



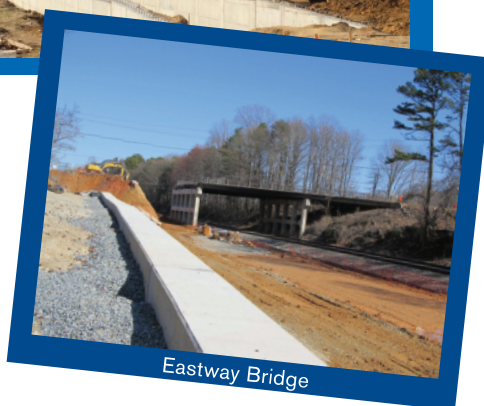
Please join us at our next Business Information Session on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, at Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2015 CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Schedules are subject to change based on weather, site or unforeseen conditions.

What's going on in Uptown

Construction of the LYNX Blue Line Extension (BLE) is heating up even with February's frigid temperatures. In Uptown, East 9th Street closed on Monday, February 9, between North College and North Brevard streets for crews to install underground infrastructure where the new light rail tracks will be built. Just north of uptown, crews continue working on station foundations at Parkwood and 25th Street stations. The foundation of Parkwood Station is near completion. The foundation of 25th Street Station is also beginning to take shape. At Eastway Drive, crews worked for seven days to remove the extent of the bridge that crosses the site of the future BLE tracks. Crews had prepared this site by grading beneath the bridge to make room for the new light rail. Now that the bridge has been removed crews have started the excavation to build the new bridge support.



North Tryon Street

The North Tryon Street section of the alignment has seen significant construction work along the edges and in the median of the roadway. On Saturday, February 7, crews restriped lanes, restricted left turns and U-turns, and installed a portion of concrete barrier between Orr Road and Orchard Trace Lane. This traffic pattern change opens up more room for crews to continue working safely as construction progresses. It also reflects the permanent changes to the traffic pattern once the BLE construction is complete. With the light rail tracks running in the middle of North Tryon Street, many left turns and U-turns will be eliminated, requiring motorists to turn only at signalized intersections and grade crossings. Construction on Orr Road is nearing completion. Some of the improvements to Orr Road include installation of a new storm drain, new sidewalk, a roadway that includes a left turn lane onto North Tryon Street, and a traffic signal. Crews have also been installing a storm drain along the northbound side of North Tryon Street that ties into the new storm drain at Orr Road. After Orr Road is reopened to traffic, Old Concord Road will close for similar infrastructure improvements and a reconfiguration of the intersection. The Old Concord Road closure will also allow crews to begin construction of the new light rail bridge that will carry the BLE from the Old Concord station over the intersection and into the middle of North Tryon Street.



Headed towards UNC Charlotte

Crews continue to construct a variety of retaining walls along North Tryon Street. A number of short, block retaining walls are being built along the edges of North Tryon Street. Much larger walls are being constructed in the median, part of the new light rail bridges that will cross over the I-85 Connector and University City Boulevard intersections. Over at the UNC Charlotte Station area, crews are installing a retaining wall that will surround the "tail track" that extends beyond the station platform. The "tail track" allows multiple light rail vehicles to be staged during periods of high ridership demand such as rush hour and special events.

Remember: Safety First!

BLE construction is becoming increasingly visible. Please be mindful of construction zones as you travel throughout the corridor. Watch out for directions from flaggers and signage. Be aware of constant changes to traffic patterns and driving conditions, construction vehicles entering and exiting work sites, and other motorists and pedestrians. Remember:

- Motorists should **stay alert** for changing traffic conditions and congestion.
- Pedestrians and bicyclists should also **stay alert** for changing traffic conditions.
- **The speed limit along North Tryon Street has been permanently reduced to 35 mph.** CMPD is conducting ongoing enforcement of the lowered speed limit.

To receive automatic email notifications about upcoming work, road closures, detours or public meeting information, please sign up under the Notify Me tab on the website at www.charlottefuture.com.

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