

9.4 Miles, 11 Stations

Total Capital Cost (\$YOE): \$977 Million

Ridership Forecast Year 2035: 24,500

Average Weekday Boardings

Project Description: The Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) is proposing the construction of a light rail transit (LRT) line that would extend from Uptown Charlotte, the region's central business district (CBD), northeast to the University of North Carolina Charlotte (UNC Charlotte). The inner segment of the proposed line follows active Norfolk Southern and North Carolina Railroad right-of-way while the outer part follows US 29 (North Tryon Street), before leaving US 29 right-of-way to proceed onto the campus of UNC Charlotte. The LYNX Blue Line Extension - Northeast Corridor project includes four park and ride lots that would provide approximately 3,000 spaces. Peak period light rail service along the Northeast Corridor would initially operate at 7.5 minute frequencies.



Project Purpose: The LYNX Blue Line Extension - Northeast Corridor project would provide a reliable, time-competitive alternative to automobile travel in the congested I-85/US 29 corridor, where population and employment are anticipated to increase significantly by 2035. The project would improve transit service to regional employment, entertainment, cultural and retail destinations, including Center City Charlotte, professional sports and entertainment facilities, the Charlotte Convention Center, the NASCAR Hall of Fame, and the UNC Charlotte's University City and Uptown campuses. The project is also consistent with regional land use plans that seek to focus development along a planned network of multimodal travel corridors served by rapid transit, of which the existing LYNX Blue Line is a component. As an extension of the Blue Line, the project would improve the effectiveness of existing LRT service and support enhancements to cross-town bus service.

FY2012: CATS will seek funding from the **Funding for Advanced Project Development (\$300 million)** for the LYNX Blue Line Extension.

LYNX Blue Line Extension Milestone Schedule

Milestone	Date
FTA Approval to Enter PE	November 2007
15% Design Complete	May 2009
FTA Signs DEIS	August 2010
30% Design Complete	December 2010
Complete FEIS and submit to FTA	July 2011
FTA Signs FEIS	October 2011
NEPA Record of Decision	December 2011
65% Design Complete	December 2011
State FFGA Signed	December 2011
Right-of-Way Acquisition Begins	December 2011
FTA Risk Assessment Complete	February 2012
Request to Enter Final Design	March 2012
FTA Approval to Enter Final Design	April 2012
FFGA Signed	November 2012
Advanced Utility Relocation Begins	January 2013
Right-of-Way Acquisition Complete	October 2013
Complete Final Design	December 2013
Start Construction	August 2013
Initiate Revenue Service	November 2016