



# Regional Passenger Rail Next Steps

# Investing in Rail in the Triangle

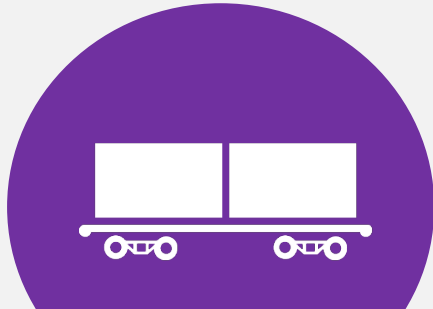
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- **National:** USDOT, FRA and FTA
- **Statewide:** NCDOT, NCRR
- **Regional:** GoTriangle
- **Local:** Counties and Municipalities

Funding for rail improvements comes from a variety of local, regional, and state sources



# Rail Types & Services



HEAVY RAIL

FREIGHT

Example: NS, CSX



HEAVY RAIL

INTERCITY PASSENGER

Example: NCDOT Piedmont Intercity Passenger Rail



HEAVY RAIL

REGIONAL PASSENGER

Example: Triangle Regional Passenger Rail

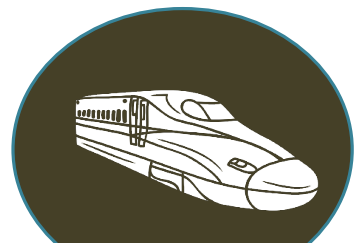
## NCRRC Corridor (H Line)



Existing Service

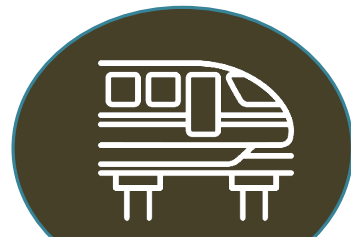


Planned Service



HIGH SPEED RAIL

Example: Japan Komachi



MONORAIL

Example: Seattle Monorail



LIGHT RAIL

Example: Charlotte LYNX



STREETCAR

Example: Charlotte CityLYNX Gold Line

## Other Rail Types

# All day, hourly service

## Regional Passenger Rail



- **Purpose:** To move passengers between communities in the Triangle Region
- **Type:** Regional passenger rail
- **Triangle Communities Served:** Durham, RTP, Morrisville, Cary, Raleigh, Garner; future expansion to Clayton, Selma, Wake Forest, Apex, and Hillsborough
- **Sponsor:** GoTriangle
- **Frequency:** All day, hourly service or better, 19+ weekday round trips

»» Fast, frequent and reliable service to keep the Triangle moving



All day, hourly service or better



19+ weekday round trips



12,000+ riders by 2040

# Rail Network Modeling

- Regional Passenger Rail Program
  - Service
    - Intercity passenger rail – limited daily service
    - Regional passenger rail – all-day, hourly service or better
  - Stations
    - Intercity passenger rail – three existing stations\*
    - Regional passenger rail – additional stations

## Key Action



Continue to include planned intercity and regional rail services and stations in all Rail Network Modeling

\* Potential additional intercity passenger stations are under consideration or have been discussed including Wake Forest, Hillsborough, RTP, and others

# Incremental, strategic & programmatic

Investing in rail to deliver fast, frequent and reliable passenger service



Rail Corridor Improvements  
*Safety, capacity and operations*



Intercity Passenger Rail  
Service Improvements  
*Station improvements, potential  
incremental service improvements*



Station Area Planning  
*Land use, access, mobility,  
affordable housing*

**Near-Term: 0-10 years**



Regional Passenger Rail Service

*Long-term vision for all day,  
hourly service or better  
Integrated high-capacity  
transit network and local bus  
service connections*

**Long-Term: 10+ years**

# Federal Discretionary Funding

## *US Department of Transportation*

### 2023 Grant Opportunities

- **RCN- Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Regional Partnerships Challenge**
- Mega - National Infrastructure Project Assistance Program
- INFRA - Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highway Projects Program
- Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) Program, FRA
- Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program, FRA

### 2024 Grant Opportunities

- Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant
- Federal-State Partnership (FSP) for Intercity Passenger Rail Grant (non-NEC) Program, FRA

# Rail Corridor Improvements



Rail Crossing Improvements/Safety Projects



Rail Capacity/Operations Improvements



Rail Station Improvements



# Rail Crossing Improvements/Safety Projects



- Grade separations
- Crossing closures
- Safety enhancements

■ Recent grant awards (REPAIR)

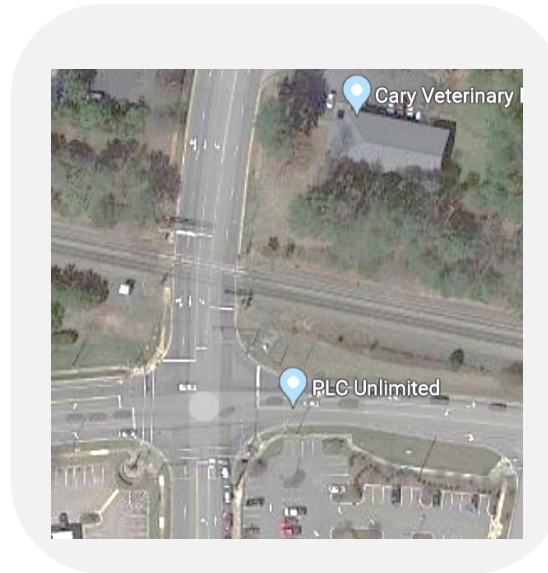
## Representative Projects



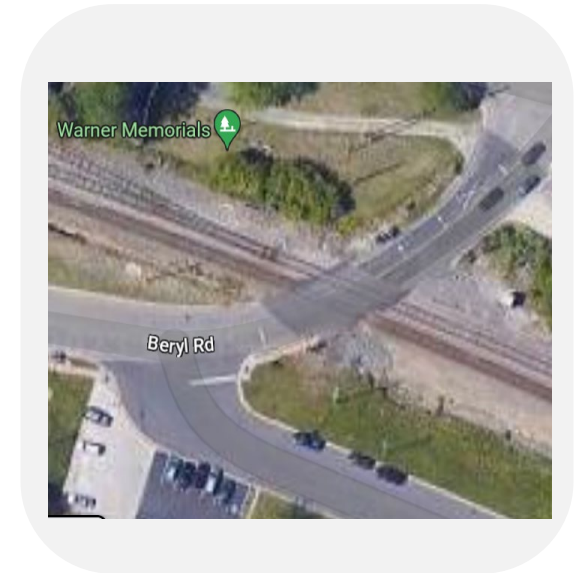
S. Plum Street



S. Driver Street



Maynard Road



Beryl Road

# Rail Capacity/Operations Improvements



- Track improvements
- Track additions
- Siding extensions
- Signal improvements

## *Representative Project: Clegg (Morrisville) to Cary Double Track*

*At right: NCRR recently constructed “roadbed” for a second track in a portion of this area as part of the Crabtree Creek bridge replacement project*





# Rail Station Improvements



- Accessibility
- Connectivity
- Passenger amenities
- Transit integration

 Submitted to SPOT for prioritization

## *Representative Projects*



Durham Station



RTP Station



Downtown Cary Station

# Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN)

*US Department of Transportation*



## **RCN Regional Partnerships Challenge**

- To incentivize stronger partnerships between local governments, Tribal governments, MPOs/RPOs, State DOTs, and non-profit, private, and community partners
- To tackle persistent equitable access and mobility challenges, as well as greenhouse gas emissions reductions
- Applicants must consist of a partnership between two or more eligible agencies

### Grant Info

- Up to \$450 million
- Anticipates awarding 3-5 grants
- Up to 80% federal funds

# Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) *US Department of Transportation*

## **Invest in rail planning to support future rail service**

- Strong public support to move forward with planning for rail transit
- Grant would support meaningful steps toward implementing a transformative regional rail program:
  - Rail network modeling
  - Regional Rail Strategic Plan 
  - Railroad agreements
  - Preliminary engineering and environmental review
  - Support of ongoing efforts for:
    - Land use and affordable housing planning
    - Neighborhood access and community cohesion planning
    - Stronger connection to RDU

# Local Funding for Regional Rail Implementation

## *Durham and Wake Transit Plans*

**\$195 million in Durham Transit Plan for regional rail capital cost or another fast, reliable, and regional transit service.**

**Around \$1.2 billion in Wake Transit Plan for regional rail capital cost.**

