Wake Bus Rapid Transit: New Bern Avenue

November 2021

Wake BRT: New Bern Avenue Project Overview

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Service is coming to New Bern Avenue! This project will connect downtown Raleigh to Wake Med and New Hope Road. The project is in the final design phase. Construction will begin in the summer of 2022. It will finish in late 2024.

The Wake BRT: New Bern Avenue corridor is one of four (4) BRT routes to be constructed in Wake County. More information can be found on the <u>project website</u>.





Visit raleighnc.gov and search: Wake BRT New Bern Avenue

Contact: Sean Driskill at sean.driskill@raleighnc.gov or (919) 996-4106

What is Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)?

BRT is a bus service that is fast, reliable and frequent. BRT uses dedicated bus lanes that allow buses to move quickly and prevents traffic delays.

Other BRT features include:

- **Traffic Signal Priority** BRT buses receive a longer green light if running late. This helps BRT buses get through intersections and stay on schedule.
- Frequent and On-time Service BRT buses will be able to stick to their schedules because they have dedicated bus lanes. BRT will arrive every 10 - 15 minutes between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m.
- **Pay Before You Board** Passengers will pay the fare at the station, instead of on the bus. This makes boarding faster.
- Enhanced Stations BRT stations will have raised platforms. Platforms will be at the same height as the bus. This makes it easier for all passengers to board.
- Larger Buses BRT buses will be larger than regular GoRaleigh buses. They can hold more passengers. They will also have bicycle storage inside the bus.

Public Engagement Recap

Public outreach has been very important to the Wake BRT: New Bern Avenue design process. Many community meetings were held to get public feedback. Because of Covid-19 restrictions, the first Virtual Open House was held in November of 2020. At the meeting, community members were asked their preferences on station design and branding.

A second Virtual Open House was held in Spring 2021 that asked for public feedback on branding, station design and art integration.

View the Virtual Open House materials here.

Wake BRT Art Integration

Dare Coulter was chosen as the Artist in Residence. Her role was to create ideas for how art can be included in BRT. Dare has published the <u>Wake BRT Art Integration Report &</u> <u>Recommendations</u>. This report includes recommendations for concrete integration, artistic railings and glass art at stations along New Bern Avenue. The goal is to preserve the history and legacy of the corridor.

Eleven artists will be selected to design and create art for the New Bern Avenue corridor by the end of the year.

Timeline

2020

Review of 30% Design Beginning of 60% Design Virtual Open House #1

2021

Beginning Final Design

Virtual Open House #2

2022

Final Design Complete

Right of Way and Easement Acquisition Complete

Construction Begins

2024

BRT Service Begins 2024

Next Steps

- December 2021 City of Raleigh to send out Right of Way/ Easement acquisition letters to property owners along the corridor
- January 2022 Begin targeted outreach to downtown Raleigh business and property owners along the corridor and provide project updates

What will the BRT stations look like?

Station types have been created for Wake BRT based on public feedback. The station types have a modern design that uses natural materials with a dark steel finish and uplighting. All these features were top station design choices during the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 public surveys.

Landscaping is an important part of the station design process. Landscaping plans are being developed for the corridor.



Rendering of Peripheral Station Type at Corporation Parkway



Rendering of Intermodal Station Type on New Bern Avenue



Rendering of Suburban Station Type at Edenton Street and Swain Street







Wake BRT Branding

BRT has a brand! This logo was the public's top choice from the Spring 2021 survey. The logo and brand are a part of the regional "Go" brand. Next steps include designing Go+ bus wraps.



To learn more about engagement opportunities and sign up for project updates, visit raleighnc.gov and search: Wake BRT New Bern Avenue

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Project Manager Sean Driskill, PE at sean.driskill@raleighnc.gov (919) 996-4106

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow GoRaleigh on social media @GoRaleighNC on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to stay up-to-date with the project.