

CHARLOTTE STREETCAR STARTER

City of Charlotte – Charlotte, NC

The **Charlotte Streetcar Starter Project** will construct 1.42 miles of double-tracked in-street rail operating at 15-20 minute headways on segments of Trade Street, Elizabeth Avenue and Hawthorne Lane and a small section of non-revenue track on Caldwell Street and 5th Street. The main terminus for the project is the Charlotte Transportation Center, which is the facility that houses the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) primary transfer location between its bus system and its existing LYNX light rail service. The other terminus of the project will be on Hawthorne Lane adjacent to Presbyterian Hospital, one of two major hospitals serving the Charlotte Area.



The project includes a non-revenue connector that will connect the streetcar alignment to the LYNX Blue Line alignment. The non-revenue connector will provide rail access to allow heavy maintenance to be performed at the South Boulevard Light Rail Maintenance Facility.

The City of Charlotte is the Grantee for this project. The City of Charlotte’s Engineering and Property Management (E&PM) Department will manage the design and construction of the project. The City of Charlotte’s CATS Department will operate and maintain the streetcar once constructed. CATS is the regional transit provider for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg North Carolina region and currently operates and maintains the bus and LYNX light rail systems.

PROJECT FUNDING

FTA Urban Circulator Grant	\$ 24,990, 000
Pay-As-You-Go Capital Fund	\$ 6,500,000
City Financing	\$ 5,500,000
TOTAL FUNDING	\$ 36,990,000

Project Details

Alignment length	1.42 miles
Number of stations	6
Fleet requirements	3 existing
Support Facilities	Utilize Existing LRT VMF
Annual O&M Cost	\$ 1.5 million

Project Highlights

- Improves transit service in the highest demand corridors in the Charlotte transit system
- Established an east-west transit spine that links all five rapid transit corridors in downtown Charlotte
- Provides high-quality transit service connecting key employment, cultural and entertainment destinations along the alignment

PROJECT MILESTONE DATES

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Final Design		—————			
Construction			—————		
Revenue Service					March



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For additional information on the Charlotte Streetcar Starter project, please visit the project website at

<http://charmck.org/city/charlotte/cats/planning/streetcar>