Wake BRT

Western Station Area Planning Leader and Connector Meeting



January 25, 2024

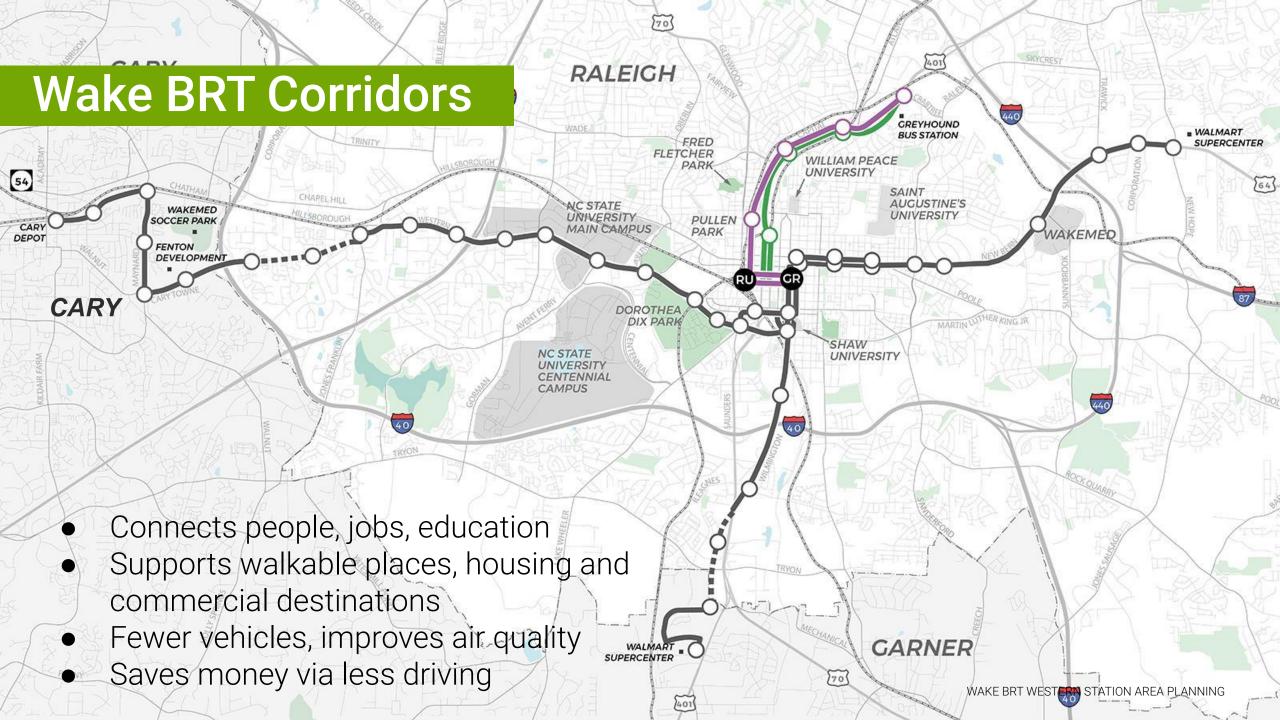






Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Introductions
- 2. Engagement Round 1: Summary
- 3. Station Area Connections
- 4. Housing Market and Strategies Update
- 5. Engagement Round 2
- Key dates and locations
- Leader and Connector roles



Wake BRT Western Corridor

Overview

- Approximately 12 miles
- Twenty (20) Stations



1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Engagement Round 1: Summary

Phase 1: Engagement Overview

Outreach Period: November 20, 2023 - January 14, 2024

- Purpose:
 - Establish Community Connections
 - Collect feedback on Western corridor opportunities and issues

Target Audiences:

- Residents
- Stakeholders
- Corridor Businesses

Engagement Methods

Public Open Houses:

- 12/4 Dix Park All Faiths Chapel
- 12/5 Powell Drive Community Center

Pop-up:

• 12/2 – Method Community Center

Virtual Webinar:

• 12/11 - Zoom

Stakeholder Meetings:

- 2 Interviews (11/20, 1/9)
- 1 Small Group Meeting (11/29)

Advertising

- Project Website
- Postcards
- Social Media
- Email
- Business Flyers





Wake BRT: Western Corridor Station Area Plan

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Bus Rapid Transit is coming to Wake County! The western corridor will connect downtown Raleigh to downtown Cary along Western Boulevard. This will mean more frequent service and faster bus transit connections.

Station Area Planning

New Bus Rapid Transit will attract new residents, businesses, and investment to areas around new stations. The Station Area Plan will ensure that these changes benefit existing residents and businesses. as well as visitors.

Key topics include:

- · Walking and biking routes to stations
- · Housing for current and future residents
- Strategies for existing businesses to thrive in the future
- Regulations and policies to shape new development

Come meet the project team!

Saturday, December 2 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Method Road Community Center 514 Method Road

Fall 2023 Open Houses

Share Your Thoughts at One of Our Open Houses

Monday, December 4 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Dix Park All Faiths Chapel 1030 Richardson Drive

Tuesday, December 5 4-6 p.m.

Powell Drive Community Center 740 Powell Drive

- What would you like to see in your neighborhood close to BRT stations?
- How can the community benefit from BRT and investment in station areas?

We will be sharing the same information at each Open House.

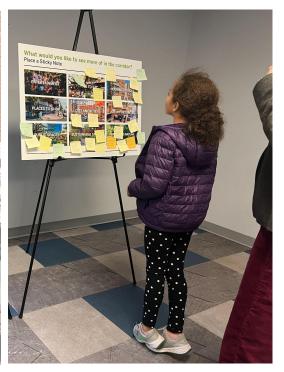
For more information and additional ways to connect visit: raleighnc.gov Search: Planning Western

Engagement Activities

- Open House Events
 - 12/4 Dix Park All Faiths Chapel
 - o 12/5 Powell Drive Community Center



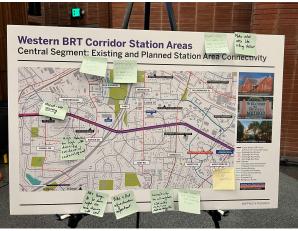




Engagement Activities

In-person feedback gathering methods







What we Heard: Stakeholder Meetings

Housing and Community Preservation:

- Preserve affordable housing
- Displacement worries: residents and businesses
- Incentives to keep businesses in place.
- Focus on commercial areas for development without disrupting residential zones.

Safety and Infrastructure:

- Ensure quality walkability / biking
- Safe access to stations and buses (traffic)
- Adequate Right of Way (ROW) along route

Transportation and Connectivity:

- Sidewalks
- Better bike facilities
- Bike lanes.
- More bike connections to stations.
- Better connections: stations and destinations.
- Enhanced connections to Dix Park
- More destinations around existing stations to encourage travel.

Desired Features:

- Mixed housing
- Incentivize Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) on existing properties.
- Art-themed stations, align with community aesthetics
- More green spaces, greenways to bus stops

What we Heard: Stakeholder Meetings

Specific Area Enhancements:

- Mission Valley can benefit from bike-ped oriented entrances.
- Commercial areas, especially near the fairgrounds, seen as underutilized but potential areas for development.
- Desire for pedestrian-oriented development in Mission Valley, downtown, and the vacant KMart site.

Future Engagement Strategies:

- Recommendations to attend Method community meetings, and conduct tabling events at specific locations (e.g., Islamic Center).
- Suggestion to run existing buses along proposed routes to provide a tangible preview of the project.
- Stakeholders want pop-up events at potential stations to visualize and understand the proposed changes.

What would you like to see more of?



Housing Choice:

 More high-density housing, smaller houses on smaller lots, housing options, affordable housing, City-sponsored initiatives for 30% AMI and below.

Places to Shop:

 Variety of options, grocery store, pharmacy, smart use of former K-Mart area for entertainment, parks, and restaurants.

Places to Eat:

 Increase restaurant options along Western Blvd: from the belt line to Jones Franklin.

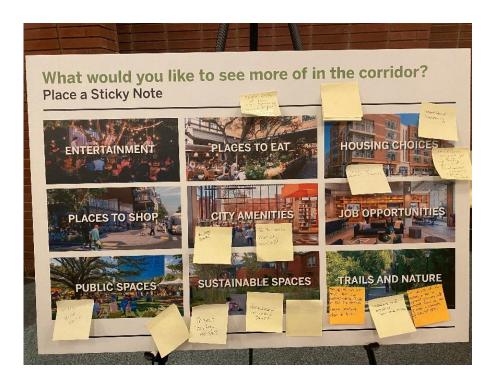
Entertainment:

 Fewer industrial establishments and more coffee shops and restaurants.

City Amenities:

Including libraries, restrooms.

What would you like to see more of?



Sustainable Spaces:

 Emphasis on natural species, landscaping, preservation of historic places like Boylan Heights, and protection of historic spaces.

Public Spaces:

 More bike paths, sidewalks, benches, kid-friendly spaces, preservation of historic places.

Trails and Nature:

 More walkable and bikeable connections, green spaces, and an emphasis on off-road mountain bike trails closer to the town.

Trails and Nature:

 connecting to existing greenways, exploring partnerships with the railroad for greenways, ensuring connections to outlets.

What Stories Need to be Told Here?

Safe and Efficient Mobility:

- · Safe, quick movement, especially students.
- Safe crosswalk from Boylan to Dix.

Equity and Collaboration:

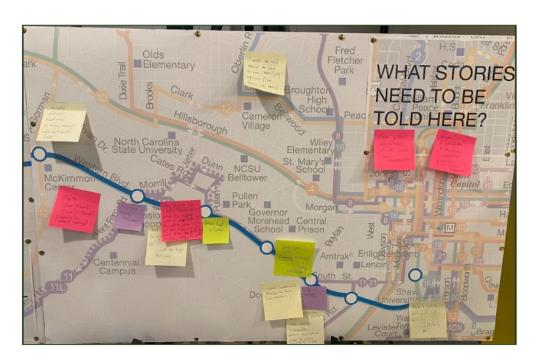
- Recognition/celebration of accepted equity.
- Collaboration with the Catholic Church for updates and repopulation in Mission Valley.

Art and Nature Integration:

· Nature-based art installations.

Community Connections and Spaces:

- Serene walking spaces and connections to Raleigh and Cary communities.
- Honor historic institutions in the area and their respective communities.



How do you want to feel?

Distinctive Station Identity:

Desire for each station to have a unique identifier, similar to the Mexico City metro.

Environmental Conservation:

 Prioritize environmental conservation, specifically saving the trees.

Artistic Design Elements:

· Incorporate etched glass as a design element.

Diversity and Inclusivity:

- Display images of everyday life, representing a diverse community.
- Hope for Raleigh to foster a diverse community atmosphere.

Safety and Community Focus:

- Emphasis on feeling safe and creating community spaces.
- Wish for a reasonable and edgy atmosphere with intentional design.
- Desire to feel safe, welcomed, and cool in the environment.

Refreshing Atmosphere:

 Preference for a refreshing atmosphere, with crisp fresh air.

Corridor Segments

Downtown:

Recognize and preserving mature trees.

East:

Increase density around NC State Centennial Campus.

Central:

 Replace car lots with restaurants, entertainment, and retail.

West:

- Provide pedestrian access over I-40.
- More mixed-use development and a grocery store at Plaza West and Dutch.
- Need affordable housing.

3. Station Area Connections

Low Intervention







Medium Intervention











High Intervention





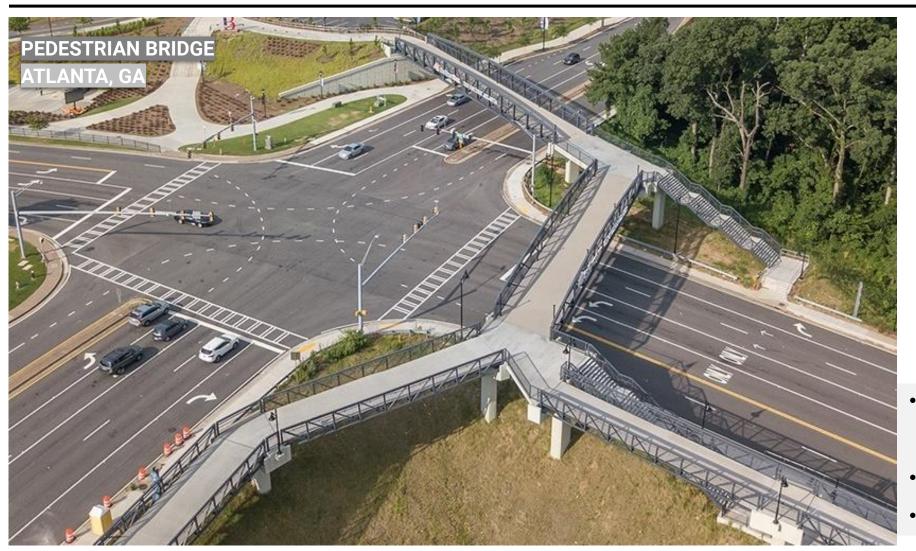








Bike and Pedestrian Bridge

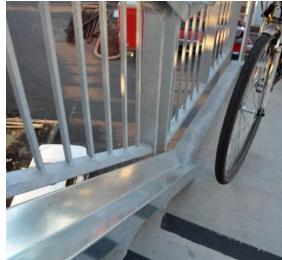


- At-grade and grade change access
- Ramp and stair access
- \$10 million

Bike and Pedestrian Bridge







- Grade change access
- Stair and elevator access
- Wheel tracks on the staircase for bikes
- \$3.9 million

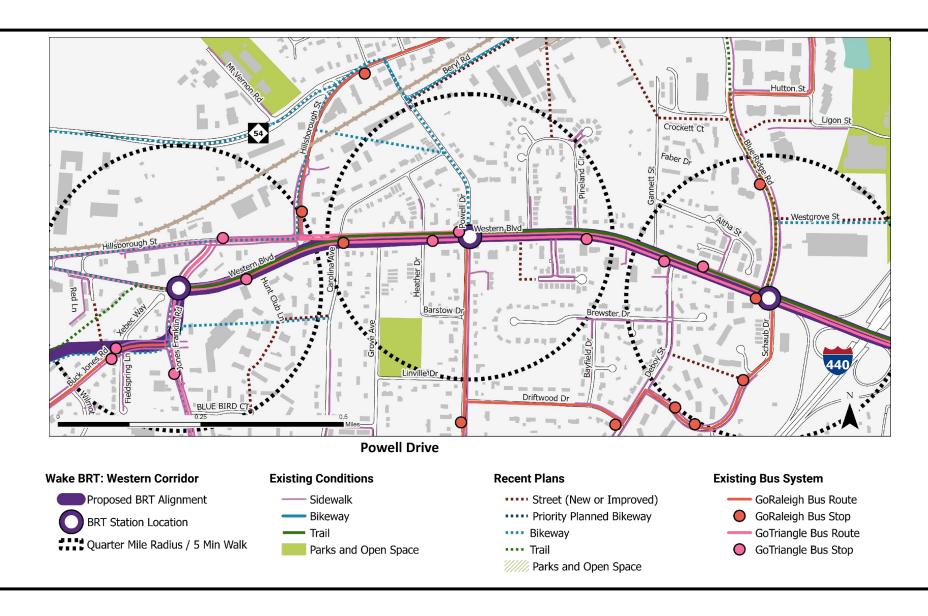
Bike and Pedestrian Tunnel



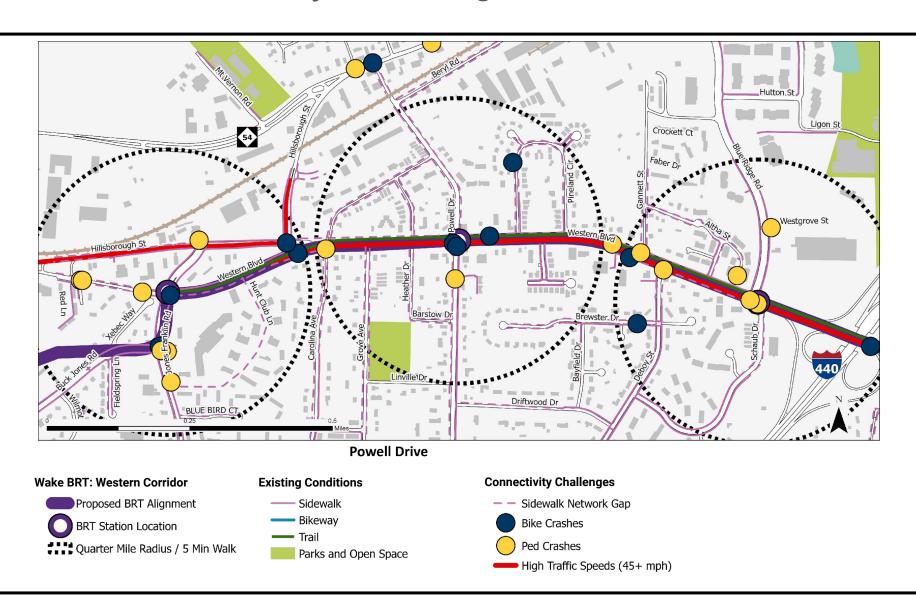
Intervention Hierarchy: Low – Medium - High

Туре	Treatment	Low Intervention	Medium Intervention	High Intervention
25	Sidewalk	Χ	X	X
8	High-Visibility Crosswalk	Χ	X	X
% %	Curb Ramp	X	X	X
₩	Sharrows	X	X	X
\$ #B	Signage	X	X	X
\$\frac{1}{2}	Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB)		X	X
8	Midblock Crossing		X	X
8	Leading Pedestrian Interval		X	X
₫	Painted Bicycle Lane		X	X
₩	Bicycle Forward Stop Bar		X	X
Š,	Signalization (Full or Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon - PHB)			X
Sir.	Curb Extension / Bulb Out			X
\$\$	Adjust Corner Radii			X
Ø₹	Bicycle Box			X
₩	Bicycle Detection at Signals			X
₫\$	Bicycle Signal Head			X
\$ A	Pedestrian or Bicycle Refuge Island			X
\$ ◆ %	Driveway Access Control			X
\$ A	Neighborhood/Mini Roundabout			X
於極	Grade Separated Bridge/Tunnel			Highest

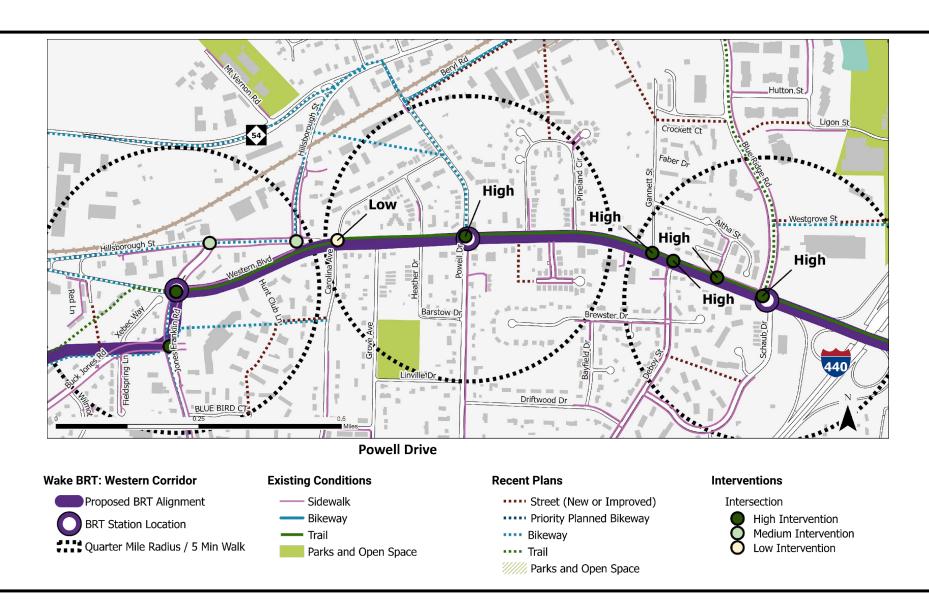
Powell Drive: Existing Connectivity + Recent Plans



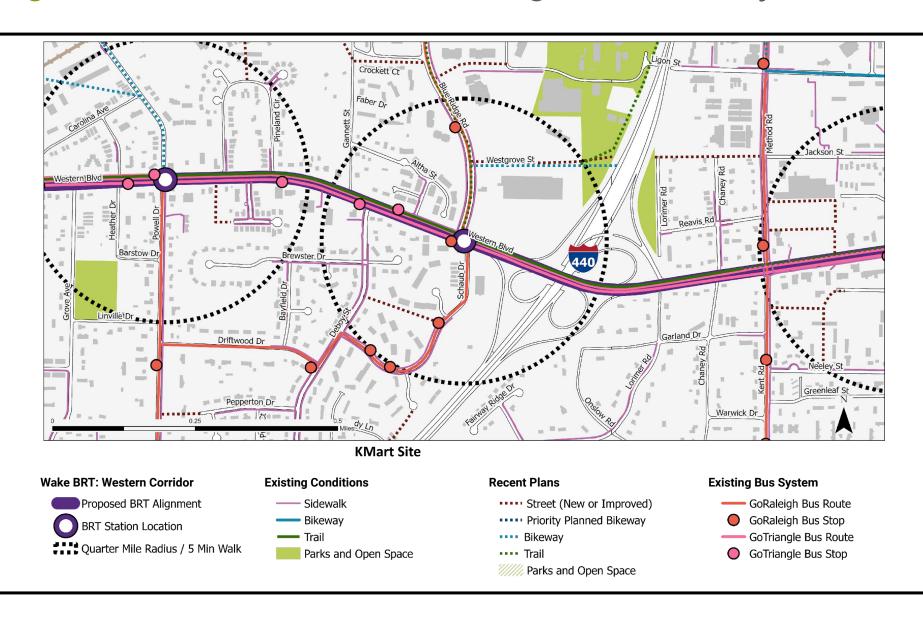
Powell Drive: Connectivity Challenges



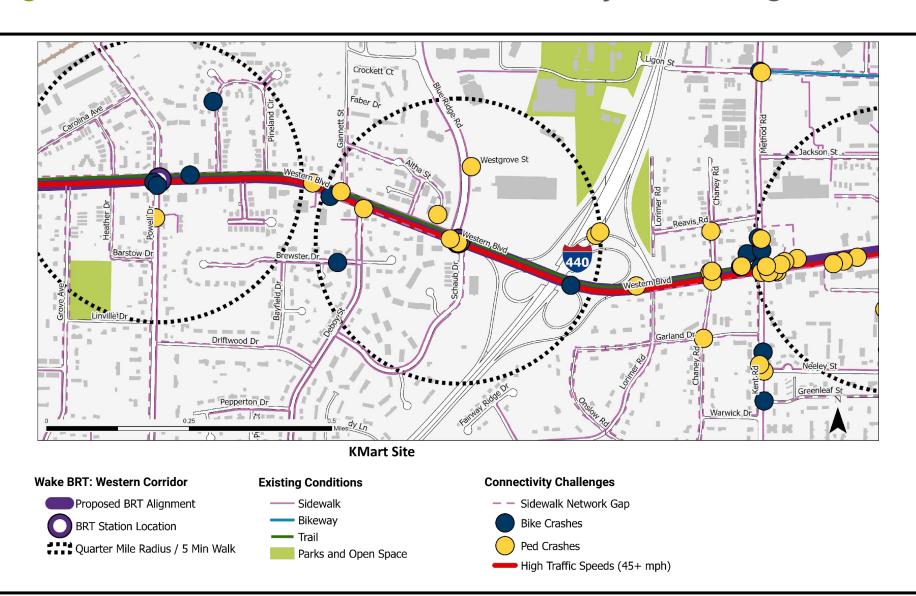
Powell Drive: Potential Intervention Approaches



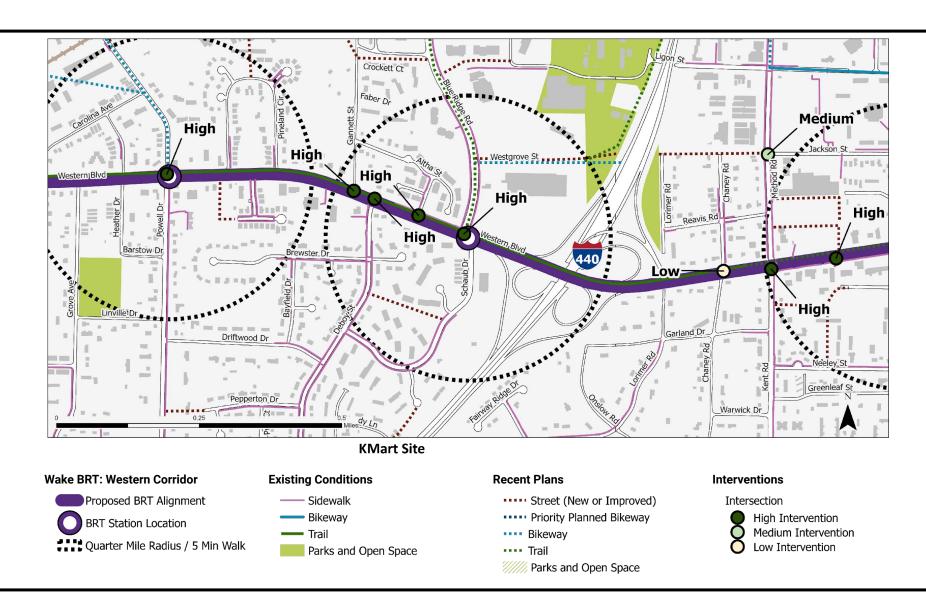
Blue Ridge Rd/Former KMart: Existing Connectivity + Recent Plans



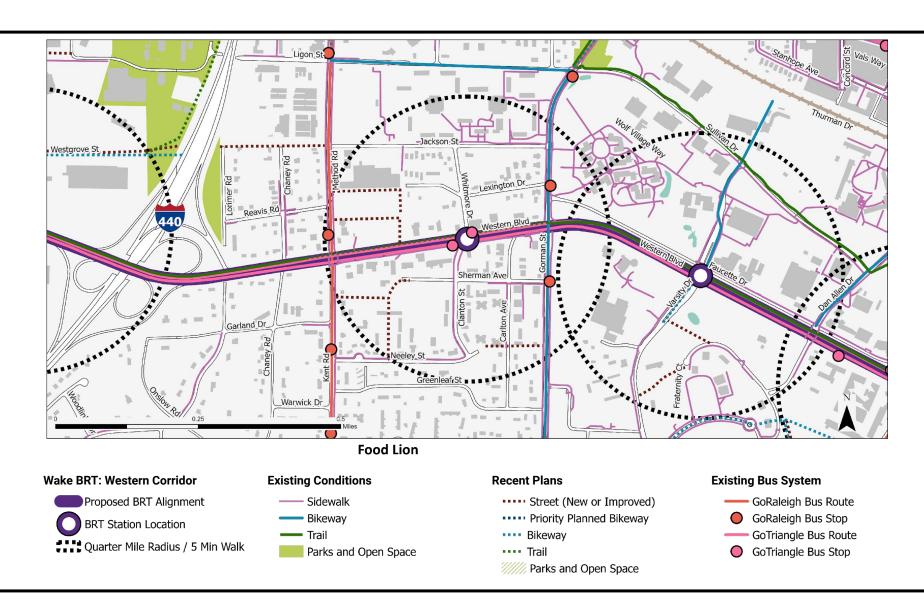
Blue Ridge Rd/Former KMart: Connectivity Challenges



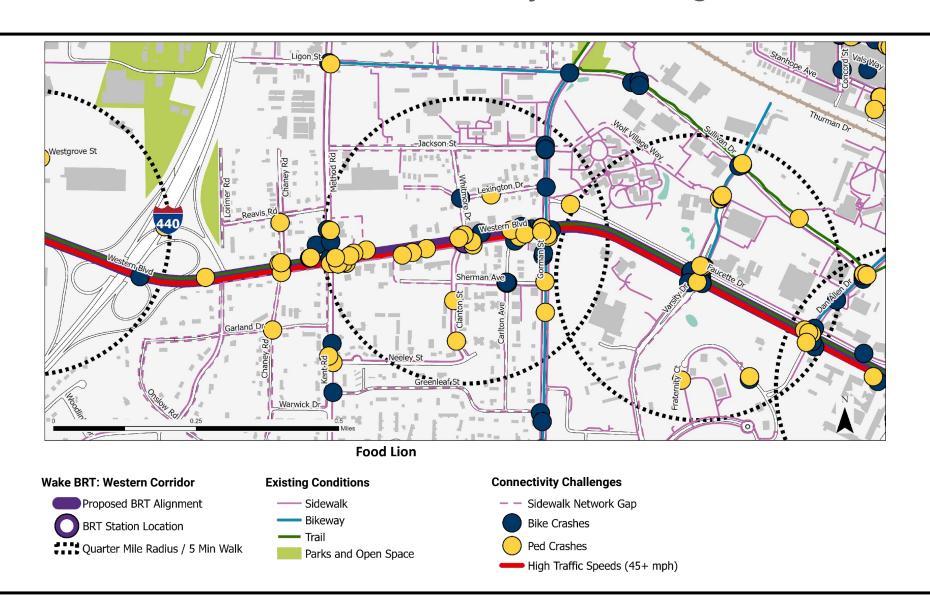
Blue Ridge Rd/Former KMart: Potential Intervention Approaches



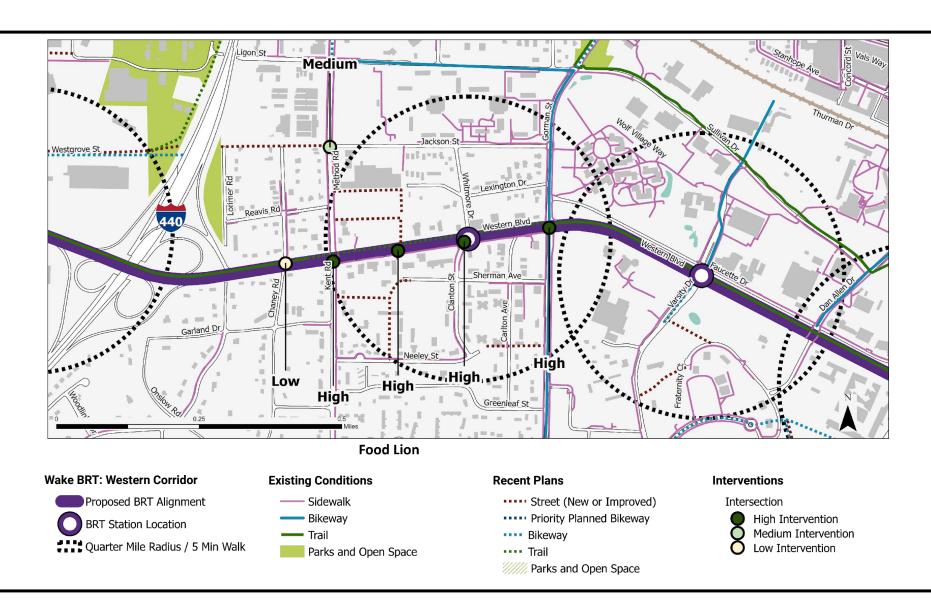
Method/Kent, Food Lion: Existing Connectivity + Recent Plans



Method/Kent, Food Lion: Connectivity Challenges

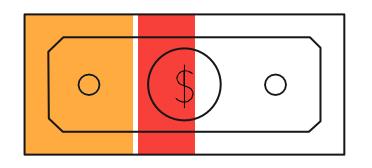


Method/Kent, Food Lion: Potential Intervention Approaches



4. Housing Market and Strategies Update

Housing and Transportation







22-27%

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURES ON HOUSING AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL INCOME



18-20%

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURES ON TRANSPORTATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL INCOME

Source: Center for Neighborhood Technology

Housing Market Indicators







Rapidly Growing Population

Low Vacancy

Rising Prices



Rapid Population Growth

- Wake County in a five-county residential market area: Chatham, Durham, Lee, Orange, and Wake.
- Over the last 20 years, the 5-County population grew by 669,300.
- 2020 to 2040: **Projected growth: 2020-2049 688,400** residents
- 2020 to 2040: 40% increase over 2020 levels.
- Population growth is a major driver of future housing demand.

5-COUNTY RESIDENTIAL MARKET AREA [1]

+0.7M
POPULATION GROWTH
2000-2020

1.7M
POPULATION
2020 CENSUS

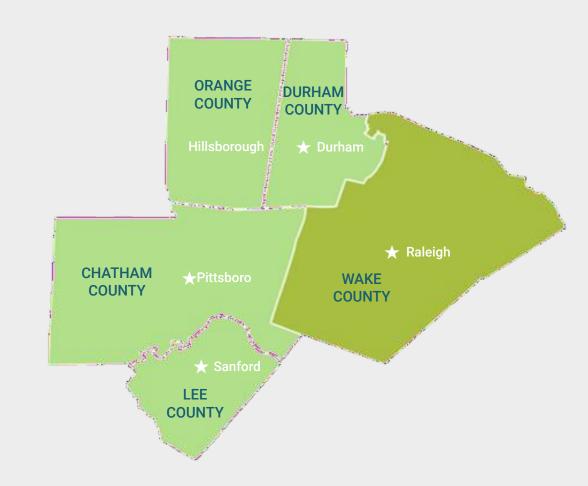
+0.7M
PROJECTED GROWTH 2020-2040

40% GROWTH

[1] The market area reflects 12 Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) that encompass the 4-County region plus Lee County, which is in a common PUMA with Chatham County due to their low existing population.

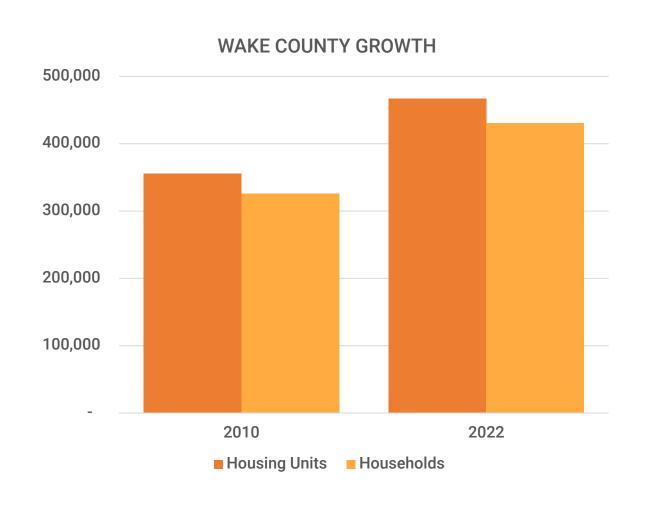
Source: SB Friedman

5-COUNTY RESIDENTIAL MARKET AREA [1]





Wake County Household and Housing Unit Growth



+111,500

HOUSING UNIT GROWTH 2010-2022 (2.3% CAGR)

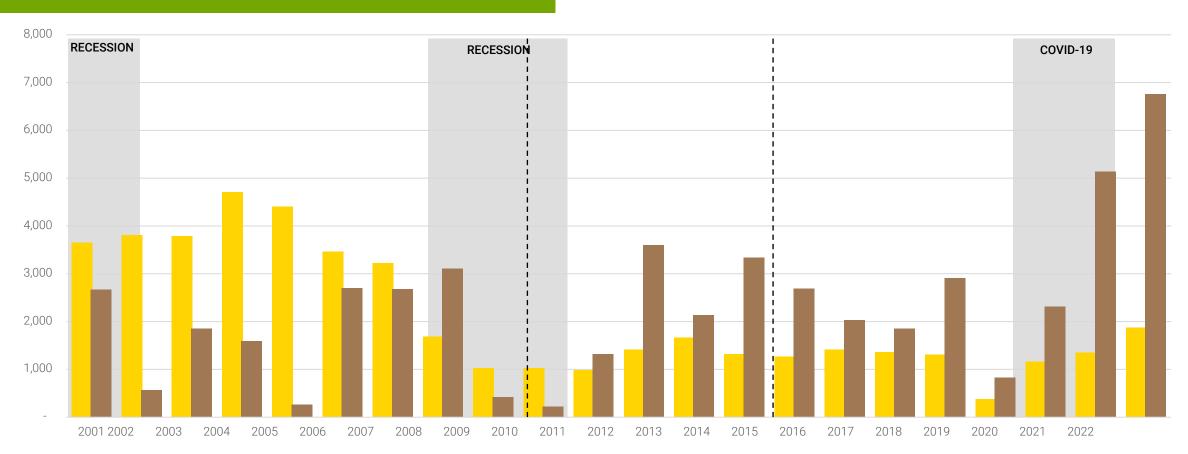
+105,000

HOUSEHOLD GROWTH 2010-2022 (2.4% CAGR)





Raleigh New Housing Permits



AVERAGE ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT

2001 - 2009

Multifamily: 1,760 units Single Family: **3,307 units** <u>2010 - 2014</u>

Multifamily: 2,123 units Single Family: 1,281 units 2015 - 2022

Multifamily: **3,066 units**Single Family: 1,265 units

Single Family

Multifamily

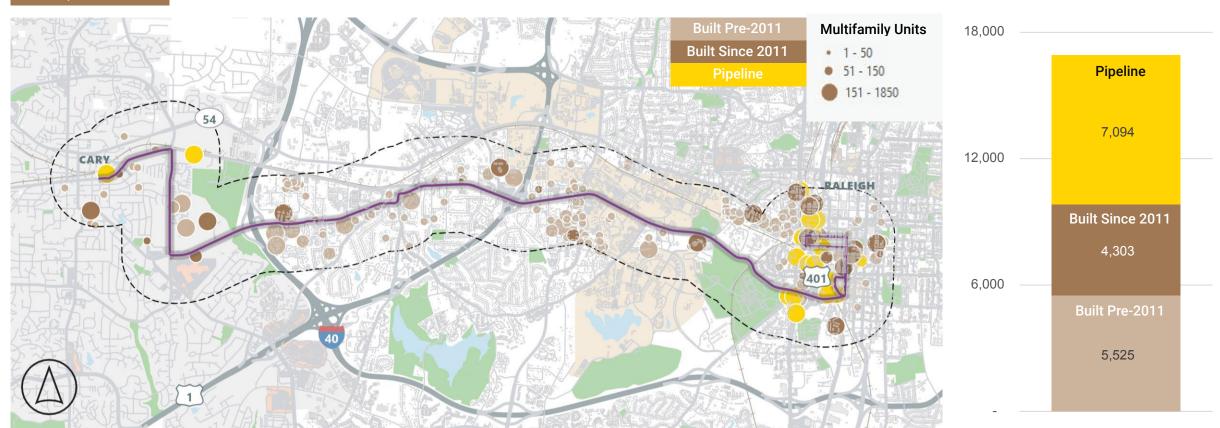




Western Corridor – Multifamily Inventory

10,000

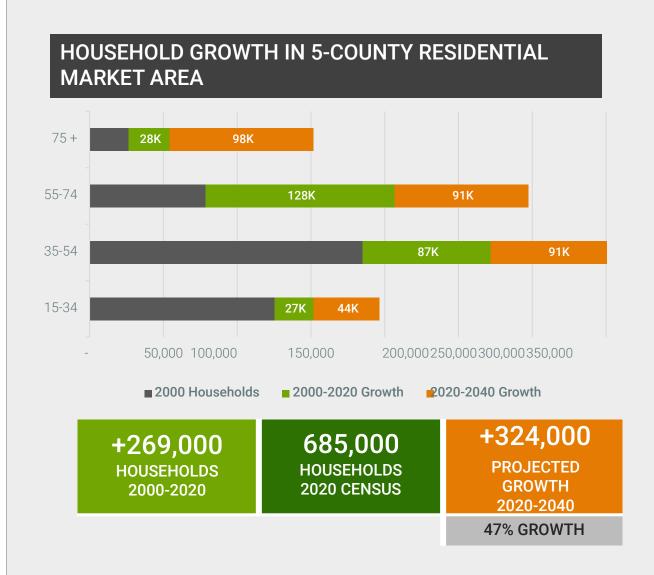
EXISTING MULTIFAMILY HOUSING UNITS





Headship Rate and Household Growth

- Headship = ratio of households to the adult population.
- Region's headship rate will remain relatively constant through 2040
- Largely due to an aging population (older cohorts have higher headship rates)
- 2000 to 2020, largest increase in net new households in households aged 55-74.
- 2020 household growth will be relatively evenly distributed among 35-54, 55-74, and 75+ years





Tight for Sale Market

- Wake County and Raleigh have low owner vacancy rates.
- Countywide vacancy = 0.8%
- Tight for-sale market.
- Decreasing owner vacancy rate

OWNER VACANCY RATE



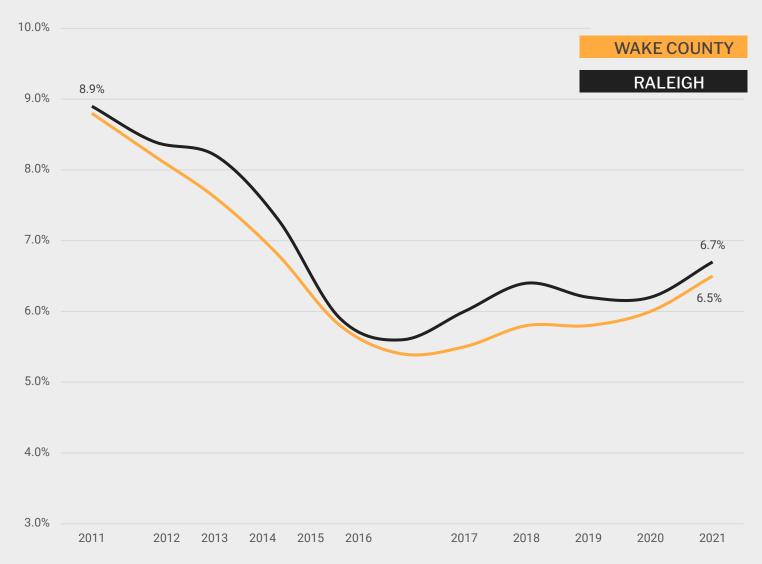
Source: US Census American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2011-2021)



Higher Renter Vacancy

- 2021 Wake County rental vacancy rate: 6.5%.
- 2023 Wake County rental vacancy rate: 11.3%
- Recent increase in vacancy rate

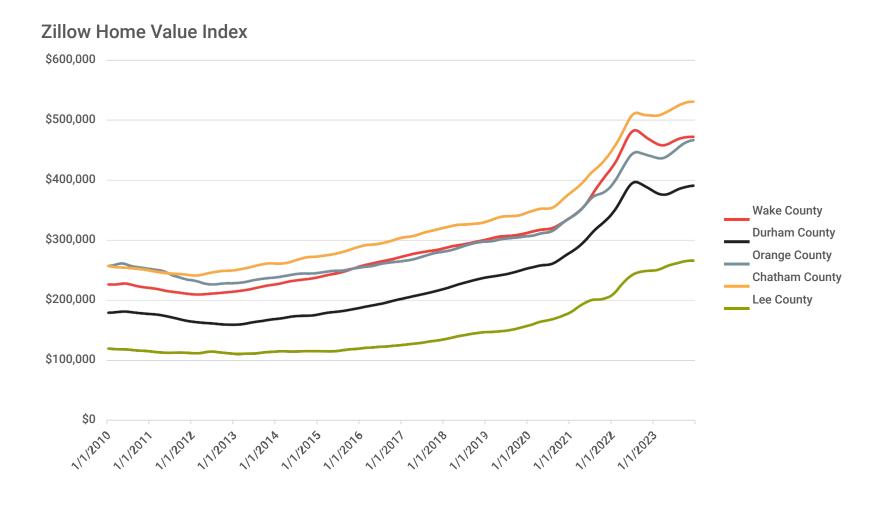
RENTER VACANCY RATE



Source: US Census American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2011-2021)



Home Values Rising



\$466,000

MEDIAN WAKE COUNTY HOME VALUE (ZESTIMATE)(12/2023)

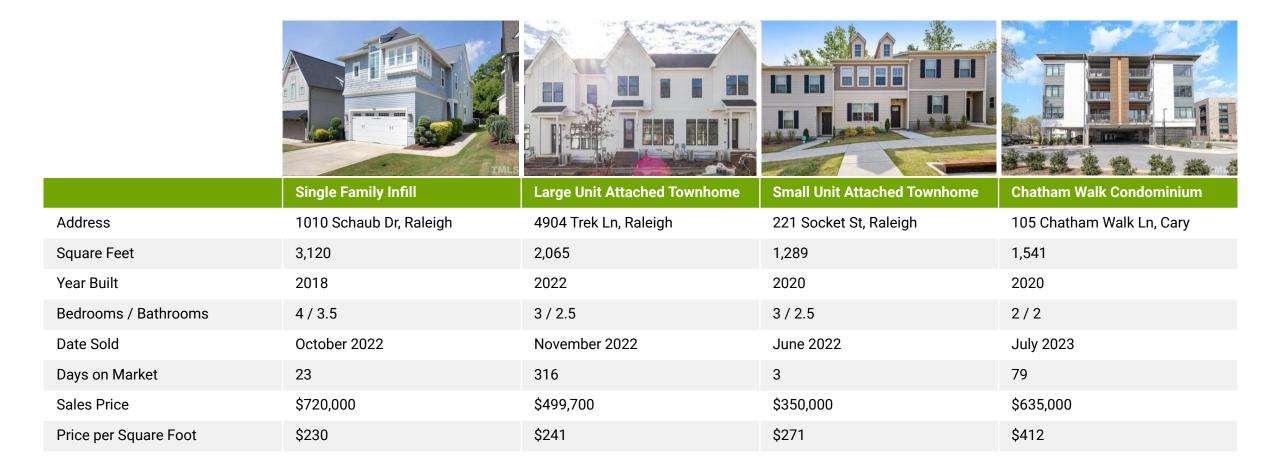
+\$245,000

MEDIAN HOME VALUE INCREASE IN WAKE COUNTY 2010-2023

Source: Zillow, SB Friedman



For Sale Housing Typologies





Multifamily Rents

- Similar average rents in Raleigh and Wake County.
- 2023 average multifamily rent \$1.40 per square foot approx. in both.
- Post 2011 construction rents higher in Raleigh than Wake County.
- Raleigh = \$1.85 psf
- Wake = \$1.80 psf.

RESIDENTIAL RENT PER SQUARE FOOT



Source: CoStar



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New Rental Housing Typologies







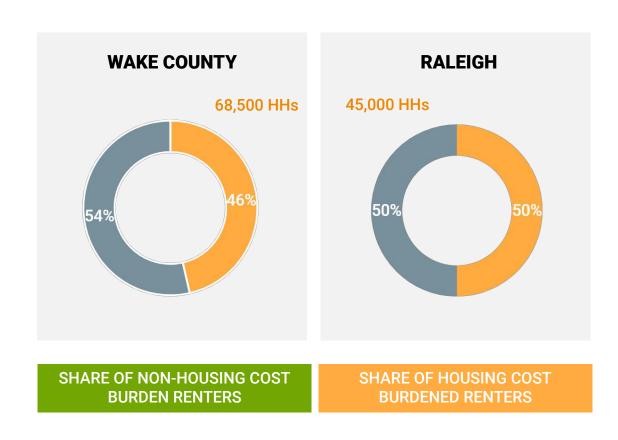
	511 Faye	Altitude Raleigh	The NinetyNine	The Walker
Address	511 Fayetteville St, Raleigh	3431 Olympia Dr, Raleigh	701 Vickers Way, Raleigh	352 S. Walker, Cary
Units (Studio/1BR/2BR/3BR+)	239 (77/138/24)	118 (34/74/10)	222 (0/146/60/16)	153 (71/78/45/20)
Year Built	2019	2023 (Under Construction)	2022	2021
Rent Type	Market			Market
Average Unit Size	774 SF	752 SF	902 SF	1,063 SF
Average Chunk Rent	\$1,787	\$1,327	\$1,536	\$2,417
Average Rent/SF	\$2.31	\$1.76	\$1.70	\$2.27
Vacancy Rate	4.2%	73.7%[1]	33.1% [1]	7.9%

Housing Affordability



Housing Cost Burdened Renters

HOUSING COST BURDEN = HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING MORE THAN 30% OF MONTHLY INCOME ON HOUSING



Affordable Rent Limits

Affordable housing units =

 Affordable to households earning 60% Area Median Income (AMI) while paying less than 30% of income on rent.

Includes

- Legally restricted affordable housing (LRAH)
- Naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH).

RALEIGH MSA 2021 AFFORDABLE RENT LIMITS [1]

AFFORDABLE UNITS

	HH Size	30% AMI	50% AMI	60% AMI	80% AMI	120% AMI
Studio Units	1	\$503	\$838	\$1,005	\$1,340	\$2,010
1 BR Units	1	\$503	\$838	\$1,005	\$1,340	\$2,010
2 BR Units	2	\$575	\$958	\$1,149	\$1,532	\$2,298
3 BR Units	3	\$646	\$1,078	\$1,292	\$1,722	\$2,583

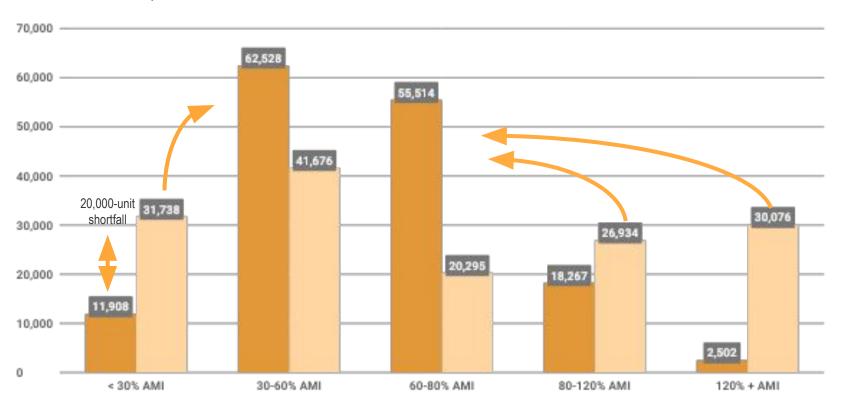
^{[1] 2021} affordable rents shown to align with 2021 ACS data used in analysis. Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2021, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



Housing Gap by Income in Wake County

RENTER HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME LEVEL, AND THE RENTAL UNITS AFFORDABLE TO THEM

THE "BIG SQUEEZE": FEWER HOMES FOR LOWER- AND UPPER-INCOME LEVEL HOUSEHOLDS



HOUSING UNITS

HOUSEHOLDS

Affordable Housing

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Renter earning less than 60% of Area Median Income (AMI)

- Maximum renter income of \$61,200 for a 3-person HH
- Maximum rent of \$1,150

Owner earning less than 100% of AMI

LEGALLY RESTRICTED AFFORDABLE HOUSING

NATURALLY OCCURRING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

MARKET RATE HIGHER-COST HOUSING

Deed restricted to be affordable to defined AMIS

Affordable to defined AMIs without a deed restriction

Market rate housing that exceeds affordable rent or home value maximum thresholds

MARKET RATE HOUSING

Western Corridor NOAH

Legally restricted affordable housing (LRAH)

- Units with mandated renter income requirements
- Public housing units
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) properties.

Naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH)

- Rental units affordable without being subsidized by a federal or local housing program
- Do not have income requirements to be eligible to rent them.

Approximately 39% of rental units within ½ mile of the Western Corridor are affordable to households earning 60% of AMI.

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CORRIDOR HOUSING STOCK [1]

AFFORDABLE UNITS

	LRAH Units	NOAH Units	Higher-Cost Units	Total Units	% Affordable
Studio Units	44	322	526	892	41%
1 BR Units	316	870	2,376	3,562	33%
2 BR Units	297	1636	2,942	4,875	40%
3 BR Units	199	789	1,128	2,116	47%
Total Units	856	3,617	6,973	11,445	39%

^{1 2021} affordable rents shown to align with 2021 ACS data used in analysis.

² Corridor totals differ from CoStar data due to the inclusion of non-commercially managed properties Source: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2021, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Western Corridor NOAH

Criteria

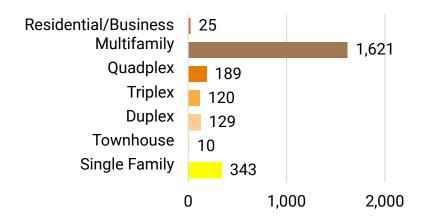
Built before 1990

LLC ownership

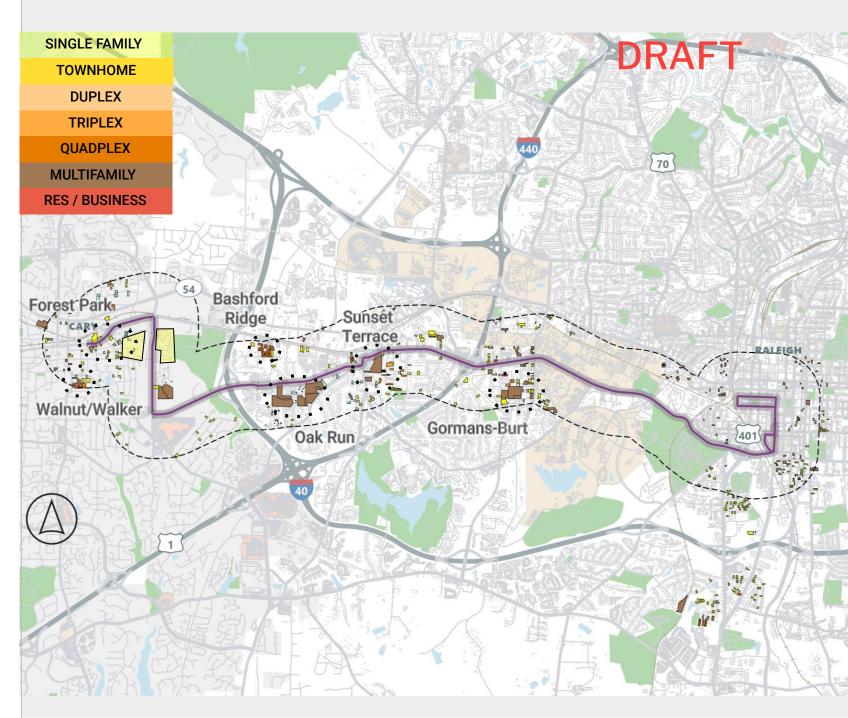
Assessed Building Value/GSF less than \$100/GSF (average for two Corridors)

---- OR ----

✓ Mobile Home



Source: SB Friedman, Wake County (2023) Note: Bar chart excludes mobile home parks



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Western Corridor NOAH

				1311
Address	329 Webster St, Cary	6125 Spice Ridge Ln, Raleigh	704 Carolina Ave, Raleigh	1309-1325 Kent Rd, Raleigh
Site Area	0.29 Acres	0.39 Acres	0.19 Acres	4.61 Acres
Building Type	Triplex	Quadplex	Townhome	Garden Apartment
Gross Square Feet	1,876	3,364	738	35,136
Units / Buildings	3 units	4	1	64 / 8
Year Built	1973	1985	1984	1976
Last Sale Price	\$190,000	\$462,500*	\$132,500	\$4,750,000
Last Sale Date	2018	2023	2021	2019
Total Assessed Value	\$270,408	\$327,856	\$80,704	\$4,744,929
Rent / Type	\$1,000 (2020)	\$1,350 (2023)	\$1,395 (2023)	\$1,025 (1BR)(2023)
Rent Growth Since 2018	-	-	-	28% (5.1% CAGR)

Source: CoStar, Zillow, COMPASS, SB Friedman, Wake County (2023)

Existing Housing Tools

FUNDING

PROGRAM

WAKE COUNTY

WAKE COUNTY AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRESERVATION FUND

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS / HOME / HOPWA

PUBLIC LAND FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

ELDERLY & DISABLED REHAB GRANT, EMERGENCY REHAB GRANT

AFFORDABLE HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM

HOUSEWAKE! / WAKEPREVENT!

RENTAL ASSISTANCE HOUSING PROGRAM (PSH VOUCHERS)

RALEIGH

2020 AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOND

CITY OF RALEIGH GENERAL HOUSING FUND (PENNY)

HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS / HOME / HOPWA

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT

TAX INCREMENT GRANT

PUBLIC LAND FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

HOMEBUYER ASSISTANCE

HOMEOWNER REHAB & REPAIR PROGRAMS

TRANSIT OVERLAY DISTRICT

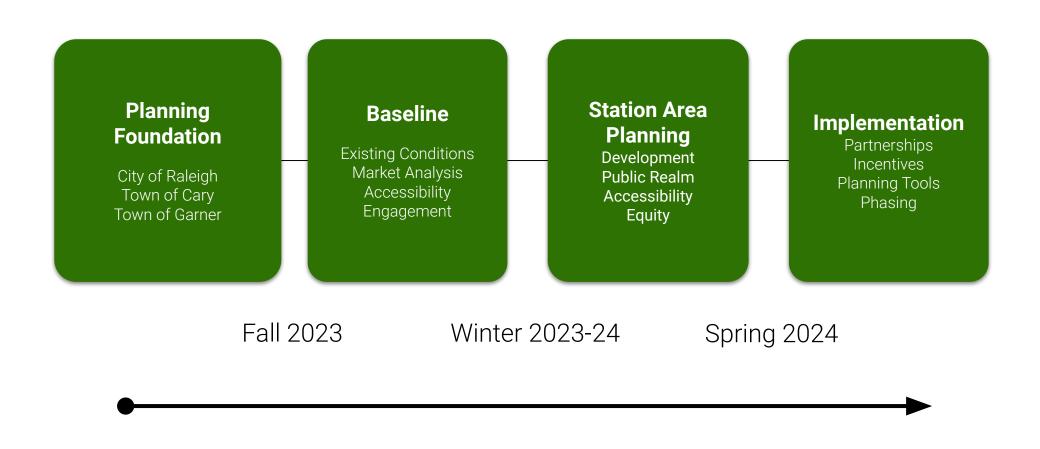
Next Steps

- Identify affordable housing production/preservation targets
- Recommendations for interventions and potential action steps to promote affordability and equity
- Estimate the financial gaps/required incentives to achieve affordable housing
- ☐ Identify a potential menu of federal, state, and local tools that could be used to address housing needs

5. Engagement Round 2

Station Area Planning Process

Integrating Design, Connectivity, Equity, Implementation



Key Dates and Locations

Open Houses

- Saturday, Feb 17th, 12:30 2:30 PM: Method Community Center
- Tuesday, Feb 20th, 4:00 6:00 PM: Powell Drive Neighborhood Center

Webinar

Webinar: Wednesday, Feb 21st: 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Community Leader Roles

- Provide feedback on engagement strategies
- Identify local organizations to engage
- Help spread the word about the study
- Promote open houses and other engagement avenues
- Review project material as it is developed
- Provide the feedback living, working, worshipping, shopping and playing in the community
- Ensure the community's voice is being heard

Community Connector Roles

- Directly help with outreach
- Sharing information with the community
- Increase understanding of the Station Area Planning project and process
- Partner with City staff to develop effective outreach strategies
- Gather information from residents
- Discussing key issues that are important for the community

Wake BRT

Western Station Area Planning Leader and Connector Meeting



January 25, 2024





