CENTRAL CORRIDOR ADVISORY GROUP

MEETING #6

November 15, 2013, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Austin City Hall, Boards & Commissions

projectconnect
central corridor

Agenda

1

1) Welcome & Introductions
2) Public Involvement Update
3) Recommendation Summary
4) Evaluation Summary
5) Begin CCAG Action
6) Next Steps
7) Citizen Communication
8) Next Meeting – December 6, 2013

1 CCAG Charge

The CCAG will:

- Ensure open and transparent public process

- Advise Mayor and project team in prioritizing and defining a preferred alignment for the next high-capacity transit investment for the Central Corridor

- Assist project team in a meaningful dialogue with the community

projectconnect
central corridor

Decision-Making Process

- Phase 1: Select Priority Sub-Corridor

Current Progress

				2013						2014								
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
				Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Phase 1 Select Priority Sub-Corridor	Step 1: Kick-Off/Process	Task 1	Work Plan/Decision-Making Process														
	Step 2: Define Sub-Corridors	Task 2	Framework/History														
		Task 3	G&O/Problem Statement														
		Task 4	Methodology/Criteria														
		Task 5	Identify Sub-Corridors														
		Task 6	Define Sub-Corridors														
	Step 3: Select Priority Sub-Corridor	Task 7	Evaluate Sub-Corridors														
		Task 8	Select Priority Sub-Corridor														
			Decision						*								

1 The Road to the Priority Sub-Corridor

CCAG Meetings

- November 1
  - Present Data (2 of 2)
  - Evaluation Process
  - *Public Comment*
- November 15
  - Evaluation Results
  - Project Team Recommendations
  - *Public Comment*
- December 6
  - *Public Comment*
  - CCAG Selection

Board & Council Briefings

- November 13
  - Capital Metro Board
- November 21
  - Austin City Council
- December 11
  - Capital Metro Board
- December 12 (tentative)
  - Austin City Council
- TBD
 - Lone Star Board

2

Public Involvement Update

2

Step 3 Public Involvement

- Three public workshops
  - Norris Conference Center (Anderson Lane) 11/5 —40+ participants
  - Faith United Methodist (South Lamar) 11/6 — 30+ participants
  - St. David's Episcopal (Downtown) 11 /7— 50+ participants
- Webinar 11/6 – 60 participants

projectconnect
central corridor

Public Workshop Summary

- Public input collected to establish weighting for problems and criteria

- Preferences from public workshops
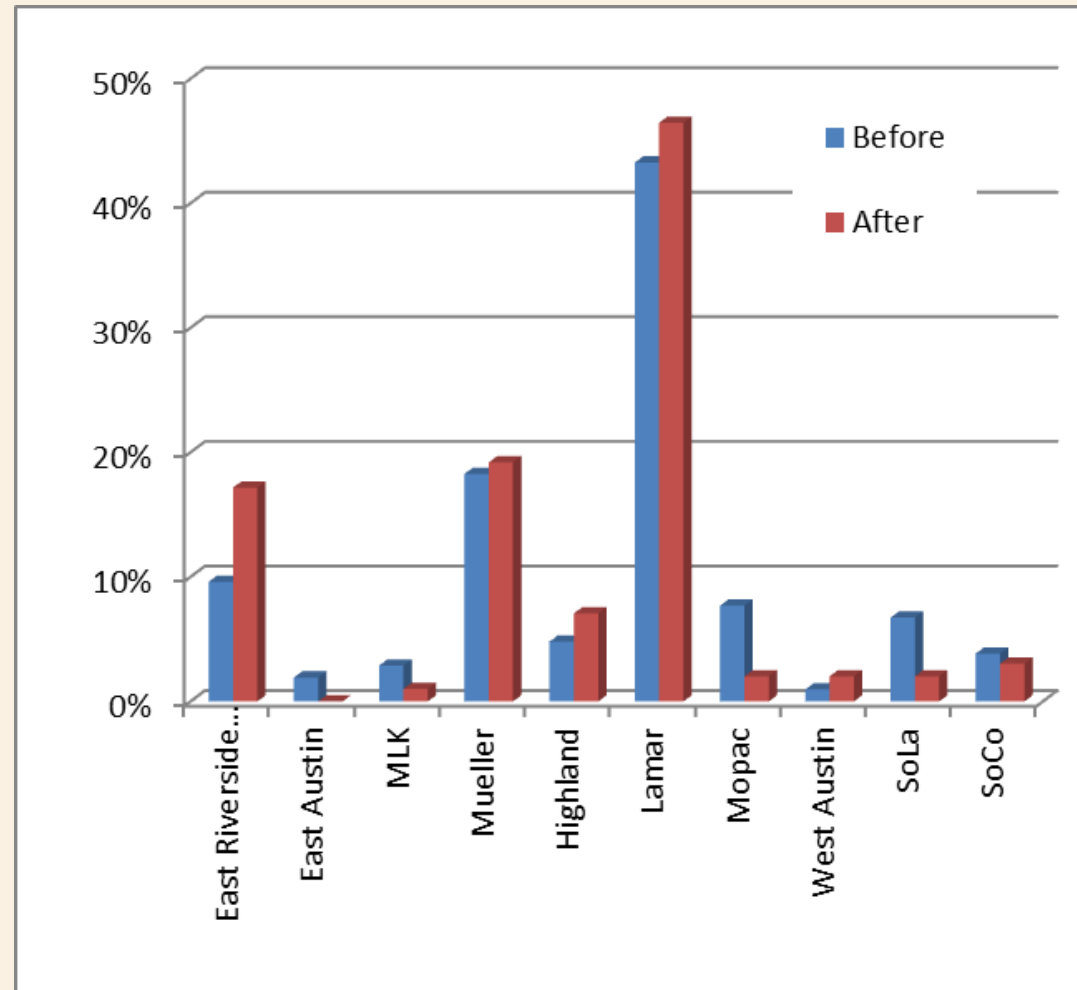
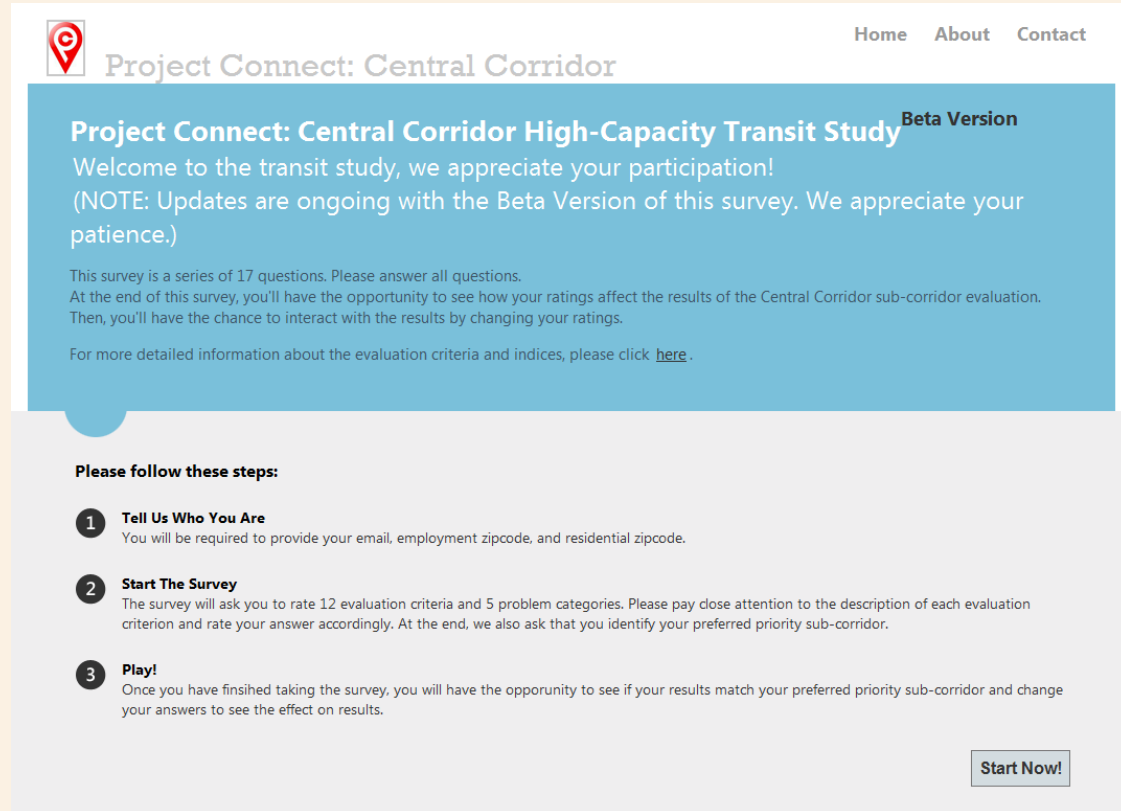# Step 3 Upcoming Public Engagement

- Online Survey/Evaluation Tool – beta live 11/8
  – Unprecedented transparency
  – 210+ surveys

Home   About   Contact

Project Connect: Central Corridor

Project Connect: Central Corridor High-Capacity Transit Study Beta Version
Welcome to the transit study, we appreciate your participation!
(NOTE: Updates are ongoing with the Beta Version of this survey. We appreciate your patience.)

This survey is a series of 17 questions. Please answer all questions.
At the end of this survey, you'll have the opportunity to see how your ratings affect the results of the Central Corridor sub-corridor evaluation. Then, you'll have the chance to interact with the results by changing your ratings.

For more detailed information about the evaluation criteria and indices, please click here .

Please follow these steps:

1 **Tell Us Who You Are**
You will be required to provide your email, employment zipcode, and residential zipcode.

2 **Start The Survey**
The survey will ask you to rate 12 evaluation criteria and 5 problem categories. Please pay close attention to the description of each evaluation criterion and rate your answer accordingly. At the end, we also ask that you identify your preferred priority sub-corridor.

3 **Play!**
Once you have finsihed taking the survey, you will have the opporunity to see if your results match your preferred priority sub-corridor and change your answers to see the effect on results.

Start Now!

2 Step 3 Upcoming Public Engagement

- Stakeholder Group Briefings, including
  - 11/19 UT Student Government Assembly
  - 11/19 Castlewood-Oak Valley Neighborhood Assn (COVNA)
  - 11/20 Downtown Commission
  - 12/4 Alliance for Public Transportation
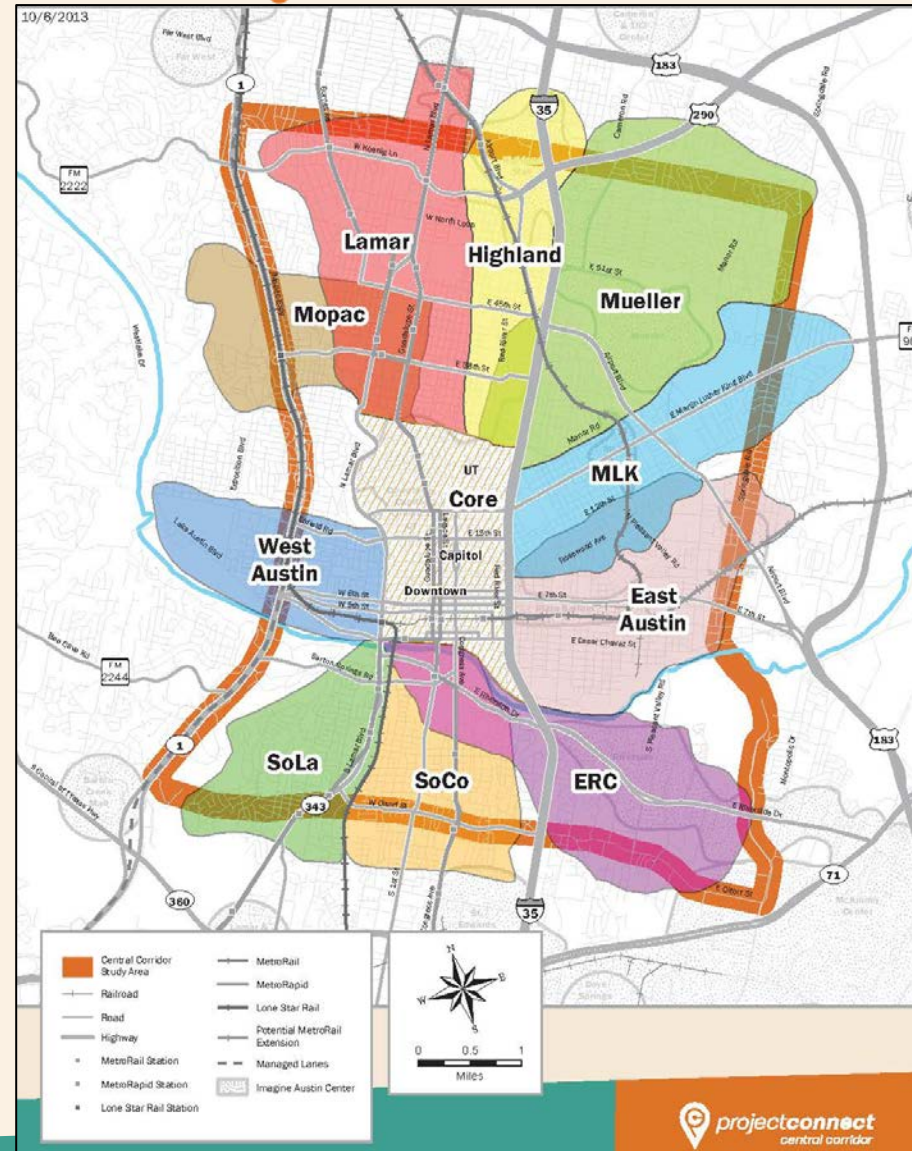- Televised Community Conversation – 11/26

3

Recommendation Summary

Evaluation Approach

- 10 sub-corridors identified + Core

- Comparison of sub-corridors for high-capacity transit (HCT) suitability

- No single factor tells the whole story

Evaluation Results

3

Current Focus   Future Focus

Project Team		CCAG		Public *		Equal Weight		Serving Criteria Only		Shaping Criteria Only	
ERC	70	ERC	58	ERC	72	ERC	60	ERC	55	ERC	57
Highland	61	Highland	58	Highland	65	Highland	57	East Austin	53	Highland	52
Lamar	53	Mueller	51	Mueller	56	Mueller	51	Lamar	53	Mueller	44
Mueller	52	Lamar	48	Lamar	51	Lamar	50	West Austin	52	Lamar	42
East Austin	50	East Austin	45	East Austin	49	East Austin	47	Highland	47	SoCo	38
SoCo	44	SoCo	41	SoCo	46	SoCo	43	Mueller	45	East Austin	34
West Austin	33	West Austin	32	West Austin	42	West Austin	32	SoCo	37	West Austin	28
MLK	27	SoLa	22	MLK	30	MLK	25	Mopac	36	SoLa	21
Mopac	27	MLK	22	Mopac	29	SoLa	22	MLK	31	MLK	18
SoLa	24	Mopac	18	SoLa	28	Mopac	21	SoLa	16	Mopac	11

Key Findings

- ERC & Highland are top performers
  - From various perspectives
- Weightings do not change the overall results
- All sub-corridors could support HCT

Evaluation scores can only be compared within each column.

*Three public workshops input.

projectconnect
central corridor

13

East Riverside & Highland

- East Riverside (ERC) and Highland are consistently in the top two

- Advance both into Phase 2
  - Develop best project

- Balanced recommendation
  - System Development
  - Shaping Characteristics
  - Serving Characteristics

4 Evaluation Summary

	Current Focus		Future Focus

Project Team		CCAG		Public *		Equal Weight		Serving Criteria Only		Shaping Criteria Only	
ERC	70	ERC	58	ERC	72	ERC	60	ERC	55	ERC	57
Highland	61	Highland	58	Highland	65	Highland	57	East Austin	53	Highland	52
Lamar	53	Mueller	51	Mueller	56	Mueller	51	Lamar	53	Mueller	44
Mueller	52	Lamar	48	Lamar	51	Lamar	50	West Austin	52	Lamar	42
East Austin	50	East Austin	45	East Austin	49	East Austin	47	Highland	47	SoCo	38
SoCo	44	SoCo	41	SoCo	46	SoCo	43	Mueller	45	East Austin	34
West Austin	33	West Austin	32	West Austin	42	West Austin	32	SoCo	37	West Austin	28
MLK	27	SoLa	22	MLK	30	MLK	25	Mopac	36	SoLa	21
Mopac	27	MLK	22	Mopac	29	SoLa	22	MLK	31	MLK	18
SoLa	24	Mopac	18	SoLa	28	Mopac	21	SoLa	16	Mopac	11

Key Findings

- ERC & Highland are top performers
  - From various perspectives
- Weightings do not change the overall results
- All sub-corridors could support HCT
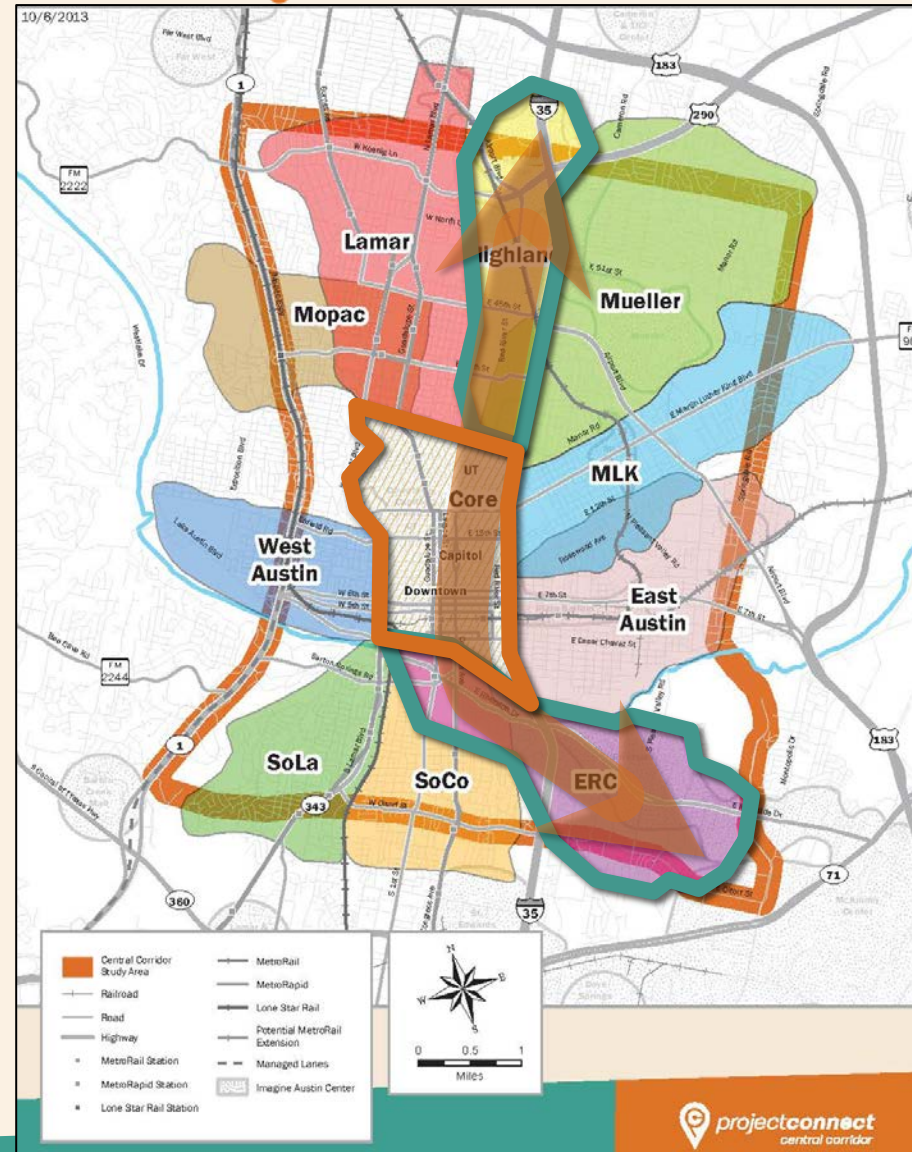
Evaluation scores can only be compared within each column.
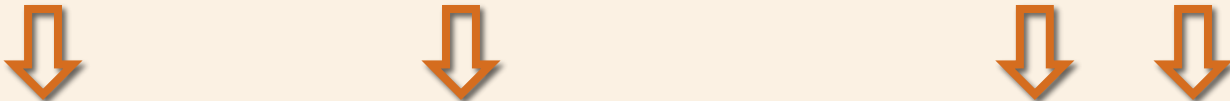
*Three public workshops input.

projectconnect
central corridor

16

Overall Results: Problems

	West Austin	Mopac	Lamar	Highland	Mueller	MLK	East Austin	ERC	SoCo	SoLa
Ranking	7	9	3	2	4	8	5	1	6	10
Overall Score	33	27	53	61	52	27	50	70	44	24
Congestion	4	2	3	5	3	2	2	5	4	3
Constraints & Growth	12	6	18	23	19	4	18	19	13	5
Core	2	2	3	6	9	7	9	8	6	4
Centers	2	2	8	8	8	6	7	10	8	4
System	13	14	21	19	13	8	14	27	15	8

Notes

- Relatively, green is more favorable, red is less favorable
- Indicates which sub-corridors best address each regional problem (constraints and opportunities)

Detailed Results: Congestion

4

	West Austin	Mopac	Lamar	Highland	Mueller	MLK	East Austin	ERC	SoCo	SoLa
Congestion	4	2	3	5	3	2	2	5	4	3
Congestion Index	22	18	5	22	20	15	10	25	8	11
Travel Demand Index	45	13	38	52	24	10	18	57	52	36

Key Drivers of Results

- Highways (LP1-Mopac, I-35) do not alter the ranking of two most congested sub-corridors – ERC and West Austin
- Sensitivity tests (removing highways) illustrates shifts in remaining sub-corridor rankings – but does not change overall results
- Highland experiences high levels of congestion with and without I-35
- Grid within the Lamar sub-corridor eases overall congestion (Lamar Blvd still congested)
- Highest Delay Hours are associated with LP1-Mopac
- Relative forecasted change in congestion in ERC is significant
- Strong attraction to the core from areas south of the river - now and future
- Trips from outside the Central Corridor passing through to the core most affects West Austin

projectconnect central corridor

Detailed Results: Constraints & Growth

4

	West Austin	Mopac	Lamar	Highland	Mueller	MLK	East Austin	ERC	SoCo	SoLa
Constraints & Growth	12	6	18	23	19	4	18	19	13	5
Growth Index	10	14	36	55	38	15	39	56	37	18
Constraint Index	33	7	32	33	33	1	28	16	11	0

Key Drivers of Results

- Future population and employment densities are dominated by growth in ERC and Highland
- Lamar will have highest future employment density
- West Austin, Mopac and MLK remain relatively unchanged
- Constraints to project implementation are based on barriers (highways, Lady Bird Lake), waterways, and ROW availability and implies a higher cost

projectconnect central corridor
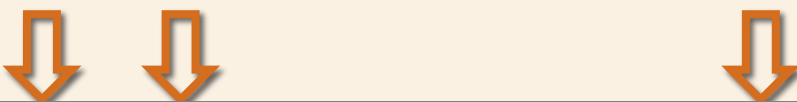
Detailed Results: Core

	West Austin	Mopac	Lamar	Highland	Mueller	MLK	East Austin	ERC	SoCo	SoLa
Core	2	2	3	6	9	7	9	8	6	4
Affordability Index	9	17	12	19	29	47	57	27	25	10
Econ Development Index	7	1	7	25	40	9	14	33	16	21

Key Drivers of Results

- Housing affordability and transit-dependent populations are primarily located in East Austin and MLK
- Highest economic development potential is seen in Mueller and ERC
- When Affordability and Economic Development considered together, Mueller and East Austin are highest ranked
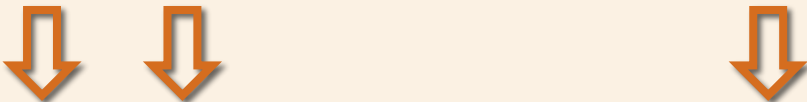
4 Detailed Results: Centers

	West Austin	Mopac	Lamar	Highland	Mueller	MLK	East Austin	ERC	SoCo	SoLa
Centers	2	2	8	8	8	6	7	10	8	4
Centers Index	8	7	21	25	27	20	22	40	26	21
Consistency with Plans	4	4	20	16	12	8	12	8	12	0

Key Drivers of Results

- Distribution of Imagine Austin Centers and Corridors are fairly evenly distributed with the exception of West Austin and Mopac
- Highland and Mueller include significant regional and Imagine Austin Centers
- SoCo and SoLa include the highest percentage of Imagine Austin Corridors
- Plan support for a HCT investment is most referenced in Lamar and Highland

	West Austin	Mopac	Lamar	Highland	Mueller	MLK	East Austin	ERC	SoCo	SoLa
System	**13**	**14**	**21**	**19**	**13**	**8**	**14**	**27**	**15**	**8**
Future Ridership Potential	6	5	19	21	8	0	9	29	13	7
Current Ridership Potential	9	9	18	10	4	0	4	16	10	5
Connectivity Index	17	21	15	13	16	15	15	22	10	8
Transit Demand Index	6	8	12	12	9	9	14	15	10	4

Key Drivers of Results

- Current ridership potential is highest in Lamar and ERC
- Actual ridership is highest in ERC and Highland
- Future ridership potential strongly favors ERC, Highland and Lamar
- Current multi-modal access (bicycle lanes and sidewalks) is best in East Austin and SoCo
- Transit dependent ridership is strongest in ERC and East Austin

Overall Results – Preliminary Screening

4

Current Focus   Future Focus

Project Team		CCAG		Public		Equal Weight		Serving Criteria Only		Shaping Criteria Only	
ERC	70	ERC	58	ERC	72	ERC	60	ERC	55	ERC	57
Highland	61	Highland	58	Highland	65	Highland	57	East Austin	53	Highland	52
Lamar	53	Mueller	51	Mueller	56	Mueller	51	Lamar	53	Mueller	44
Mueller	52	Lamar	48	Lamar	51	Lamar	50	West Austin	52	Lamar	42
East Austin	50	East Austin	45	East Austin	49	East Austin	47	Highland	47	SoCo	38
SoCo	44	SoCo	41	SoCo	46	SoCo	43	Mueller	45	East Austin	34
West Austin	33	West Austin	32	West Austin	42	West Austin	32	SoCo	37	West Austin	28
MLK	27	SoLa	22	MLK	30	MLK	25	Mopac	36	SoLa	21
Mopac	27	MLK	22	Mopac	29	SoLa	22	MLK	31	MLK	18
SoLa	24	Mopac	18	SoLa	28	Mopac	21	SoLa	16	Mopac	11

Results

- Rough break between top 5 and bottom 5

23

- **Keys to East Austin**
  - Scored high due to Core criteria and other Serving criteria
  - Served by MetroRail
    - TIGER Grant-funded improvements
      - Added track/sidings will reduce headways from 34 minutes to 17 minutes at peak times
      - Allows 4 train runs during peak hours instead of 2

	Ranking	East Austin 5
Congestion		2
Congestion Index		10
Travel Demand Index		18
Constraints & Growth		18
Growth Index		39
Constraint Index		28
Core		9
Affordability Index		57
Econ Development Index		14
Centers		7
Centers Index		22
Consistency with Plans		12
System		14
Future Ridership Potential		9
Current Ridership Potential		4
Connectivity Index		15
Transit Demand Index		14

Toward a Recommendation – Mueller

- **Keys to Mueller**
  - Scores high due to Shaping / *Future* criteria
    - High degree of certainty given the demonstrated response to development and planned build-out
  - Scores high in Serving/ *Current* criteria
  - Relatively few constraints
  - Not currently served by high-capacity transit (HCT)
  - Investment in Mueller sub-corridor could also serve southern Highland sub-corridor (overlap)

	Mueller
Ranking	4
Congestion	3
Congestion Index	20
Travel Demand Index	24
Constraints & Growth	19
Growth Index	38
Constraint Index	33
Core	9
Affordability Index	29
Econ Development Index	40
Centers	8
Centers Index	27
Consistency with Plans	12
System	13
Future Ridership Potential	8
Current Ridership Potential	4
Connectivity Index	16
Transit Demand Index	9

Toward a Recommendation – Lamar

- ## Keys to Lamar
  - Scored better under *Current* than *Future* criteria
  - Highest *Current* Ridership Potential – 3rd in *Future*
  - 3rd highest Existing Ridership
  - Highest *Current* Employment Density and 2nd highest *Current* Population Density
  - Served by MetroRail (Crestview Station)
    - TIGER Grant-funded improvements
      - Added track/sidings will reduce headways from 34 minutes to 17 minutes at peak times
      - Allows 4 train runs during peak hours instead of 2
  - To be served by MetroRapid (Q1 2014)
  - Inclusion of West Campus influences results, but would not push it above ERC and Highland

	Lamar
Ranking	3
Congestion	3
Congestion Index	5
Travel Demand Index	38
Constraints & Growth	18
Growth Index	36
Constraint Index	32
Core	3
Affordability Index	12
Econ Development Index	7
Centers	8
Centers Index	21
Consistency with Plans	20
System	21
Future Ridership Potential	19
Current Ridership Potential	18
Connectivity Index	15
Transit Demand Index	12

Toward a Recommendation – Highland

- **Keys to Highland**
  - Scored in the top two due to Growth and Congestion criteria
  - Strong in all other criteria
  - Significant development plans
  - Limited additional roadway network and capacity
  - A focal point of all three Project Connect: North Corridor final alternatives
  - Served by MetroRail (Highland Station)
    - TIGER Grant-funded improvements
      - Added track/sidings will reduce headways from 34 minutes to 17 minutes at peak times
      - Allows 4 train runs during peak hours instead of 2

		Highland
	Ranking	**2**
Congestion		5
	Congestion Index	22
	Travel Demand Index	52
Constraints & Growth		23
	Growth Index	55
	Constraint Index	33
Core		6
	Affordability Index	19
	Econ Development Index	25
Centers		8
	Centers Index	25
	Consistency with Plans	16
System		19
	Future Ridership Potential	21
	Current Ridership Potential	10
	Connectivity Index	13
	Transit Demand Index	12

Toward a Recommendation - ERC

- Keys to East Riverside (ERC)
  - Scored #1 in all scenarios
  - Best responds to all problems
    - Highest on 3 of 5, Congestion, Centers, and System
    - Second highest on Growth and Core
  - High existing densities and potential growth
    - Population and employment
  - High existing ridership
  - High *future* ridership potential
  - Not currently served by HCT
  - Constraints are a challenge
   - Lady Bird Lake and I-35 crossings

	ERC
Ranking	1
Congestion	5
Congestion Index	25
Travel Demand Index	57
Constraints & Growth	19
Growth Index	56
Constraint Index	16
Core	8
Affordability Index	27
Econ Development Index	33
Centers	10
Centers Index	40
Consistency with Plans	8
System	27
Future Ridership Potential	29
Current Ridership Potential	16
Connectivity Index	22
Transit Demand Index	15

East Riverside & Highland

- East Riverside (ERC) and Highland are consistently in the top two

- Advance both into Phase 2
  - Develop best project

- Balanced recommendation
  - System Development
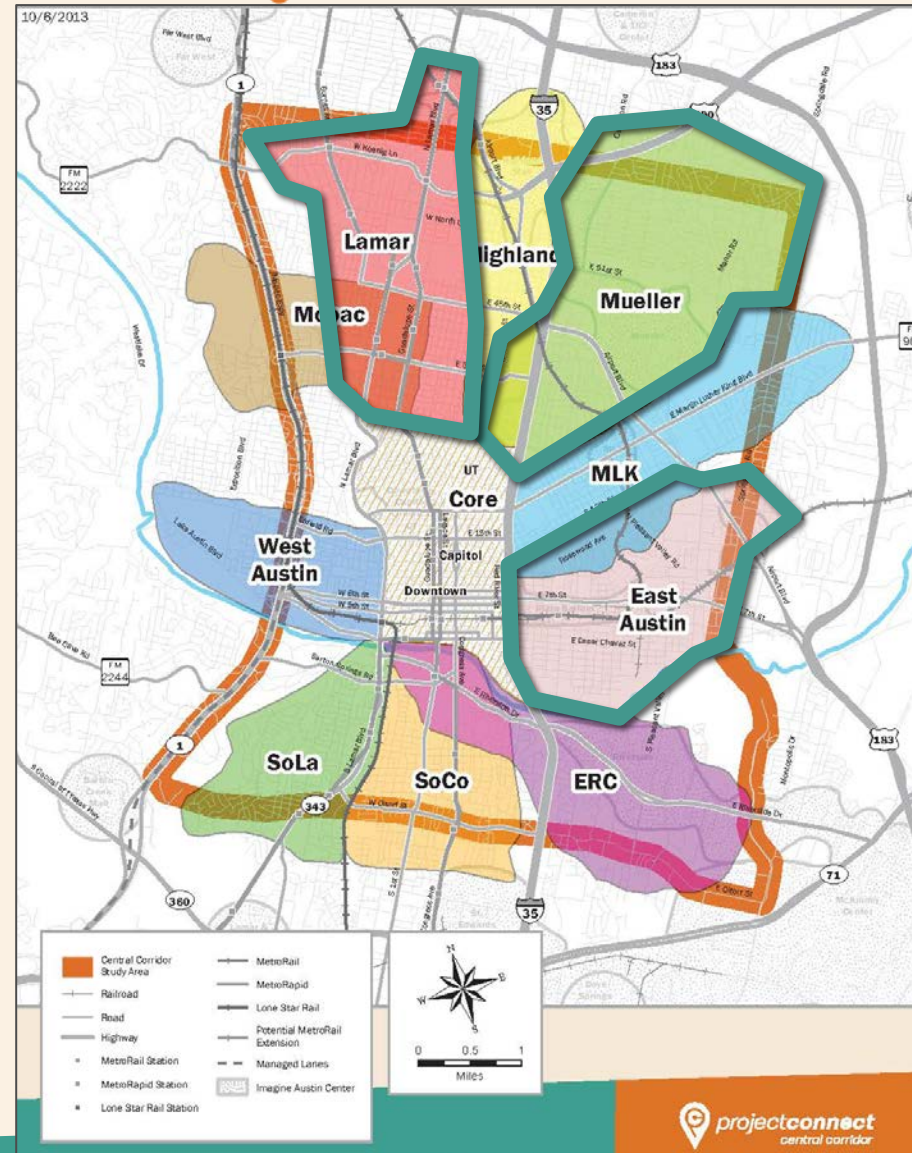 - Shaping Characteristics
  - Serving Characteristics
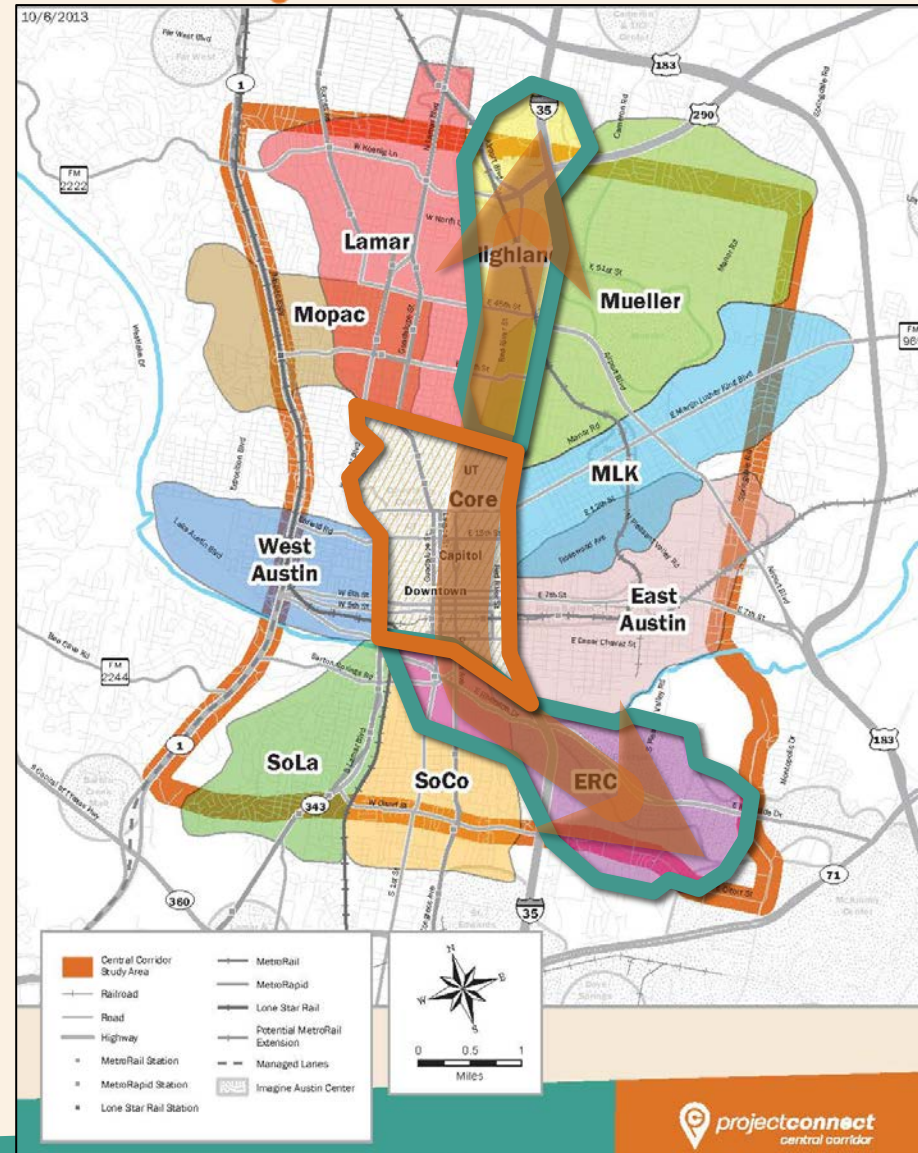
Central Corridor System Phasing

- Lamar, Mueller, East Austin all likely next phases
- Order of implementation dependent on system planning
  - Emphasis on operations

Discussion

projectconnect
central corridor

5

Begin CCAG Action

CCAG Action Items

- **Understand evaluation results and recommendation**
  - Review Session
    - Tuesday 11/19, 4-7PM
    - One Texas Center, Room 8A
- **Formulate CCAG Action**
  - Draft Resolution?
- **CCAG Action -- 12/6**

6 Next Steps

6 Next Steps

- Continued Public Involvement
  - Stakeholder Briefings
  - Online Survey/Evaluation Tool
  - Televised Community Conversation – 11/26
- Continued Dialogue with CCAG
- Phase 2 Preparations

6 The Road to the Priority Sub-Corridor

CCAG Meetings

- November 1
  - Present Data (2 of 2)
  - Evaluation Process
  - *Public Comment*
- November 15
  - Evaluation Results
  - Project Team Recommendations
  - *Public Comment*
- December 6
  - *Public Comment*
  - CCAG Selection

Board & Council Briefings

- November 13
  - Capital Metro Board
- November 21
  - Austin City Council
- December 11
  - Capital Metro Board
- December 12 (tentative)
  - Austin City Council
- TBD
  - Lone Star Board
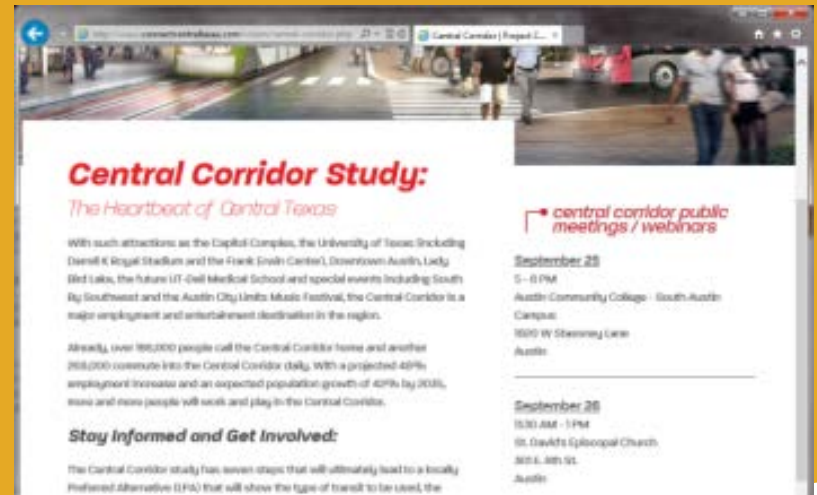
7

Citizen Communication

8

Next Meeting December 6

THANK YOU

More Information:

Project Connect &
Central Corridor HCT Study
projectconnect.com

*project***connect**
central corridor