

MARTA Sales Tax Project List



Atlanta Regional Commission
Transportation Coordinating Committee
July 22, 2016

Project List Update

- Approved by Board on May 11
- Public hearings (City of Atlanta) held in May and June
- City Council approved pursuing Fall 2016 Referendum on June 20
- MARTA sent final project list to City of Atlanta by July 31 deadline



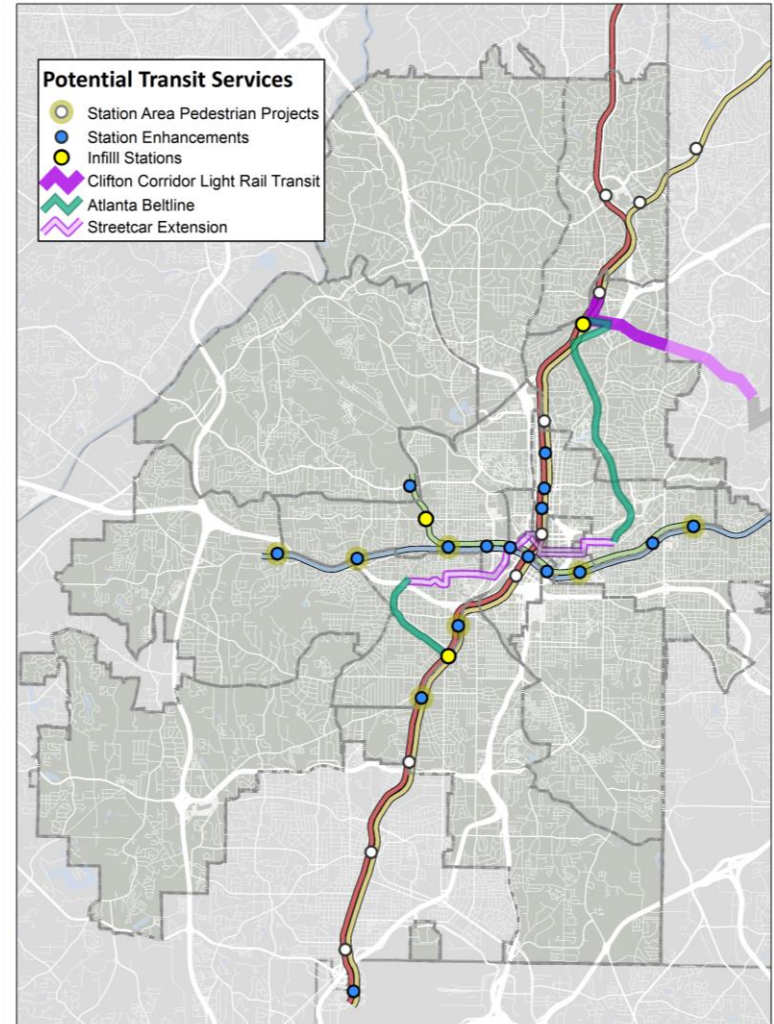
City of Atlanta Guiding Principles

- Balance the portfolio of transit projects serving short term, medium term and long term goals, using multiple modes of transportation
- Increase mobility for workers to and from major job centers
- Enhance predictability of commuter times by utilizing dedicated lanes, HOT lanes and other technology
- Create layered, integrated transportation network to accomplish specific types of trips
- Prioritize investments inside the City while laying foundation which will ultimately be integrated into regional transit networks
- Partner with neighboring jurisdictions to leverage transit projects
- Create last mile connectivity using circulating buses, multi-use paths and sidewalks
- Enhance ease of use and transfers within the network of transit options
- Enhance safety and access to transit centers and MARTA stations



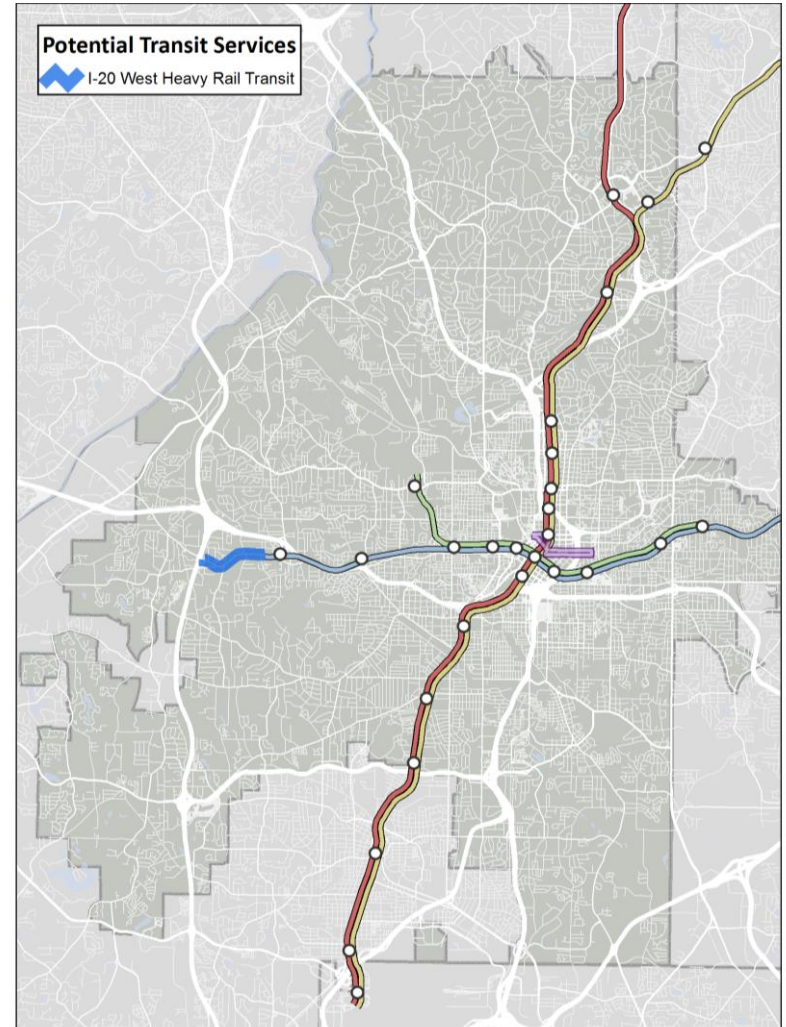
Potential High Capacity Improvements

- City of Atlanta
 - Light Rail Transit
 - Atlanta BeltLine Loop
 - Irwin – AUC Line
 - Downtown – Capitol Ave Line
 - Crosstown Midtown Line
 - Crosstown Crescent Line
 - Peachtree – Ft Mac – Barge Rd Line
 - “S” Concept – Murphy Crossing – Armour Yard via AUC and Eastside Trail



Potential High Capacity Improvements

- I-20 West Heavy Rail Transit



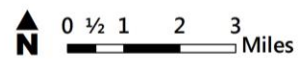
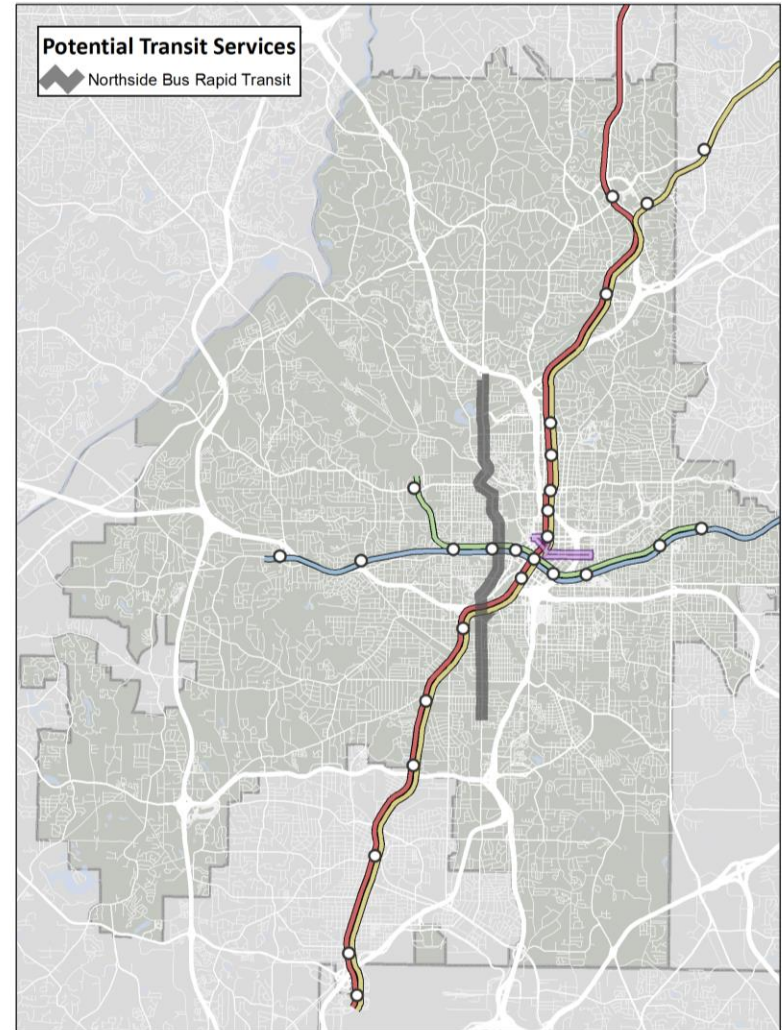
Current Services

- Rail Stations
- Blue Line HRT
- Green Line HRT
- Red Line HRT
- Gold Line HRT
- Downtown Streetcar



Potential High Capacity Improvements

- Northside Drive Bus Rapid Transit



Potential High Capacity Improvements

Multi-Jurisdictional Projects

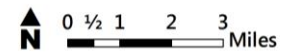
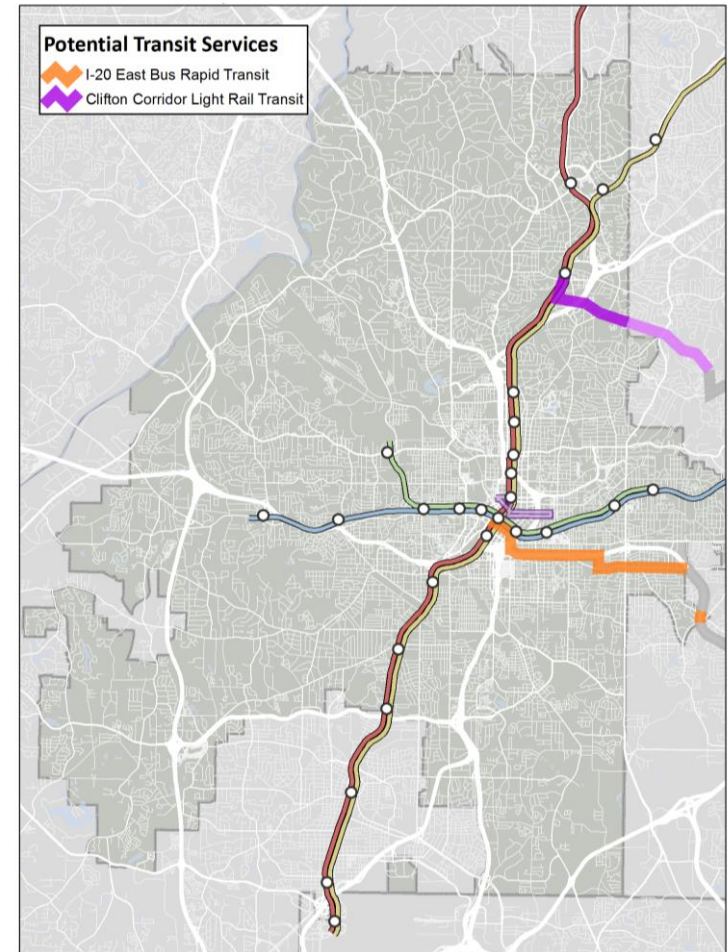
- Clifton Light Rail Transit*



- I-20 East Bus Rapid Transit*

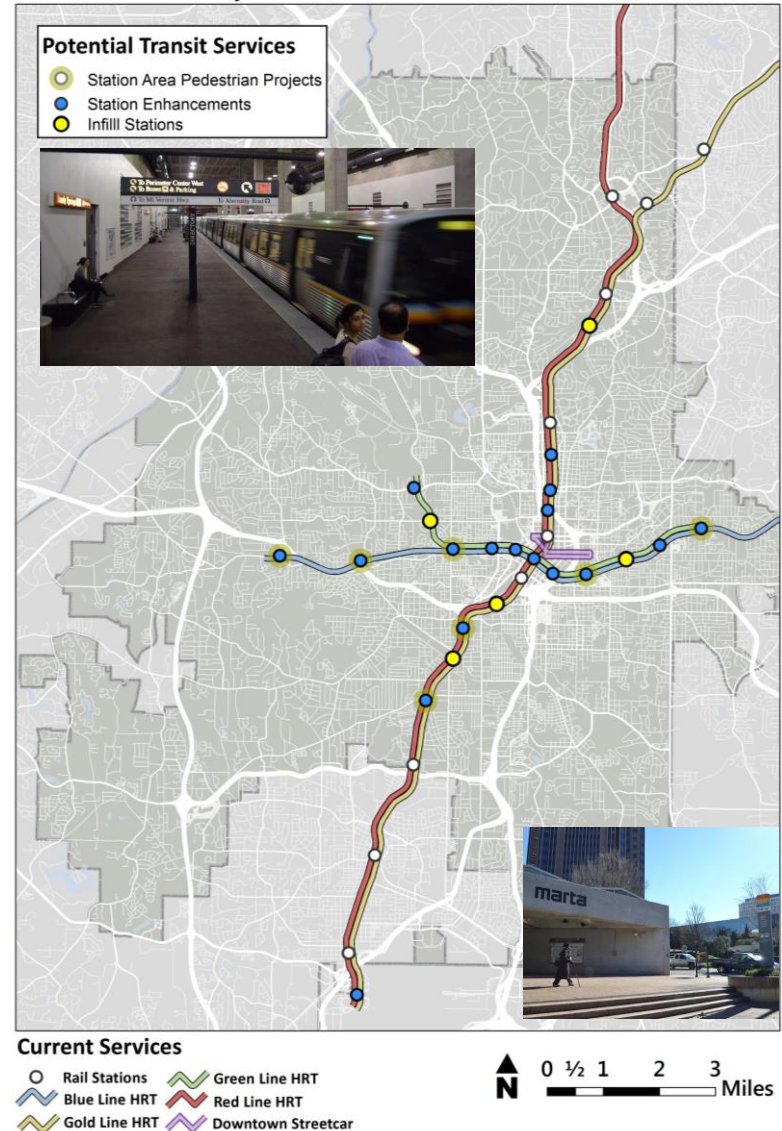


* Contingent upon funding agreement with other jurisdictions for capital, operations and maintenance.



Potential High Capacity Improvements

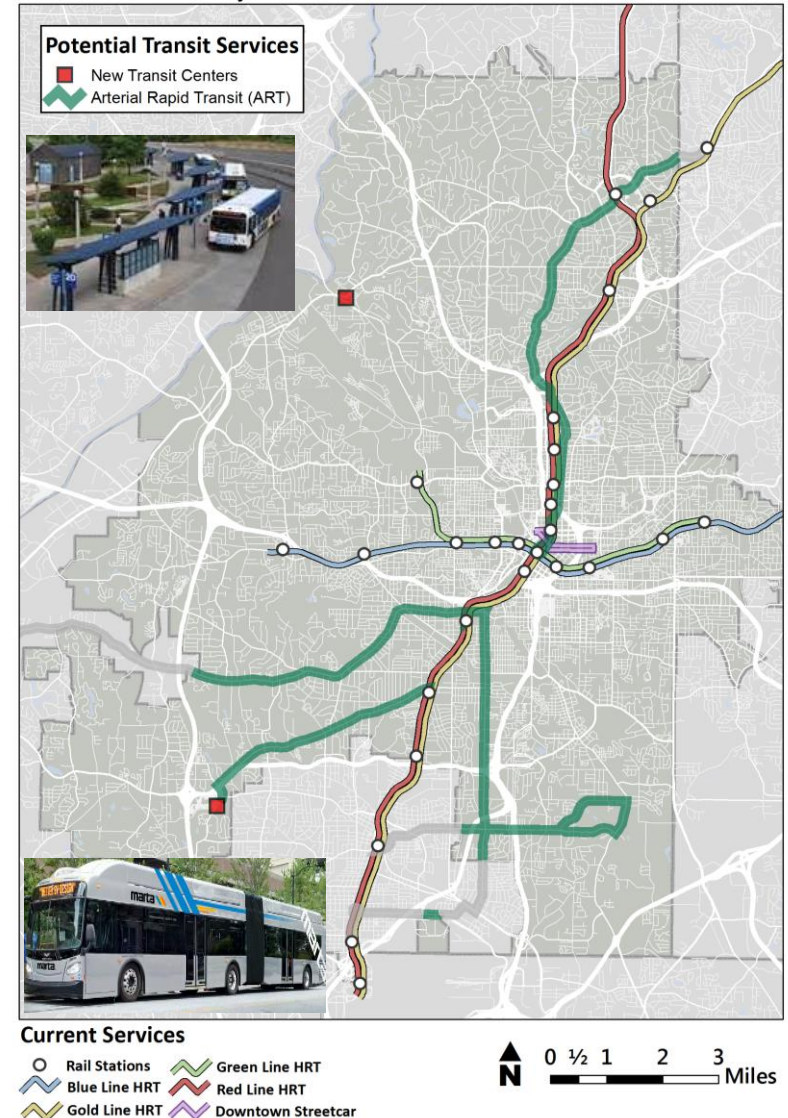
- Station enhancements at City of Atlanta rail stations
 - Station rehabilitation
 - Aesthetics/maintenance
 - Signage/wayfinding
 - Pedestrian/bicycle/ADA
- Capacity improvements
 - Infill (new) stations
 - Armour
 - Boone
 - Hulsey/Krog St.
 - Mechanicsville
 - Murphy Crossing
 - Additional railcars
 - Blue/Green capacity improvements



Potential Bus Service Improvements

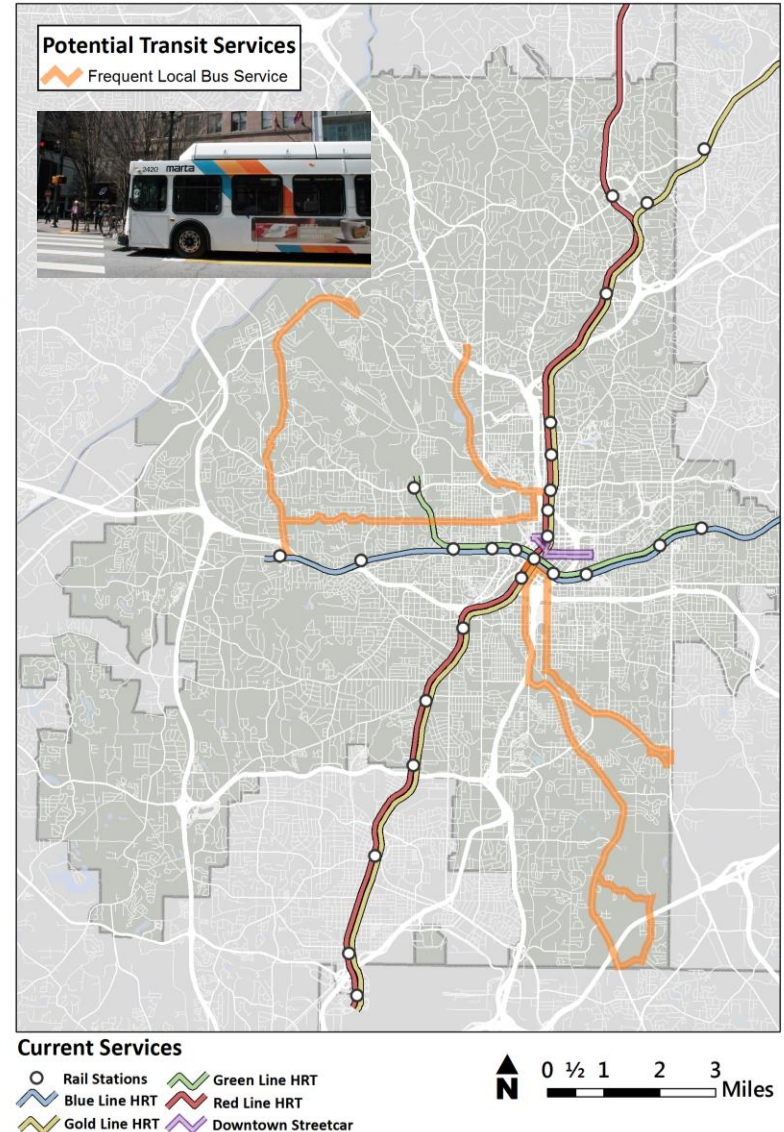
- Five (5) Arterial Rapid Transit Routes
 - Campbellton - Greenbriar Mall to Oakland City
 - Cascade - Fulton Industrial Blvd to West End
 - Cleveland - Jonesboro Rd and Browns Mill Rd to East Point
 - Metropolitan - West End to College Park
 - Peachtree - Brookhaven to Five Points

- Two (2) Transit Centers
 - Greenbriar - Greenbriar Mall
 - Moores Mill - Bolton Rd and Marietta Blvd

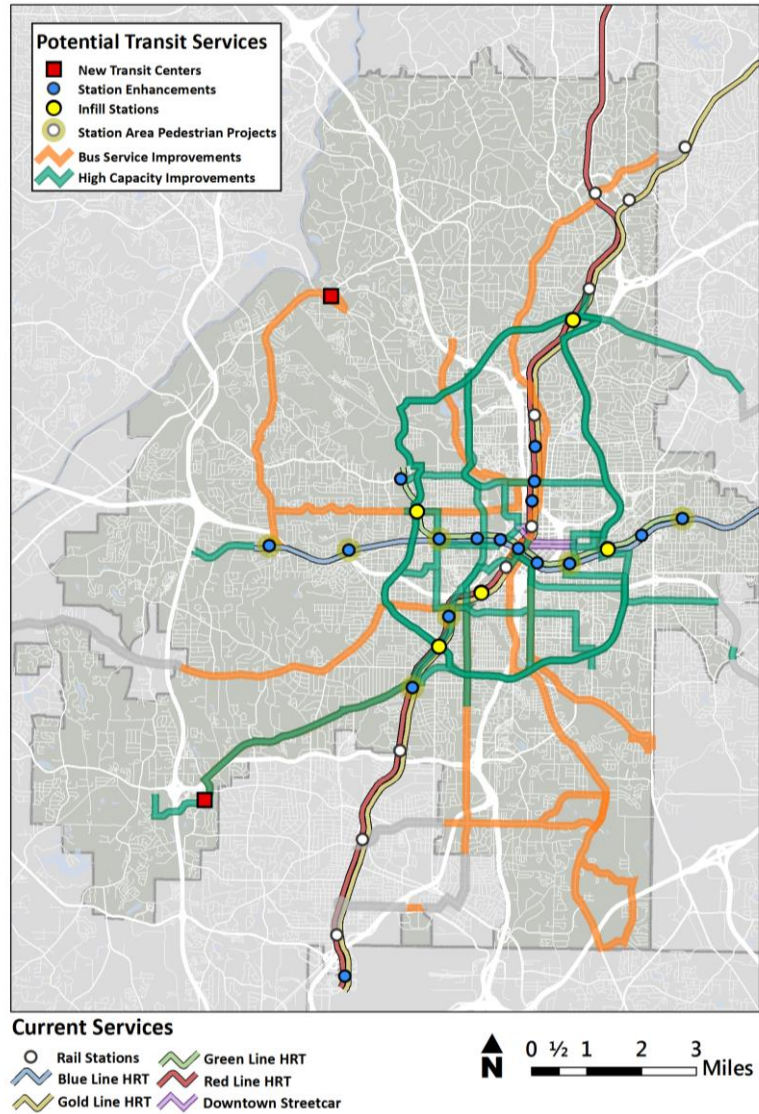


Potential Bus Service Improvements

- **Frequent Local Service**
 - 15-minute peak; 30-minute off-peak service on Routes 12, 49, 51, 55 and 60
- **Supporting Local Service**
 - Increased service during off-peak to include midday, nights and weekends on selected routes
- **Community Circulator Service**
 - New neighborhood-friendly and activity center-oriented circulator routes
 - Specific community circulator routes to be determined as demand warrants



Potential Program Summary



Survey Results

- Four community meetings
 - May 25 and 26, June 1 and 2

Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Important	Not at all Important
5	4	3	2	1

- How important is it to you to fund the following transit projects?

Project	Score	Percent
Increase the frequency of existing bus routes	4.5	60%
Expansion of Atlanta Streetcar/light rail, including the Atlanta BeltLine loop	4.4	70%
Introduce new bus routes and community circulator service	4.1	33%
Introduction of bus rapid transit on Northside Dr and Metropolitan Pkwy	3.9	28%
Extension of heavy rail west from HE Holmes Station to I-285	3.4	24%



Potential MARTA Program Summary

Potential Program	Estimated Capital Cost (Base Year \$ in Millions)			Estimated O&M Cost (Base Year \$ in Millions)	
	Local Share	Federal Share	Total	Annual O&M Cost	O&M Cost Over 20 Years
High Capacity Improvements	\$3,237	\$2,993	\$6,230	\$134	\$3,211
Bus Service Improvements	\$65	N/A	\$65	\$35	\$833
Pedestrian Improvements	\$12	N/A	\$12	N/A	N/A
Total Estimated Cost	\$3,314	\$2,993	\$6,307	\$169	\$4,044

Next Steps

Activity	Target Date
Public education campaign	August – October
Referendum vote	November 8
Amendment to the RTCAA (with a positive MARTA referendum vote)	November – December

For More Information

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TOP 10 QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MARTA TRANSIT SALES TAX

1. What is the MARTA sales tax?

In addition to fare collections, MARTA is funded by a 1% sales tax in Fulton (including City of Atlanta), Clayton, and DeKalb counties along with federal money. The recently passed Senate Bill 369 authorizes the City of Atlanta to levy up to an additional .5% MARTA sales tax.

2. When can the tax be implemented?

Following authorization of a referendum by the Atlanta City Council and approval by the voters in November 2016, anticipated collection will begin in 2017.

3. Is there a maximum tax rate?

Under SB 369, the City can raise its local sales tax no higher than 9%.

4. How long will the additional MARTA sales tax last?

The additional tax will last the lifespan of the current 1% MARTA sales tax, which is currently set to expire in 2057.

5. How much money will be raised with an additional half penny?

Assuming the max rate of 0.5% is leveraged for the life of the current MARTA sales tax, the City of Atlanta could generate approximately \$2.5 to \$3.5 Billion, not including possible federal matching dollars. The Georgia Department of Revenue and Georgia State University Fiscal Research Center are reviewing exemptions and refining projections.

6. How does a referendum get called?

The City Council must adopt a resolution or ordinance calling for a referendum (vote) on the collection of the additional half penny by June 30, 2016. All laws governing the holding of elections by the City shall apply.

7. How can the money be spent?

The funds can be spent on rapid transit projects, as already defined (and not changed) by the MARTA Act of 1965:

(i) Rapid Transit System and Project. A transportation system the primary function of which is to provide a mass transportation service principally by the use of high speed vehicles traveling on rights of way fully protected from other vehicular and pedestrian traffic, a secondary function of which is to provide a feeder-type mass transportation service therefor, and an incidental function of which is to provide facilities for the comfort, safety, and convenience of its passengers. A rapid transit project is any transportation project which may contribute to the development or operation of a rapid transit system.

8. Does the law address the project selection process?

Yes. MARTA will supply a preliminary list of projects to the City of Atlanta by May 31, 2016. That preliminary list was presented on **May 19, 2016**. The legislation requires MARTA to provide a final list no later than July 31, 2016. Agreement on a final list will be tied to the June MARTA Board meeting and June 20, 2016 Full City Council meeting. The final project list will be incorporated into the current rapid transit contract that exists under the MARTA Act.

9. What would the ballot question look like in the City of Atlanta?

Shall an additional sales tax of 0.5 percent be collected in the City of Atlanta for the purpose of significantly expanding and enhancing MARTA transit service in Atlanta?

10. Is there a **proposed timeline?**

- May 25 – June 2: Public Meetings
- June 6: Resolution introduced in Full Council
- June 7: City Council Work Session, 2-4pm
- June 15: Transportation Committee discussion of final project list
- June 20: Full Council final vote on resolution
- November 8: Referendum Vote
- November – December: Amendment to RTCAA (assuming positive ref vote)