



JANUARY 24, 2024

ATP Board Meeting

AGENDA – January 24, 2024

1. Public Comment

2. Executive Director Report

3. Discussion Items

1. Update on Implementation of Austin Light Rail
2. Presentation on Governance Assessment

4. Action Items

1. **Action Item 1-** Approval of minutes from the December 13, 2023 Board Meeting
2. **Action Item 2-** Approval of a resolution authorizing the Executive Director, or their designee, to negotiate and execute a contract with Pinyon Environmental, Inc. for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Review Support 139(j) Consultant services for a term of two years, with one 12-month extension option, in an amount not to exceed \$900,000; and authorizing the negotiation and execution of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Federal Transit Administration to receive Consultant support

5. Executive Session

6. Adjournment

Public Comment



JANUARY 24, 2024

Executive Director's Report

Project Connect Status Report

January | ATP Board Brief

Highlights:

- + Program Updates
- + Partnership Updates
- + ATP Administrative Updates

Monthly publications available at:

www.atptx.org

PROJECT CONNECT STATUS REPORT

ATP BOARD BRIEF | JANUARY 2024



In November 2020, Austin voters approved Proposition A to dedicate new revenue to the implementation of Project Connect—a program of transit projects designed to provide transportation alternatives for our community. Voters simultaneously created the Austin Transit Partnership (ATP) and tasked its Board of Directors with overseeing the program. This Project Connect ATP Board Brief serves as an update to the ATP Board about the progress of the projects that make up the Project Connect Program.

PROGRAM UPDATES

› LIGHT RAIL IMPLEMENTATION

ATP continues advancing the Austin Light Rail base design, partnering with the City of Austin and CapMetro, updating plans based on stakeholder input and technical analysis. The base design, along with options examining station locations and multimodal integration considerations will be assessed in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

On January 19, 2024 the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) published a [Notice of Intent](#) (NOI) in the *Federal Register*. This notice signifies FTA and ATP's intention to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Phase 1 of the Austin Light Rail Project and initiates the NEPA Scoping process, during which comments related to the NEPA review of the proposed project are solicited.

Beginning in February, ATP will share project updates, base design information along with the design options under consideration, at five in-person, and one virtual, community engagement events. The meetings provide the public an opportunity to provide feedback on issues to be analyzed through the NEPA process. ATP requested additional time above the requisite 30 days to enable broader participation. Following March 4, the end of the Scoping phase, ATP will prepare a Scoping Report to summarize the input received during this period. ATP will continue to encourage, receive, and consider public input after that time.

For more information regarding the FTA Notice of Intent, visit the ATP website.

› ATP ADDRESSES AUSTIN BUSINESS COMMUNITY

ATP's Executive Director, Greg Canally, served as a panelist at ATX Ahead: 2024 Economic Outlook on Jan. 18. The event featured an economic analysis of the region and panelists discussed affordability, transit, and quality of life. Greg provided Austin Light Rail updates to the audience of Austin-area business leaders and shared insight into what comes next for the community-informed project.

Austin Business Journal Editor, Colin Pope, served as moderator. The panel also included Aaron Demerson,



atptx.org || 203 Colorado | Austin, Texas 78701 ||

1

Recruitment Update

Readiness Criteria:

- + Identified Business Need to Support Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan
- + Required FTA Capacity
- + Identified as Required Long-term Resource
- + Linked to Delivery Strategy

Financial Services

- Bryan Rivera, Chief Financial Officer
 - Served as ATP Interim Chief Financial Officer (July – Dec 2023)
 - Managed City of Austin's debt portfolio, Deputy Treasurer
 - Facilitated financing of first City of Austin Airport terminal expansion



Communications Services

- Candice Honaker, Communications Specialist Snr

Information & Technology Services

- Chad Kinchen, IT Business Systems Snr

Distinguished Budget Presentation Award: Government Finance Officers Association

Criteria Assessed

- + Policy Document
- + Financial Plan
- + Operations Guide
- + Communications



The Government Finance Officers Association
of the United States and Canada

presents this

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FOR BUDGET PREPARATION

to

**Finance Department
Austin Transit Partnership, Texas**



The Certificate of Recognition for Budget Preparation is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association to those individuals who have been instrumental in their government unit achieving a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, which is the highest award in governmental budgeting, is presented to those government units whose budgets are judged to adhere to program standards.

Executive Director

Christopher P. Morrell

Date: **February 17, 2023**

Delivering Light Rail: Driven by Best Practices

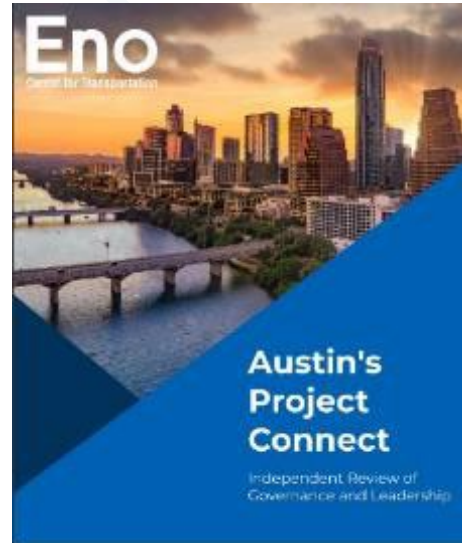
2021/2022

Eno Center for Transportation:
Best practice studies for rail transit projects



2024

Live Action Case Study:
Light Rail Implementation



**ACCELERATOR
FOR AMERICA**

**Transit
Forward**



ATX Ahead: 2024 Economic Outlook, January 2024



APTA, Committee Meeting, January 2024

Industry Knowledge Sharing

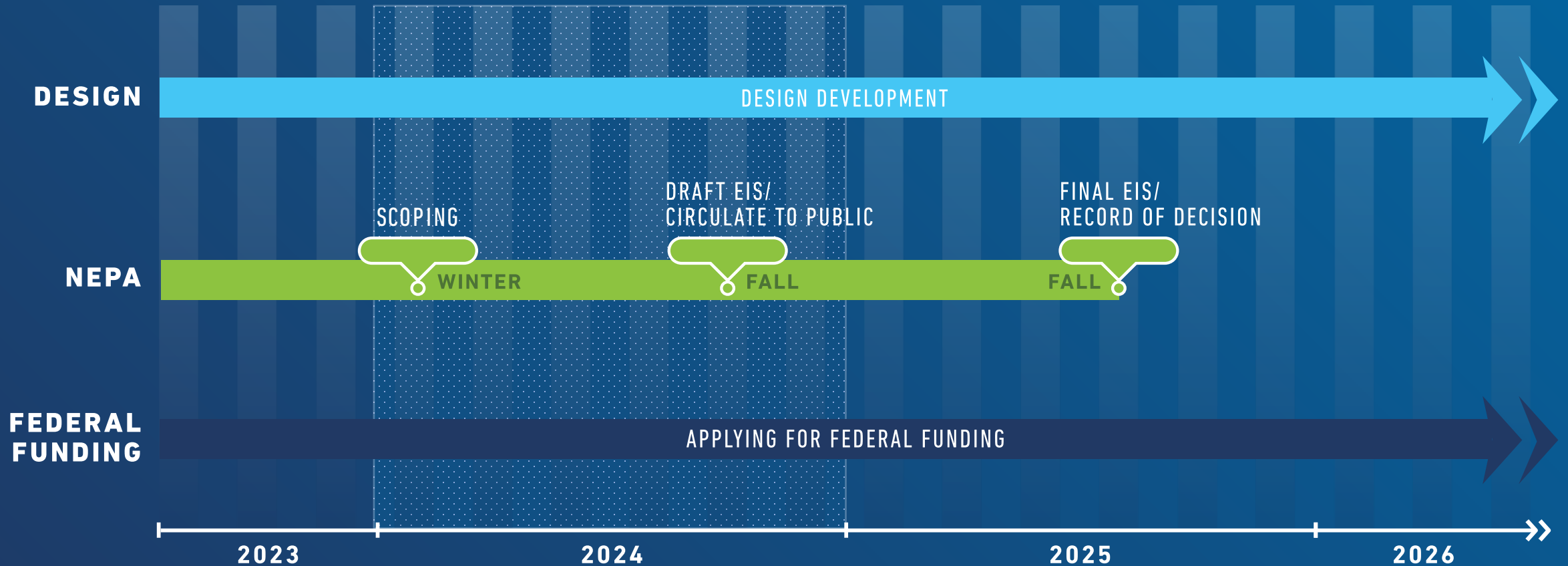
- + ATX Ahead: Austin Business Journal 2024 Economic Outlook
- + American Public Transportation Association (APTA), Planning & Program Development Committee
 - + Focus: Advancement of the federal Capital Investment Grant (CIG) Program



DISCUSSION ITEM

Update on Implementation of Austin Light Rail

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION & INTEGRATED APPROACH WORK EFFORTS



Upcoming Public Outreach

Federal Process: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

MEETING LOCATION	DATE/TIME
University of Texas, Eastwoods Room, 2 nd floor (ground level), Texas Union 2308 Whitis Ave, Austin, TX 78712	Thursday, February 1, 2024 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Montopolis Recreation and Community Center 1200 Montopolis Dr., Austin, TX 78741	Saturday, February 10, 2024 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
League of Women Voters, Cafetorium 3908 Avenue B, Suite 105, Austin, TX 78751	Monday, February 12, 2024 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Virtual Open House	Thursday, February 22, 2024 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Twin Oaks Library, Rooms 1 & 2 1800 S. 5th St., Austin, TX 78704	Tuesday, February 27, 2024 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
St. David's Episcopal, Sumners Hall 301 E. 8th St., Austin, TX 78701	Thursday, February 29, 2024 7:30 a.m. – 9 a.m.

AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL

PHASE 1- BASE DESIGN

- + 9.8-mile Light Rail Transit (LRT) branched line, including 15 stations located north, south, and east of downtown Austin
- + Light rail embedded in center of street

PRIORITY EXTENSIONS

- + Not included in the NEPA analysis
- + Could be accelerated if additional funding becomes available

LEGEND

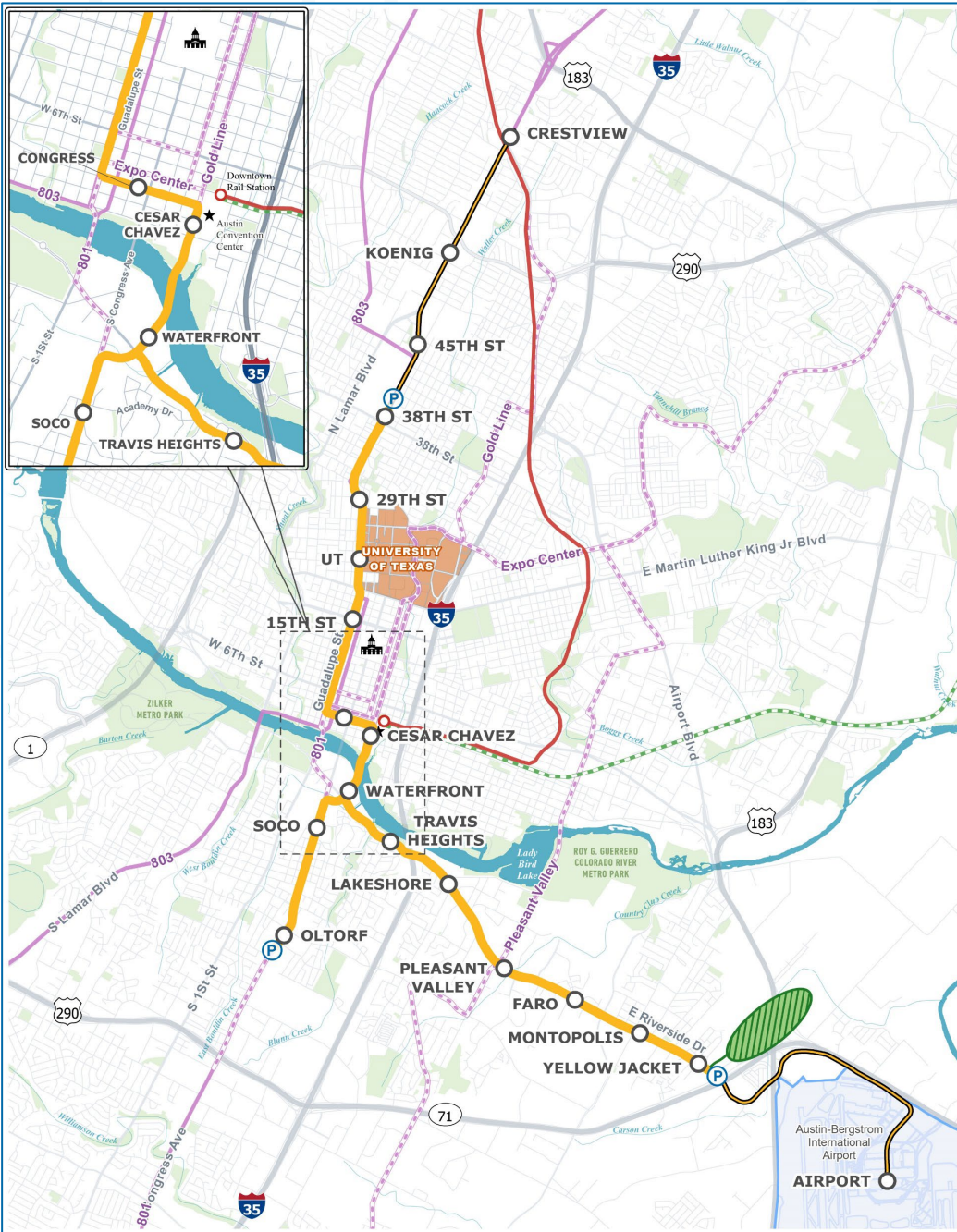
- Light Rail Station
- Light Rail - Phase 1
- Light Rail - Priority Extension
- ▭ Operations & Maintenance Facility (OMF) Study Area
- Ⓟ Park & Ride Study Area
- 🏛️ Texas State Capitol

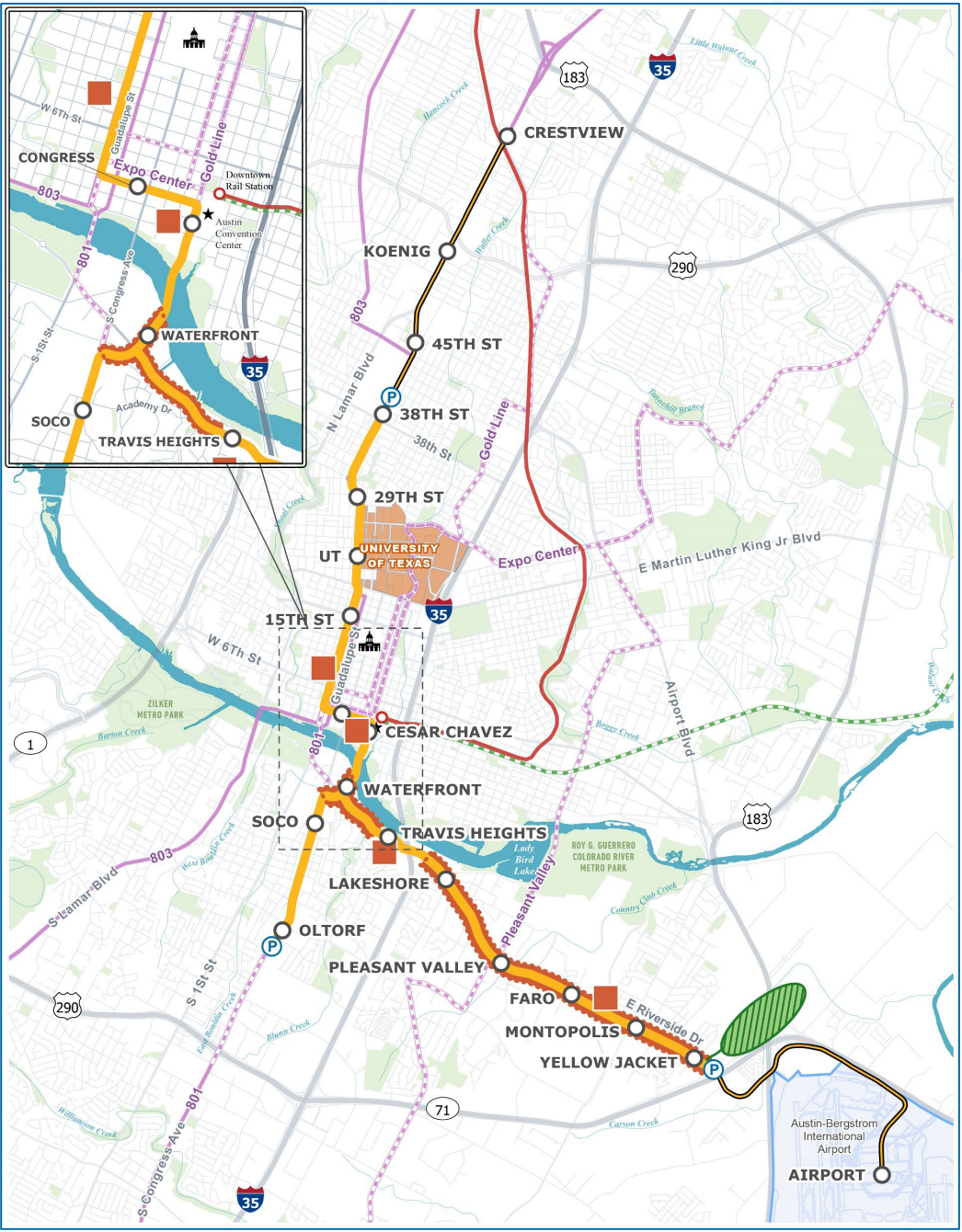
Source: CapMetro 2024, Project Connect 2021

Transit Routes

- Red Line
- Green Line (future)
- CapMetro Rapid
- CapMetro Rapid (future)

0 0.75 1.5 Miles





AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL ADVANCING DESIGN

Evaluating design options identified through previous public engagement, technical and design opportunities



STATION LOCATIONS

- + Evaluating and optimizing proposed station locations



MULTIMODAL INTEGRATION

- + Study area to extend light rail bridge south of Lady Bird Lake
- + Study area to locate bike and pedestrian facilities next to light rail, east of I-35 (center-running) along Riverside Drive



Evaluate proposed end of line facilities and site locations

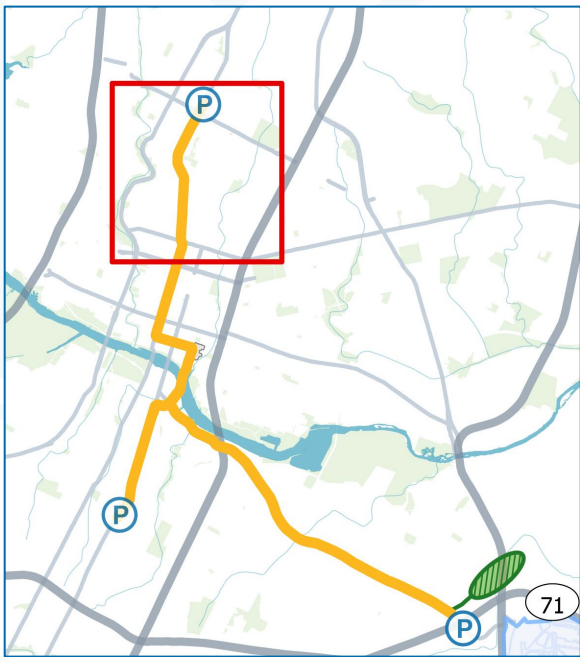
LEGEND

- Design Option
- Design Option (Study Area)
- Light Rail Station
- Light Rail - Phase 1
- Light Rail - Priority Extension
- Park & Ride Study Area
- Texas State Capitol
- Operations & Maintenance Facility (OMF)

- 0 0.75 1.5 Miles
- Transit Routes**
- Red Line
 - Green Line (future)
 - CapMetro Rapid
 - CapMetro Rapid (future)

Source: CapMetro 2024, Project Connect 2021

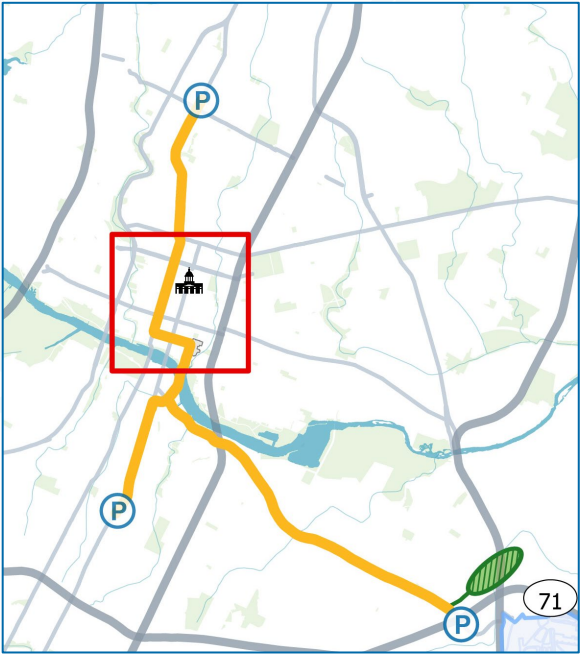
AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL NORTH SECTION



P Evaluate proposed end of line facilities and site locations



AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL DOWNTOWN SECTION



LEGEND

0 0.1 0.2 Miles

- Design Option
- Design Option (Study Area)
- Light Rail Station - Base Design
- Light Rail Station - Design Option
- Light Rail Route - Base Design
- Operations & Maintenance Facility (OMF) Study Area
- Park & Ride Study Area
- Texas State Capitol

Transit Routes

- Red Line
- Green Line (future)
- CapMetro Rapid
- CapMetro Rapid (future)

Source: CapMetro 2024, Project Connect 2021

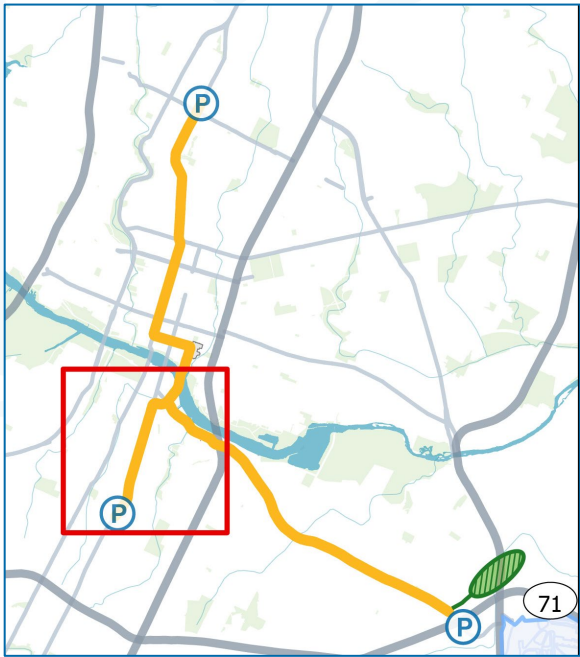
DESIGN OPTION

Option to add station near Wooldridge Square

DESIGN OPTION

Option to locate station in private joint development off-street

AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL SOUTH SECTION



Evaluate proposed end of line facilities and site locations

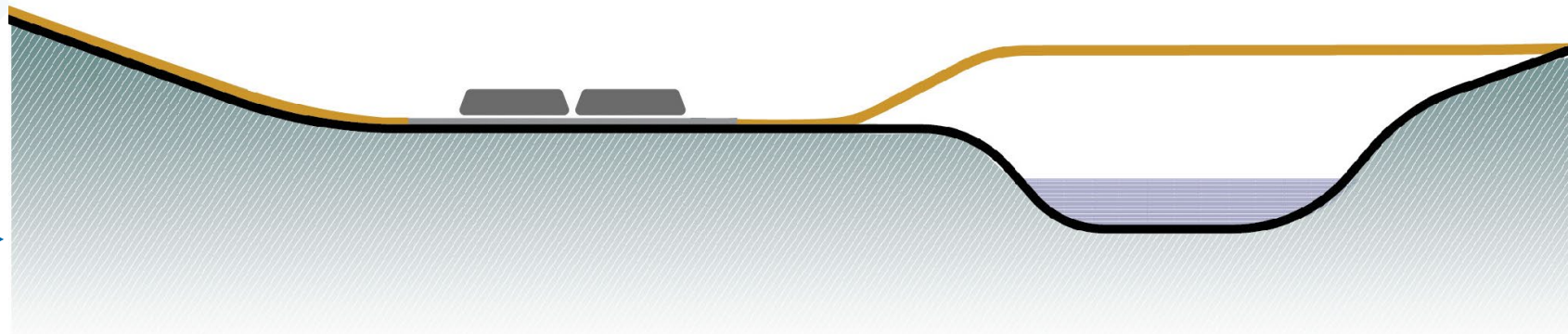


AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL SOUTH SECTION

DESIGN OPTION (STUDY AREA) FOR SOUTH OF LADY BIRD LAKE

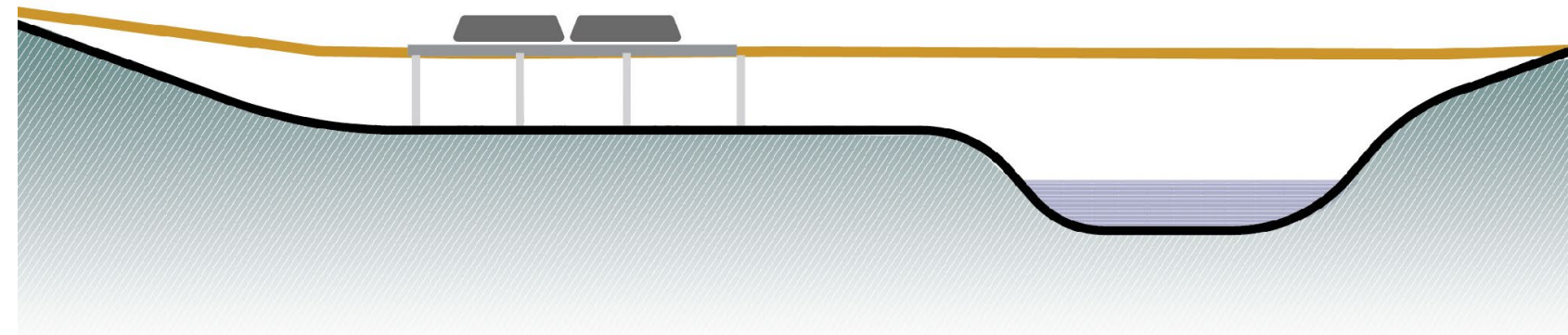
OPTION 1

Evaluating light rail running at
street level

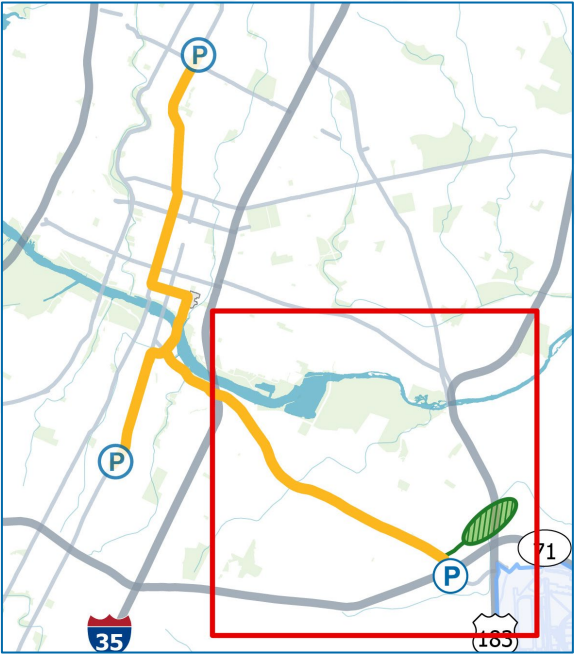


OPTION 2

Evaluating light rail running on
extended bridge



AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL EAST SECTION



P Evaluate proposed end of line facilities and site locations

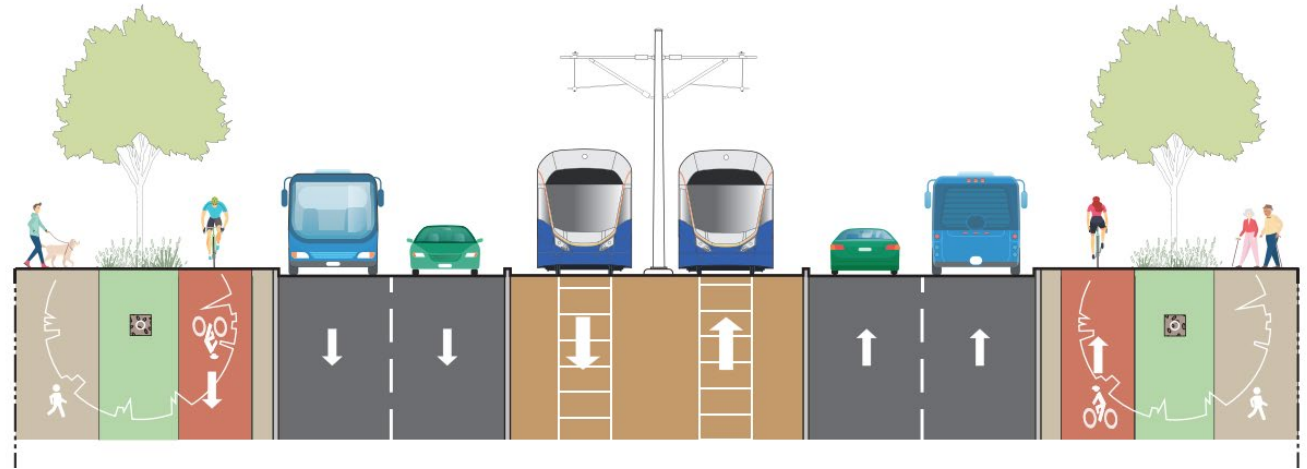


AUSTIN LIGHT RAIL EAST SECTION

DESIGN OPTION (STUDY AREA) FOR EAST RIVERSIDE DR.

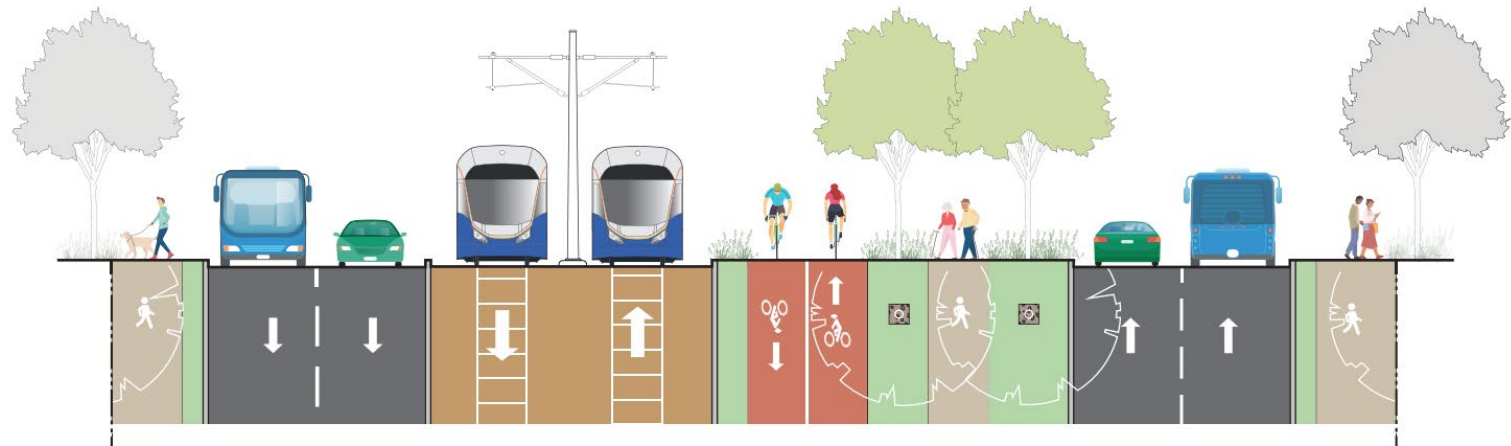
OPTION 1

Evaluating center-running light rail with outside bike & pedestrian facilities

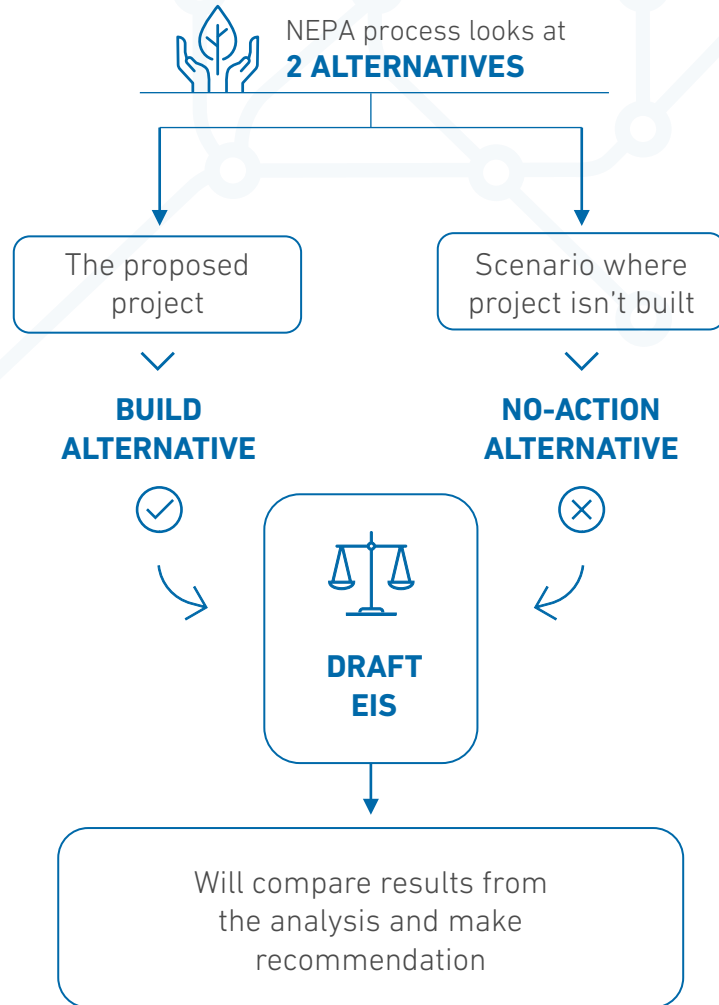


OPTION 2

Evaluating bike & pedestrian facilities next to center-running light rail with outside shared use paths



WHAT DOES AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) ANALYZE?



PHYSICAL & NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- Air Quality
- Soils and Geology
- Water Quality
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Energy
- Hazardous Materials
- Noise and Vibration
- Temporary Construction Impacts



HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

- Environmental Justice (EJ)
- Safety and Security
- Land Use and Zoning
- Socioeconomics and Economic Development
- Transportation
- Utilities
- Land Acquisitions and Displacements



CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

- Cultural, Historic, and Archeological
- Parks and Recreational
- Visual Quality
- Neighborhood and Community Resources

FEDERAL PROCESS: NEPA



SCOPING

Provides an opportunity for the public and other agencies to provide input on the project



DRAFT EIS

Documents analysis and recommendations for the project



FEIS/ROD

Reflects changes from public comment and memorializes NEPA process

JAN-MAR 2024



Scoping

- Present items that will undergo environmental review
- Provide input on the issues and questions that we should consider in the environmental analysis

APR-JUNE 2024



Continuing Outreach (Post-Scoping)

Provide education and information on the NEPA and project development process

FALL 2024 – SPRING 2025



Public and Stakeholder Review for Draft EIS

ATP will share, through various methods, the Draft EIS for public and stakeholder review and comment for 45+ days



Address Draft EIS Input

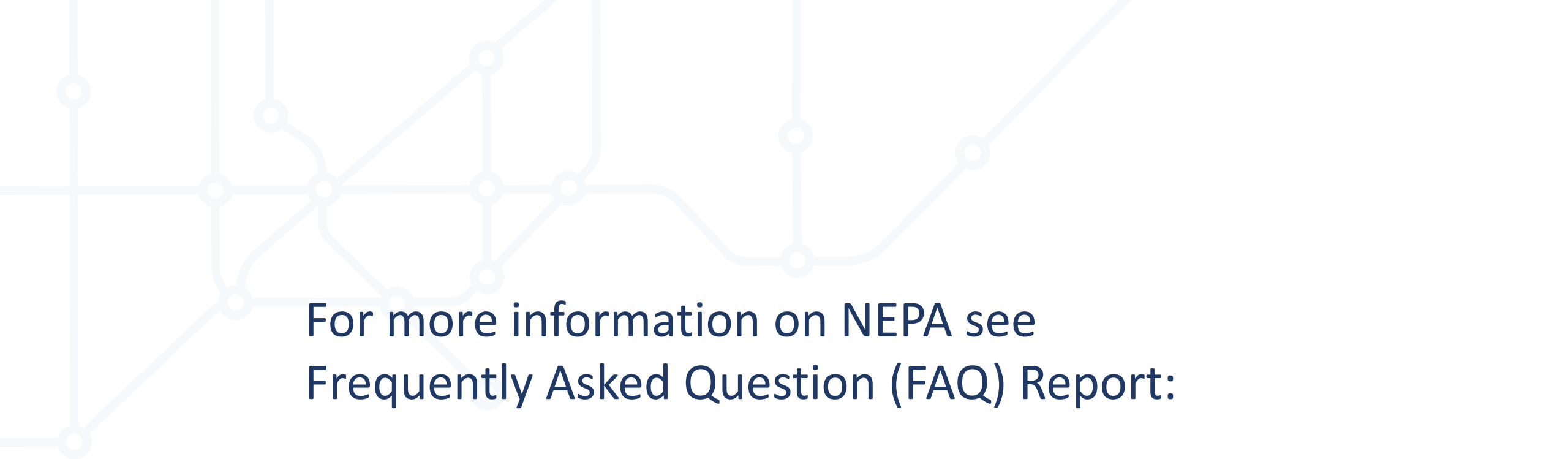
ATP will review and address substantive comments on the analysis and design

SUMMER 2025



FEIS/ROD Issued

Final document shows responses to all relevant comments received on the Draft EIS.



For more information on NEPA see
Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) Report:

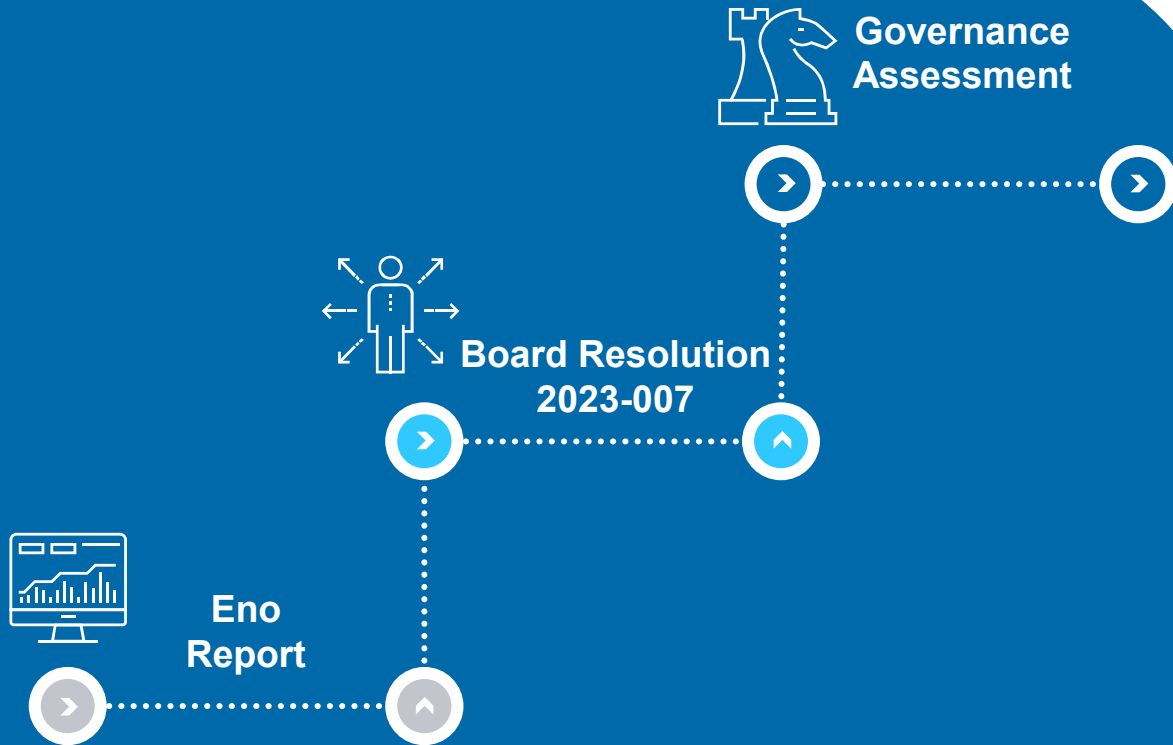
<https://www.atptx.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/NEPA-FAQs.pdf>



DISCUSSION ITEM

Board Governance Assessment

This governance assessment addresses ATP Board Resolution 2023-007 and offers actionable intelligence to aid ATP and its board in effectively delivering Austin Light Rail








This governance assessment reviewed and evaluated the effectiveness of ATP's current operations at the Board level to deliver Austin Light Rail

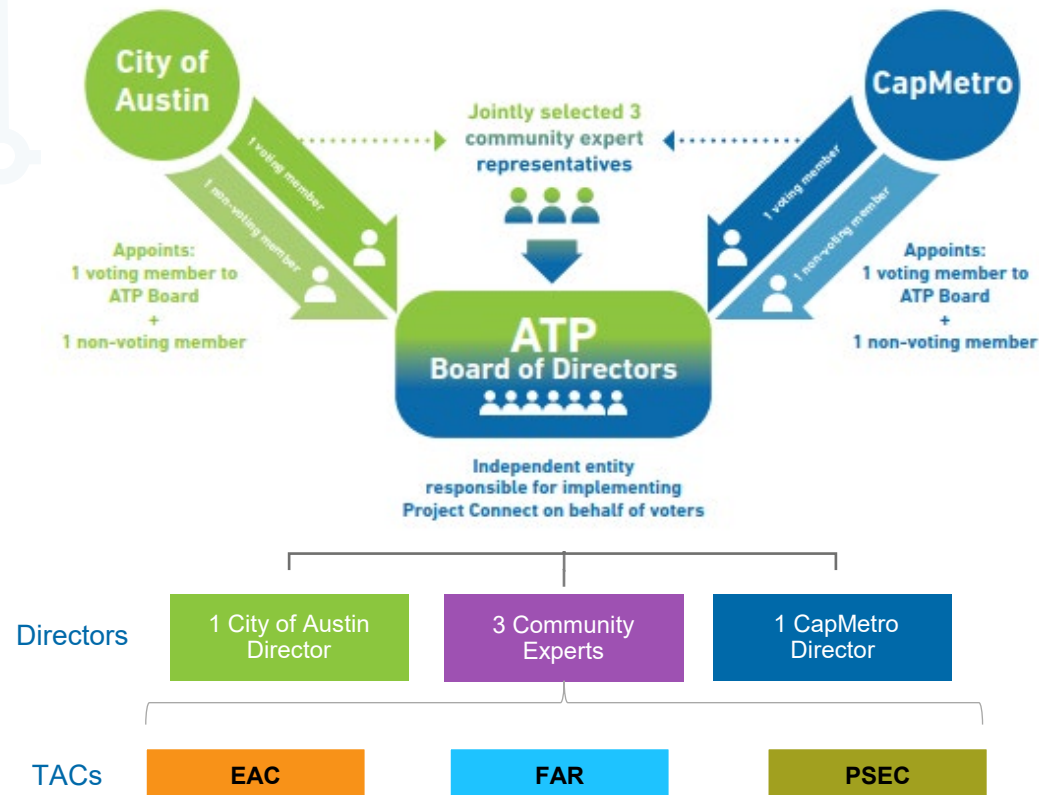
On March 22, 2023, the ATP Board approved Resolution 2023-007, which directed the ATP Executive Director to conduct a review related to ATP's governance

The 2022 Eno Report set up foundational recommendations for ATP as an organization to set up its own governance and leadership models

The assessment considered current board structures and governing documents

ATP Governing Documents

-  **Articles of Incorporation**
-  **ATP Bylaws**
-  **Joint Powers Agreement**
-  **ATP Board Operating Procedures Policy**
-  **Technical Advisory Committee Charters**



The assessment sourced best practices from primary and secondary research of 22 transit agencies across North America and Europe

Interviewed ATP stakeholders and experts from 9 other transit agencies



Researched governing documents and structure from 22 agencies in US, UK, and Canada



Research indicated that ATP is unique among transit agencies and its governance structure aligns well with its mission

Current State

1

ATP's five-member board is in line with expectations for a single modal, single jurisdiction transit agency

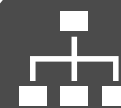
2

Most board policies were adopted during the early stages of the organization and were designed for flexibility and agility

Key Findings



There is no 'one-size-fits-all' approach to board governance



ATP's current board structure and composition meet the needs of the organization



ATP and its board would benefit from updating and formalizing many of its administrative policies in its governing documents

Based on discussions with ATP and the board, the governance assessment focused on four key board governance goals

1

Clarify expectations for board members and staff on roles, responsibilities, policy, and procedures

2

Ensure the board has the right composition, competencies, and skills to make decisions

3

Provide the board with information and resources needed to make informed decisions

4

Enhance the function and structure of Technical Advisory Committees

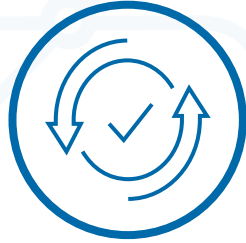
Opportunities for governance improvements were mapped to four categories

Opportunity Classification



Administrative Policy Formalization

- ▶ Consolidation and formalization of policies within the ATP Bylaws and Board Procedures Policy
- ▶ Defined roles, responsibilities, terms, and requirements for board members and executive staff



Cyclical Operational Evaluations

- ▶ Board and ATP performance evaluations
- ▶ Financial approval thresholds
- ▶ Board competencies, size, and committees



Onboarding, Training, and Continuing Education

- ▶ Onboarding programs for board members focused on local government corporations
- ▶ Continuing education and training on key competencies throughout project lifecycle



Technical Advisory Committee Structure

- ▶ Renewed and consolidated structure for the technical advisory committees

ACTION ITEM 1

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 13, 2023 BOARD MEETING

ACTION ITEM 2

APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR THEIR DESIGNEE, TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH PINYON ENVIRONMENTAL, INC. FOR NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) REVIEW SUPPORT 139(J) CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS, WITH ONE 12-MONTH EXTENSION OPTION, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$900,000; AND AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION AND EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION TO RECEIVE CONSULTANT SUPPORT



ACTION ITEM

Procurement Update and Contract Approval for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Review Support (139j) Consultant

Project Delivery Contracting Framework Map

ATP Transitional Contracts

- Q4 2023**
- + Conceptual design and program management services

Marketing & Communications

- Q4 2023**
- + Public information
 - + Public and media relations
 - + Brand development
 - + Marketing and graphic design

Federal Environmental Review Support (139J)

- Q4 2023**
- + Expedite federal environmental review in support of FTA

On-Call Engineering & Planning

- Q1 2024**
- + Preliminary engineering support to complete FTA New Starts Project Development
 - + Advance utilities engineering
 - + Planning & Environmental Support

Delivery Partner

- Q2 2024**
- + Project management & construction management
 - + Project controls
 - + Procurement & Contract management and admin support
 - + Quality and safety management
 - + FTA readiness planning and documentation
 - + Design and construction submittal reviews
 - + Systems integration, rail activation, safety certification support

Future Procurements

- Final Design and Construction:**
- + Advanced Utility Relocation Construction
 - + Collaborative Contracting (CC): Civil / Rail / Stations (+Systems)
 - + Maintenance Facility
 - + Light Rail Vehicles

Industry Outreach and Engagement

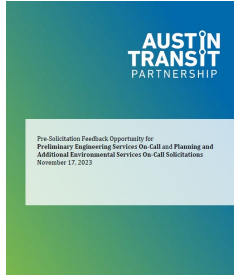
Spring 2023

RFIF

Industry
Event



Fall 2023



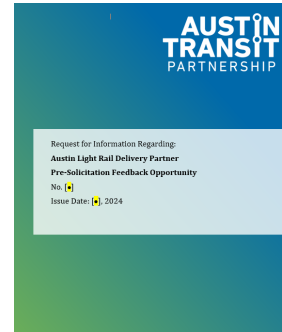
DBE Meet the Prime &
Pre-Solicitation Feedback
Opportunity (PSFO) for
On-Call Services

Q1 2024



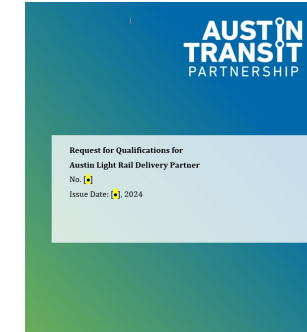
DBE/SBE
Academy

Q1/Q2 2024



Delivery Partner
PSFO & 1-on-1's

Q2 2024



Delivery Partner
RFQ

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Review Support (139j) Consultant

RFP Process:

- + RFP Issued: October 30, 2023
- + Proposals Received: November 30, 2023
- + 2 responses received

Evaluation Process:

- + Evaluation Criteria 100 Points:
 - + Experience in Scope of Services: 45 points
 - + Understanding and Approach: 45 points
 - + Fee Schedule: 10 points
- + Evaluated by ATP subject matter experts

Award Recommendation

Scope of Work Summary

- + Provide FTA support to expedite environmental review, compliance, and documentation activities for ALR NEPA requirements
- + Through MOA, FTA Region 6 will exclusively direct consultant regarding activities in the Scope of Services.

Contract Terms

- + 2-year base term + 1-year option
- + NTE: \$900k

Pinyon Environmental, Inc.

- + 20 years of environmental services on transit rail projects
- + Subconsultant, **RK&K**, currently serving as 139j consultant for METRA for FTA Region 5
- + Previous work includes RTD, Maryland Transit Admin, Amtrak, etc.



EXECUTIVE SESSION