

**CRT Pre-Planning Study Update
Commuter Rail/PMC FAQ's
June 2019**

What is commuter rail and how is it incorporated in the county transit plans?

Over a million new people are projected to make Wake and Durham counties their home over the next 25 years. The Wake County and Durham County Transit Plans give our residents, as well as visitors, another way to get around our vibrant community without spending time sitting in traffic. While these plans are specific to Wake and Durham Counties, surrounding counties are also studying how commuter rail could benefit their residents.

- Commuter Rail Transit (CRT) will use both existing and new railroad tracks, operating on improved infrastructure with existing freight and intercity passenger service (Amtrak) to provide comfortable passenger service that allows riders to relax or work on their way to key destinations.

What are the next steps for commuter rail in the greater Triangle region?

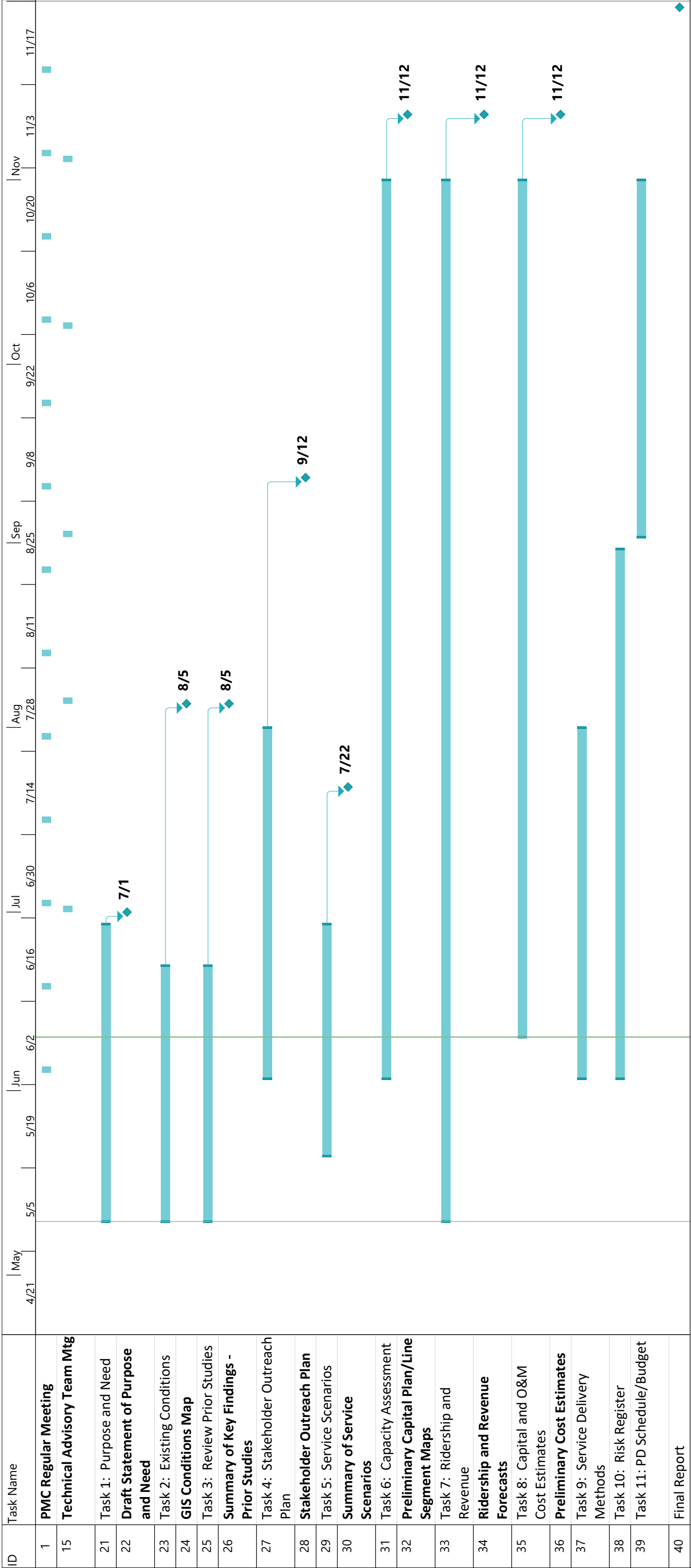
The Wake Transit Plan outlined several studies to refine major projects in the plan before they would begin design and construction. A Major Investment Study (MIS) that evaluated the initial feasibility of Commuter Rail has recently concluded. The MIS was conducted as part of the Wake County and Durham County Transit Plans and evaluated Commuter Rail scenarios between Garner and West Durham.




















- Building upon the MIS study, Wake, Durham, Orange and Johnston Counties, the regional MPOs, and additional stakeholders including the North Carolina Railroad are currently working together to further study Commuter Rail and secure funding for a system that will operate in the Greater Triangle region.
- The Commuter Rail service alternatives analysis and pre-planning study will further evaluate service scenarios between Durham and Garner and also evaluate the feasibility of extending service into Johnston, Orange and Alamance Counties. Service with frequencies as high as 40 trains per day and as low as 16 trains per day will be evaluated. The study, which is being conducted by a consultant team led by STV, Inc. is underway and will conclude by the end of the year.
- The study will conduct infrastructure analysis, examine ridership and revenue potential and update capital and operating cost projections. This analysis will help inform the path forward for the Commuter Rail project and if deemed feasible, prepare the project for entry into the federal funding process.
- If the project is accepted into the federal project development process, more detailed analyses would occur including completing mandated environmental

reviews, developing and reviewing final alternatives, selecting the locally preferred alternative, and modifying the region's long-range transportation plans to incorporate any changes. Only after that federally required phase is complete, would commuter rail move into final design and construction.

Who are the key commuter rail stakeholders and when will they participate in project updates?

- Wake, Durham, Orange, Johnston and Alamance Counties, the Capital Area MPO (CAMPO), Durham Chapel Hill Carrboro MPO (DCHC), GoTriangle, NC Railroad Company and the Research Triangle Foundation are leading the Commuter Rail evaluation.
- Representatives from each of these organizations have created a Project Management Committee (PMC) with the goal of collaborating and informing the commuter rail planning and implementation process.
- Operating railroads along proposed Commuter Rail routes including Norfolk Southern, CSX, Amtrak and NCDOT are also key stakeholders and will provide valuable input.
- A Technical Advisory committee will provide input into the study and will include the NCDOT, NCDOT Rail Division, cities and towns along the route, universities and major employers, and transit providers. This group is currently being established and will meet in late June to receive a study overview and discuss next steps. A second meeting will take place in early August to review service scenarios, work to date, and provide feedback. Follow-on meetings will be scheduled as the study progresses.
- A summary of the study's preliminary findings and a preliminary plan for public engagement during the next phase of commuter rail development will be presented to a larger group of stakeholders throughout the community, including local governments not adjacent to the route, elected officials, chambers of commerce, business leaders, and community representatives in the fall.



Project: GTCR Pre-planning Stu Date: Mon 6/10/19	Task		Project Summary		Manual Task		Start-only		Deadline	
	Split		Inactive Task		Duration-only		Finish-only		Progress	
	Milestone		Inactive Milestone		Manual Summary Rollup		External Tasks		Manual Progress	
	Summary		Inactive Summary		Manual Summary		External Milestone			
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ATTACHMENT B-1

List of Local Governments, Universities and Other Organizations to Be Invited to Technical Advisory Group Membership:

- 1) Town of Selma
- 2) Town of Wilson's Mills
- 3) Johnston County (if not a PMC member)
- 4) Upper Coastal Plain RPO
- 5) Town of Clayton
- 6) Town of Garner
- 7) City of Raleigh
- 8) NC State University
- 9) Shaw University
- 10) Town of Cary
- 11) Town of Morrisville
- 12) City of Durham
- 13) Duke University
- 14) North Carolina Central University
- 15) Town of Hillsborough
- 16) Orange County (if not a PMC member)
- 17) City of Mebane
- 18) Burlington-Graham MPO
- 19) Alamance County (if not a PMC member)

Explanation of Project Management Committee Membership:

The local governments and organizations selected to serve on the commuter rail project management committee (PMC) are either funding contributors to the project or are local governments or organizations that have institutionalized roles in the overarching implementation structures that govern the commuter rail project.