



AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL UPDATE

City of Austin Environmental Commission

April 5, 2023

WHAT IS THE AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP?



Austin Transit Partnership Staff

- Delivering Austin's first light rail project
- Conducting research to bring light rail options to the public
- Evaluating your feedback and incorporating it into the light rail program
- Prioritizing equity, sustainability and transparency
- Committed to meeting voters' goals and honoring Austin's values

WHAT IS LIGHT RAIL

- Light rail is an electric train system used in metropolitan areas
- Light rail is part of the overall transit network, connecting people to key destinations where they live, work and play to improve:
 - **Mobility**
 - **Connectivity**
 - **Affordability**
 - **Sustainability**

ARTIST REPRESENTATIONS



Light Rail Vehicle



Light Rail Vehicle Interior



Guadalupe Street at UT Austin



Multi-Modal Connectivity



Station View at Pleasant Valley

PRECEDENTS



Paris, France



Portland, Oregon



Sydney, Australia

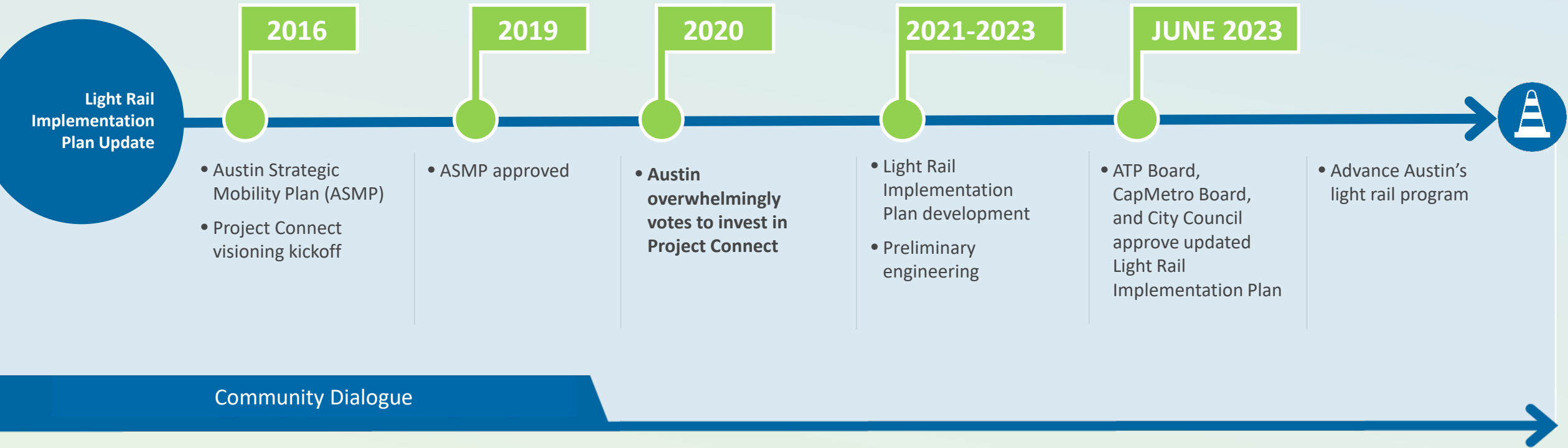


Seattle, Washington



Ontario, Canada

AUSTIN'S PATH TO LIGHT RAIL



MEASURES AND VALUES



Financial Viability



Technical Feasibility



Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Criteria for Federal Funding



Planning Data



Community Values



Connects with Austin's Current and Future Transit System

PLANNING DATA



Multimodal Connectivity



Accessibility / Universal Design



Healthcare Facilities



Education



Congestion Mitigation



Environmental Benefits / Impacts



Affordable Housing



POPULATION DENSITY

Census 2020

LEGEND

Station

0.5 mi radius from station

Study Area

People per square mile

0 - 3,800

3,801 - 8,800

8,801 - 18,000

18,001 - 41,000

41,001 +

N

This map illustrates the relationship between population density and transit accessibility in Austin, Texas, based on 2020 Census data. The map features several key elements:

- Population Density:** Shaded regions represent different density levels per square mile:
 - 0 - 3,800 (lightest yellow)
 - 3,801 - 8,800 (light yellow)
 - 8,801 - 18,000 (orange)
 - 18,001 - 41,000 (red)
 - 41,001 + (darkest red)
- Transit Stations and Catchment Areas:** A line connects major transit hubs, each with a 0.5-mile radius catchment area indicated by a circle:
 - North Lamar Transit Center
 - 29th Street
 - Oltorf
 - Pleasant Valley
 - South Congress Transit Center
 - Yellow Jacket
 - Austin - Bergstrom International Airport
- Geographic Context:** The map includes major roads (Interstates 35, 183, 290, 360, and State Routes 1, 71, 290, 183), the Colorado River, and Lady Bird Lake.

project

connect

AUSTIN

TRANSIT

PARTNERSHIP

CapMetro

CITY OF AUSTIN


TEXAS


BIPOC SHARE OF POPULATION


Black, Indigenous, & People of Color

Census 2020

LEGEND

 Station


 0.5 mi radius from station


 Study Area


BIPOC Share


1 - 20%

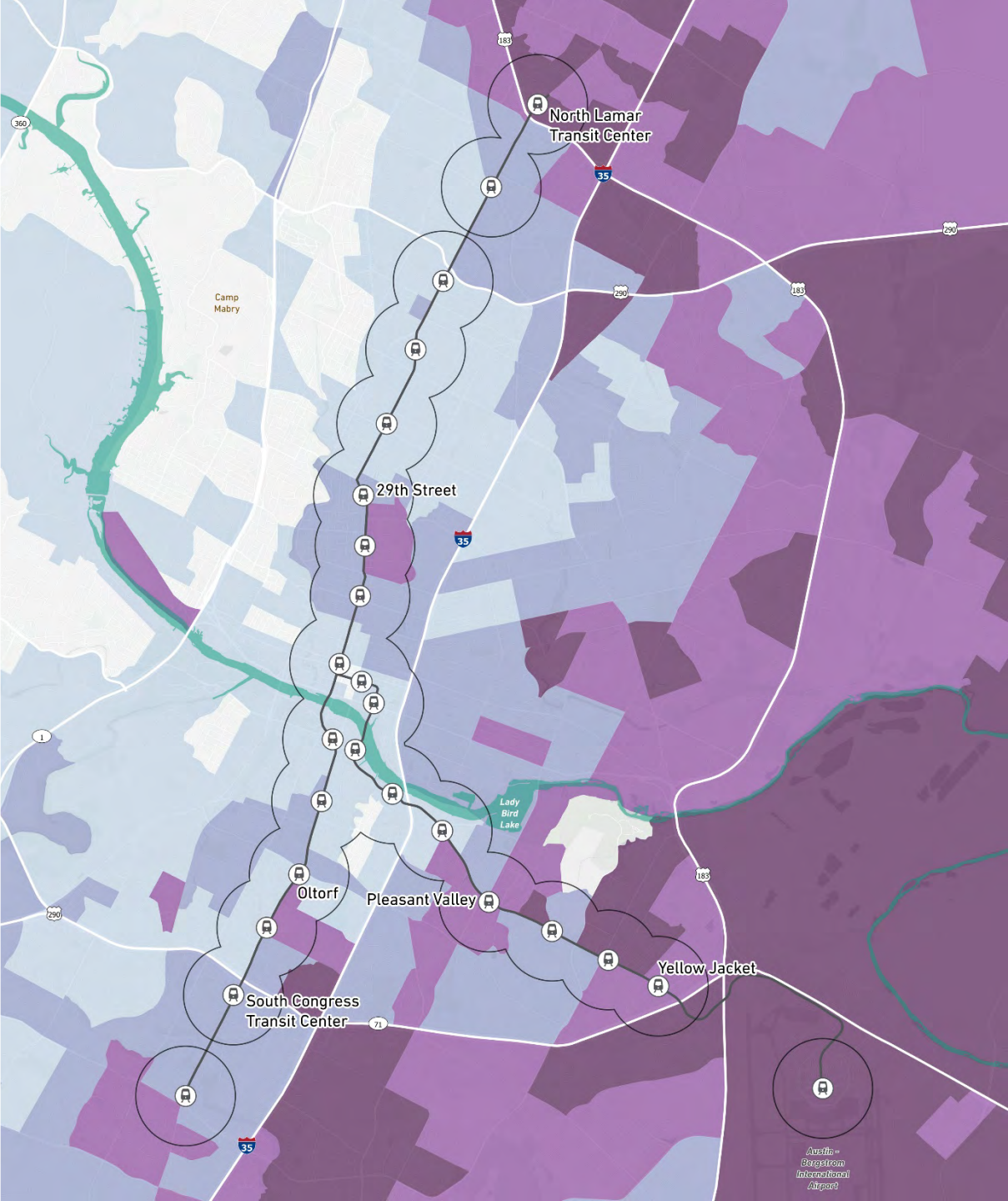
21 - 40%

 41 - 60%

 61 - 80%

 81 - 100%








CURRENT EMPLOYMENT DENSITY

Longitudinal
Employer-Household
Dynamics (LEHD) 2019


LEGEND


 Station


 0.5 mi radius from station

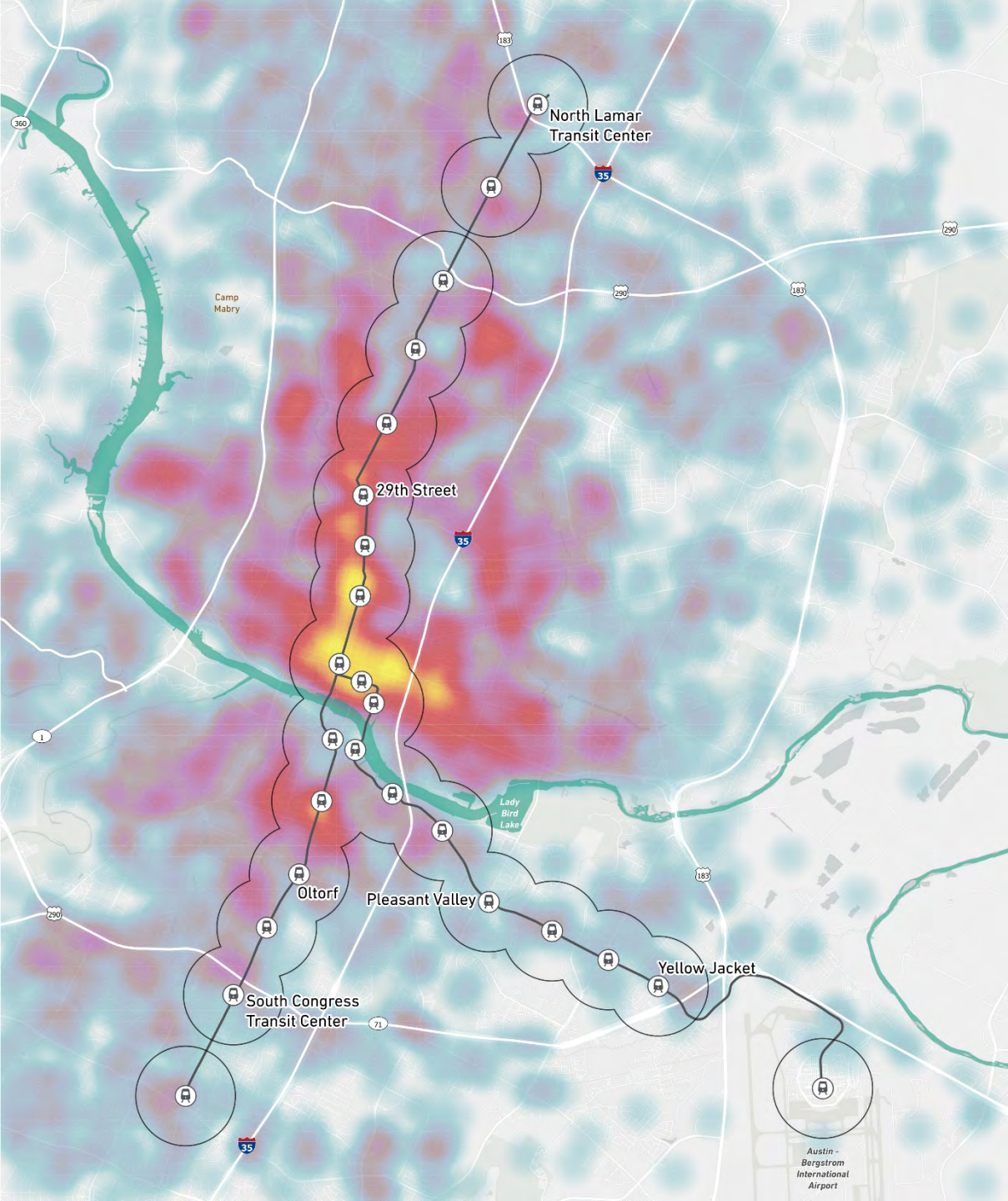
 Study Area

Employment

 Sparse

 Dense







AFFORDABLE HOUSING

City of Austin Comprehensive Affordable Housing Directory


LEGEND



Station




0.5 mi radius from station




Study Area


Affordable Housing Units




1 - 50




51 - 150




151 - 250



251 - 400





401 +





N

The map displays the city of Austin with a network of transit lines and stations. Yellow circles of varying sizes represent the density of affordable housing units, with sizes corresponding to the number of units: 1-50 (smallest), 51-150, 151-250, 251-400, and 401+ (largest). The map includes labels for major transit stations: North Lamar Transit Center, 29th Street, Oltorf, Pleasant Valley, South Congress Transit Center, and Yellow Jacket. It also shows the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. Major highways (Interstates 35, 183, 290, and State Routes 1, 71, 290, 183) and geographical features like Lady Bird Lake are also depicted. Two inset photographs in the top left corner show examples of affordable housing buildings: a tall brick high-rise and a modern white multi-story building.

 project connect

 AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP

 CapMetro

 CITY OF AUSTIN

TRANSIT CONNECTIONS

CapMetro

LEGEND

- Station
 - 0.5 mi radius from station
 - Study Area
 - Park & Ride
- Transit Routes








 - Red Line
 - Green Line (proposed)
 - MetroRapid
- High Frequency MetroBus Pickup Service Zone

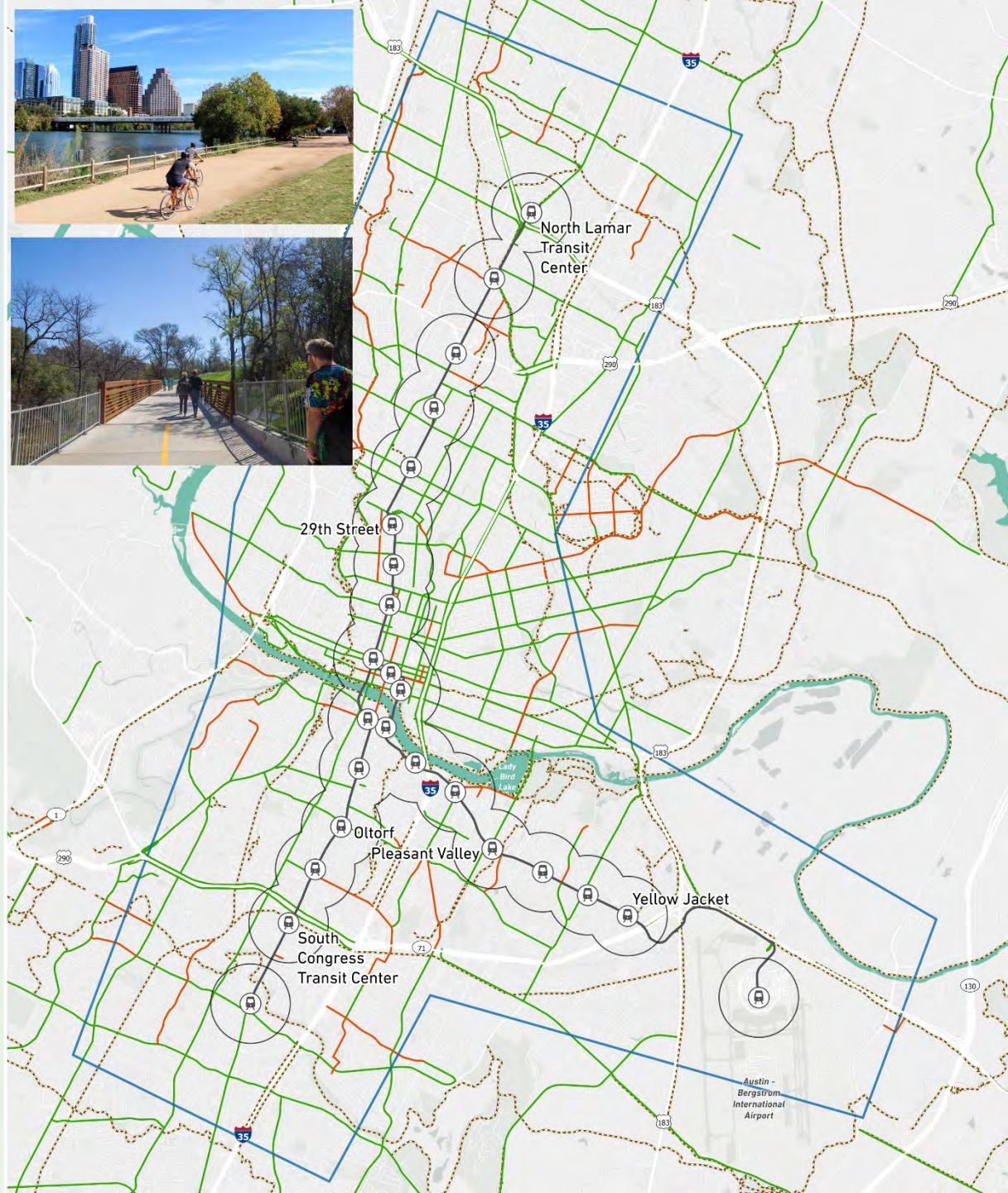


TRAILS AND BIKE PATHS

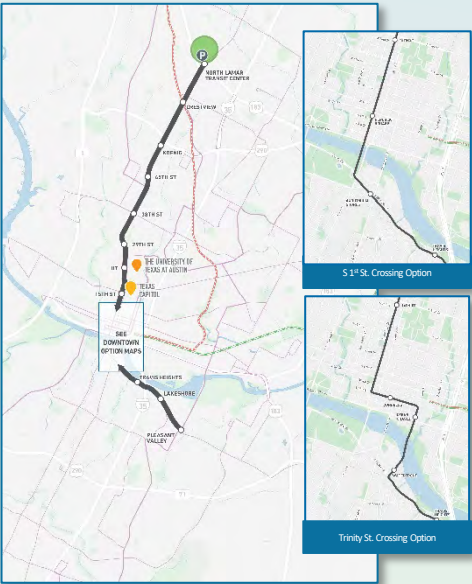
City of Austin Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP)

LEGEND

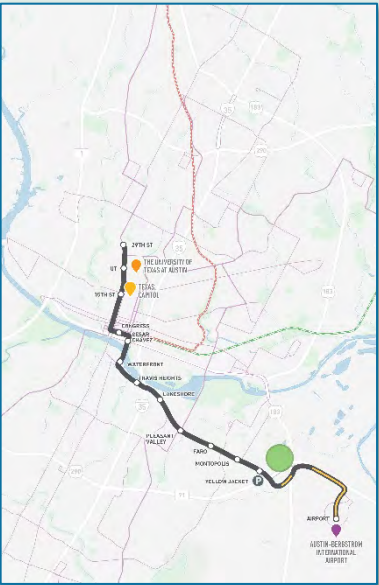
-  Station
-  0.5 mi radius from station
-  Study Area
-  Station Bikeshed (approx 2 mi)
-  Existing Bike Paths
-  Future Bike Paths
-  Trails



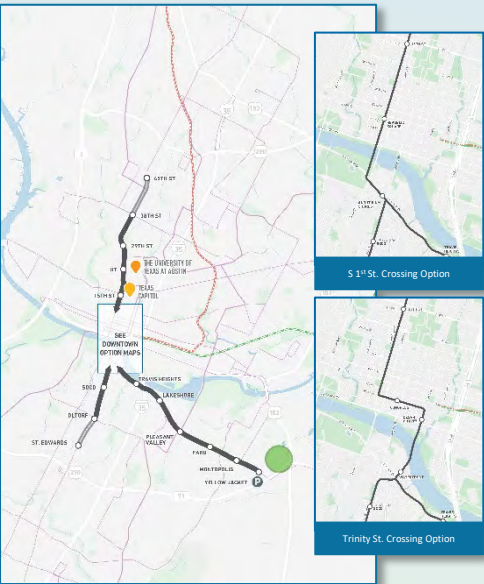
LIGHT RAIL CORE SYSTEM OPTIONS



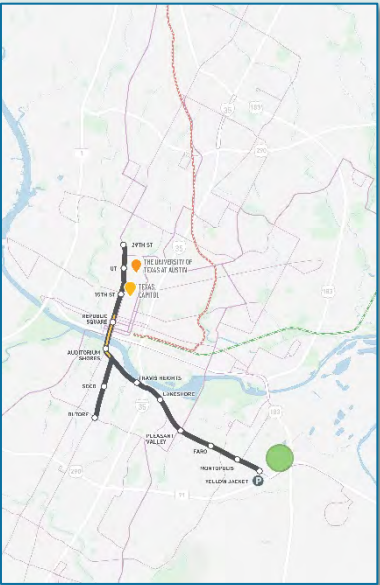
ON-STREET:
NORTH LAMAR TRANSIT CENTER
TO PLEASANT VALLEY



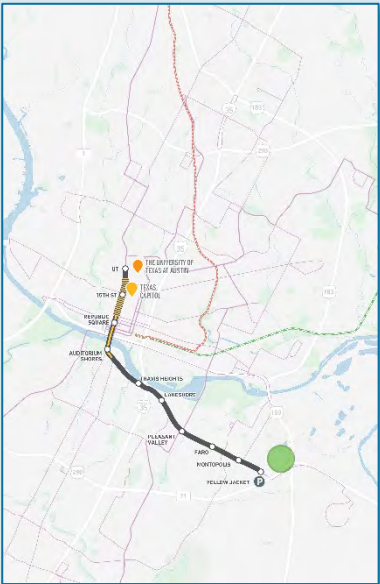
ON-STREET:
29TH TO THE AIRPORT



ON-STREET:
38TH TO OLTORF TO YELLOW JACKET



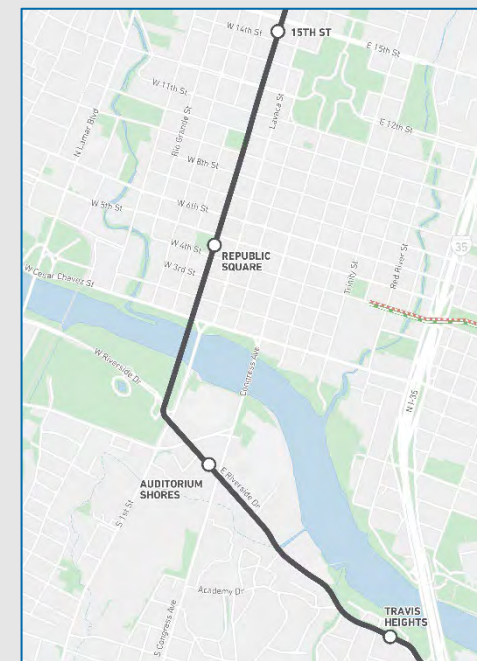
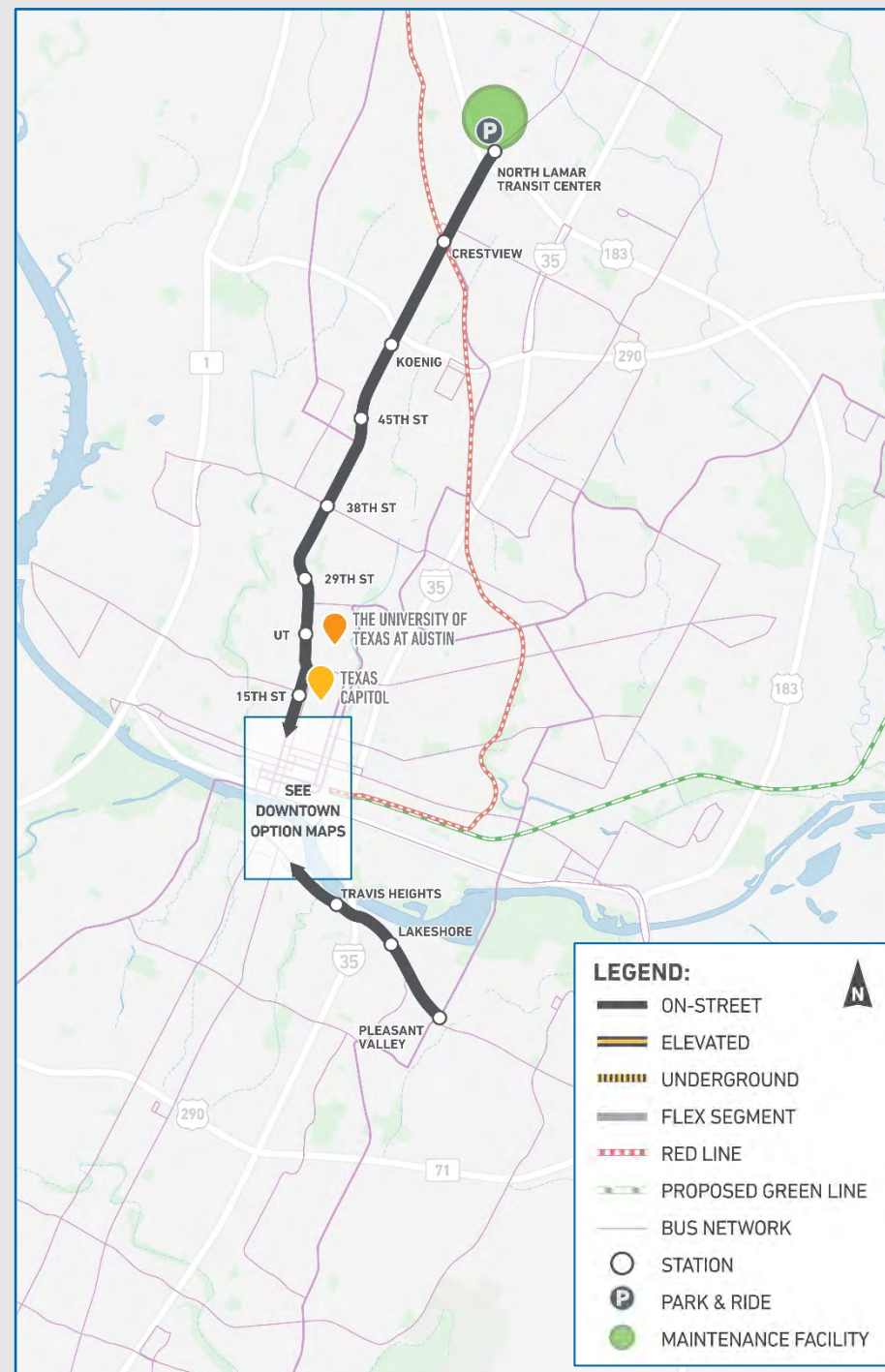
PARTIAL ELEVATED:
29TH TO OLTORF TO YELLOW JACKET



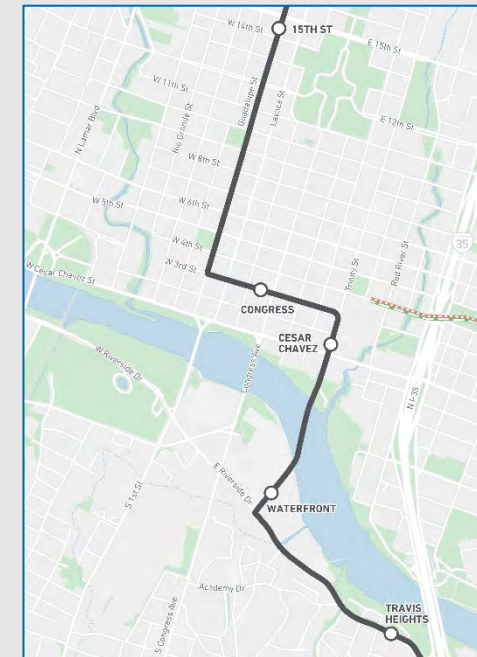
PARTIAL UNDERGROUND:
UT TO YELLOW JACKET

ON-STREET: N. LAMAR TRANSIT CENTER TO PLEASANT VALLEY

- On-street from North Lamar Transit Center to Pleasant Valley Rd. on E. Riverside Dr.
- Lady Bird Lake crossing options at Guadalupe/S. 1st St. OR Trinity St.



Guadalupe / S. 1st St. Crossing Option



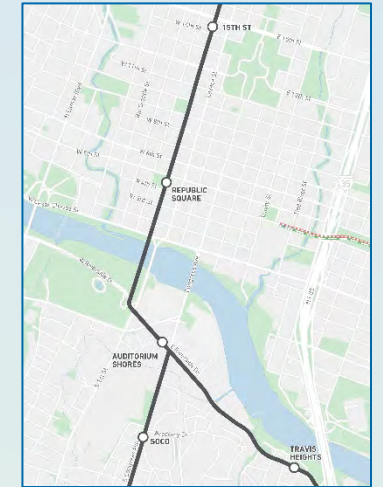
Trinity St. Crossing Option

ON-STREET DOWNTOWN

ARTIST REPRESENTATION



East 3rd Street and San Jacinto Boulevard - Looking West



S 1st St. Crossing Option



Trinity St. Crossing Option

ON-STREET DOWNTOWN

ARTIST REPRESENTATION



Guadalupe Street at 4th Street / Republic Square - Looking Northwest

PRECEDENTS



Sydney



Jerusalem



Paris



Portland

ON-STREET SOUTH OF THE RIVER -- GUADALUPE/S.1ST STREET RIVER CROSSING OPTION

ARTIST REPRESENTATIONS



Aerial View South of River - Looking North



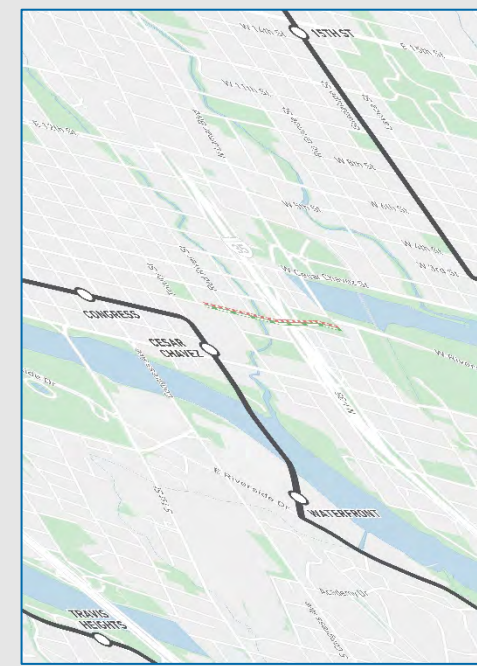
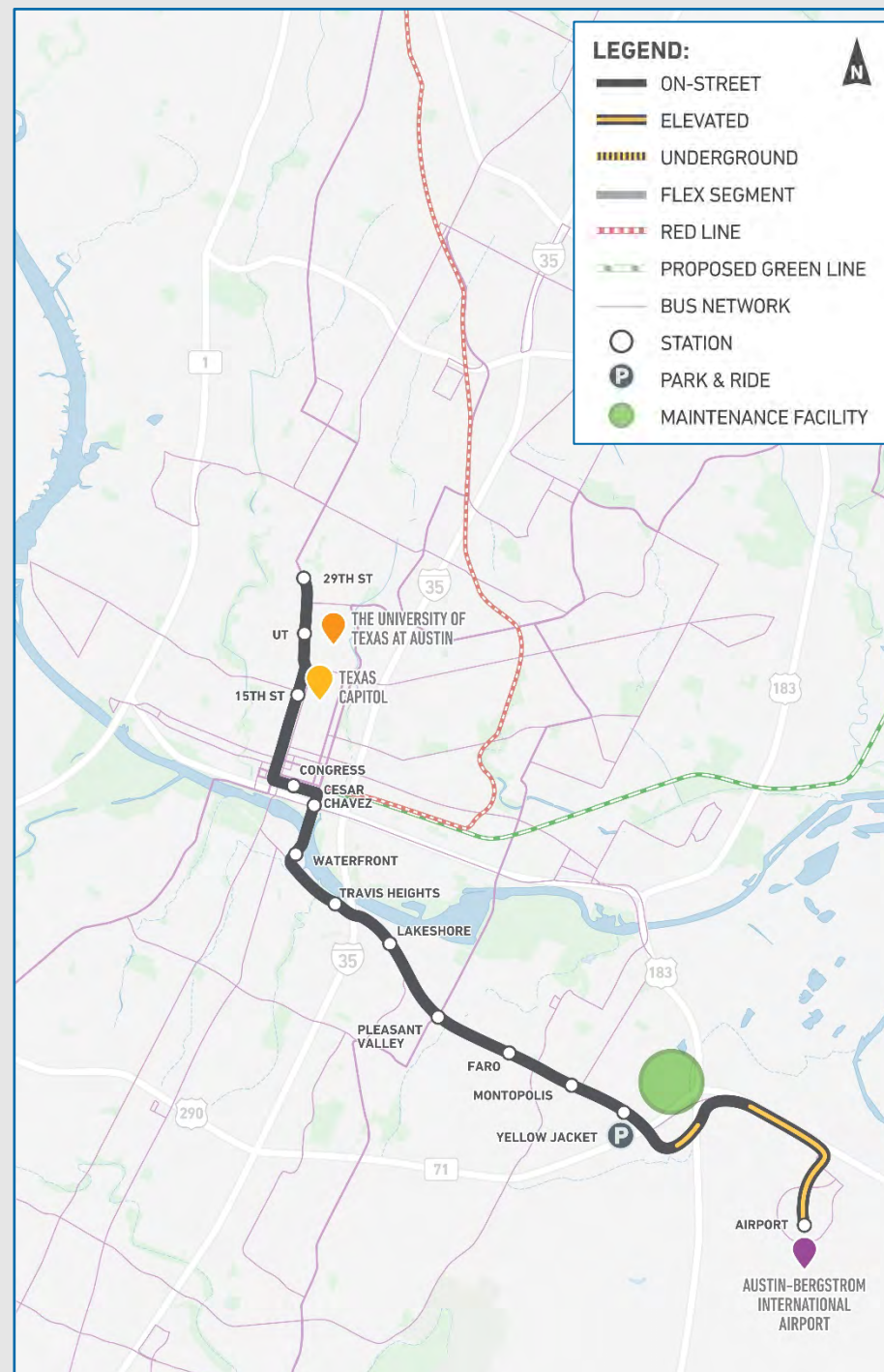
Station View at West Riverside Drive



South Congress Avenue - Looking North

ON-STREET: 29TH TO THE AIRPORT

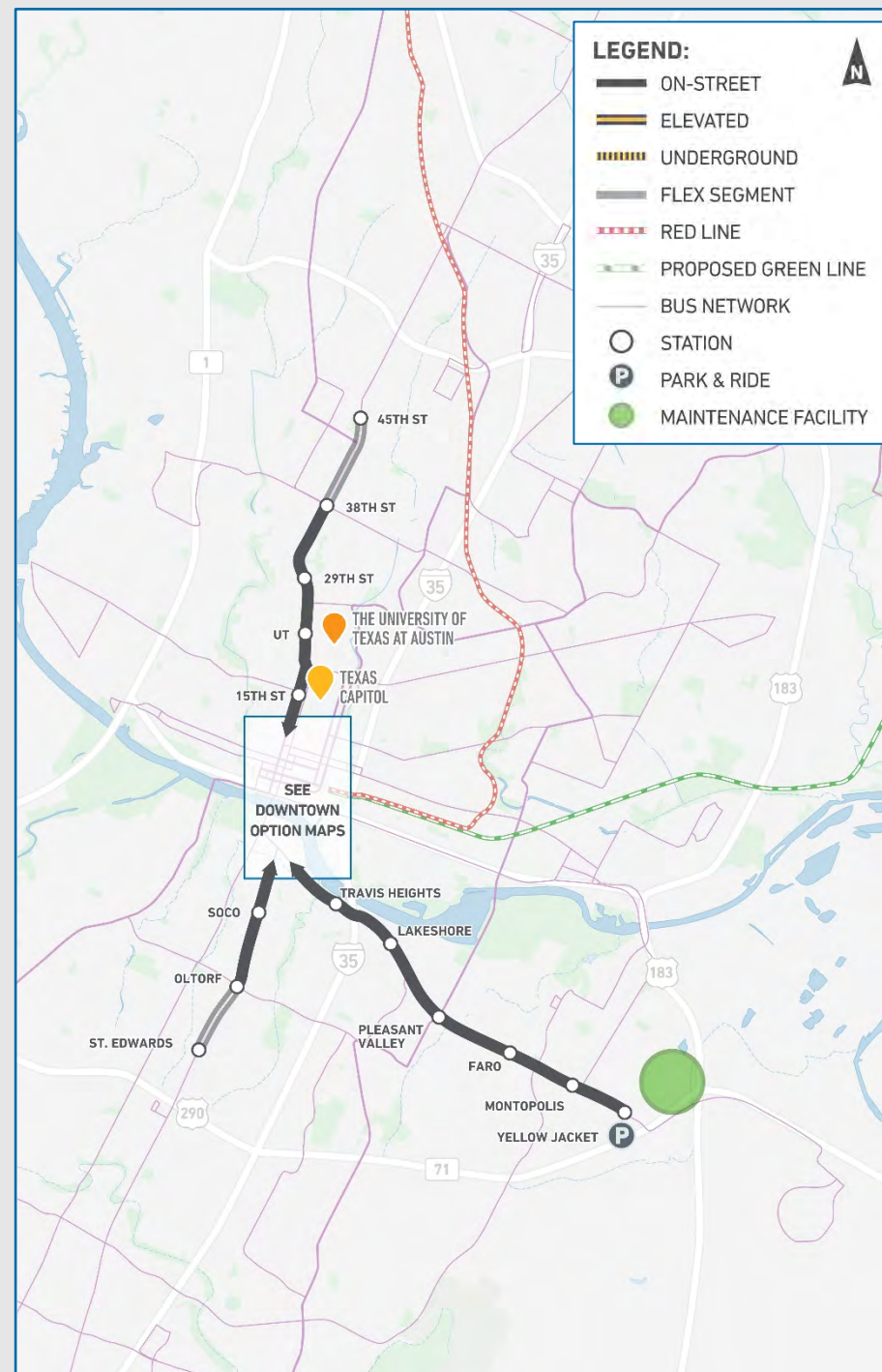
- On-street from 29th St. on Guadalupe St. to east of Yellow Jacket Ln. on E. Riverside Dr.
- Mainly elevated from SH 71 to Austin-Bergstrom International Airport
- Lady Bird Lake crossing on new bridge at Trinity St.



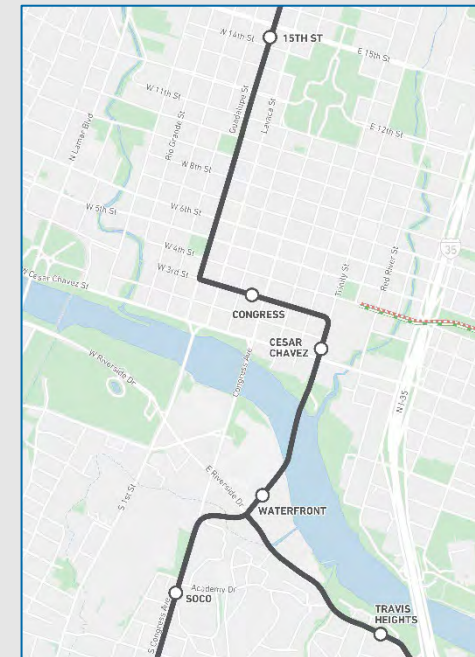
Trinity St. Crossing Option

ON-STREET: 38TH TO OLTORF TO YELLOW JACKET

- On-street from 38th St. on Guadalupe St. to Oltorf St. on S. Congress Ave. and to Yellow Jacket Ln. on E. Riverside Dr.
- Potential to extend endpoints to 45th St. to the north or St. Edwards to the south
- Lady Bird Lake crossing options at Guadalupe/S.1st St. OR Trinity St.



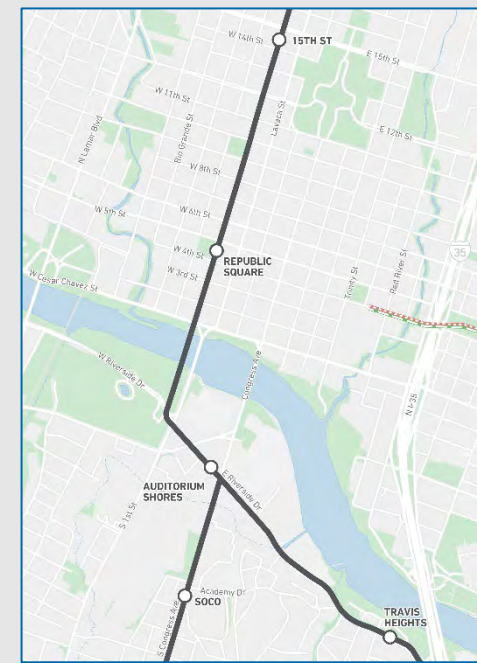
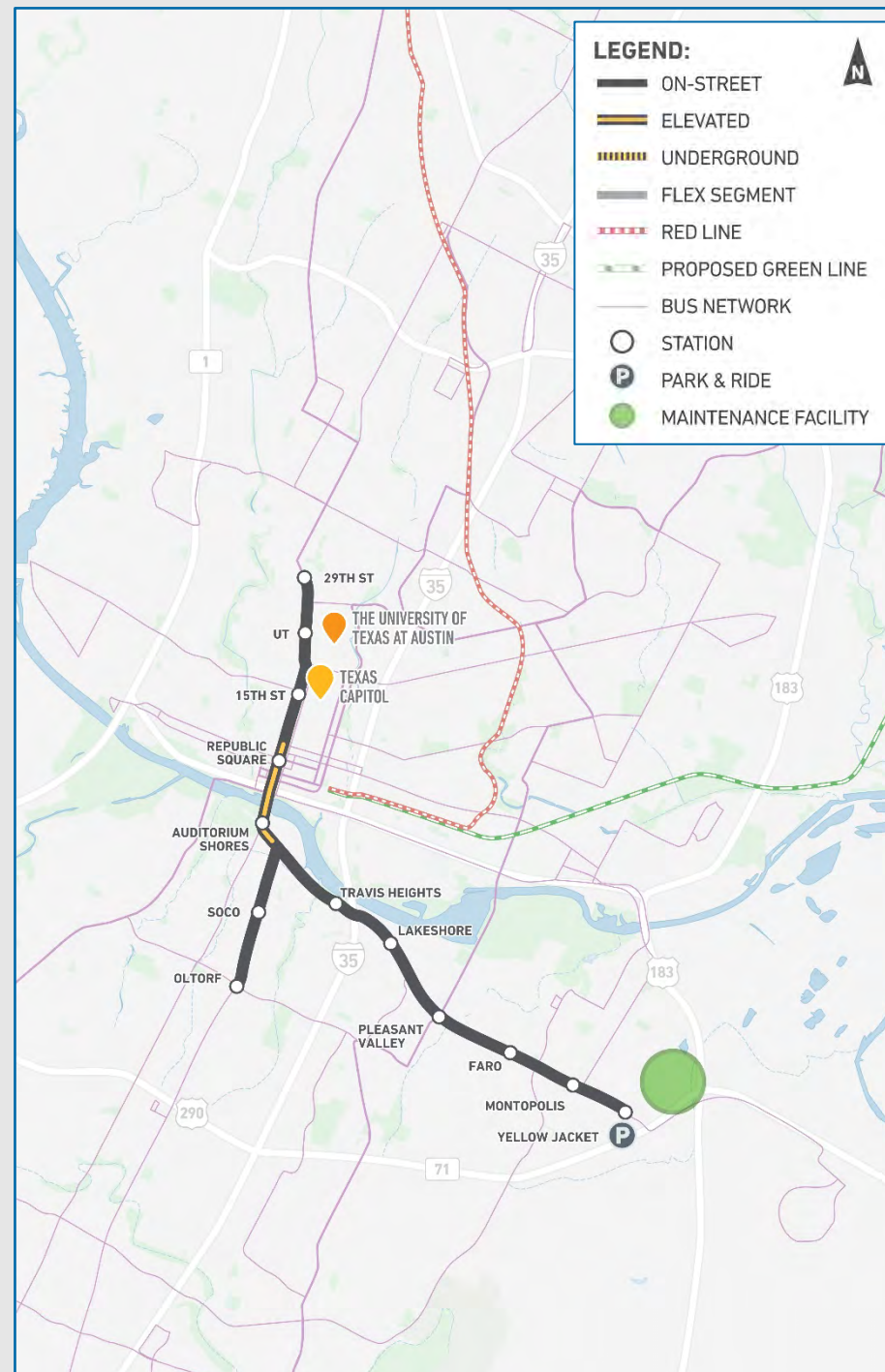
Guadalupe/ S. 1st St. Crossing Option



Trinity St. Crossing Option

PARTIAL ELEVATED: 29TH TO OLTORF TO YELLOW JACKET

- On-street on Guadalupe from 29th St. to 8th St.
- Elevated from 8th St. on Guadalupe to east of Auditorium Shores with (2) elevated stations
- On-street on Riverside Dr. from east of Auditorium Shores to Yellow Jacket Ln. and on S. Congress Ave. from Riverside to Oltorf St.
- Lady Bird Lake crossing on new bridge at Guadalupe/S. 1st St.



Guadalupe/ S. 1st St. Crossing Option




ARTIST REPRESENTATION



Guadalupe Street at 4th Street / Republic Square - Looking Northwest



EXTENTS OF ELEVATED STRUCTURE: (PARTIAL ELEVATED OPTION)

-  Transition Zone: 8th St. to 7th St.
-  Elevated Structure: 7th St. to Lady Bird Lake
-  Elevated Structure possible extension south to Riverside/Barton Springs Road

PARTIAL ELEVATED DOWNTOWN

ARTIST REPRESENTATION



Guadalupe Street and West 4th Street - Looking South

PRECEDENTS



British Columbia, Canada



The Hague, Netherlands



The Hague, Netherlands

PARTIAL ELEVATED SOUTH OF THE RIVER

ARTIST REPRESENTATIONS



Aerial View South of River - Looking North



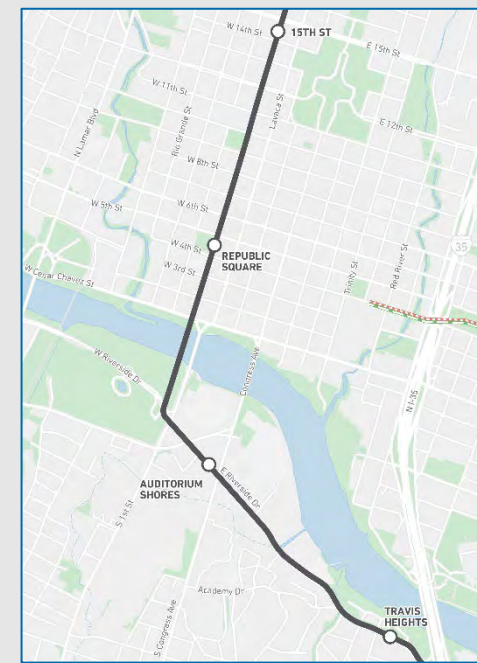
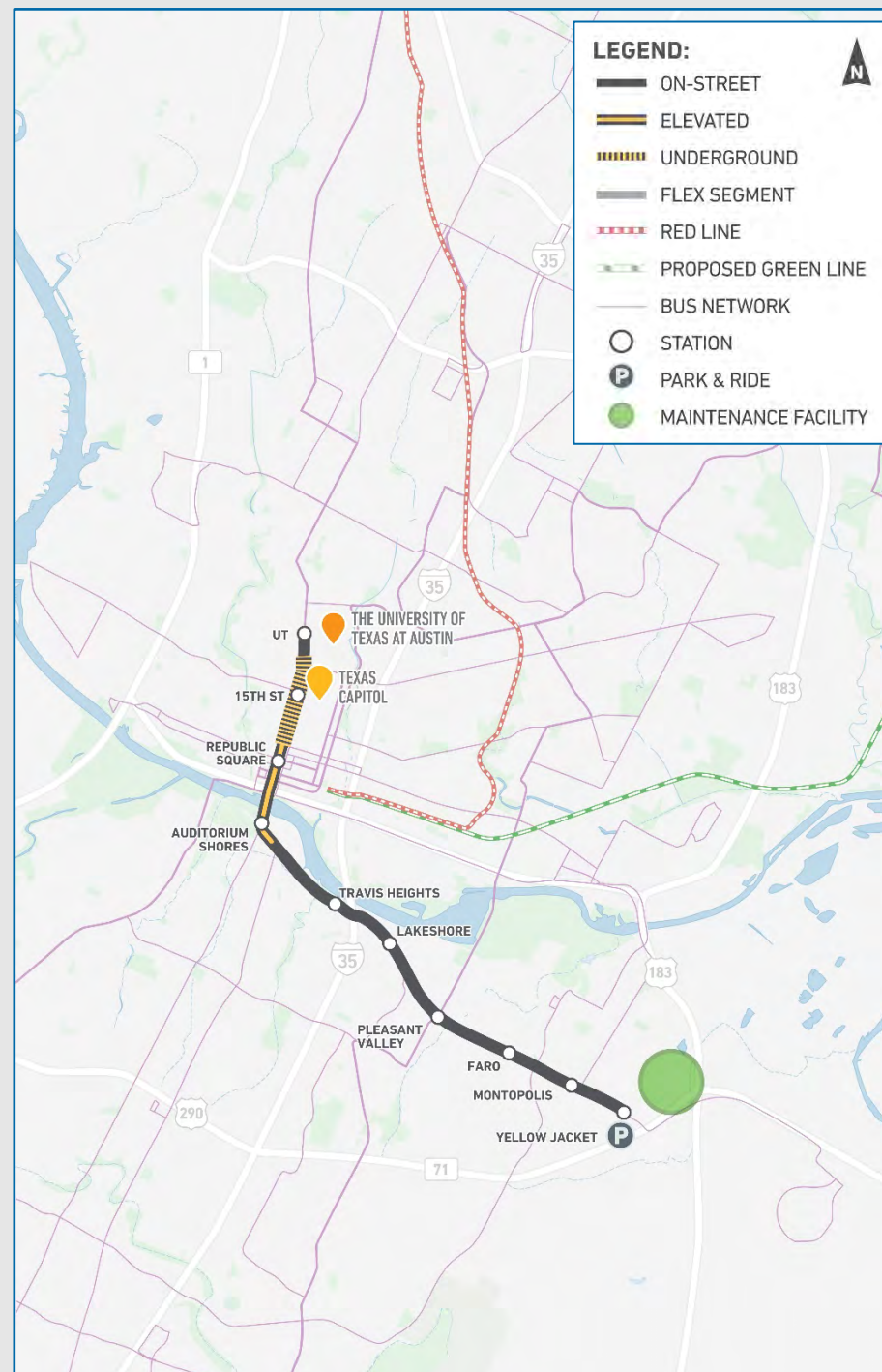
Station View at Auditorium Shores



Transition from elevated to on-street at West Riverside Drive

PARTIAL UNDERGROUND: UT TO YELLOW JACKET

- Underground from 20th St. to 8th St. under Guadalupe with (1) underground station
- Elevated from 8th St. on Guadalupe St. to east of Auditorium Shores with (2) elevated stations
- On-street on Riverside Dr. from east of Auditorium Shores to Yellow Jacket Ln.
- Lady Bird Lake crossing on new bridge at Guadalupe/S. 1st St.



Guadalupe/ S. 1st St. Crossing Option

OPTION DASHBOARD *EXAMPLE*

STATS



9.4-9.8

MILES OF NEW
LIGHT RAIL




14-15

LIGHT RAIL
STATIONS

AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAILY RIDERS SERVED



 = 5,000 RIDERS

OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS*



 = 1,500 HOMES

**Subsidized*

OBSERVATIONS

- Light rail runs on dedicated travel lanes and therefore provides greater reliability
- Longer option; includes north, east and south coverage
- On-street light rail interacts with drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians
- Requires significant utility relocations and mitigations for park property and floodplain impacts
- Light rail trench on Guadalupe St. between 7th and 9th St. requires closing 8th St. due to grade (hill)
- Allows for future system expansion, including platforms

CHARACTERISTICS



MOBILITY AND
CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE



ACCESS TO
OPPORTUNITIES



ENVIRONMENTAL
BENEFITS



LAND USE AND HOUSING



SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

SAVE THE
DATE

April 6, 2023

Austin Light Rail
Virtual Community
Update



SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK



**SCAN THE QR
CODE TO
LEARN MORE**



Visit our Virtual Open House
ProjectConnect.com/Get-Involved



Email Us
input@atptx.org



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TRANSIT
PARTNERSHIP**

THANK YOU!