



# AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL UPDATE

Joint Sustainability Committee

April 26, 2023

# 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

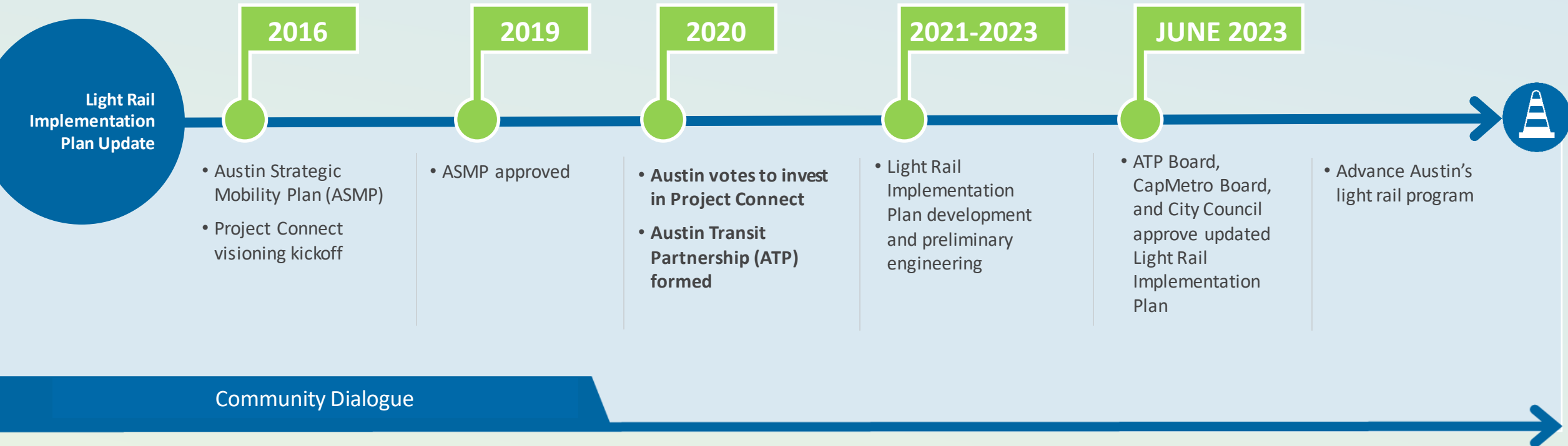


Seattle, Washington



Ontario, Canada

# AUSTIN'S PATH TO LIGHT RAIL



# MEASURES AND VALUES

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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



# MEASURES AND VALUES



Multimodal Connectivity



Accessibility / Universal Design



Healthcare Facilities



Education



Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions



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 +

This map illustrates the population density of Austin, Texas, based on 2020 Census data, overlaid with the proposed transit network. The map uses a color-coded system to represent population density: light yellow for 0-3,800 people per square mile, orange for 3,801-8,800, red-orange for 8,801-18,000, red for 18,001-41,000, and dark red for 41,001+ people per square mile. The transit network is shown as a black line with circular icons representing stations. Key stations include North Lamar Transit Center, 29th Street, South Congress Transit Center, and Yellow Jacket. The map also shows major highways (Interstates 35, 183, 290, and State Routes 1, 71, 360) and geographical features like Lady Bird Lake and Camp Mabry. A 0.5-mile radius buffer is shown around each station, and the entire study area is outlined in black.

project connect

AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP

CapMetro



# 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%

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AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP


CapMetro


# CURRENT EMPLOYMENT DENSITY

Longitudinal  
Employer-Household  
Dynamics (LEHD) 2019

**LEGEND**

 Station


 0.5 mi radius from station

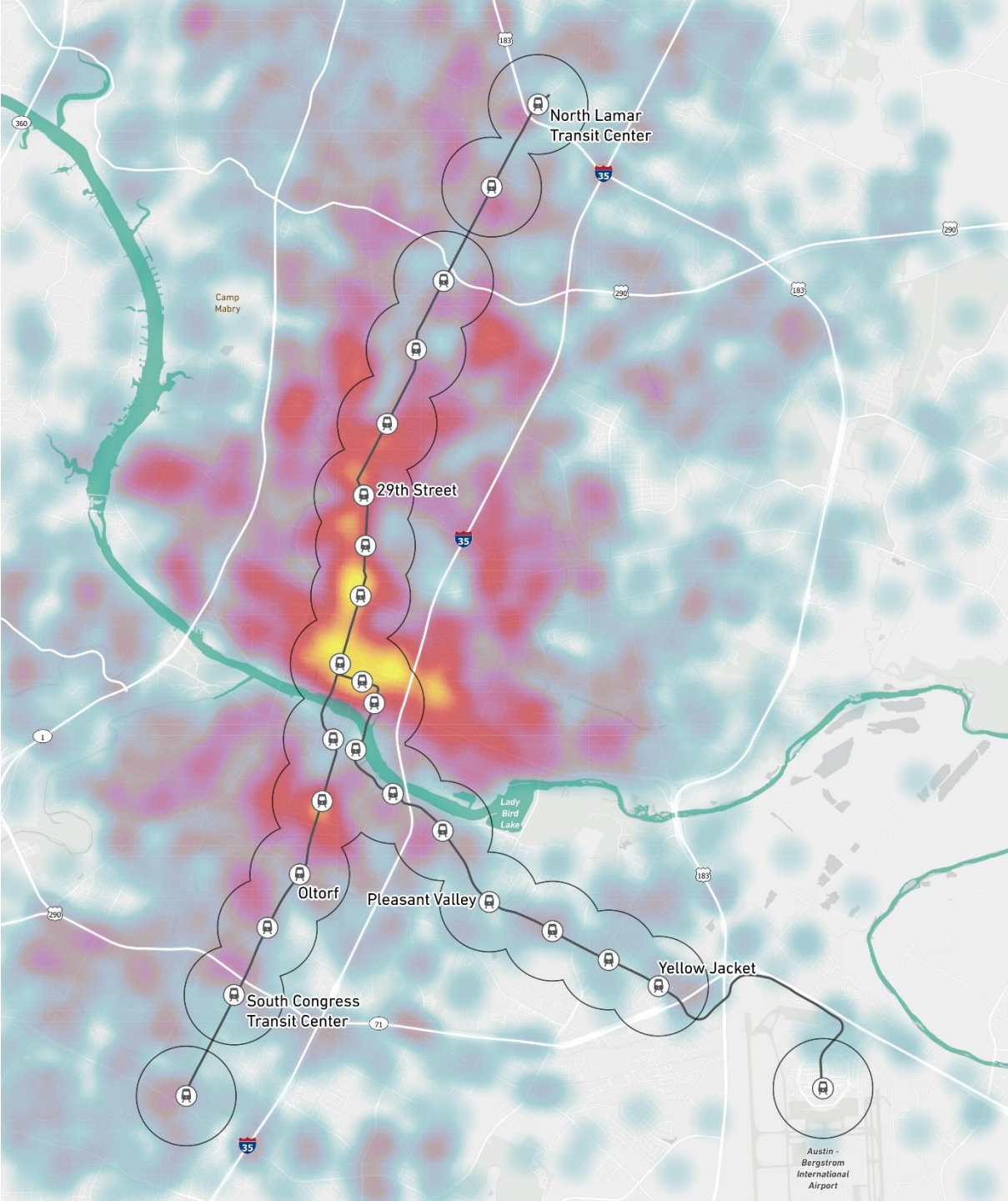
 Study Area

Employment

Sparse

Dense







# AFFORDABLE HOUSING

## City of Austin Comprehensive Affordable Housing Directory

### LEGEND

-  Station

 0.5 mi radius from station

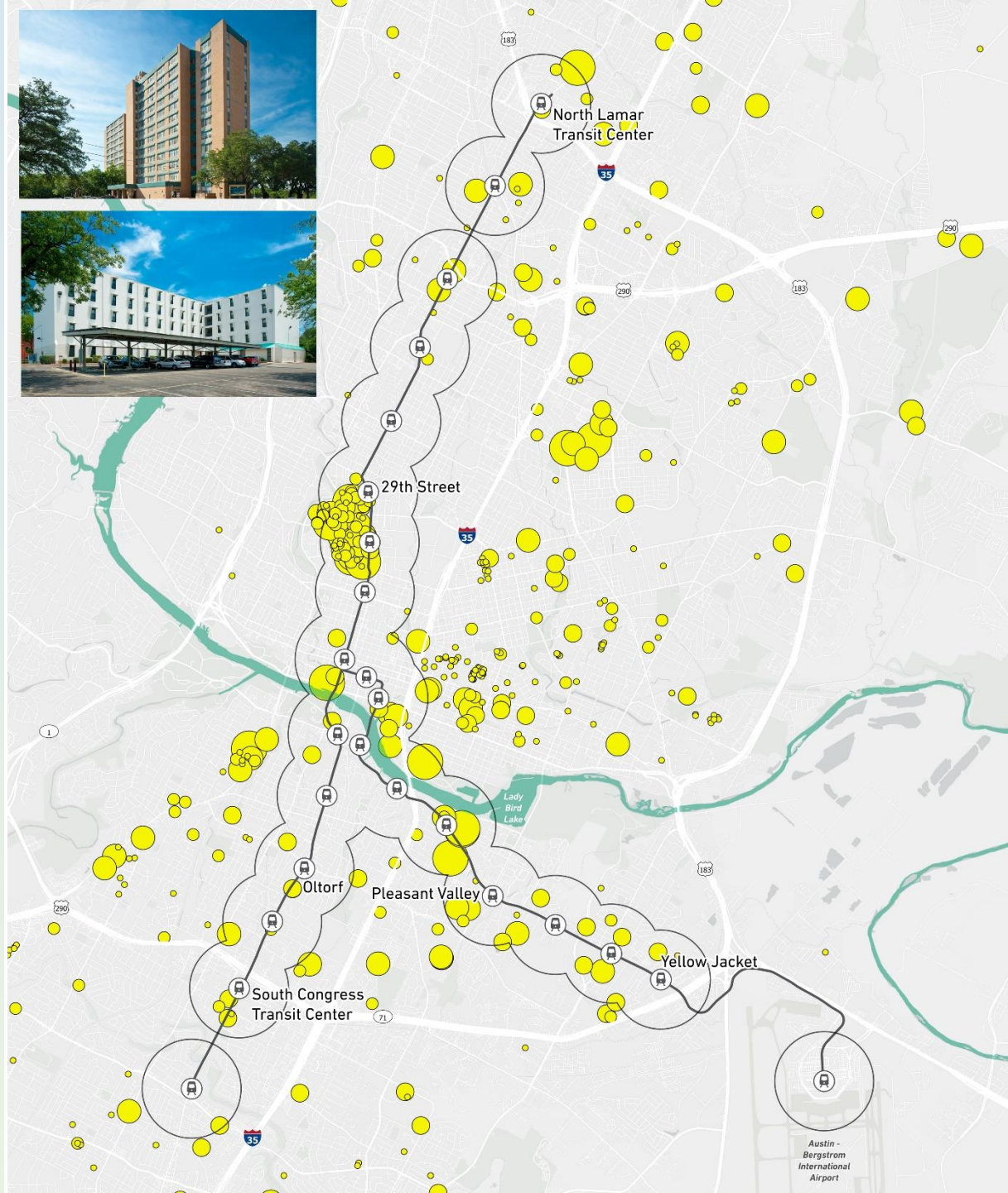
 Study Area
- Affordable Housing Units

 1 - 50

 51 - 150

 151 - 250
-  251 - 400

 401 +





# 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










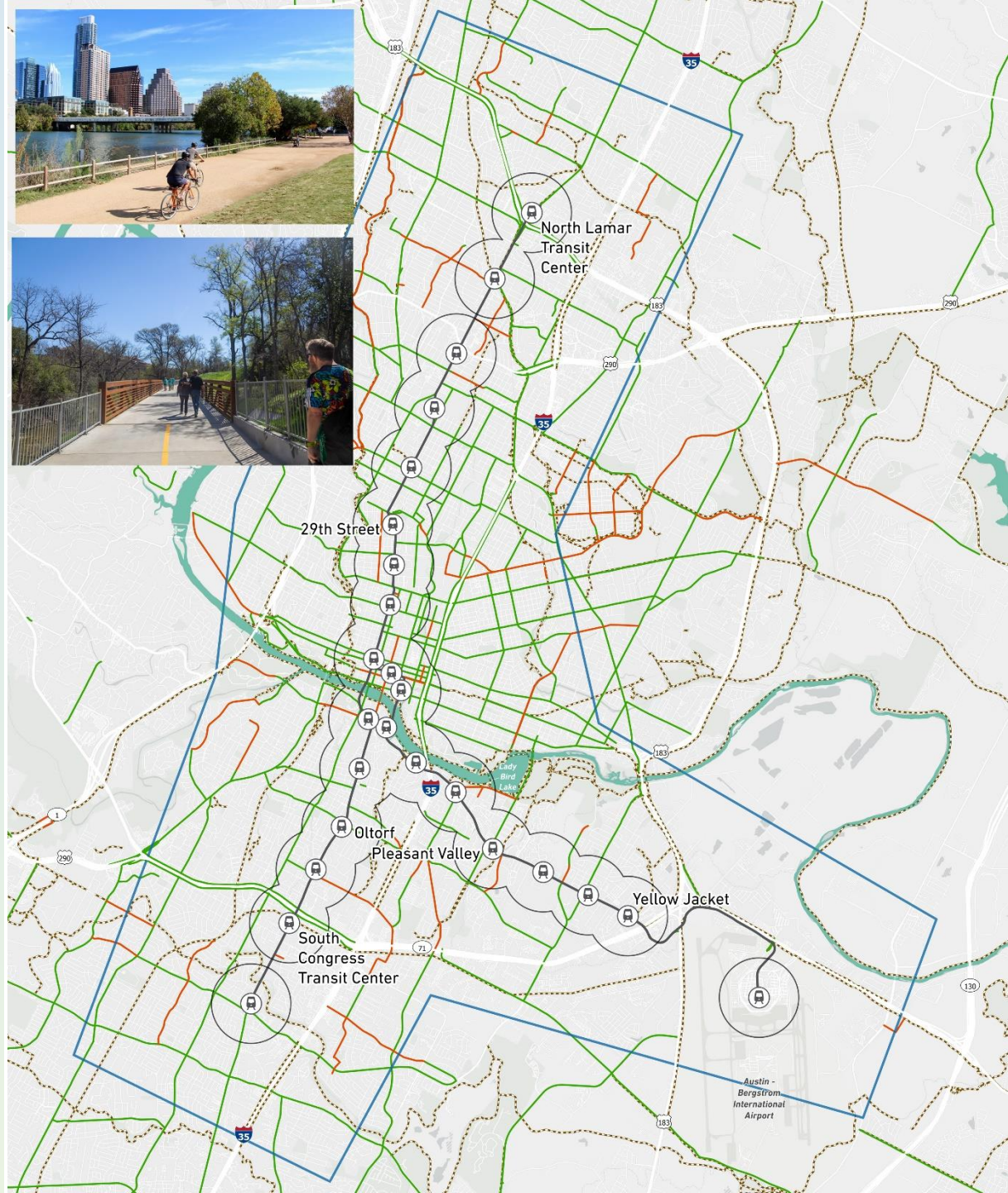


# TRAILS AND BIKE PATHS

## City of Austin Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP)

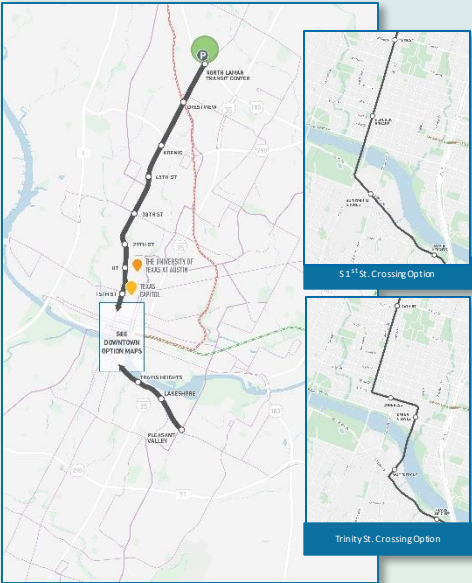
### LEGEND

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

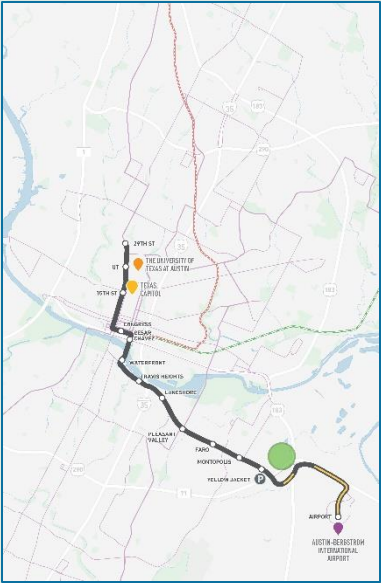




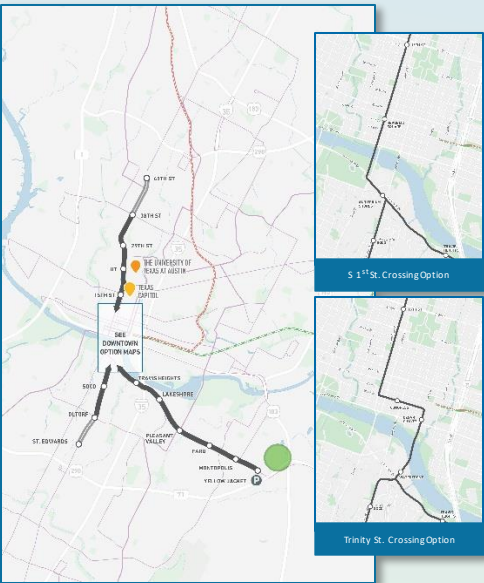
# LIGHT RAIL CORE SYSTEM OPTIONS



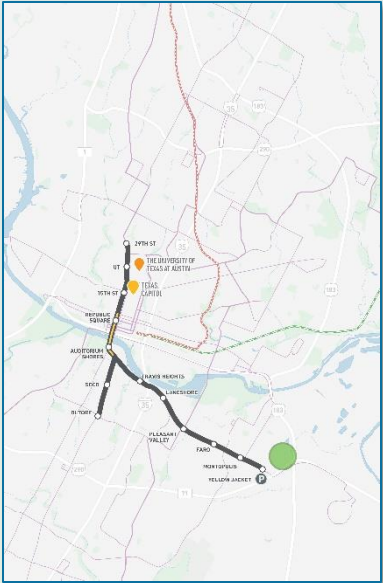
**ON-STREET:**  
NORTH LAMAR TRANSIT CENTER  
TO PLEASANT VALLEY



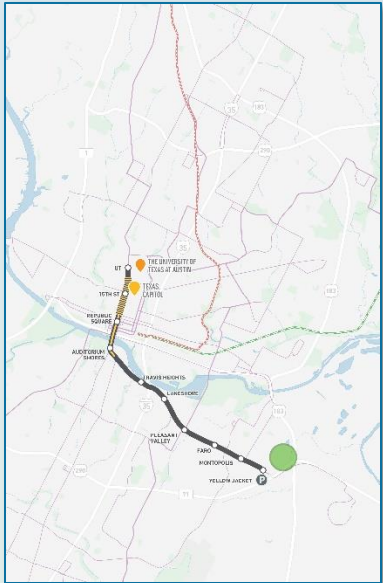
**ON-STREET:**  
29TH TO THE AIRPORT



**ON-STREET:**  
38TH TO OLTORF TO YELLOW JACKET



**PARTIAL ELEVATED:**  
29TH TO OLTORF TO YELLOW JACKET

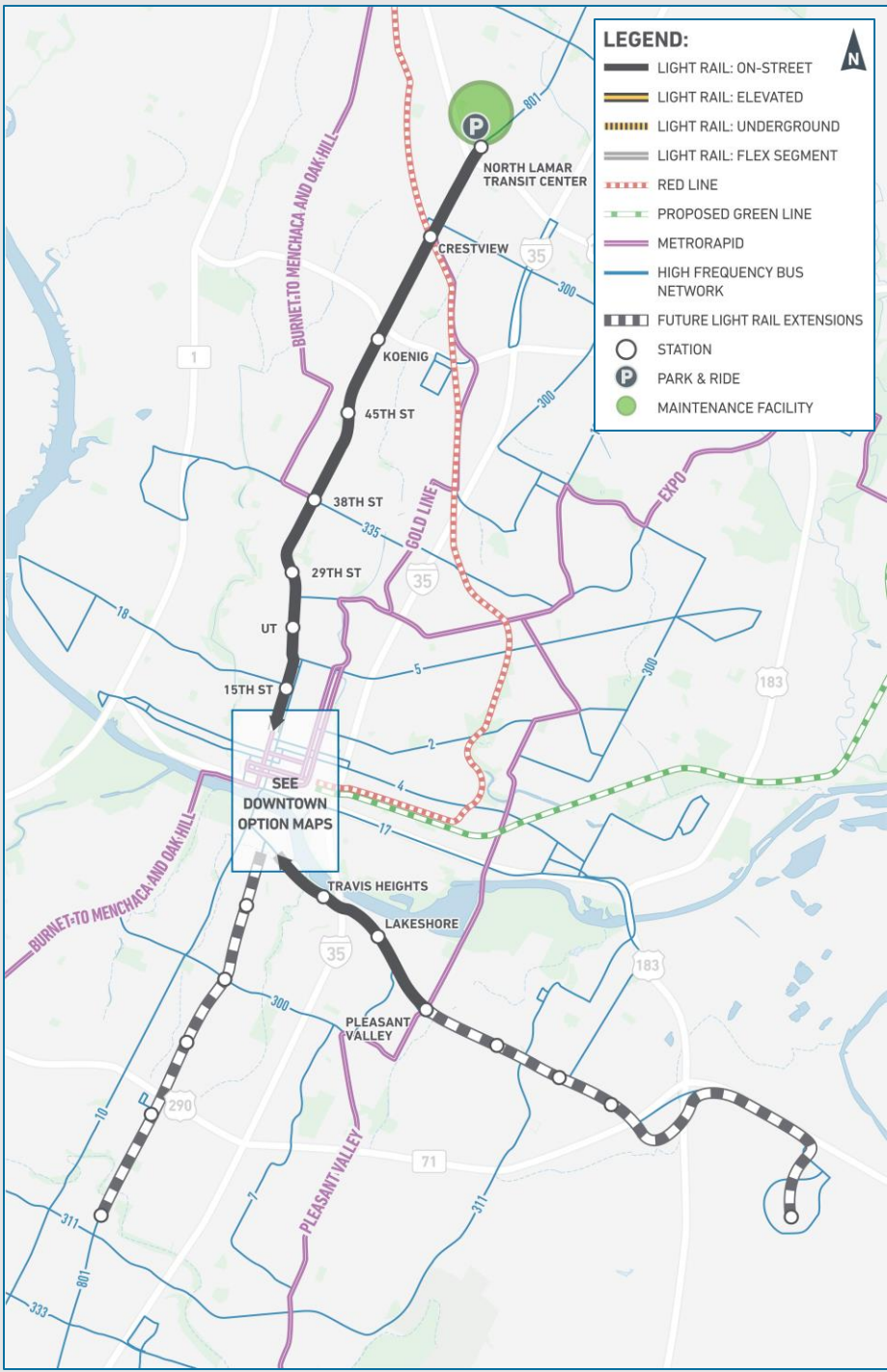


**PARTIAL UNDERGROUND:**  
UT TO YELLOW JACKET

# 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.

AVG. NUMBER OF DAILY RIDERS SERVED	38,600 - 39,300
MILES OF NEW LIGHT RAIL	9.6 - 9.8



Guadalupe/S. 1st St. Crossing Option



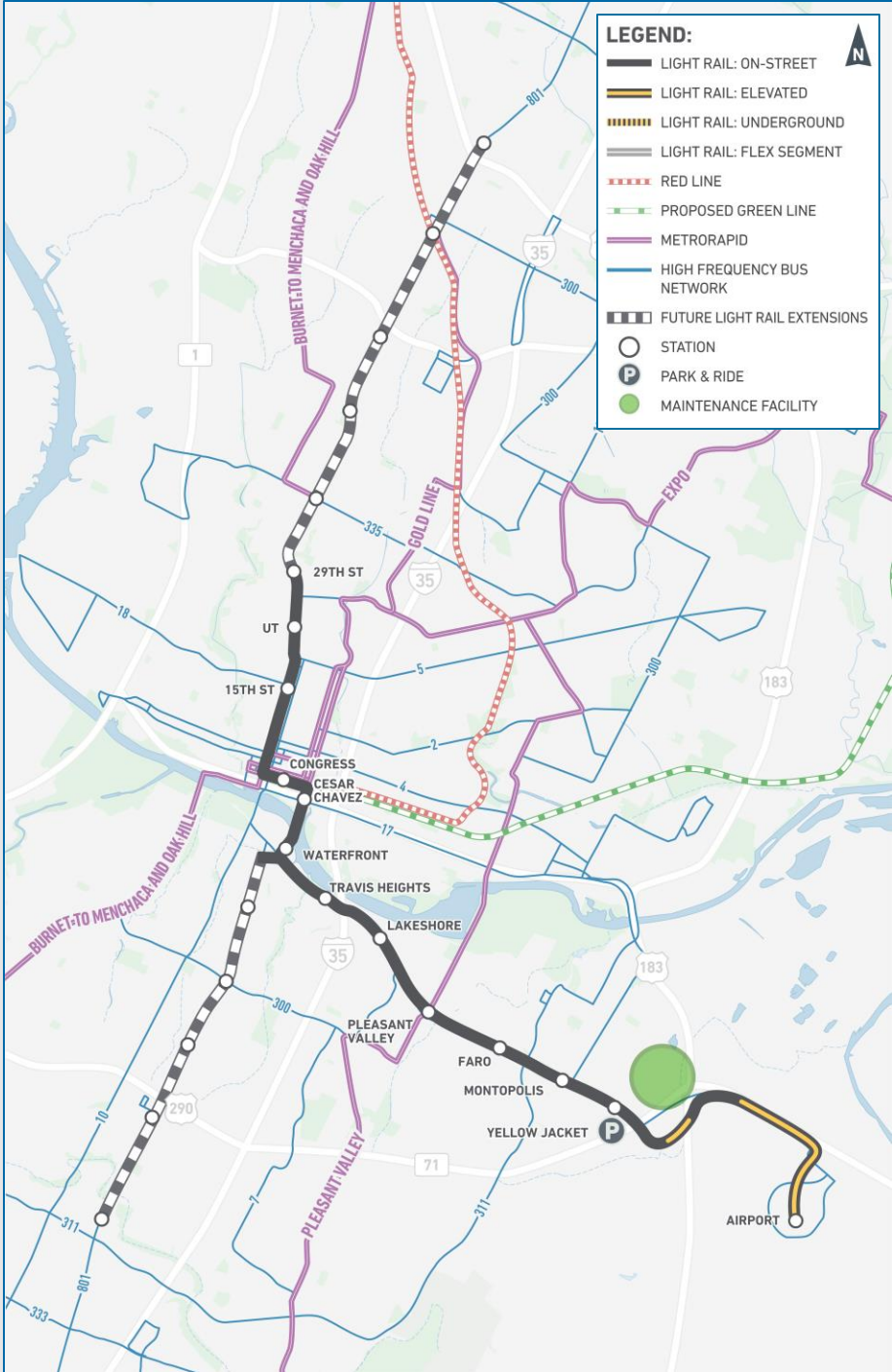
Trinity St. Crossing Option



# 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.

AVG. NUMBER OF DAILY RIDERS SERVED	28,100
MILES OF NEW LIGHT RAIL	10.1



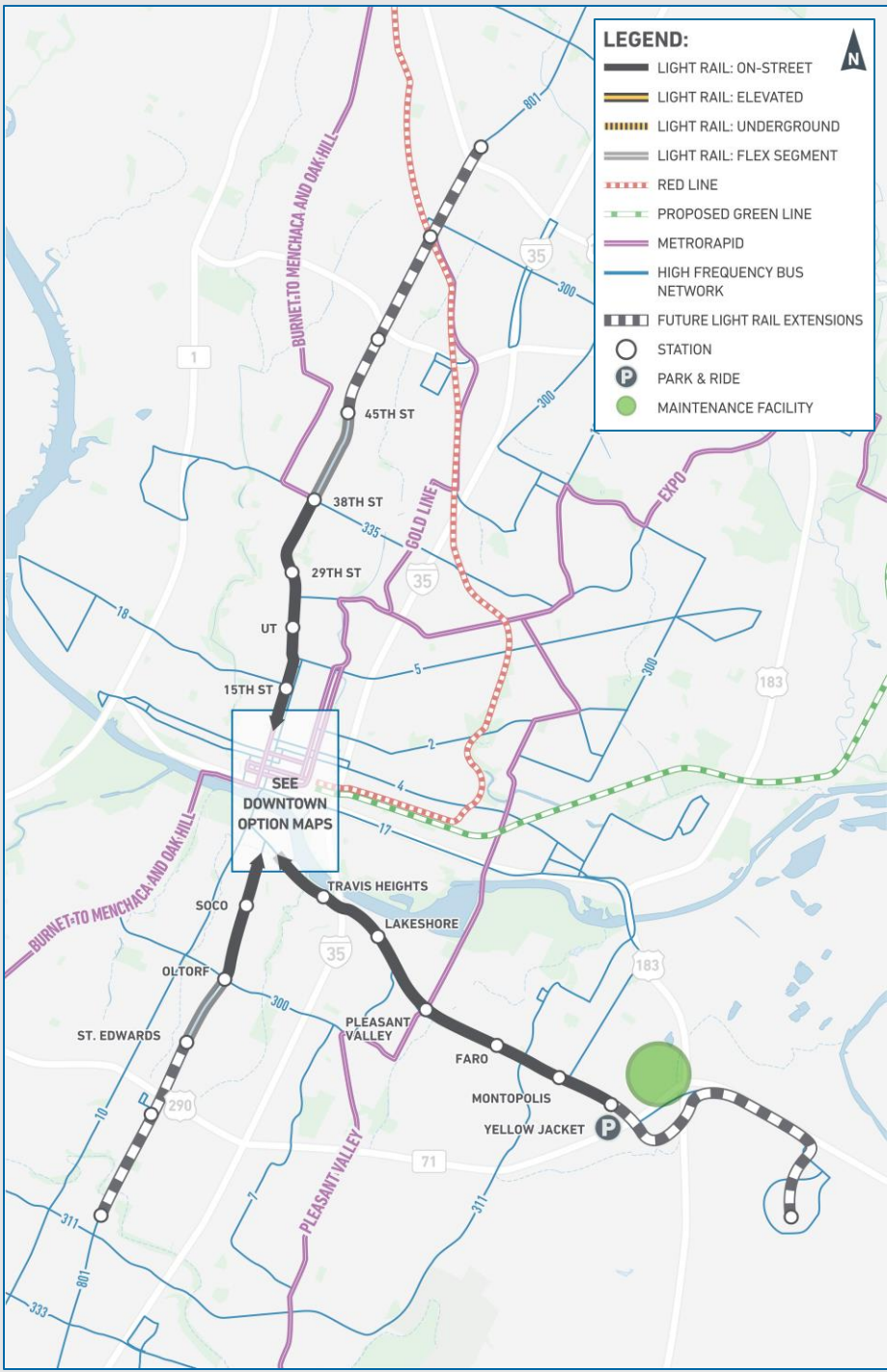
Trinity St. Crossing Option



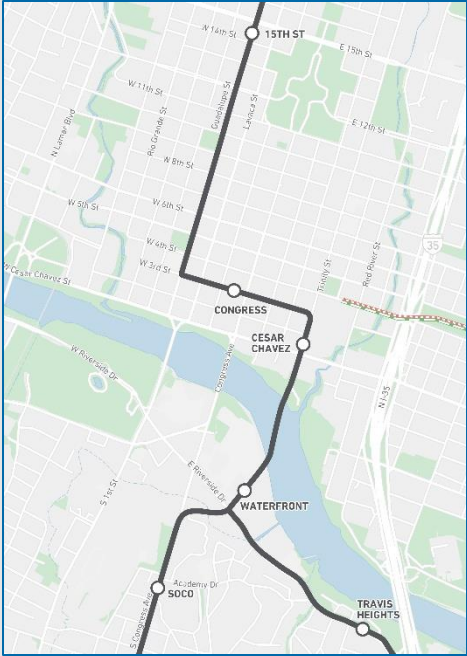
# ON-STREET: 38TH TO OLTORF TO YELLOW JACKET

- On-street from 38<sup>th</sup> 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.

AVG. NUMBER OF DAILY RIDERS SERVED	28,500 - 29,900
MILES OF NEW LIGHT RAIL	9.4 - 9.8



Guadalupe/S. 1<sup>st</sup> St. Crossing Option

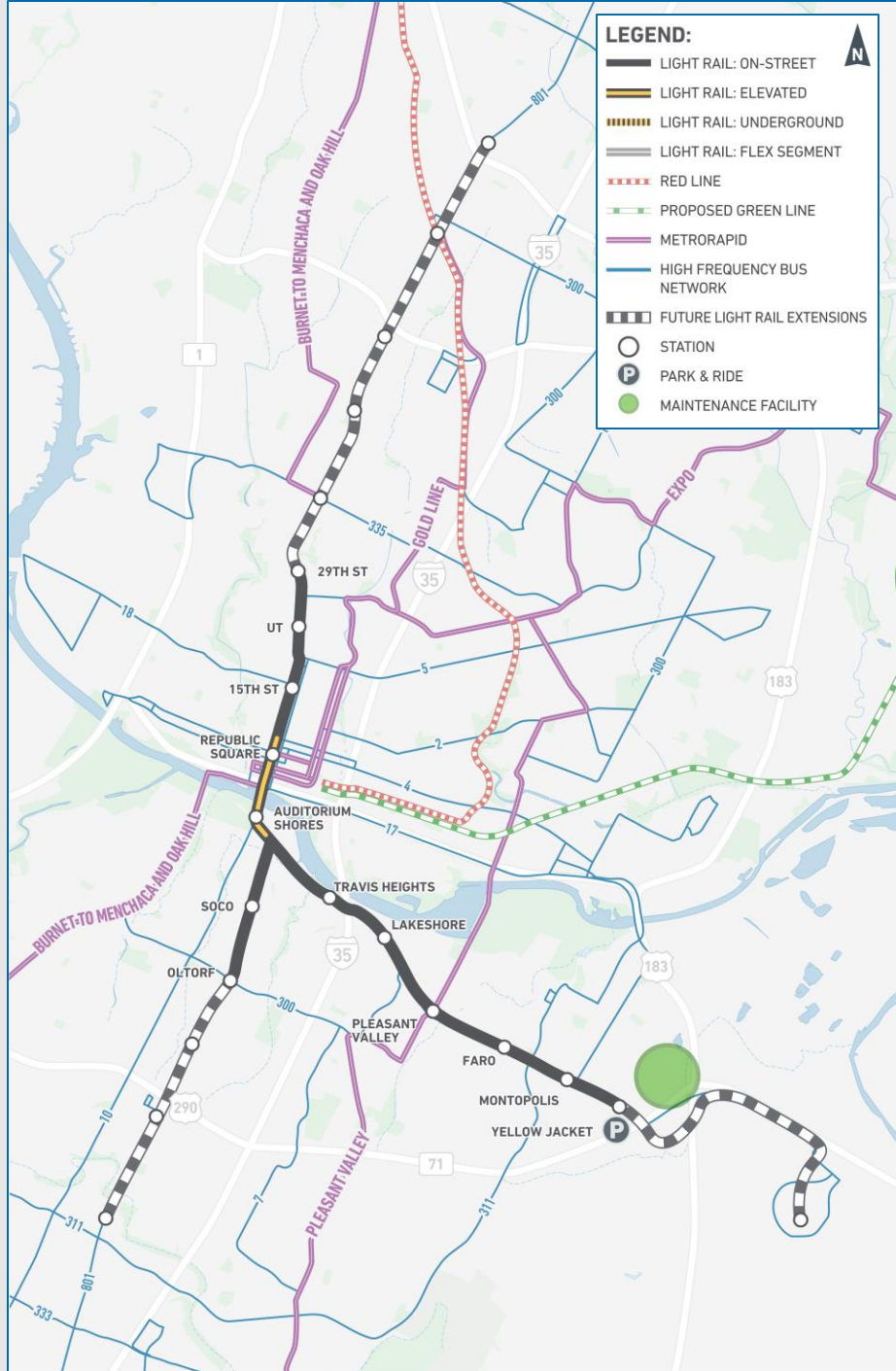


Trinity St. Crossing Option

# 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.

AVG. NUMBER OF DAILY RIDERS SERVED	26,900
MILES OF NEW LIGHT RAIL	8.7

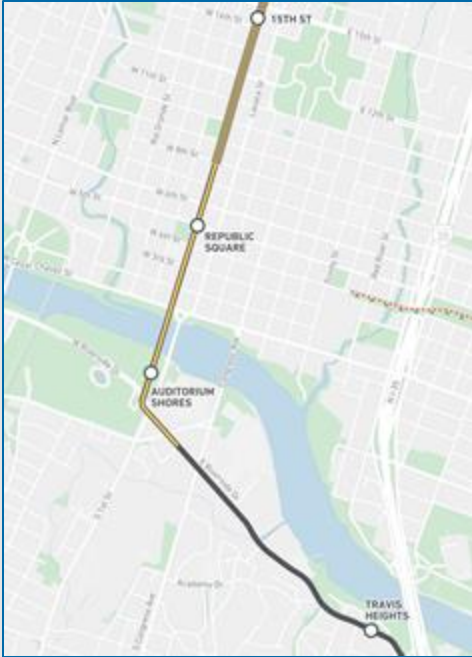
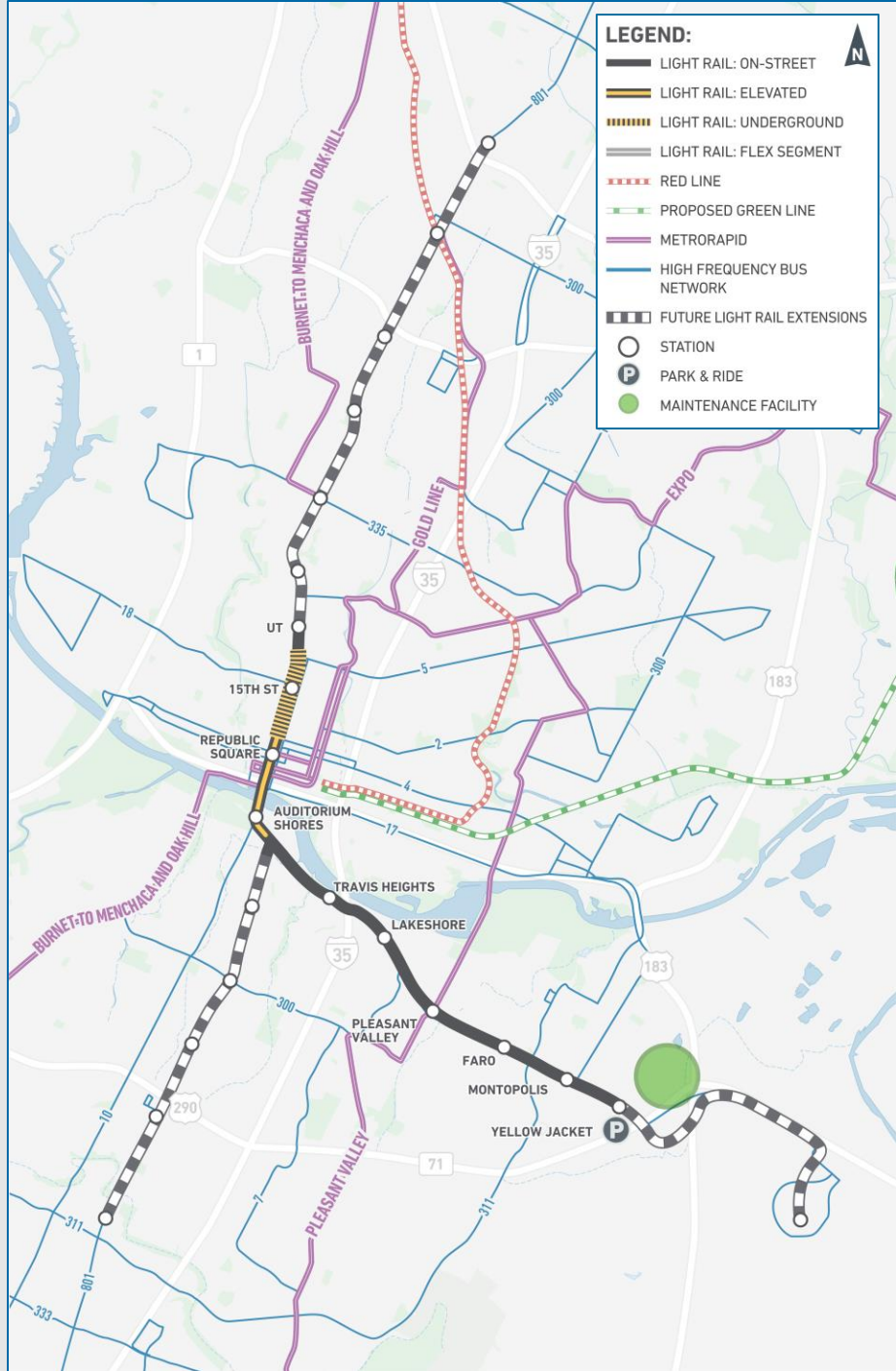




# PARTIAL UNDERGROUND: UT TO YELLOW JACKET

- Underground from 20th St. to 8th St. under Guadalupe with (1) underground station
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Guadalupe/S. 1<sup>st</sup> St. Crossing Option



# ON-STREET DOWNTOWN

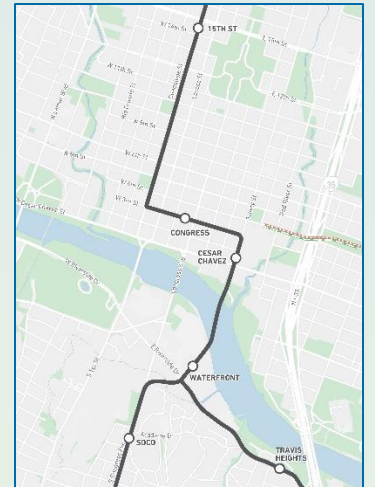
## ARTIST REPRESENTATION



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 4<sup>th</sup> Street / Republic Square - Looking Northwest

## PRECEDENTS



Sydney



Jerusalem



Paris



Portland



# PARTIAL ELEVATED DOWNTOWN

## ARTIST REPRESENTATION



Guadalupe Street at 4<sup>th</sup> Street / Republic Square - Looking Northwest



### EXTENTS OF ELEVATED STRUCTURE: (PARTIAL ELEVATED OPTION)

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



# PARTIAL ELEVATED DOWNTOWN

## ARTIST REPRESENTATION



Guadalupe Street and West 5th Street - Looking South

## PRECEDENTS



British Columbia, Canada



The Hague, Netherlands



The Hague, Netherlands



# 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

# SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK



**SCAN THE QR  
CODE TO  
LEARN MORE**



**Visit our Virtual Open House**  
[ProjectConnect.com/Get-Involved](https://ProjectConnect.com/Get-Involved)



**Email Us**  
[input@atptx.org](mailto:input@atptx.org)



**Mail in Your Comments and Questions**  
203 Colorado St., Austin, TX 78701



**Call Us**  
(512) 389-7590

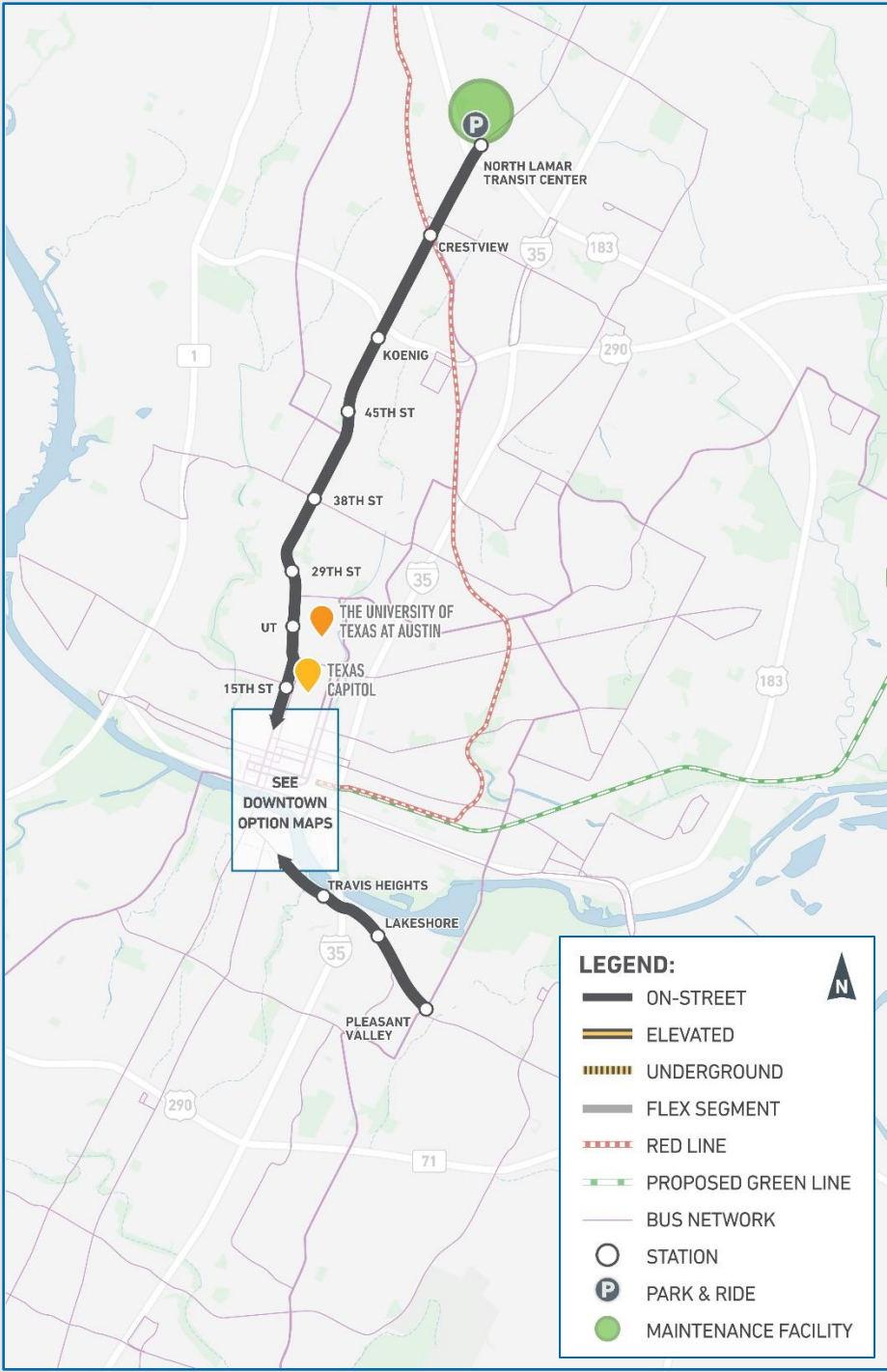




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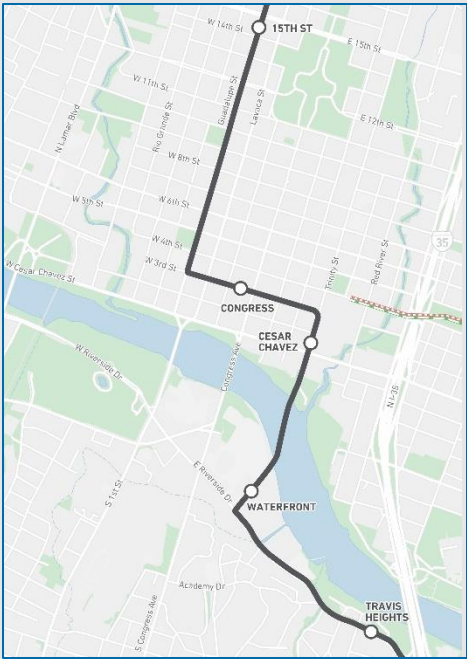
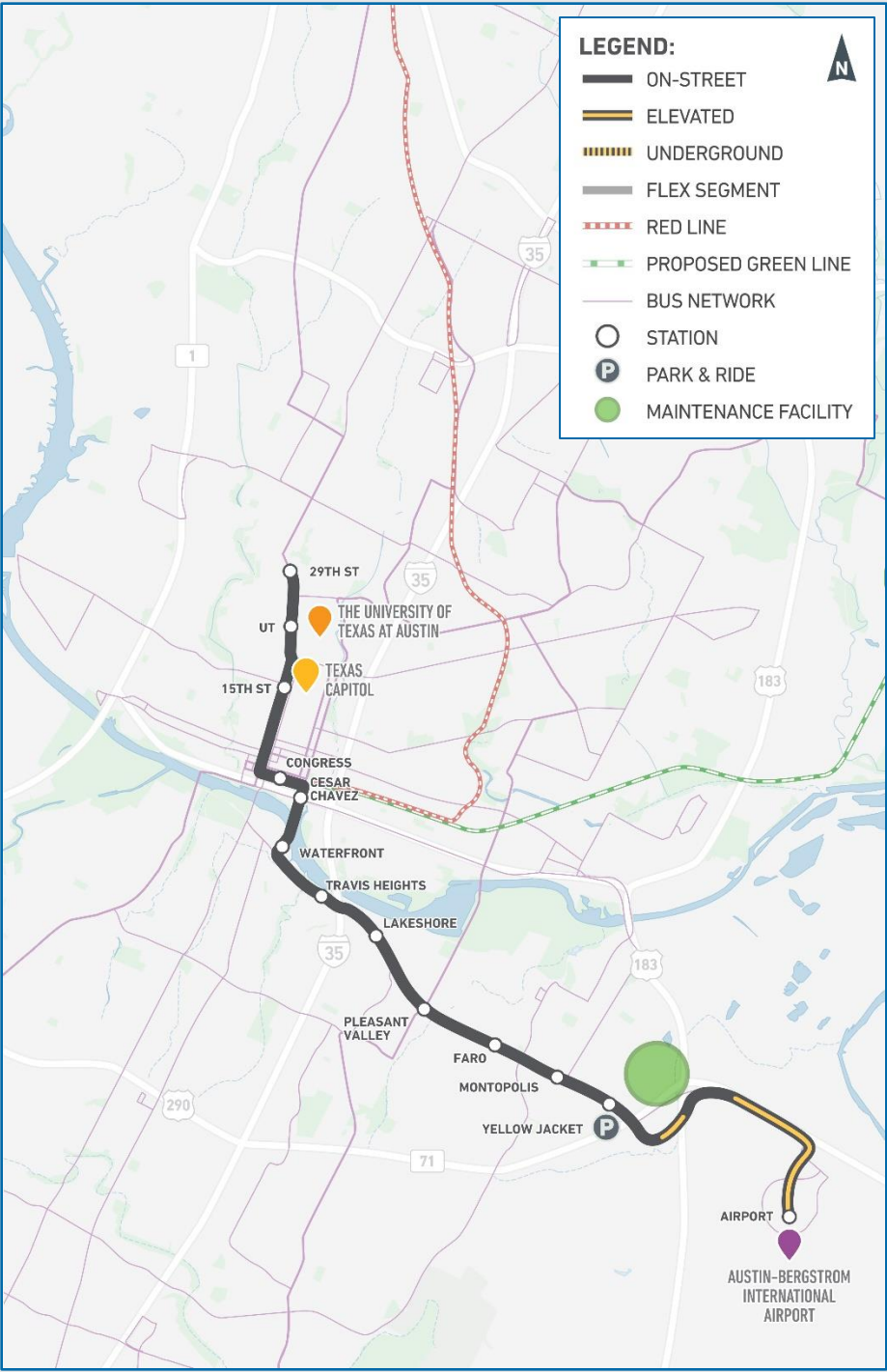
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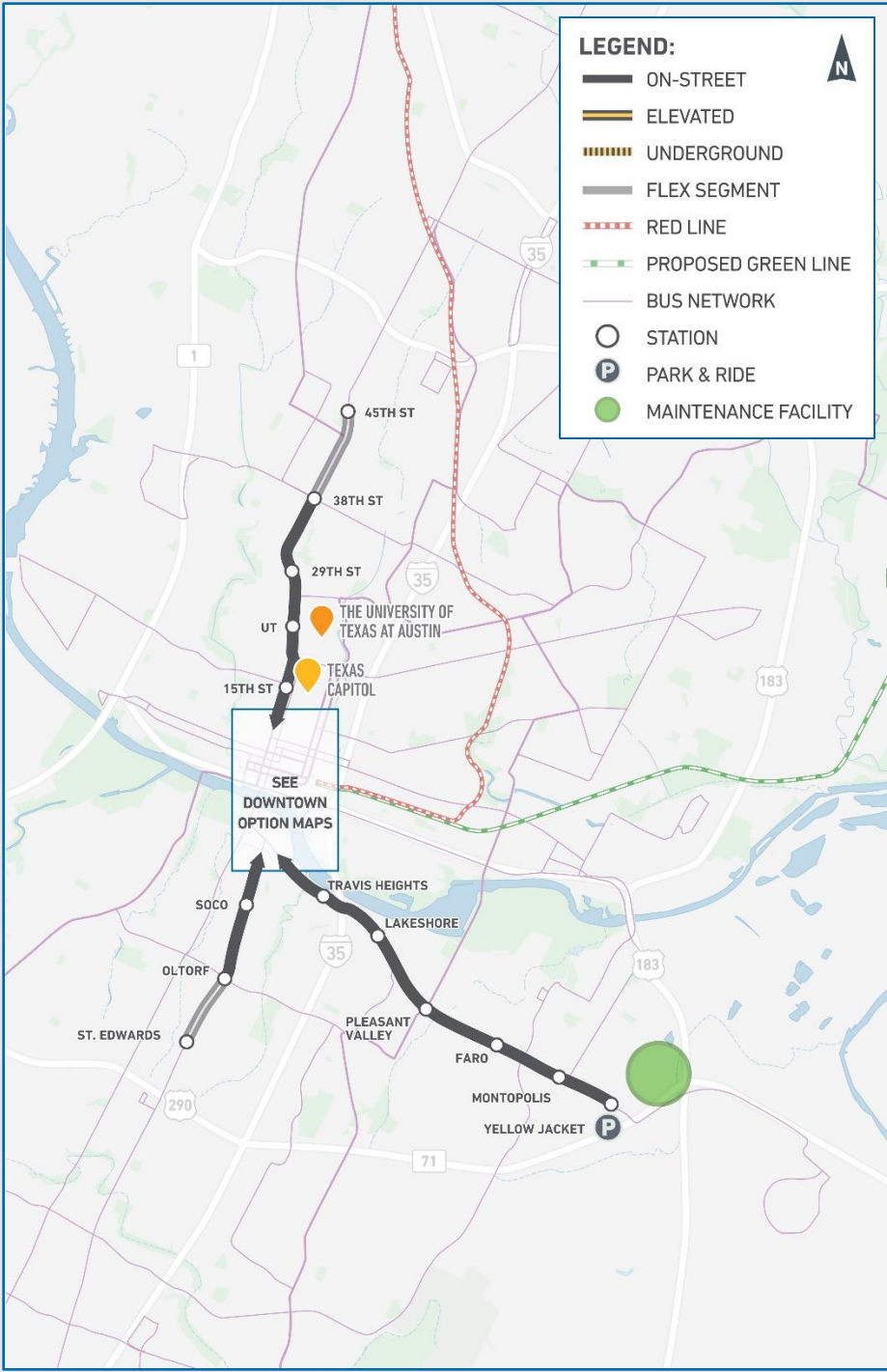


Trinity St. Crossing Option

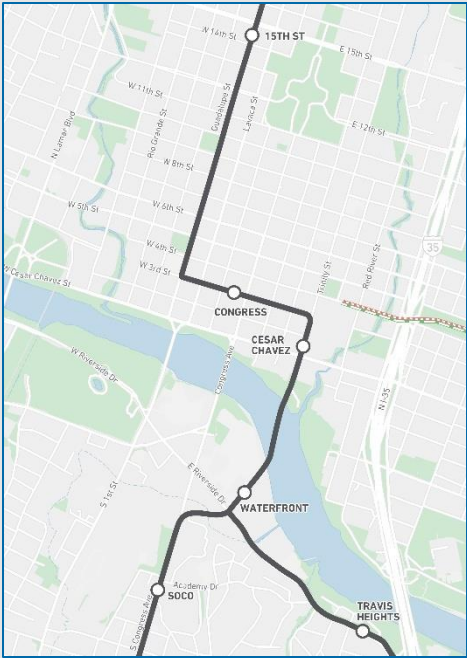
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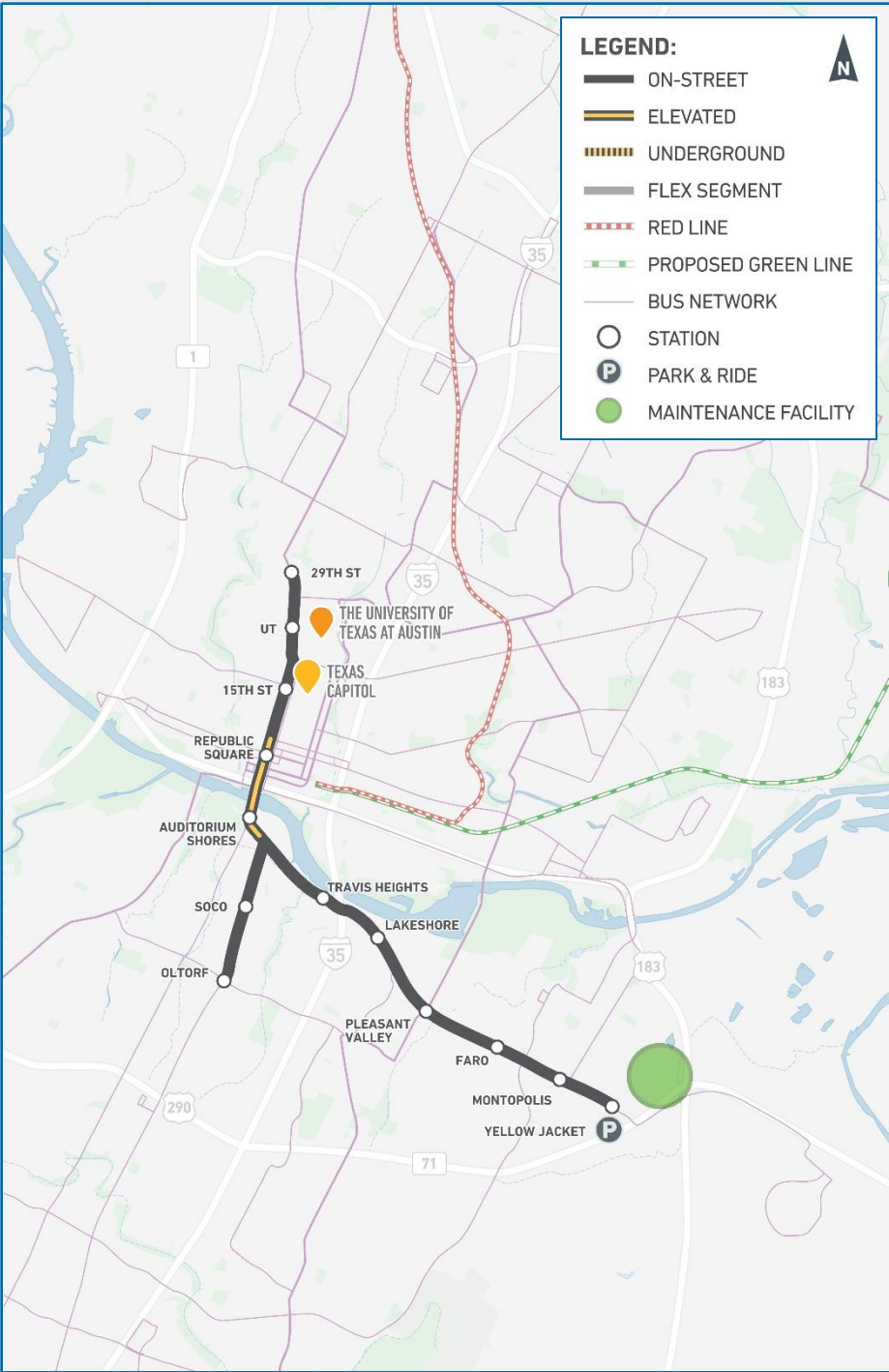
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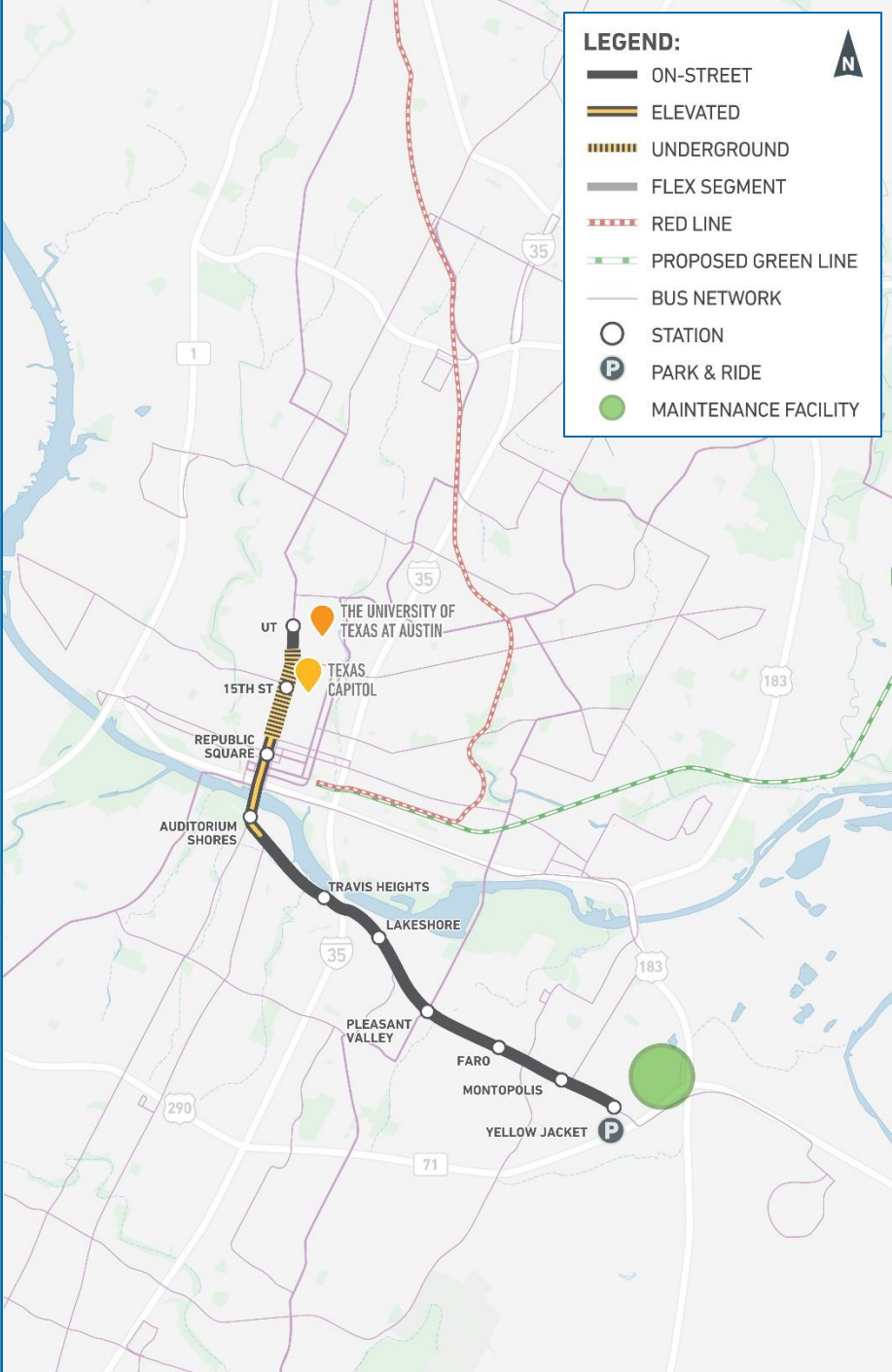


Guadalupe/S. 1<sup>st</sup> St. Crossing Option

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Guadalupe/S. 1<sup>st</sup> St. Crossing Option