

Attachment A: Draft Press Release for Wake Transit Performance Tracker Launch

Online Wake Transit Performance Tracker ready for viewing, clicking, researching

DATELINE – Wake Transit officials have launched an online performance tracker that makes finding details about what transit investments have been made since FY2018 when Wake Transit Plan implementation began and what projects and service improvements are scheduled to occur through FY2030 easier by placing the information in a single, online location.

Find the Wake Transit Performance Tracker at WakeTransitTracker.com/.

“Since Wake Transit implementation began, it has garnered significant community interest, staff and partners have regularly been asked, where can I view program information?” says Stephanie Plancich, administrator of Wake County’s Transit Planning Advisory Committee. “Instead of sending them to several different planning and reporting documents, we created the Tracker. It’s an informational resource that compiles Wake Transit performance information and posts it on a single website available to everyone at any time.”

The Wake Transit Performance Tracker is divided into two core sections. An interactive map lets visitors explore Wake Transit service and infrastructure investments that have been completed or are in operation, projects that are in development phases and those planned to receive funding in future years.

The interactive map provides several ways to sort detailed information about projects, including by investment type, project sponsor and municipal boundary. The details of every investment published on the map can be viewed and downloaded as a PDF to be kept or shared.

The second section of the site is the performance dashboard, which tracks and reports on 18 unique program goals, all of which move us closer to accomplishing the Four Big Moves set out in the Wake Transit Plan. The Four Big Moves are to connect the region, connect all Wake County communities, create frequent and reliable urban mobility and enhance access to transit.

On creating frequent and reliable urban mobility, for example, the Wake Transit Plan set a target for increasing the number of frequent bus service miles from 17 to 99 miles by 2030. Planners measure progress toward this goal by tracking the total number of route miles that operate with 15-minute or less headways during, at minimum, peak travel times. Through 2020, the number of frequent miles had been increased to 29.7, the Tracker shows.

Visitors to the site can contact the planning team directly, have access to a useful glossary of terms and have the option to view navigation tips and take a tour to better understand how to use the site.

The Tracker will be updated at least twice each calendar year going forward. The next update will occur in January/February 2022.

Plancich led the creation of the Tracker. The Transit Planning Advisory Committee, composed of representatives from agencies and local governments with jurisdiction in Wake County, coordinates planning and implementation aspects of the Wake Transit Plan. The TPAC serves in an advisory role to the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Executive Board and the GoTriangle Board of Trustees, which govern the transit plan.

In addition to providing the current status of transit projects in Wake County, Plancich says, the Tracker should help community members, stakeholders and government planners:

- Access and share Wake Transit service and infrastructure investment information.
- Proactively plan and coordinate community engagement activities.
- Coordinate construction and maintenance projects to maximize community benefit.
- Better plan projects that will be supported by or benefit from proximity to transit.
- Support and inform transportation study processes and various grant applications.

Community members can access the Tracker and view other Wake Transit information at GoForwardNC.org/Wake. Questions can be emailed to staff@waketranstitracker.com.