

Draft FY26 Wake Transit Work Plan
February 25 – March 28, 2025

News Release

Public comment period opens for the FY26 Wake Transit Work Plan

The draft FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan is available for public review and comment from Tuesday, February 25th - Friday, March 28th, 2025.

The goal of the Wake Transit Program is to improve and expand Wake County's transit network. The FY26 Work Plan includes the specific operating improvements and capital investments proposed for funding during that fiscal year. In the FY26 Work Plan, the Wake Transit partners are proposing to invest more than \$181.1 million on transit operating and capital projects.

The operating budget proposed in the Draft FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan includes \$43 million to support continuing investments in bus service for Wake County. There is significant new investment, more than \$6 million, proposed for new and expanded bus service. The FY26 Work Plan includes funding for new routes like GoRaleigh Route 14/Atlantic Ave. The route will serve North Raleigh from downtown to the Triangle Town Center. Another operating investment would focus on the realignment of GoTriangle Route ZWX to now serve downtown Zebulon and the Wendell Falls community, replacing GoRaleigh's FRX peak-only route with a new Fuquay-Varina microtransit service.

Wake Transit Plan funds are often used to match or supplement projects receiving funding support from other sources. Sources could include private partnerships, state funds, federal grants or other local sources. The FY26 Work Plan includes at least two projects that are leveraging Wake Transit funds in addition to federal grant allocations. The Triangle Mobility Hub project received \$25 million from a U.S. Department of Transportation RAISE grant, which was awarded in FY25. In addition, the Bus Rapid Transit, Wake BRT: Western Corridor project received a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Small Starts Grant totaling nearly \$86 million.

The Wake Bus Plan serves as a guide for the Wake County Transit Planning Advisory Committee (TPAC) as it drafts each annual Wake Transit Work Plan. The process to update the Wake Bus Plan will begin in FY 2026. The Bus Plan is a fiscally constrained, multi-year investment strategy that identifies, defines and prioritizes the bus-related services and capital investments that receive Wake Transit funding on a long range basis, in this case through FY 2035. Development of the Wake Bus Plan is a collaborative process that includes stakeholders, transit providers, Wake Transit partners and members of the public.

The FY26 Wake Transit Work Plan also includes proposed funding for the capital investments that provide the infrastructure required for operating bus services on a countywide and regional scale. GoTriangle's Raleigh Union Station (RUS) Bus facility in downtown is on track to complete construction and begin operations of the terminal in 2025. This nearly \$40 million portion of the larger project was funded through multiple sources. Wake Transit contributed about \$10.6 million for planning, design and construction. The N.C. Department of Transportation awarded \$8.86 million for construction. In addition, GoTriangle received a Federal BUILD Grant of \$20 million for design, construction and bus acquisition.

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The Community Funding Area (CFA) Program sets aside a portion of Wake Transit revenue for community-based transit services in areas with limited access to fixed-route services. CFA program applications were received in January 2025, and selected projects will be included in the recommended FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan released for public review in May.

Full descriptions of all specific operating improvements and capital investments are included in the Draft FY 2026 Wake Transit Work Plan document. The Work Plan document is available for review online at <https://www.goforwardnc.org/wake-county/get-involved/>. Public comments can also be submitted through that website. Input from community members and other Wake Transit stakeholders is vital to the planning process. The online survey includes specific questions and an open-ended comment form. There are several additional ways for individuals and groups to submit their input regarding the Draft Work Plan.

Online: [goforwardnc.org/getinvolvedwake](https://www.goforwardnc.org/getinvolvedwake)

Email: publicengagement@gotriangle.org

Mail: GoTriangle, PE, Wake Transit, 4600 Emperor Blvd., Suite 100, Durham, NC 27703

Text: WAKE26 to 855-925-2801 (charges may apply)

Call: 855-925-2801 (toll-free) and enter code 1840 to leave a voicemail

Regional Call Center: GoTriangle, (919) 485-RIDE (7433)