

What is Connections 2025?



What is a service plan?

- Transit agencies use service plans as a guide for system enhancements and expansion for the next 10 years.
- Every 5 years, Capital Metro updates what we call a service plan, or comprehensive operational analysis, that spans 10 years and guides the agency's 3 yearly service changes.
- It's 2015, and our service plan is due for an update since its last refresh in 2010.



Service Plan 2020 Successes

- Board adopted in February 2010 and most recommendations implemented over a 5 year period.
- Implemented the first transit priority lanes in Austin along Guadalupe and Lavaca.
- Launched the High-Frequency Route Network along five major routes.
- Realigned and extended routes to provide additional mobility options.
- Eliminated poor performing routes.
- Launched MetroRapid Routes 801 & 803.



Capital Metro Current Initiatives

- Capital Metro is currently planning for several short-term service enhancements:
 - Expanded Park & Ride network planned to accommodate new south Austin express routes.
 - Express riders will also benefit when MoPac Express Lanes open in 2016, as transit vehicles will be able to bypass congestion, getting people to their destinations more quickly and reliably.
 - Adding parking spaces at the Lakeline and Howard Park & Rides to provide more capacity for MetroRail, MetroExpress and Local service customers.



Connections 2025: The challenge

You know as well as we do that Central Texas is bursting at the seams and will continue to experience explosive growth—it's the new norm. What's less in vogue is auto-dependency and the daily traffic we sit in **(including our buses)**!

Over the past two years, system-wide ridership has declined over 5%.

We take this very seriously and we want to fully understand why.

Lowest Gas Prices in Austin, TX				
1.94	CEFCO 14200 UR-620 N & Parmer Ln	Austin - NW	7h ago	LSUTiger95
1.95	Costco 10401 Research Blvd near Great Hills Tr	Austin - NW	1h ago	katycan
1.95	Sam's Club 10901 Lakeline Mall Dr near N SH-183	Austin - NW	1h ago	bluedevil2
1.95	Sam's Club 9700 N Capital of Texas Hwy near Research Blvd	Austin - NW	1h ago	vrroomvrroom
1.95	Gulf 7811 S 1st St & Dittmar Rd	Austin - South	3h ago	bart5000

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Connections 2025: The opportunity

- We take even more seriously our community's access to opportunity and how our system connects us to an affordable, livable and fun way of life in the place we call home.



Connections Plan 2025: Goals

- Capital Metro's plan will focus on:
 - Goals established by CMTA Board of Directors
 - Informed by community-driven feedback
 - Balancing difficult trade-offs
 - Prioritizing fiscal responsibility
 - Utilizing both innovative & proven solutions
 - Creating an efficient & integrated system



Connections 2025: The Process

- Led by Capital Metro with assistance from national experts
- Primary focus on bus service
- Extensive public involvement throughout the study
- Evaluate how well Capital Metro is meeting the needs of the community and the goals of the agency
 - Data Analysis
 - Market Study
 - Service Evaluation
- Develop near term & long term solutions
- Create a fiscally responsible financial plan



Connections 2025: Public Involvement - Who?

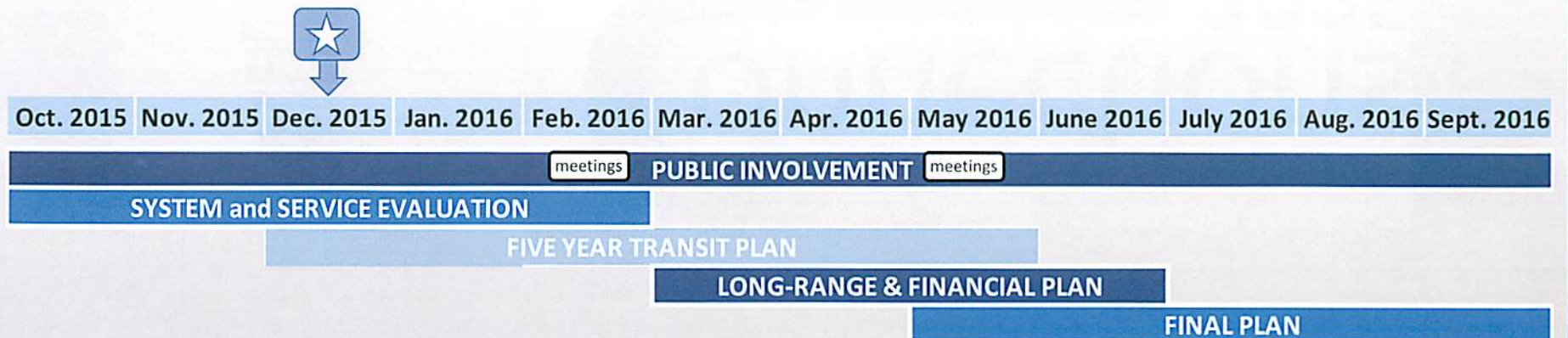
- Our Customers
- Our Operators
- Our Member Entities
- Non-Riders
- Community Leaders
- Social Service / Non-Profit Organizations
- Council Constituencies
- Interest Groups

Connections 2025: Public Involvement - How?

- CMTA Board Engagement
- Advisory Committees
- Interactive / Online / Mobile Engagement
- At Stop / On Board Engagement
- Special events
- Staff Ambassadors
- Open Houses / Town Hall Meetings / Workshops
- One on One Exchanges
- Spanish Language Materials and Presentations

Proposed Timeline

- During the year-long service planning process, Capital Metro, together with its consultant team, will lead a robust public involvement process where we need you involved along the way.
- Community engagement (riders & non-riders) will be **KEY**.
- Greater Austin area events will begin in February.



Thank you

