

FY 2024 WAKE COUNTY TRANSIT PROGRESS REPORT

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

THE FOUR BIG MOVES

- Connect the region. 1
- Connect all Wake County communities. 2
- Create frequent, reliable urban mobility. 3
- Enhance access to transit. 4

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

GOTRIANGLE

Content...

CITY OF RALEIGH

- GoRaleigh contracted with Capitol Special Police/Capitol Special Patrol for security services at GoRaleigh Station. The goal of the new service contract is to provide a safe, secure, and comfortable environment. The enhanced security has created a more peaceful environment for staff, riders and the general public. This partnership has successfully addressed the public's safety concerns. (3, 4)
- GoRaleigh returned to full-service levels in January 2024. (1, 2, 3, 4)
- The R-Line returned with 15-minute frequency. (3, 4)
- Route 6: Crabtree became a high frequency route, operating every 15 minutes, Monday - Saturday, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., and 30 minute frequency on Sundays. (3, 4)
- Route 70X: Brier Creek Express began hourly all-day service Monday - Sunday. (3, 4)
- Route 19: MLK/Sunnybrook returned to 15-minute frequency, 6 a.m. - 7:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, with 30-minute frequency on Saturday and Sunday. (3, 4)
- Route 21: Caraleigh became a high frequency network route, operating every 15 minutes from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. (3, 4)
- Route 55X: Poole Rd. now serves the Social Security Administration building on Poole Rd. at Samuel St., in response to customer suggestions. (3, 4)
- More than 40 miles of local roads are currently served by 15-minute service. The added new service will increase high frequency route coverage to more than 80 miles, (3, 4)

WAKE COUNTY

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TOWN OF APEX

- GoApex routing and scheduling was adjusted to serve a new bus stop that was constructed at the main entrance of the Apex Senior Center. (4)
- Additional projects are in the works that will improve access to transit, including sidewalk connections and bus stop improvements. (4)

TOWN OF CARY

Content...

TOWN OF MORRISVILLE

- The Town maintained existing service hours and days while adding benches to 6 nodes, bike racks to 5 nodes, one bus shelter, and an additional node on McCrimmon Pkwy. (4)

CAPITAL PROJECTS

GOTRIANGLE

Content...

CITY OF RALEIGH

- GoRaleigh achieved its goal to have a fleet that is at least 70 percent zero, or near zero, emissions by 2023. GoRaleigh boasts 76 compressed natural gas (CNG) buses and five electric buses in its fleet. (3)
- GoRaleigh expanded its charging infrastructure for a capacity of 14 electric buses. (3)
- GoRaleigh improved 39 bus stops, with 28 being full shelter buildouts and 7 enhanced stops. An additional 15 bus stops received new seating. (3, 4)
- A contract was executed for the construction of 49 new bus stops, with approximately 25% of those bus stops complete. (3, 4)

TOWN OF CARY

- Phase 3 of the Town's Bus Stop Improvement Project is bringing more bus stops into ADA compliance, with 100% compliance targeted by 2025. (4)
- Design on the Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility project reached NEPA conclusion and 90% completion. (3, 4)
- The Town acquired additional property for the planned Multimodal Center. (3, 4)

TOWN OF KNIGHTDALE

- The Town began design work for pedestrian access improvements along GoRaleigh Route 33, including three crosswalks across Knightdale Blvd. and sidewalk gaps along Old Knight Rd. (3, 4)

PLANNING PROJECTS

CAPITAL AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (CAMPO)

- CAMPO started the Wake Transit Plan Update, which will extend the planning horizon to 2035. The Plan Update is expected to take 18 months. Significant progress during FY 2024 included developing the State of the Wake Transit Plan report and conducting a robust public engagement phase that resulted in more than 1,500 responses to the Transit Priorities Survey. (1, 2, 3, 4)

GOTRIANGLE

Content...

CITY OF RALEIGH

- GoRaleigh bus tracking is now available on Google Maps. (4)
- GoRaleigh bus tracking is now available on Apple Maps. (4)
- The Triangle Regional Transit Survey was completed and provides an improved understanding of transit trip-making, travel patterns, and characteristics across the Greater Triangle region, including 8 operating agencies. (1, 2, 3, 4)
- A completed microtransit study included decommissioning of the 401X in favor of new MicroLink service, which was scheduled to begin with the adoption of the Recommended FY25 Wake Transit Work Plan. (2, 4)

CITY OF RALEIGH-WAKE BRT PROJECTS

NEW BERN AVENUE CORRIDOR

- Wake BRT: New Bern Avenue is the first of four planned corridors. It will traverse 5.39 miles with 3.3 miles of dedicated, bus-only lanes. GoRaleigh held a groundbreaking ceremony on November 7, 2023 to kick off the construction phase of the first Wake BRT corridor in the state of North Carolina. The City of Raleigh advertised for construction bids in March 2024 with bid opening in May 2024. (3)

WESTERN CORRIDOR

- The Wake BRT: Western Corridor is in the preliminary design phase. The City of Raleigh advanced the design and developed materials for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Small Starts Ratings application. (3)

SOUTHERN CORRIDOR

- The Wake BRT: Southern Corridor is in the final design phase. The final design team is working toward a 30% design milestone. The project received an \$85.91 million funding allocation from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). (3)

NORTHERN CORRIDOR

- Wake BRT: Northern Corridor is currently in the planning phase. The City of Raleigh advanced the planning study and conducted public engagement on the initial screening of alternatives for the corridor to investigate an extension to Midtown Raleigh and Triangle Town Center. (3)

WAKE COUNTY

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TOWN OF APEX

- The Town is conducting a Transit Prioritization Study to determine the next steps for service improvements and/or expansions within the next few years. (4)

TOWN OF CARY

- GoCary completed a Microtransit Feasibility Study. The study will help guide future Microtransit implementation and service expansions for the fixed route network. (3)
- The Town is nearing completion of the remaining bus stop upgrades necessary to reach 100% compliance with ADA. This effort supports our mission to provide safe, reliable, and efficient transit service to community members of all ability levels. (4)

NEXT STEPS

SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

CAPITAL AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (CAMPO)

- CAMPO continues working on the 2035 Wake Transit Plan Update, which is projected to conclude in Q4 of FY 2025. Phase II of public engagement is scheduled for Q2 of FY 2025 and will give the public an opportunity to provide feedback on three investment scenarios. The Draft 2035 Wake Transit Plan Update Plan, with the chosen investment scenario, will open for public comment in early spring 2025. (1, 2, 3, 4)
- CAMPO will begin a Concept of Operations Study for the Wake BRT: Western and Southern corridor extensions in FY 2025. The study will investigate the preferred solutions identified for extension of these corridors, which are being planned by the City of Raleigh. The study will finalize assumptions for vehicle type, station design considerations, transit signal priority/queue jump technology, and operations considerations between the core BRT corridors and the extensions. (1)

GOTRIANGLE

Content...

CITY OF RALEIGH

- The new Route 9: Hillsborough will be launched with 15-minute frequency.
- Implementation of the Route 5: Biltmore Hills high-frequency package is slated for FY25. This package will remove Routes 13 and 22, while realigning Route 5 to include areas previously covered by the eliminated routes. The new Route 5 will operate at 15-minute frequencies and Route 20 will be expanded to include weekend service.
- Rolesville will tentatively receive microtransit, connecting Rolesville with Wake Forest. The service will be named MicroLink.

WAKE COUNTY

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TOWN OF APEX

- The Town is working to implement Sunday service in FY25 and make additional bus stop improvements.

TOWN OF CARY

- GoCary plans to launch Routes 11 and 12 in FY25. Route 11 will serve East Cary and connect to North Carolina State University. Route 12 is an expansion of the current Apex-Cary Express and will provide all-day, local service. (2, 3)

TOWN OF MORRISVILLE

- The Town will add a node on Church Street in FY25 as well as an additional vehicle on Saturday afternoons to match weekday service. (4)

CAPITAL PROJECTS

GOTRIANGLE

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CITY OF RALEIGH

- GoRaleigh's first park-and-ride location is scheduled to open beside the transit operations facility. It will be served by Route 18 and the 55X. The park-and-ride facility has 235 parking spots with 12 EV charging stations and the capacity for 24 EV charging stations. It has LED lighting and is ADA accessible. (3, 4)
- GoRaleigh's second park-and-ride facility is in design, with construction scheduled to begin in early 2025. The facility is expected to offer 90-100 parking spaces with about 12 spaces dedicated to EV charging. This facility will service a Wake BRT: New Bern Avenue platform and a future fixed-route transit center. (3, 4)
- GoRaleigh will complete construction of Set 8 by summer 2025, marking the addition of 44 bus stop shelters and improvements to a total of 49 bus stops. (4)
- GoRaleigh will advertise for construction bids for Set 9 in the fall of 2024, which primarily contains plans for enhanced site improvements. (4)

TOWN OF CARY

- GoCary will complete the design and start the construction of Phase 3 of the Bus Stop Improvement Project, which includes stops for Route 11 and Route 12. (4)
- GoCary will complete final design of the Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility project and begin the bidding process for construction. (3, 4)
- The Town will complete the land acquisition process for the Multimodal Center. (4)

PLANNING PROJECTS

GOTRIANGLE

Content...

CITY OF RALEIGH

GoRaleigh is slated to begin implementing FY25 Wake Transit Work Plan items in January of 2025. Those service planning improvements include the following tasks: (2, 3, 4)

- Route 11: Avent Ferry is increasing to 15 minute service.

- Route 18: Poole will split into two routes with the half closer to downtown Raleigh increasing to 30 minute all day service.
- Route 3: Glascock will increase in service span and include 30 minute midday and weekend service.
- Route 12: Method will increase in service span.
- Route 27: Blue Ridge will be realigned to cover the southern portion of Route 26.
- Route 26: Edwards Mill will be decommissioned.
- Route 4: Rex Hospital will be realigned to cover the northern portion of Edwards Mill Rd previously served by Route 26.
- Route 7L: Carolina Pines will be realigned, increase in service span late night, and increase in midday frequency.
- Route 11L: Buck Jones will be realigned to terminate at the Avent Ferry-Gorman intersection and will increase frequency to 45 minutes.
- Route 33: Knightdale will receive hourly weekend service.

CITY OF RALEIGH-WAKE BRT PROJECTS

Wake BRT: NEW BERN AVENUE CORRIDOR

- The City will re-advertise construction bids for the project and begin construction. (3)

WESTERN CORRIDOR

- The City is submitting the Small Starts Ratings application to FTA in August 2024. (3)
- Transitioning from preliminary to final design is scheduled for early 2025. (3)

SOUTHERN CORRIDOR

- Continuing to advance final design milestones and preparing for the FTA risk and readiness review, which is required prior to a grant agreement for federal funds. (3)

NORTHERN CORRIDOR

- The next steps include a detailed screening of the alternatives analysis and a second round of public engagement in fall 2024. (3)
- Next steps include the completion of a planning study to identify the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for each corridor option: downtown to midtown Raleigh and downtown to Triangle Town Center. (3)

WAKE COUNTY

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TOWN OF APEX

- The Town is working to finish the Transit Prioritization Study. (3)

TOWN OF CARY

- Evaluating existing services for realignment and efficiency improvements. (3)
- Continuing to monitor existing bus stops and ADA access points for improvements. (4)
- Monitoring demand throughout the system for amenity improvements. (4)

TOWN OF MORRISVILLE

- The Town will conduct a transit study to analyze the existing Smart Shuttle service and make recommendations for a future local transit service model. (4)

REVENUE HOURS CHART

GoRaleigh

FY23 revenue hours were 285,713 decreasing about 100% compared with FY22 revenue hours of 581,937.

GoWake Access

FY2x revenue hours were xx increasing/decreasing x% compared with FY2x revenue hours of xx.

GoTriangle

FY2x revenue hours were xx increasing/decreasing x% compared with FY2x revenue hours of xx.

GoCary

FY24 revenue hours were 50,515.57 increasing/decreasing 0.26% compared with FY23 revenue hours of 50384.27.

GoApex

FY24 fixed route revenue hours were 4,826, increasing about 7.7% compared with FY23 revenue hours of 4,482.

Town of Morrisville

FY24 revenue hours were 5,413.2 increasing 4.4% compared with FY23 revenue hours of 5,650.9.

RIDERSHIP CHART

GoRaleigh

FY23 ridership was 4,539,125 increasing about 12% compared with FY22 ridership of 4,043,384.

GoTriangle's Wake County Ridership

FY2x ridership was xxx increasing/decreasing about xx% compared with FY2x ridership of xx.

GoCary

FY24 ridership was 441,596 increasing/decreasing about 21% compared with FY23 ridership of 348,590.

GoWake Access

FY2x ridership was xxx increasing/decreasing about xx% compared with FY2x ridership of xx.

GoApex

FY24 fixed route ridership was 16,242 increasing about 35% compared with FY23 ridership of 12,075.

Town of Morrisville

FY24 ridership was 23,302 increasing about 8.6% compared with FY23 ridership of 21,445.