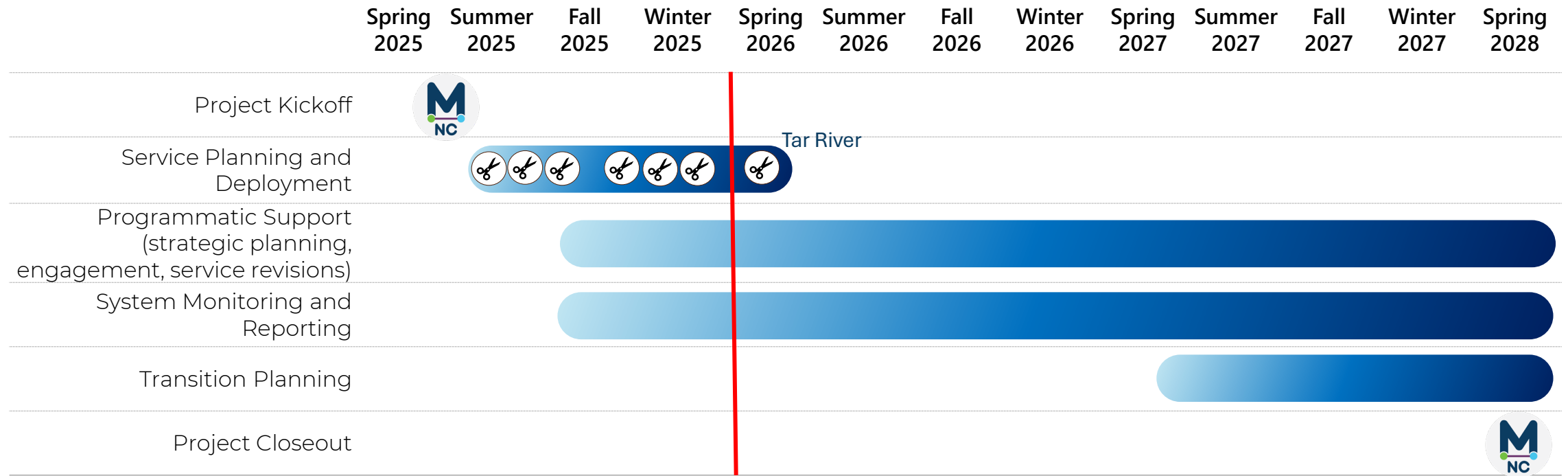
Pilot Program Implementation Snapshot



MEE NC Microtransit Services & Start Dates

										
1 Wilson's RIDE	2 RideMICRO (WAVE Transit)	3 Johnston County's QuickRIDE	4 McDowell County	5 KARTS's FLEX Ride	6 Rockingham County's LocalLink	7 Randolph County's goRandolph	8 Alamance County's ACTA	9 Sanford's BuzzLine	10 Salisbury Transit	11 Tar River Transit's TRTToGo
9/1/2020	10/11/2021	3/1/2023	5/1/2025	6/2/2025	7/7/2025	10/1/2025	10/1/2025	11/12/2025	1/19/2026	TBD

Pilot Program Implementation Snapshot



Key: Ribbon Cutting

Celebrations

System Celebrations – Ribbon Cuttings



Alamance County – Oct 2025



RCATS – Oct 2025



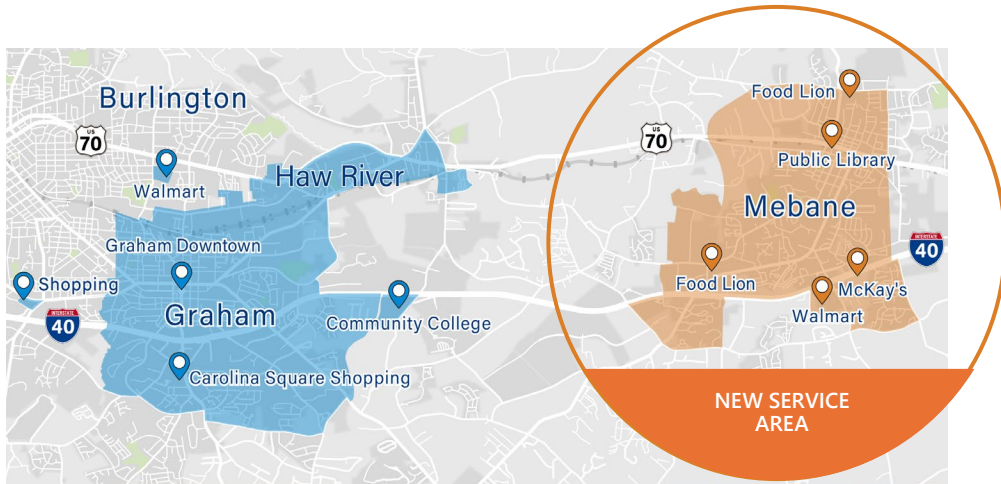
Sanford/COLTS – Nov 2025



Salisbury – Jan 2026



System Celebrations – Achievements and Events



ACTA Expansion to Mebane!



Ft. Bragg Visits Buzzline!



Mr. Laron Williams becomes RIDE's 1 Millionth passenger!

Coalition Meeting Recap

February 4th, 2026

Coalition Meeting

A platform for everyone to share feedback and learn about each other's progress.

As a group, we –

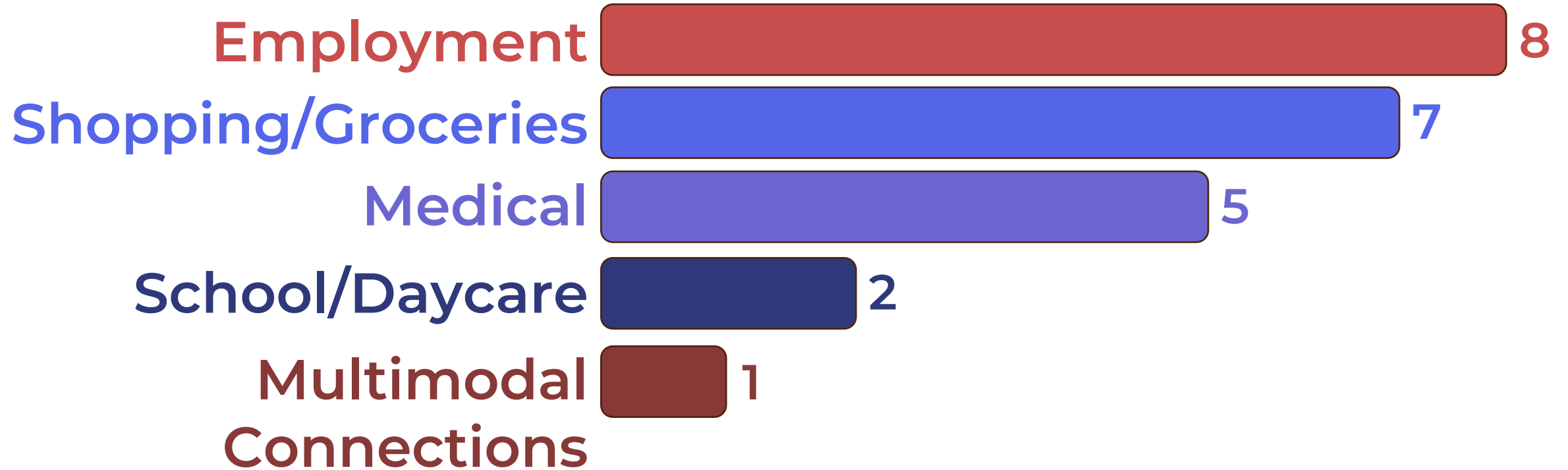
- Celebrated successes from the past quarter.
- Discussed:
 - Overall ridership
 - Individual and shared challenges
 - Best practices
- Received feedback on the MEE NC Program.



Coalition Meeting

Microtransit Key Destinations

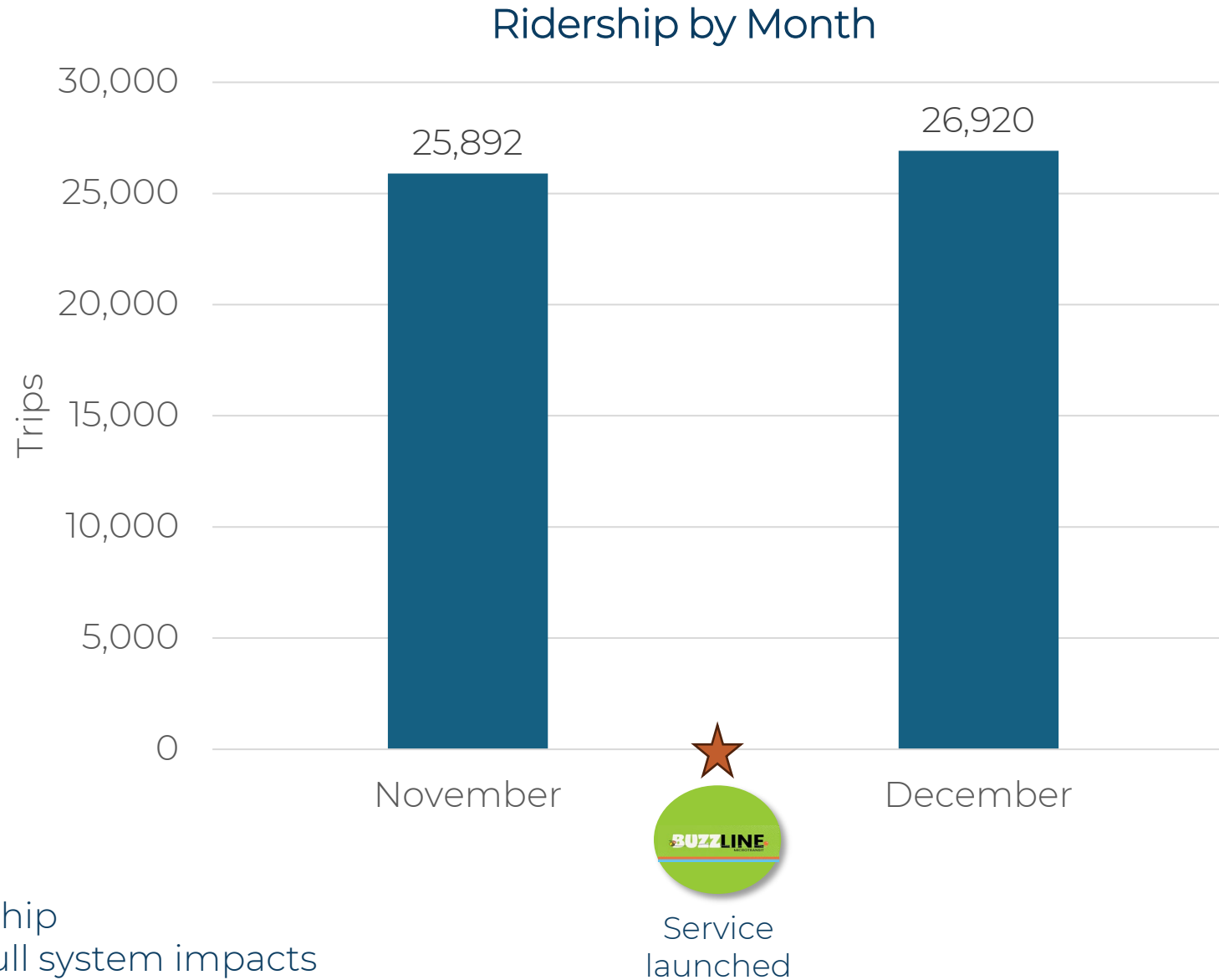
Number of Mentions in Mentimeter



Program Check-Up

Ridership and System Pulse-Checks

MEE NC Self-Reported Microtransit Ridership - Total



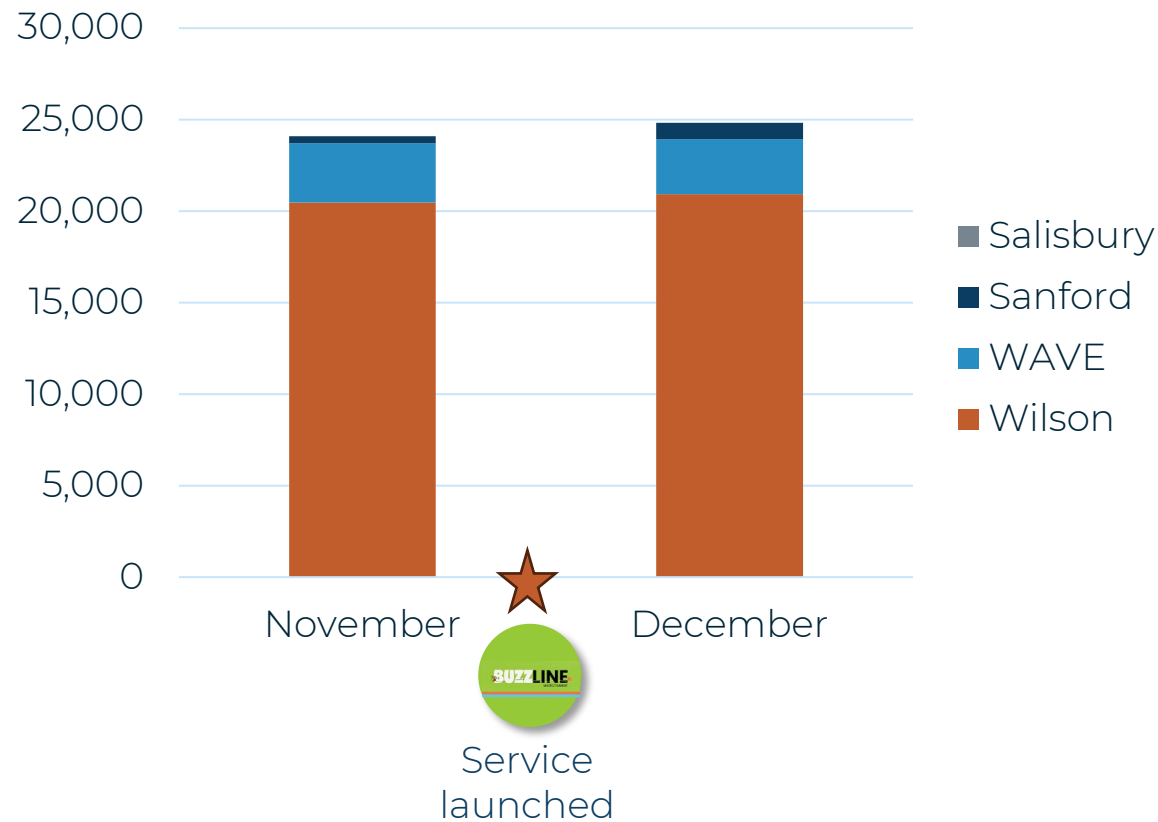
Note:

- Self-reported ridership
- Does not capture full system impacts

MEE NC Self-Reported Microtransit Ridership (by implementation type)

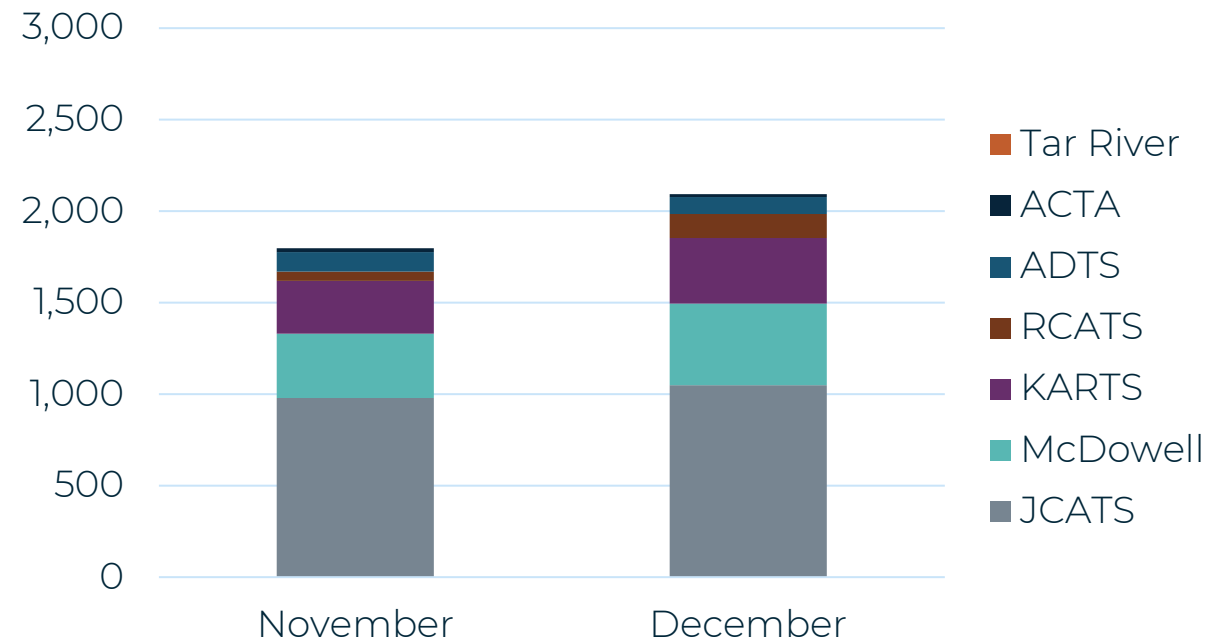
Turnkey

Vendor provides vehicles, drivers, operations, and software
4 Systems



Software as a Service

Agency operates; licenses dispatch/booking software
7 Systems

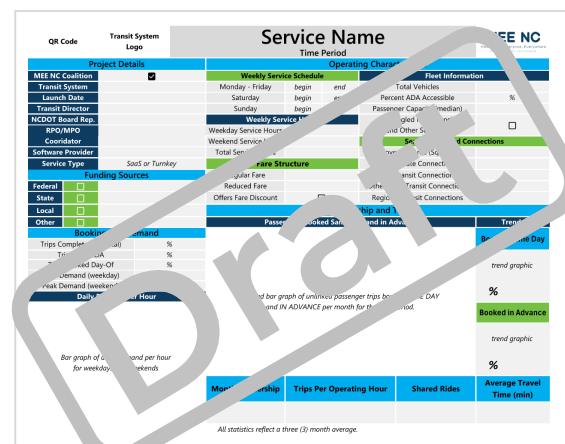


Looking Ahead

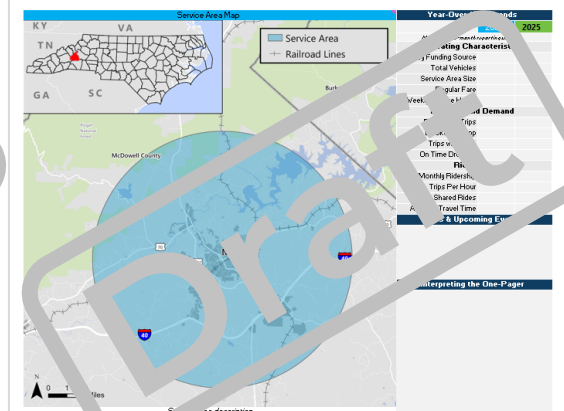
What's on Our Radar?

Collecting Data

- To understand the full impact of MEE NC on agency performance, we are pulling raw ridership data directly from the software
- Ensures common definitions and the process is not burdensome on the agency.
- Data is fully anonymized and housed at ITRE to ensure data privacy and security
- The project team is meeting every week to go over data reporting, KPIs, and one pagers.



One Pager Front



One Pager Back

What's on Our Radar?

Visibility Efforts

- Presentations Planned at
 - NCPTA (April 24-29)
 - NCAMPO (May 6-8)
- Article/whitepaper about MEE NC microtransit experience
 - Governing
 - ArcGIS
 - APA Planning Magazine
 - Other marketing highlight resources



NORTH CAROLINA™
NCPTA
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION



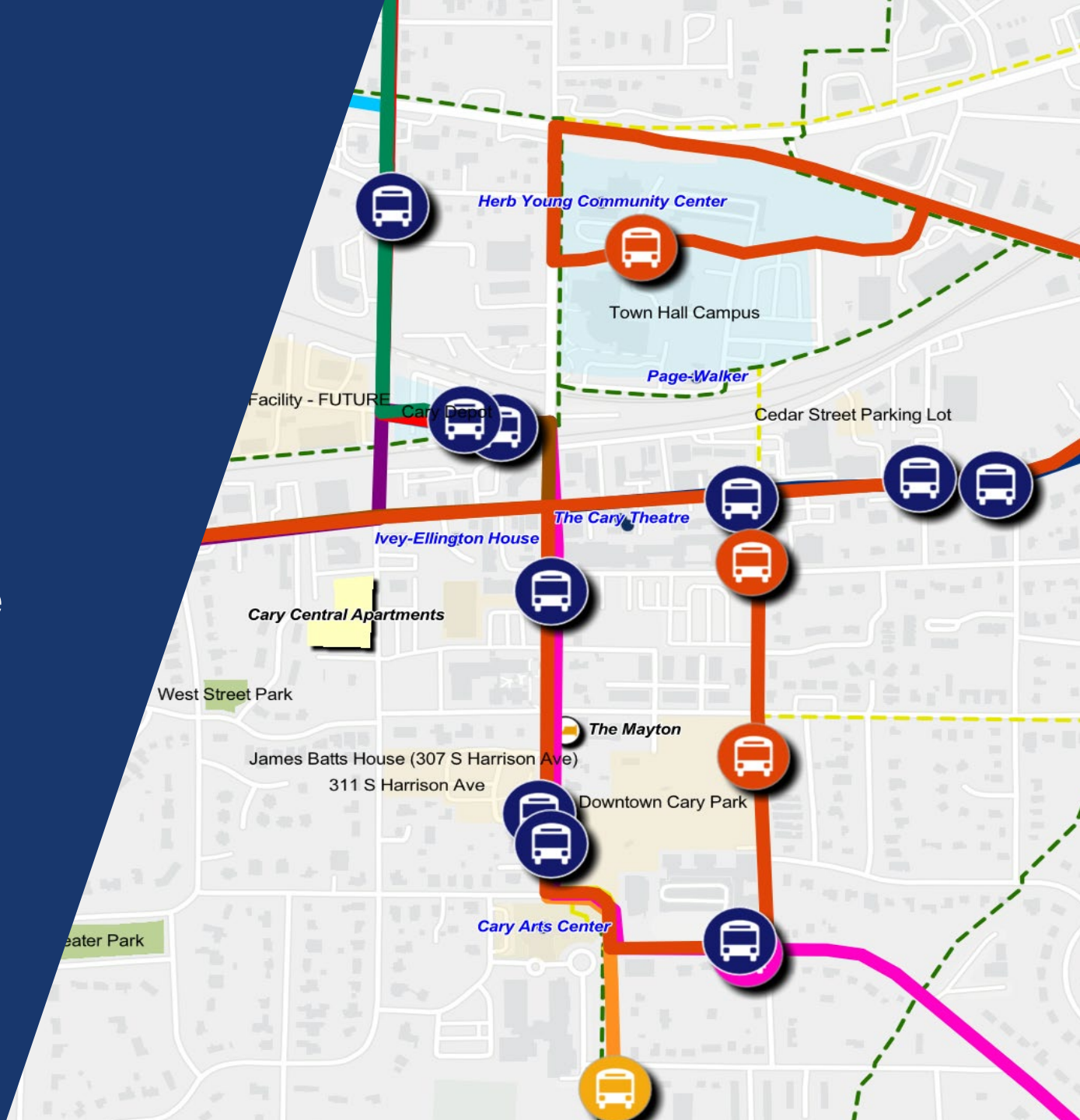
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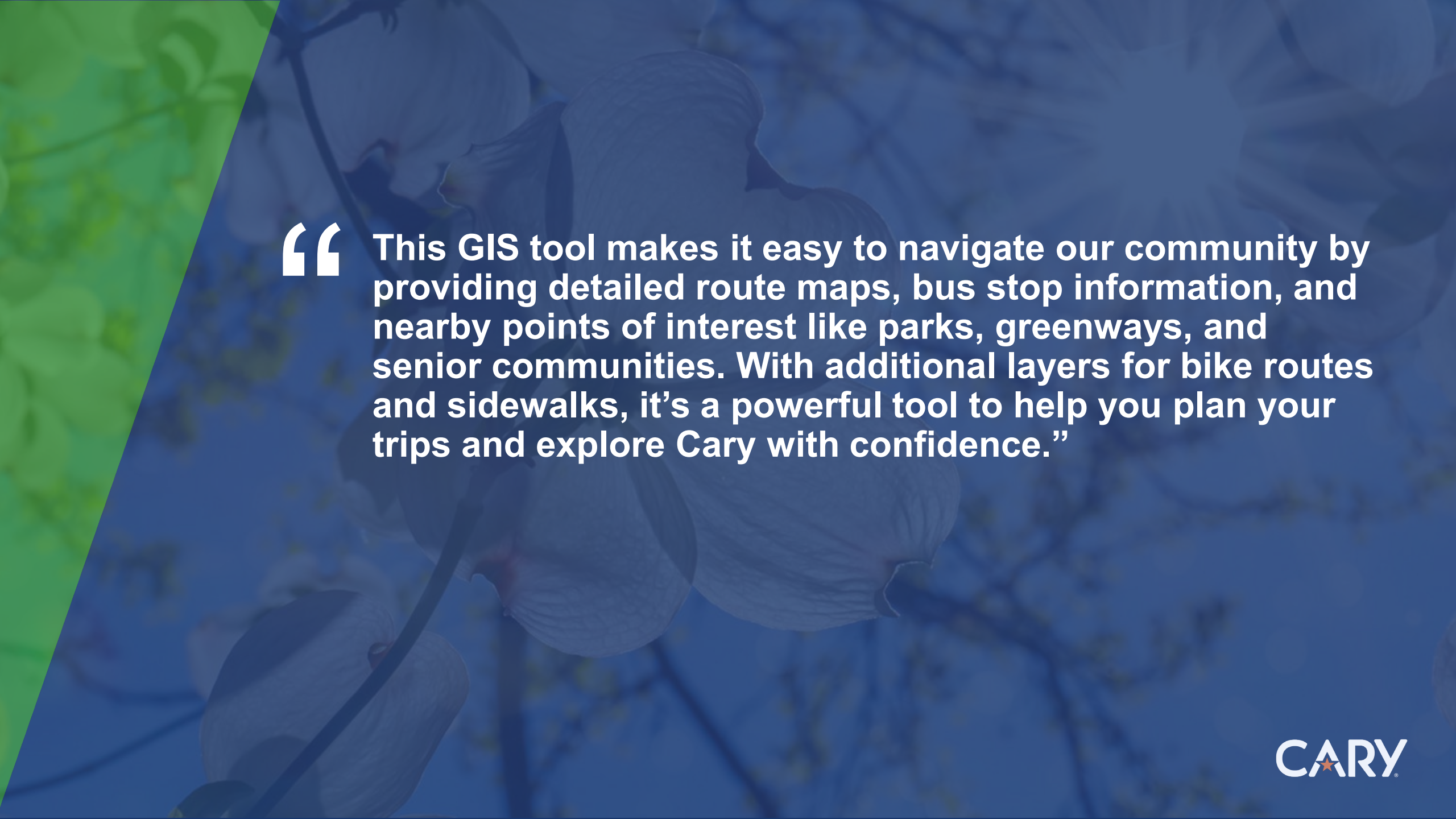




GoCary Explorer

Maximizing Your Transit Experience





“ This GIS tool makes it easy to navigate our community by providing detailed route maps, bus stop information, and nearby points of interest like parks, greenways, and senior communities. With additional layers for bike routes and sidewalks, it’s a powerful tool to help you plan your trips and explore Cary with confidence.”



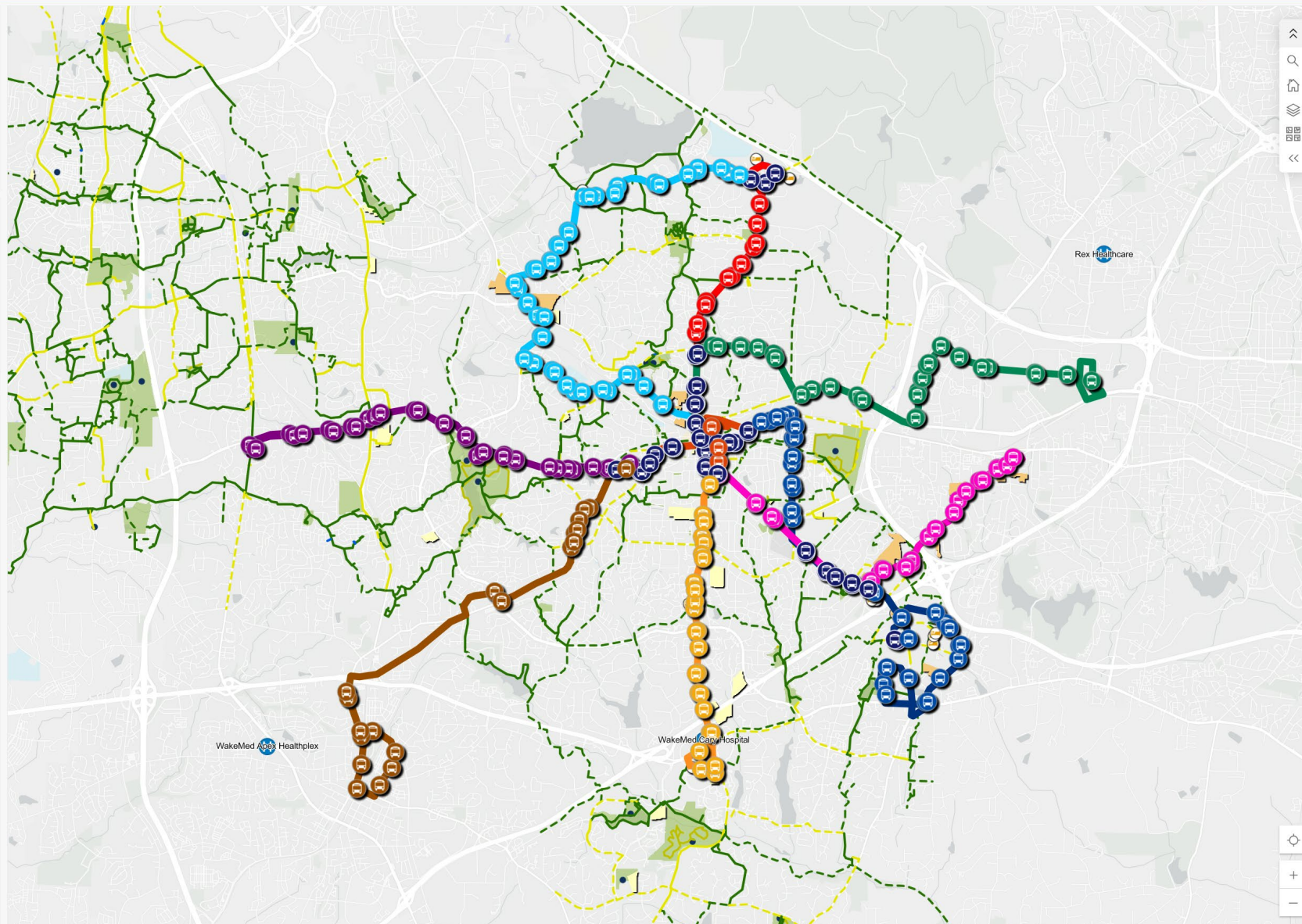
TO PLAN A TRIP AND TRACK YOUR BUS LIVE, VISIT:
<https://www.gocarylive.org/>



Select/deselect a stop below to view

Search...

- Dillard Dr at Meeting St (EB)
Stop #1913
N/A - Route - GoCary,GoTriangle
- Dillard Dr at Meeting St (WB)
Stop #11034
N/A - Route - GoCary,GoTriangle
- E Chatham St at NE Maynard Rd WB
Stop #11001
Inbound - Route - 1 GoCary,GoTriangle
- E Chatham St at Chatham Square OB
Stop #11002
Outbound - Route - 1 GoCary,GoTriangle
- SE Maynard Rd at Cary Towne Blvd
Stop #11039
Inbound - Route - 1 GoCary
- SE Maynard Rd at Cary Village Square
Stop #11040
Outbound - Route - 1 GoCary
- SE Maynard Rd at Village Greenway
Stop #11041
Inbound - Route - 1 GoCary
- SE Maynard Rd at East Cary Middle
Stop #11042
Outbound - Route - 1 GoCary
- SE Maynard Rd at Sloan Dr
Stop #11043
Outbound - Route - 1 GoCary
- SE Maynard Rd at Quinard Dr
Stop #11044
Inbound - Route - 1 GoCary
- SE Maynard Rd at Freeman Center



GoCary_Stops_2026

- 7
- 4
- 2
- 1
- 5
- 6
- 9
- 3
- DL
- Shared Stops

Transit

Cary Downtown Loop



Go Cary Routes

- Route_ID
- 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
 - 5
 - 6
 - 7
 - 9
 - Other

Apartment Complexes



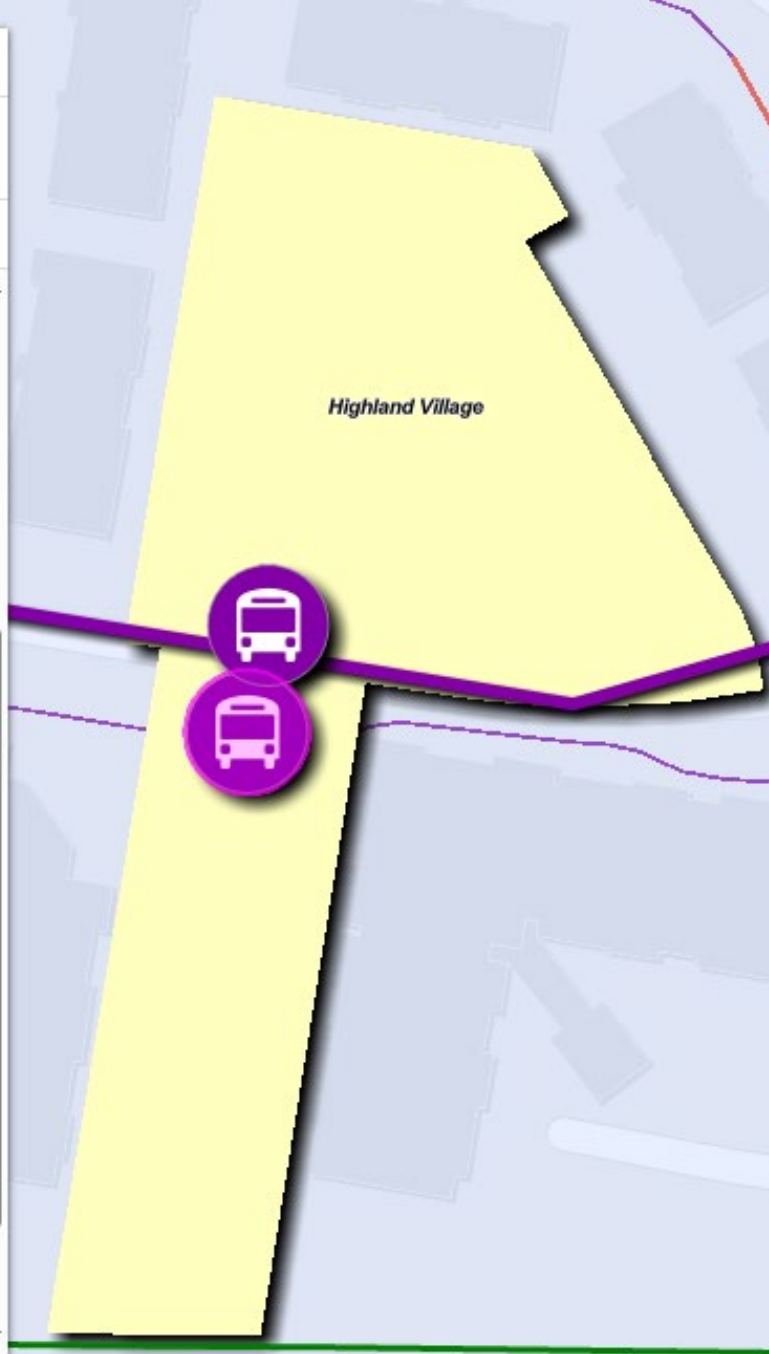

259
Total Stops



< > 1 of 2

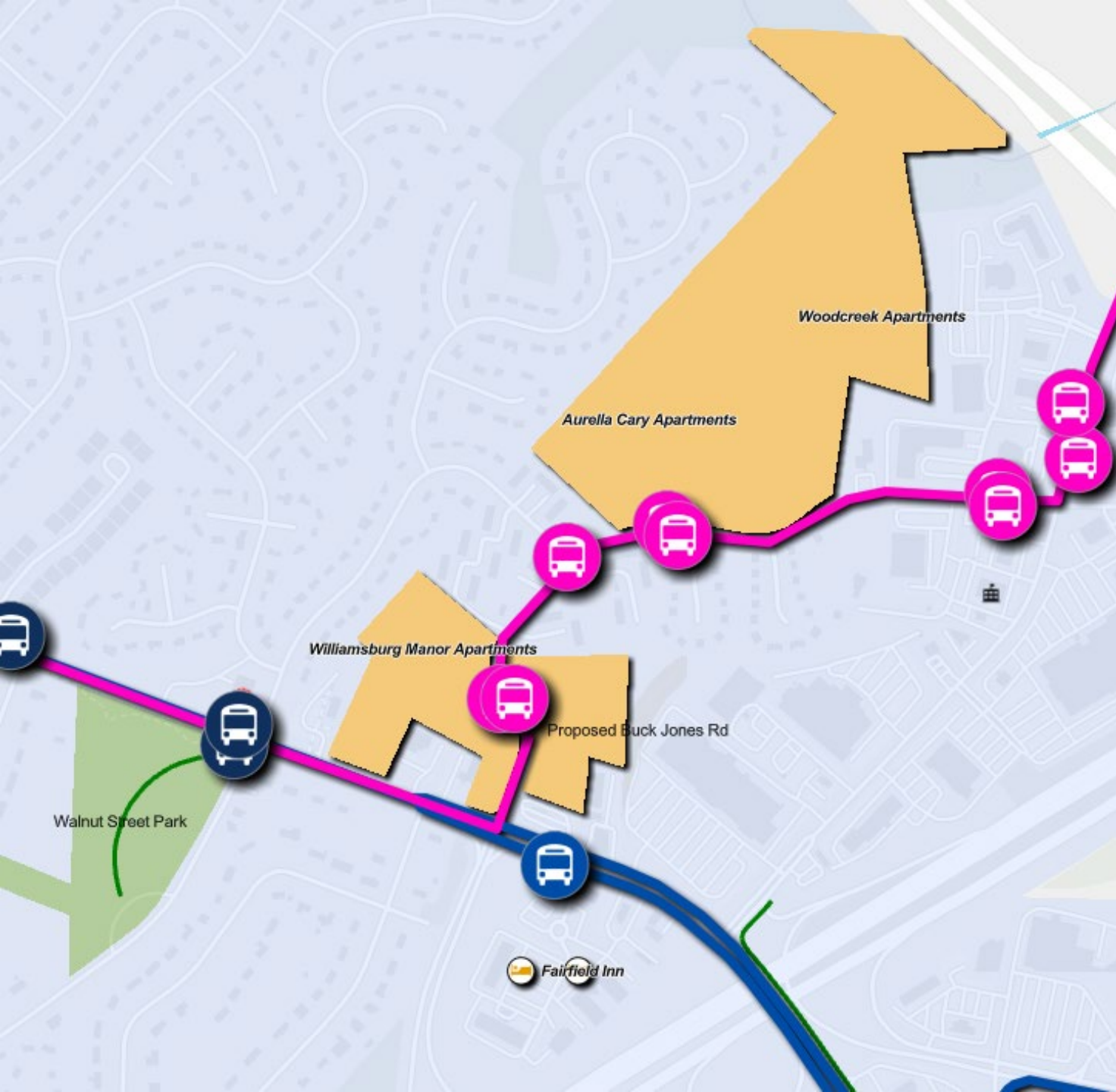
Bus Stop Information

Zoom to Pan



Features

- GoCary routes & bus stops
 - Photos of each bus stop
 - Amenities
 - Shared bus stops with other transit agencies
 - Other transit services in the area



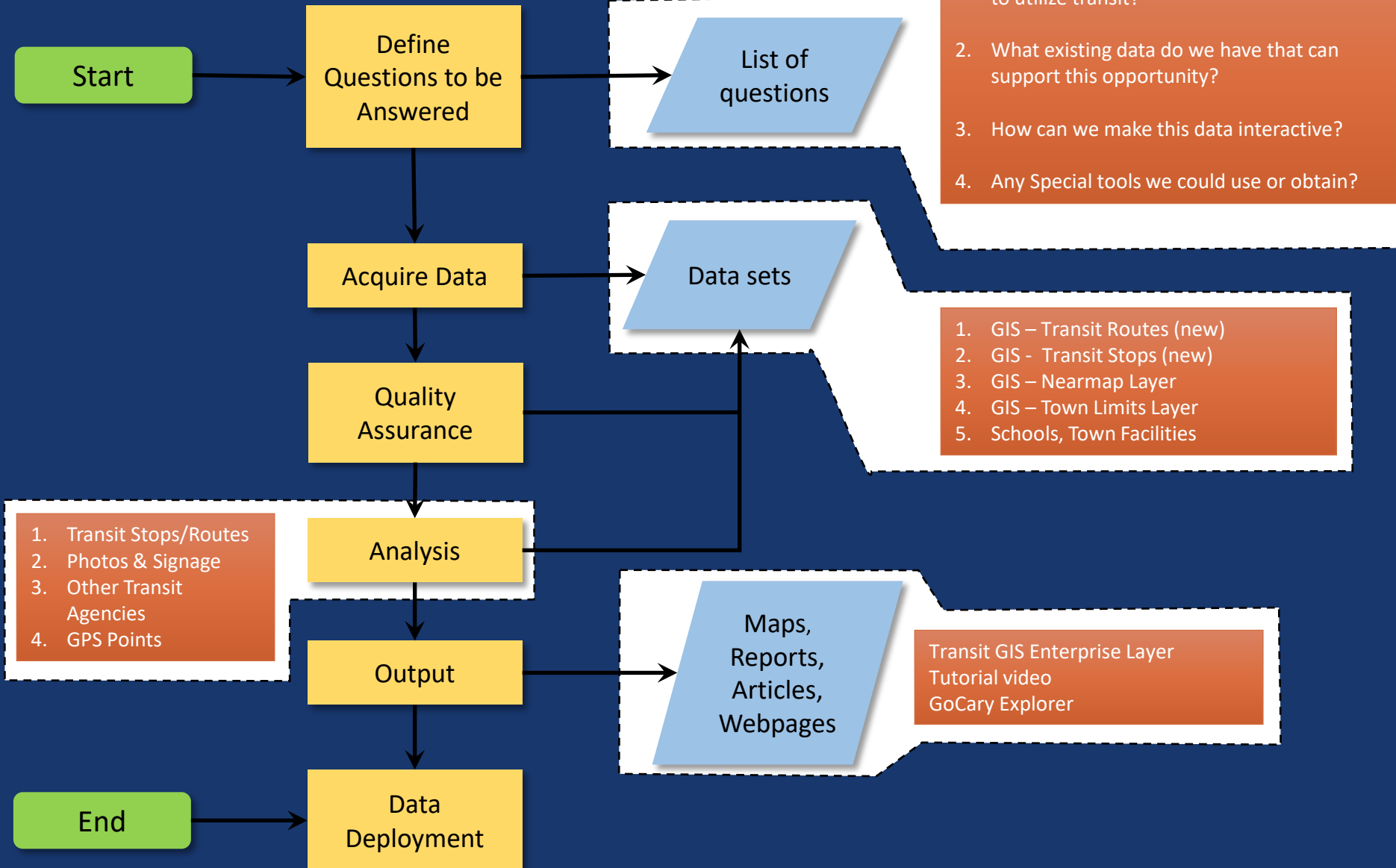
Features

- Points of Interest
 - Schools
 - Apartment Complexes
 - Hospitals
 - Senior Living Communities
 - Town Facilities
 - Parks
- Other features
 - Sidewalks
 - Greenways
 - Bike Parking Locations

How did we get here?



Project Workflow





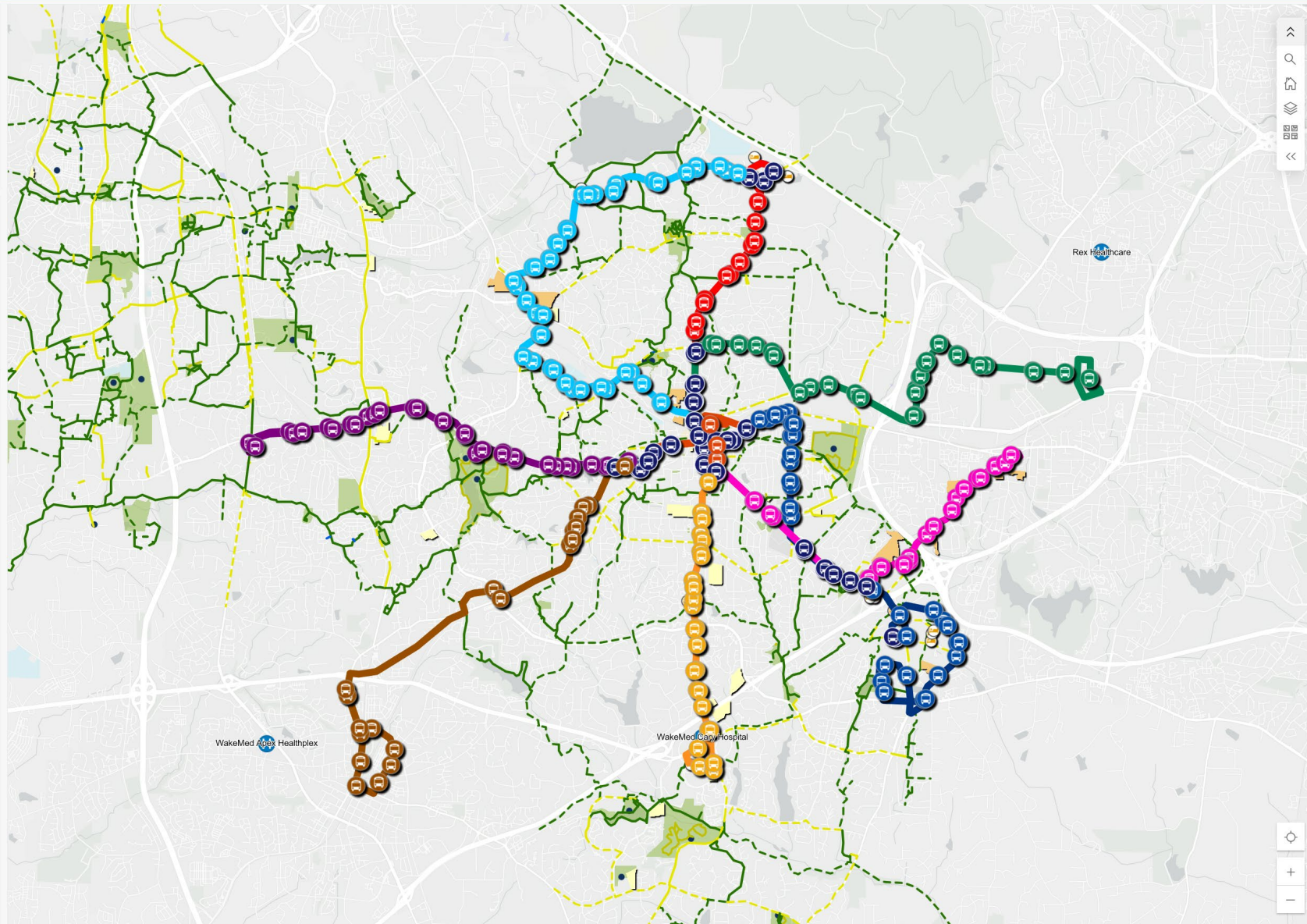
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GoCary_Stops_2026

- 7
- 4
- 2
- 1
- 5
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- 9
- 3
- DL
- Shared Stops

Transit

Cary Downtown Loop



Go Cary Routes

Route_ID

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 9
- Other

Apartment Complexes



259
Total Stops

Marketing Materials

Webpage

- GIS Website
- Dedicated GoCary Website
 - Information
 - Training
- Mobile Version
- News Article

Socia Media

- Video and General Post
 - Facebook
 - Instagram
- YouTube Tutorial Video

Outreach

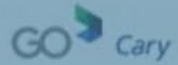
- Staff Presentations
- Community Partners
 - Dorcas Ministries Case Managers
 - Western Health & Human Services Center

GoCary Explorer – Video Tutorial

CARY GoCary

GoCary Route
Select a Route to view stops

Service Provider
Choose a Provider



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<https://www.gocarylive.org/>



Select/deselect a stop below to view

Search...

Dillard Dr at Jones Franklin Rd (WB)
Stop #1274
Inbound - Route 1 GoCary,GoTriangle

Dillard Dr at Columbus Ave
Stop #1292
Inbound - Route 1 GoCary,GoTriangle

Dillard Dr at Walnut St (Home Depot)
Stop #1313
Inbound - Route 1 GoCary,GoTriangle

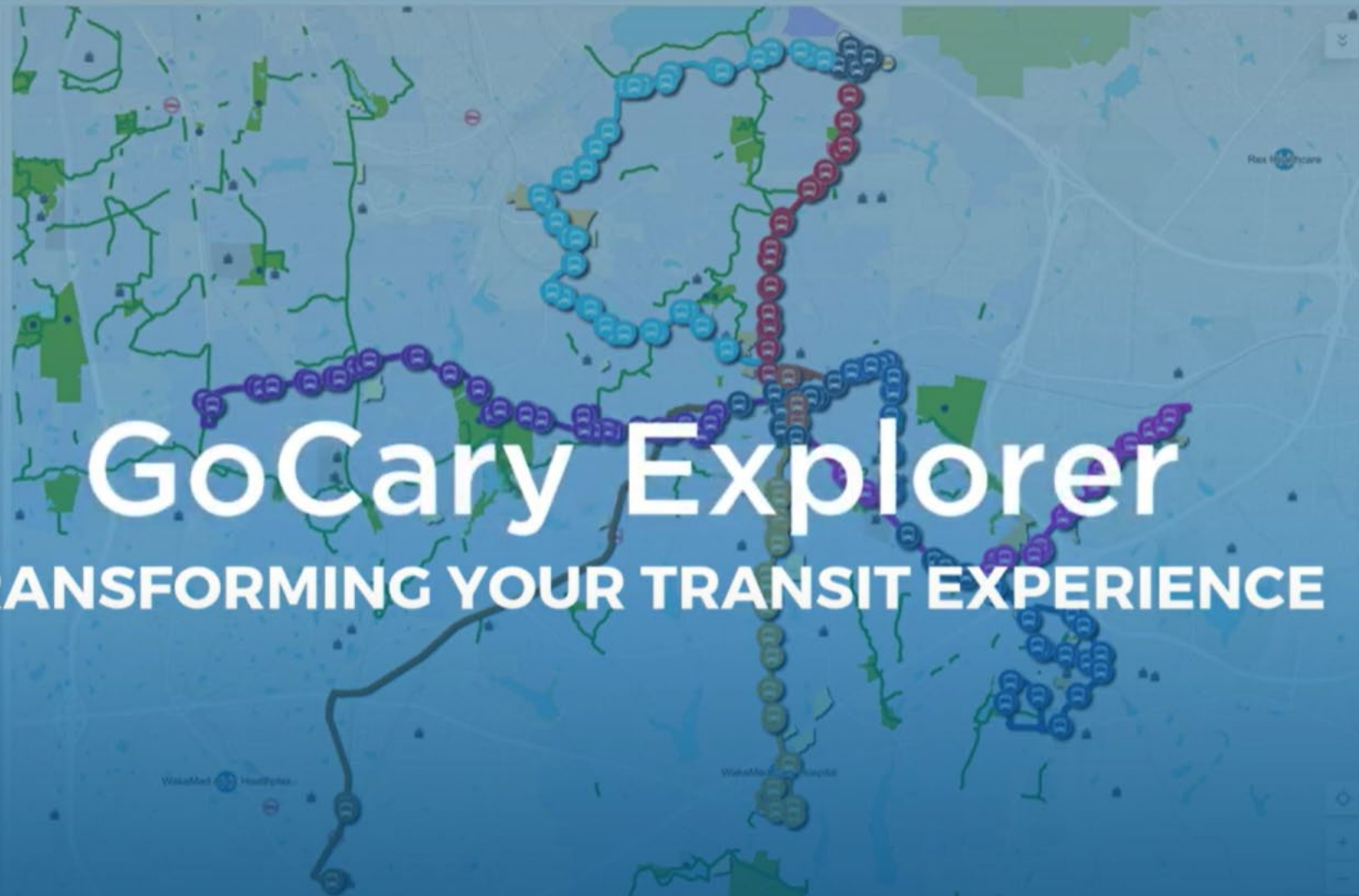
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Inbound - Route 1 GoCary

SE Maynard Rd at Cary Village Square
Stop #11040
Outbound - Route 1 GoCary

SE Maynard Rd at Village Greenway
Stop #11041



GoCary Bus Stops

- Route 1
- Route 3
- Route 4
- Route 5
- Route 6
- Route 7
- ACX
- DL
- Shared Stops

GoCary Routes

- 1
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- ACX
- DL

Apartment Complexes



211

Total Stops

GoCary Explorer

TRANSFORMING YOUR TRANSIT EXPERIENCE



Questions?

Thank You!

CONTACT:

Fabian Rodriguez

Fabian.Rodriguez@carync.gov

IMD Director Comments

Toll Credit Pilot Project Implementation

Toll Credit Pilot Program for Applicable Projects

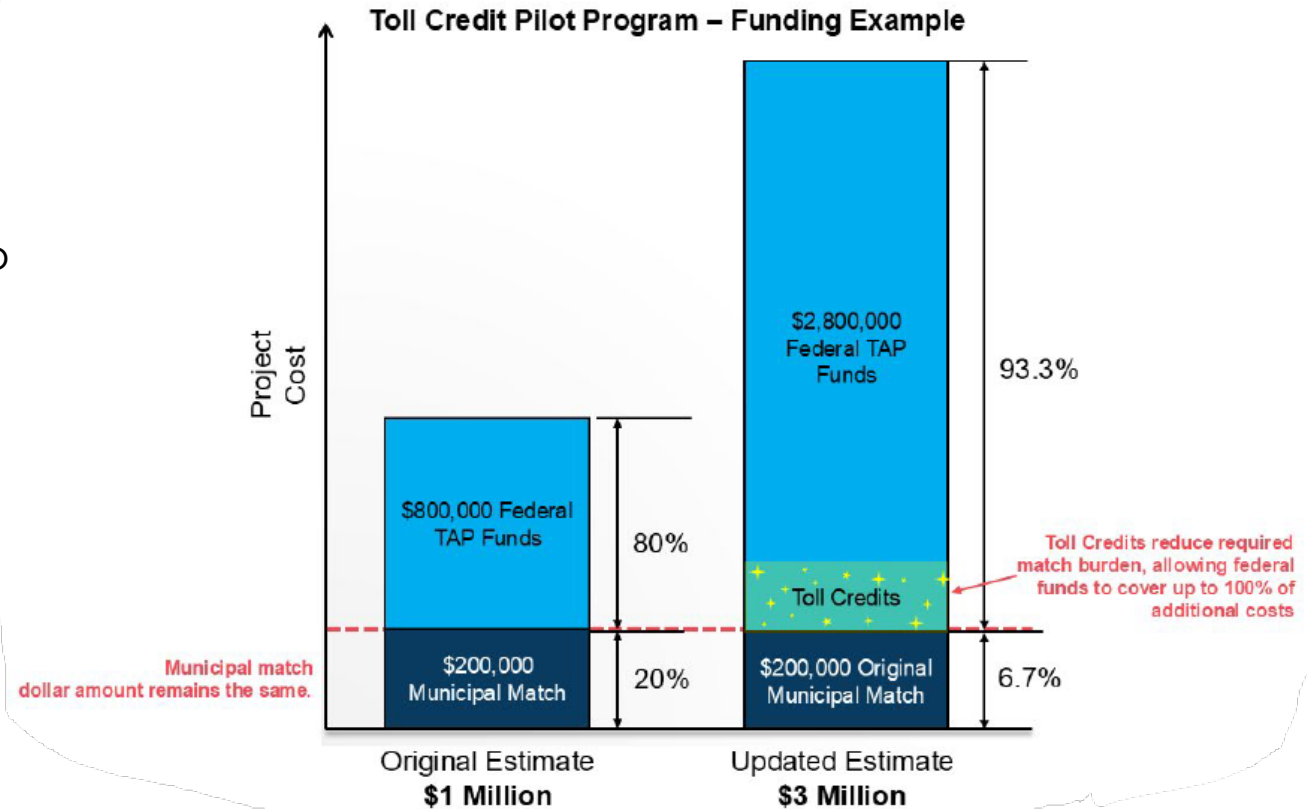
Purpose

Pilot program goals:

- Minimize project delivery delays caused by local funding constraints.
- Allow states to use their existing Federal funds to fulfill the non-Federal match requirements on Federal-aid projects.
- Apply to any Federal-aid transportation project; they are NOT limited or restricted to toll projects or Divisions with toll facilities.

Limited resource: Pilot program limited to **\$15M** credits

Toll credits will only be used to cover the match on **increases** and not the entire project



Pilot Program Selected Projects

Div	County	Municipality	STIP ID	Div	County	Municipality	STIP ID
7	Rockingham	Mayodan	EB-5891	9	Forsyth	Winston-Salem	EB-5810
7	Alamance	Burlington	EB-5879	10	Cabarrus	Concord	EB-5732
7	Alamance	Burlington	EB-5885	11	Watauga	Boone	EB-5983
8	Lee	Sanford	EB-5867	12	Catawba	Hickory	C-5196
8	Scotland	Laurinburg	EB-5865	12	Gaston	Mount Holly	EB-5912
8	Scotland	Laurinburg	EB-5872A	12	Gaston	Mount Holly	EB-5748
8	Scotland	Laurinburg	EB-6015B	13	McDowell	Marion	EB-5753
8	Scotland	Laurinburg	EB-6015A	13	Burke	Morganton	EB-5978
8	Lee	Sanford	EB-5868	14	Macon	Franklin	EB-5964
9	Forsyth	Winston-Salem	EB-5722	14	Transylvania	Brevard	BN-0011

20 Projects | 13 Municipalities | 8 Divisions

Toll Credit Pilot Program for Applicable Projects

What IMD is doing now

IMD and AECOM's Partnership:

- Assessing project status and delivery readiness.
- Developing roadmaps, milestones, and next actions.
- Holding workshops and check-ins with project partners.
- Providing coordination and administrative support where needed

What We're Seeing:

- Projects do not all need the same level of support.
- The goal is to identify what kind of support may actually help each project move forward.
- Periodic check-ins, milestone reminders, or help keep the right people engaged
- Visibility matters

Roadmaps track progress across key project milestones and used to confirm schedules, costs, barriers, support needs, and next steps with municipalities, divisions, and project partners.

NCDOT-IMD Statewide Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Work Plan 2026-2028

NCDOT Statewide TDM Work Plan 2026-2028

Fall 2025/Winter 2026

- The work plan was developed through a review of previous program recommendations, consultation with IMD staff, and a stakeholder workshop.
- Work plan supports NCDOT’s new TDM program purpose statement developed in 2025.
- Focus on three-year horizon.
- The criteria included:
 - ✓ Scalable Statewide
 - ✓ Measurable Vehicle Miles Traveled/Congestion/Air Quality
 - ✓ Supports Access to and Awareness of Transportation Options
 - ✓ Works in Urban/Suburban/Rural Contexts
 - ✓ Strengthens Local Delivery
 - ✓ Fundable and Implementable

Summary document available on the NCDOT TDM Connect webpage: <https://connect.ncdot.gov/business/Transit/Pages/TDM.aspx>

N.C. Department of Transportation
Integrated Mobility Division

Statewide Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

Work Plan
2026 - 2028
Summary Document

Overview

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) – Integrated Mobility Division (IMD) houses the statewide Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program which promotes the use of carpooling, vanpooling, teleworking, transit, bicycle, flexible work hours, compressed work weeks, and parking policies/pricing structures.

As part of an ongoing effort to enhance the effectiveness and consistency of TDM program delivery, NCDOT IMD developed the following purpose statement, with the assistance of statewide TDM stakeholders:

“To increase efficiency of North Carolina’s transportation network and support community livability by decreasing vehicle miles traveled, reducing traffic congestion, and improving air quality. Through funding, partnerships, and technical assistance, we empower urban, suburban, and rural communities to increase awareness and access to multimodal transportation options for residents, employees, and visitors through cost-effective strategies and innovative outreach and education approaches.”

This document builds on the purpose statement, developing an internal work plan to support the improvement and growth of the IMD TDM program.

Work Plan Development Process

The work plan was developed through a review of previous program recommendations, consultation with IMD staff, and a stakeholder workshop. The workshop was held with TDM practitioners, who were asked what they most need or want from NCDOT to successfully implement TDM at local and regional levels. The resulting input offered a comprehensive snapshot of current needs, opportunities, challenges, and priorities for the statewide TDM program.

Post workshop, all strategies gathered to date were combined and organized into a distilled set of recommendations, and ranked high, medium, or low using criteria derived from the purpose statement. The criteria included:

- Scalable Statewide
- Measurable Vehicle Miles Traveled/ Congestion/Air Quality
- Supports Access to and Awareness of Transportation Options
- Works in Urban/Suburban/Rural Contexts
- Strengthens Local Delivery
- Fundable and Implementable

The strategies included in the following work plan were all ranked high or medium.

TDM Work Plan Summary - 1

Work Plan Summary

The work plan summary is organized by topic area. Each recommendation includes a description of the strategy, a synopsis of how the strategy will help advance TDM statewide, and summary of steps to implement the strategy by year.

Topic Area	#	Strategy	How will this help?	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
1.0 Statewide Ridematch Tool	1.1	Launch and Maintain Updated Ridematching Tool	Ridematching tools are a foundational part of any TDM program. Having a statewide tool will provide one consistent brand and platform.	Go out to bid for and launch updated ridematching tool with a basic statewide trip planning feature.	Maintain and optimize the statewide ridematching platform to ensure it remains reliable, user-friendly, and aligned with evolving TDM program goals.	Maintain and optimize the statewide ridematching platform to ensure it remains reliable, user-friendly, and aligned with evolving TDM program goals.
	1.2	Create Statewide Ridematch Tool User Group	It will keep the ridematching and trip-planning platform relevant and fully aligned with how TDM is delivered in the field.	Create Statewide Ridematch User Group to continuously work with stakeholders to improve ridematching and trip planning tools.	Continue Statewide Ridematch User Group to continuously work with stakeholders to improve ridematching and trip planning tools.	Continue Statewide Ridematch User Group to continuously work with stakeholders to improve ridematching and trip planning tools.
2.0 Statewide TDM Grants	2.1	Continue Providing and Administering Statewide TDM grants	Ensures a dedicated, stable funding source for TDM programming.	Maintain a dedicated, stable funding source by showcasing a data driven methodology for project selection and evaluation to NCDOT leadership.	Continue to strive to maintain a dedicated, stable funding source by showcasing to NCDOT leadership a data driven methodology to project selection and evaluation.	Continue to strive to maintain a dedicated, stable funding source by showcasing to NCDOT leadership a data driven methodology to project selection and evaluation.
	2.2	Develop Innovative Grant Program Framework	Pilot new and innovative TDM strategies, showcasing a scalable, continuously improving, and evolving set of solutions.	Review examples of innovative grant programs and begin drafting a framework for how an innovative and pilot project fund testing new TDM strategies could work, including Transportation Management Association (TMA) seed funding.	Pilot the innovation grant program, to determine the administrative workload, with a small pool of funds.	Implement innovative grant program, based on results of year two pilot.

TDM Work Plan Summary - 2

NCDOT Statewide TDM Work Plan 2026-2028

Topic Areas and Strategies

1. Statewide Ridematch Tool

- Launch and Maintain Updated Ridematching Tool
- Create Statewide Ridematch Tool User Group

2. Statewide TDM Grants

- Continue Providing and Administering Statewide TDM Grants
- Develop Innovative Grant Program Framework
- Create an Annual Report Summarizing TDM Accomplishments

3. Land Use and TDM

- Create a TDM and Land Use Resource Handbook

4. Construction Mitigation

- Initiate an NCDOT TDM Construction Mitigation Program

5. Communications

- Develop a Statewide TDM Program Brand and Marketing Plan
- Maintain TDM Resource Hub on NCDOT Connect
- Develop Public Facing TDM Website

6. Regional Coordination

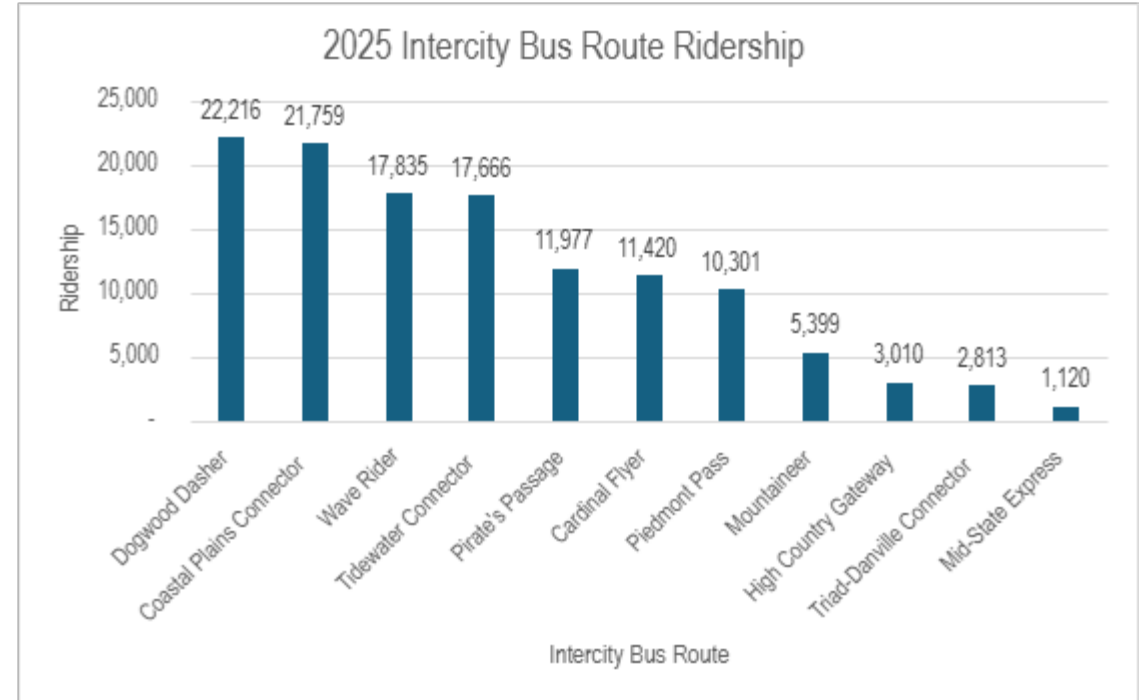
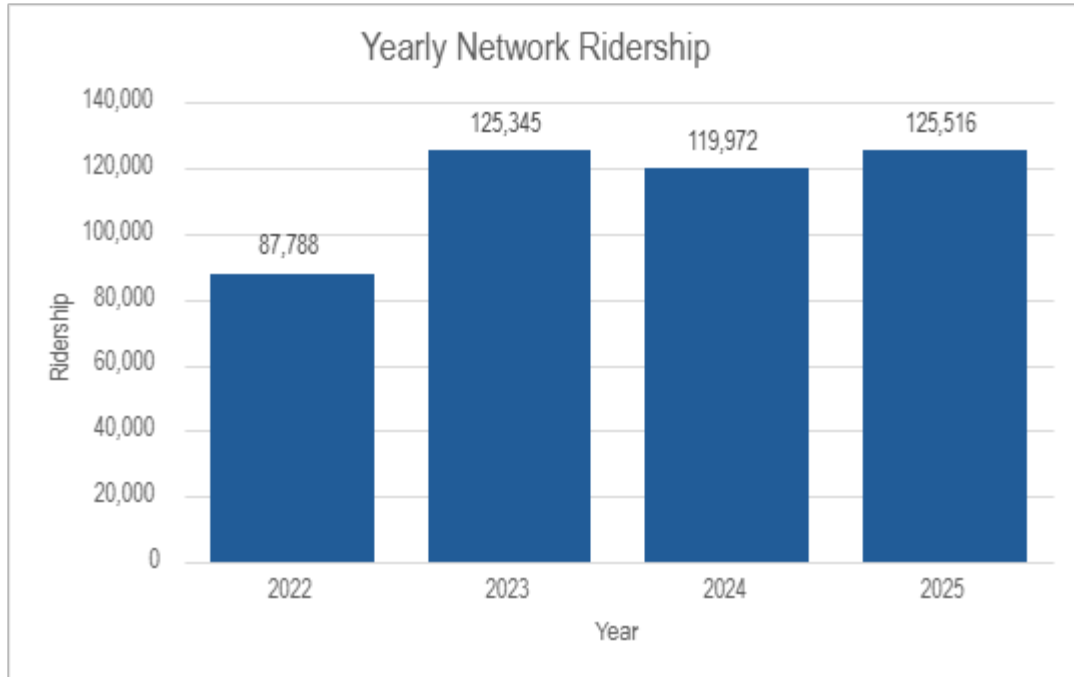
- Meet Regularly with Grant Recipients
- Create Statewide TDM Peer Exchange/Advisory Group
- Create Partnerships with Other State Agencies
- IMD Internal Project Coordination

7. Rural TDM Support

- Develop a Park and Ride Lot Study

NC By Bus Ridership Statistics

NC By Bus Ridership Statistics



NC By Bus Ridership Statistics - Asheville and Chapel Hill

- Since service restored in Asheville in August:
 - 4,100 riders have departed from Asheville
 - 4,300 have come to Asheville
 - Over 190 unique US Cities
 - Arrivals from as far as Chico, CA and Sacramento, CA
 - Departures as far as Sacramento, CA and Spokane, WA
 - Most common origins and destinations: Charlotte, Raleigh, Greensboro
- Since introduction of service in Chapel Hill in August:
 - 350 riders have departed Chapel Hill
 - 450 have come to Chapel Hill
 - Most common destinations: Asheville, Winston-Salem, Virginia Beach/Norfolk, VA, Greensboro



NC By Bus Ridership Statistics – Elizabeth City

- Elizabeth City State University Stop Relocation- Nov. 20th, 2024
 - In the last year, 1,882 Riders
 - 130 Unique Cities
 - Most common origins and destinations: New York City, Norfolk/Virginia Beach, VA, Greenville, NC, Wilmington, NC, and Philadelphia, PA



Bicycle Helmet Initiative

2026 Bicycle Helmet Initiative

- Applications closed February 20th, 2026
- 215 Organizations applied for a total of 17,650 helmets statewide
- Notice of awardees will be announced at the end of March

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/BikePed/Pages/Bicycle-Helmet-Initiative.aspx>



Bike to School Day

Bike to School Day 2026 is May 6!

(But schools can participate anytime in May)

- Register and find helpful resources and event ideas at www.walkbiketoschool.org.
- 39 events registered so far in NC! (70 in 2025)

Grantee highlights:

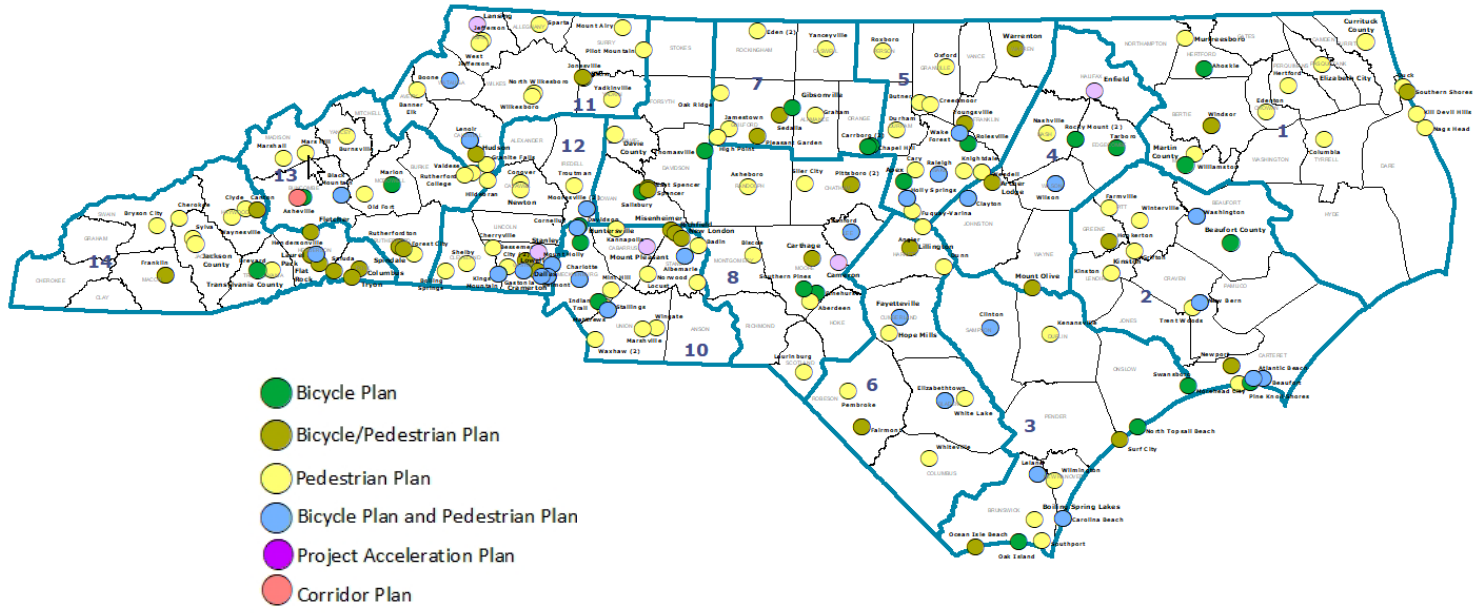
- 🚲 Southwest Elementary School in Durham is partnering with the East Coast Greenway to host their largest bike bus yet.
- 🚲 Chapel Hill SRTS is hosting a new event called “Pedaling Into Bike to School Day: Let’s Plan for Bike to School Day Together” to encourage schools and families to participate.

Contact SRTS Coordinator Jennifer Delcourt at jadelcourt@ncdot.gov if you have questions about grantees or events in your area.



Multimodal Planning Grant Program

NCDOT Investments in Multimodal Planning



Fiscal Year	Plans Funded	Award Amount
2025	15	\$829,500
2024	8	\$401,000
2023	12	\$628,500
2022	10	\$399,250
2021	13	\$561,250
2020	21	\$935,500
2019	18	\$791,000
2018	10	\$451,000
2017	10	\$409,000
2016	9	\$351,000
2015	10	\$333,900
2014	13	\$364,100
2013	10	\$275,500
2012	13	\$390,000
2011	15	\$343,550
2010	12	\$327,100
2009	12	\$315,580
2008	15	\$361,751
2007	16	\$385,500
2006	12	\$387,400
2005	18	\$394,650
2004	18	\$393,668
290	\$10,029,699	

Upcoming Multimodal Plans

Kicking off in Q1/Q2 2026

Municipal Plans

Matthews 32,000	Pedestrian Plan	Greenville 92,084	Pedestrian Plan
Yadkinville 2,995	Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan	Winterville 10,883	Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
Boiling Springs 4,500	Project Acceleration Plan	Kinston 19,900	Multimodal Network Plan
Franklin 4,297	Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Update	Burgaw 3,415	Project Acceleration Plan
Vandemere 254	Project Acceleration Plan	Kitty Hawk 3,713	Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
Hendersonville 15,466	Bicycle Plan Update	Surf City 4,781	Plan Update

University Plans

UNC Chapel Hill 53,272
NCSU 49,894
UNC Wilmington 21,500

[Link to Program Webpage](#)

Multimodal Planning Grants – FY27 Open Call for Applications

Purpose

- Develop a framework for a robust bike/pedestrian/multimodal environment.
- Generate STIP, incidental, local and complete streets projects.
- Strengthen ability to secure funding from outside sources.
- Promote bike/ped education and safety in local communities.
- Develop policies/amendments.
- Develop an approach/strategy for implementation.

Eligibility

- All North Carolina municipalities/towns
- Counties with a population less than 100,000
- Colleges and universities

Funding

- Federal, state and local funds
- Local Match Required (typically 10% - 50%) depending on population

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Plan Types

1. Comprehensive Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Plan– offers an assessment of the entire community, that includes an extensive existing conditions analysis, guidance and recommendations for projects, policies, programs, and strategies for implementation.
2. Project Acceleration Plan – offers an abbreviated plan focused on the identification of priority projects that are implementable for smaller communities with more limited resources.
3. Plan Update – offers an assessment of the existing plan, its structure and how it has been utilized by the community, and includes an evaluation of past program, policy and project recommendations. The update will further provide guidance and recommendations for projects, policies and programs, as well as new strategies for implementation.
4. Multimodal Network Plan – includes similar assessment as Comprehensive Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Plan above, but also considers network mobility relationships with public transit, including access to transit facilities, destinations, and complete streets design. Select corridors will be further evaluated

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Key Dates

Issue Call for Applications	February 16, 2026
Application submission deadline - 5:00 pm (Monday)	April 13, 2026
Awards Committee makes recommendations	April 2026
Board of Transportation gives approval	May 2026
Municipalities notified of award	June 2026
Municipal Agreement executed	July - October 2026
Notice to Proceed Issued	December 2026 - January 2027
Traditional Plan completion deadline	12 Months from Notice to Proceed

- Multimodal Planning Grant – <https://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/PlanningGrants/IMD-Multimodal-Planning-Program/Pages/default.aspx>
- Example Plans - <https://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/PlanningGrants/Pages/Grant-Recipients-and-Completed-Plans.aspx>

Statewide Active Transportation Plan Update

Statewide Active Transportation Plan Update

- Draft Scope Completed
- Earlier this month, RFI to firms on LSC
- Firm Interviews early April
- Firm selection by end of April
- Project Kick Off May
- Sign up to receive updates!



[http://www.publicinput.com/
ncactivetransportation](http://www.publicinput.com/ncactivetransportation)

Thank you!

Next Multimodal Updates Webinar – July 2026

For slides and recordings – [Multimodal Updates Webinars](#)