

MOBILITY, CONNECTIONS AND COMMUNITY

»»»» FOR CENTRAL OHIO



NOVEMBER 2024:



**Modernized
Rapid Transit**



Sidewalks



Bikeways



A group of four diverse people are walking a large, fluffy brown dog on a city sidewalk. From left to right: a woman with curly hair wearing a pink off-the-shoulder top and blue jeans; a woman with long brown hair wearing a teal top and black pants; a man with a shaved head wearing sunglasses, a blue button-down shirt, and green shorts; and a woman with long black hair wearing sunglasses, a teal sleeveless top, and dark jeans. The dog is in the foreground, walking towards the camera. The background shows a city street with buildings, trees, and signs, including one that says 'Fly to new' and another with 'HEART'.

CONNECTED COMMUNITIES





THE PLAN



BALLOT

- _____
- _____
- _____
- +0.5% Sales Tax**
- _____



+0.5% Sales Tax

=

approximately

\$190 million/yr

+

leverage at least

\$800 million

In federal funding

THE PLAN



WHO WILL BENEFIT?

LinkUS will be implemented within the COTA service area. It includes:

Franklin County and Portions of:

Delaware, Fairfield, Licking, and Union Counties

17 Cities

Bexley, Canal Winchester, Columbus, Dublin, Gahanna, Grandview Heights, Grove City, Groveport, Hilliard, New Albany, Obetz, Pickerington, Reynoldsburg, Upper Arlington, Westerville, Whitehall, and Worthington.

9 Villages

Brice, Harrisburg, Lockbourne, Marble Cliff, Minerva Park, Riverlea, Urbancrest, and Valleyview.

17 Townships

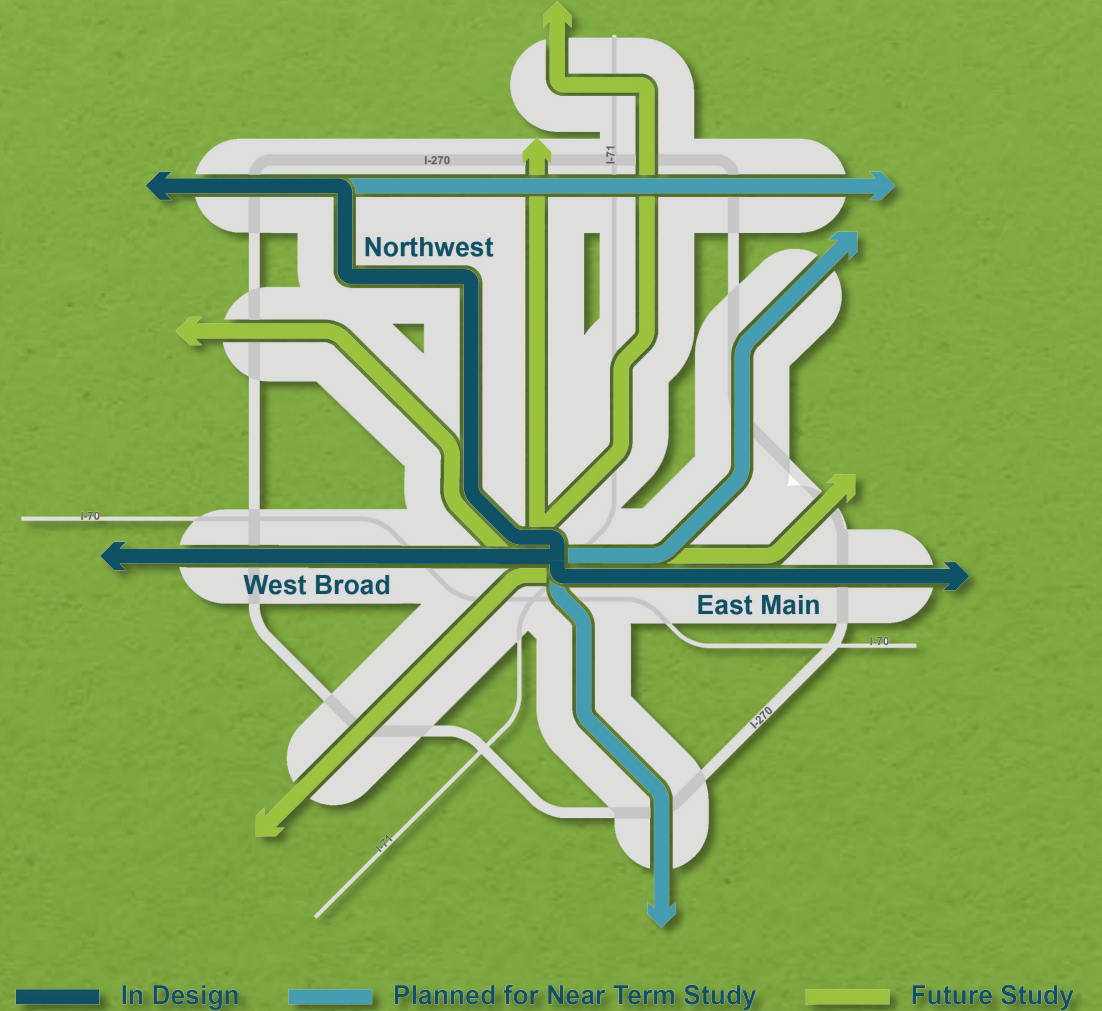
Blendon, Brown, Clinton, Franklin, Hamilton, Jackson, Jefferson, Madison, Marion, Mifflin, Norwich, Perry, Plain, Pleasant, Prairie, Sharon, Truro, and Washington.



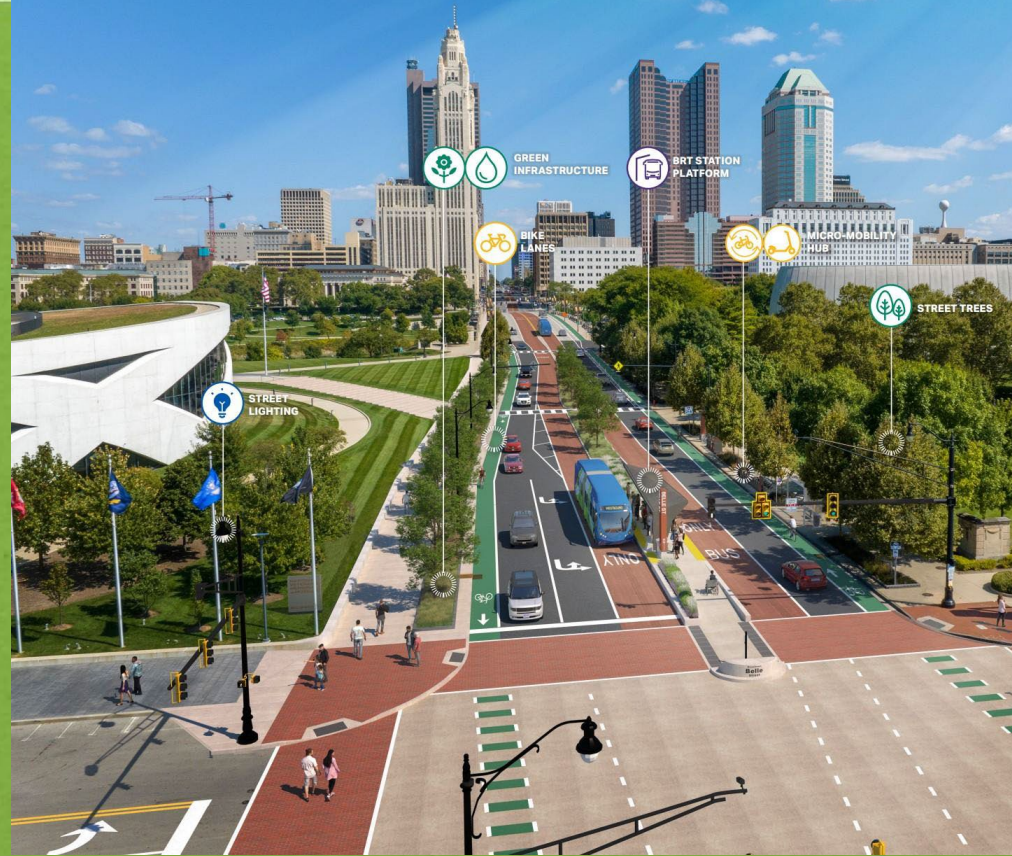


Through 2050:
\$4.3 billion

THE PLAN



THE PLAN



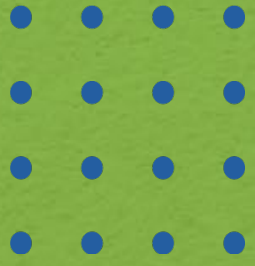
- ✓ **Dedicated traffic lanes**
- ✓ **Synchronized traffic lights**
- ✓ **Rail-style boarding platforms**

THE PLAN



STATION IN CONTEXT





\$1.3 billion
Dedicated to additional
transit improvements

THE PLAN





THE PLAN



By 2050:

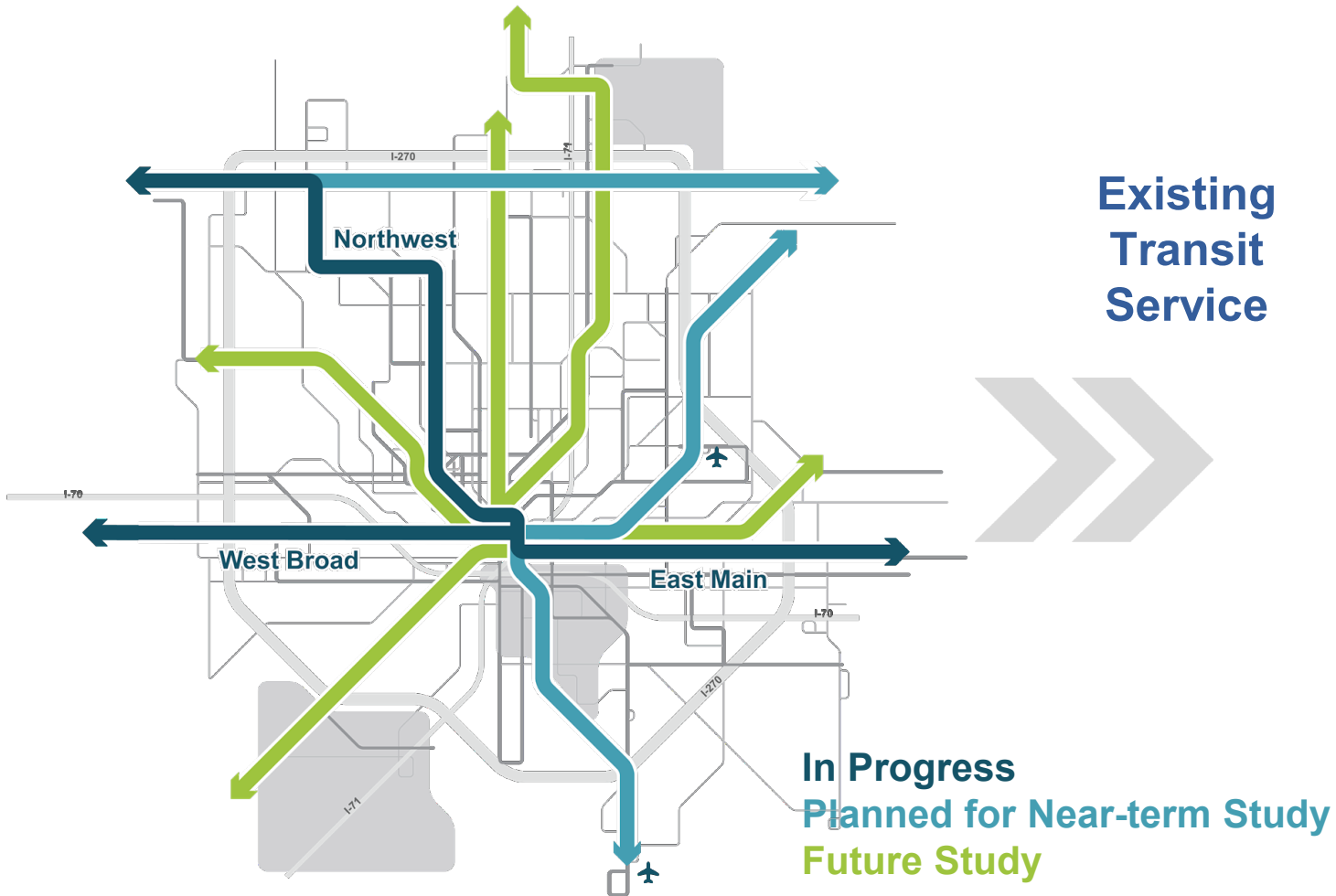


**45% more
transit service**



**More
on-demand zones**

REGIONAL TRANSIT VISION



Existing
Transit
Service

+

8

New
COTA//Plus
Zones

+

14

New or
Improved
Transit Lines

+

5

Rapid Transit
Lines

=

45%

More Service
Hours





\$1.6 billion

Dedicated to more than 500 miles
of new sidewalks, multiuse
paths and bikeways

THE PLAN



TRANSIT SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE

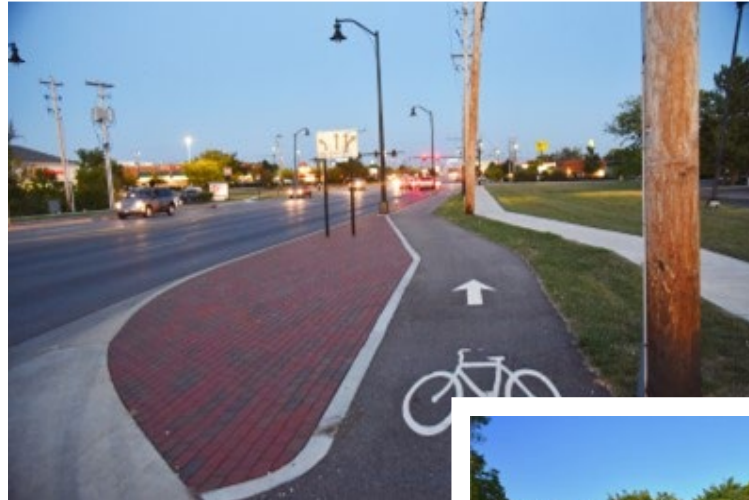
27.5%

Dedicated of the New 0.5% Sales Tax Collection



~\$60M

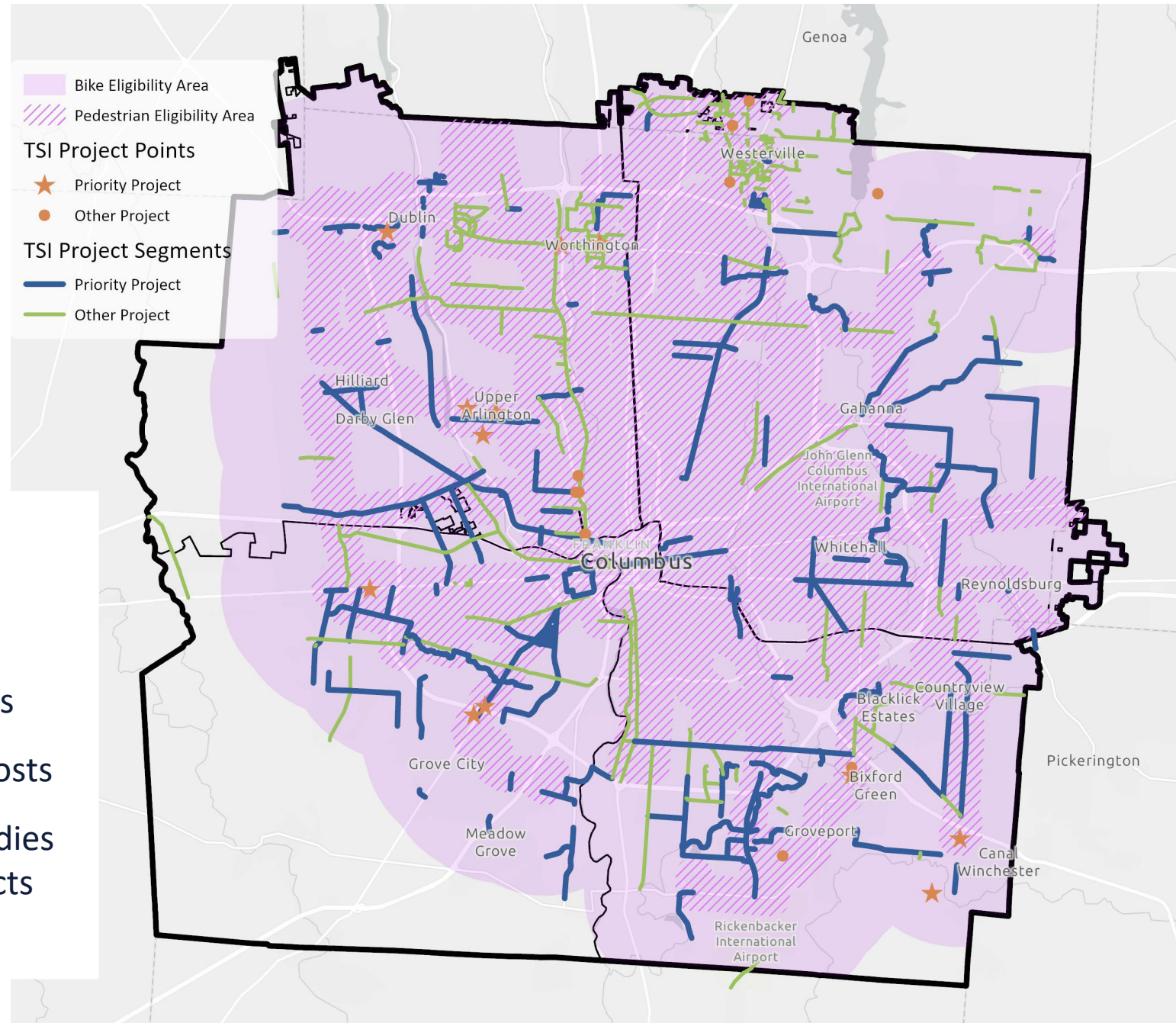
Estimated Annual Collections Dedicated to Transit Supportive Infrastructure



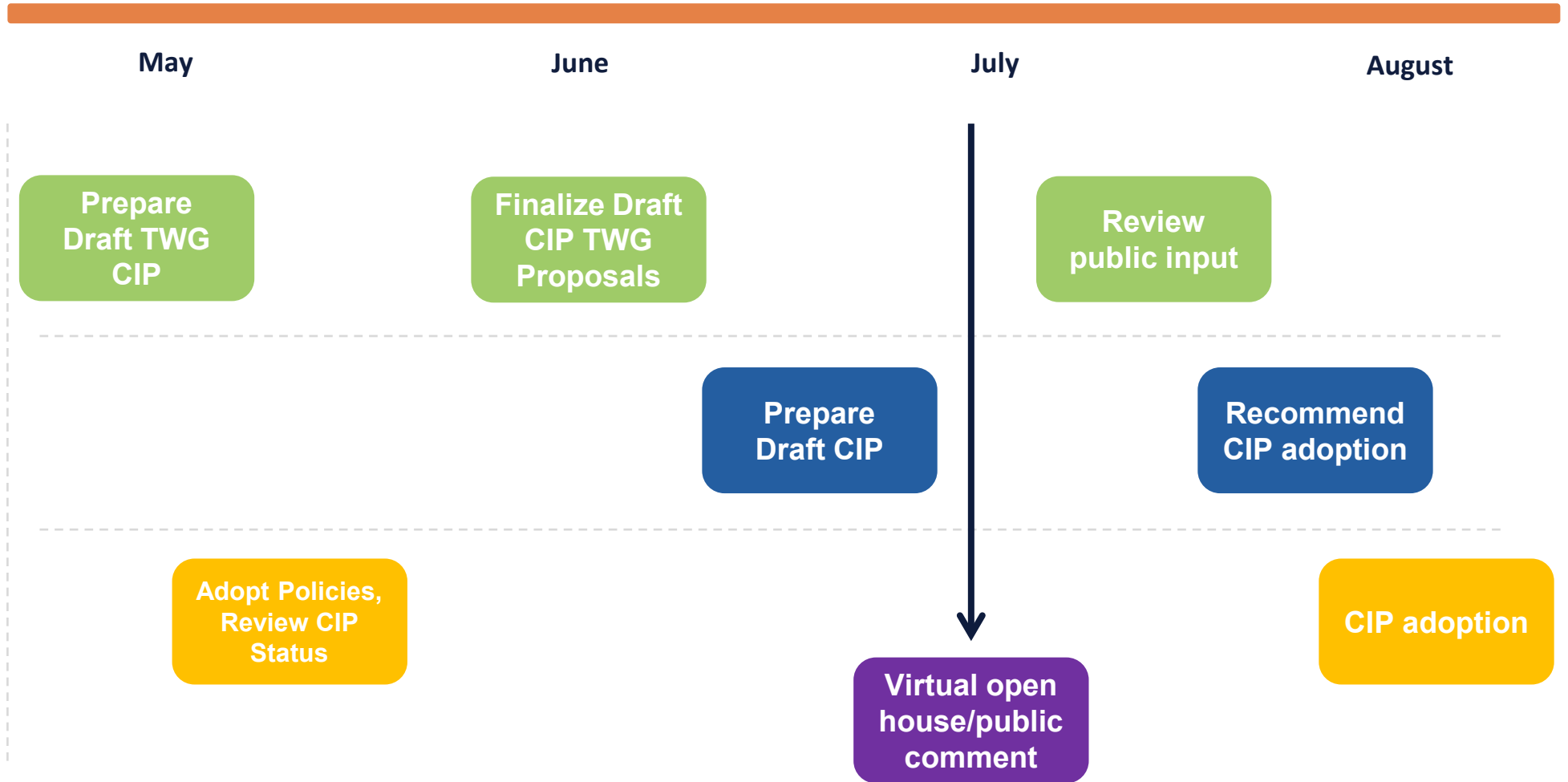


TSI REGIONAL PRIORITIES

- 330+ projects under consideration
- 130+ identified as local priorities
- 360+ miles of trails, sidewalks, bike paths
- \$500-700 M in total estimated project costs
- Collaborating to complete feasibility studies and cost estimates for conceptual projects



TSI CIP DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE





MAKING INVESTMENTS EQUITABLE



CENTRAL OHIO HOUSING LANDSCAPE



- The region needs **200,000** additional housing units to make up for the underbuilding in the last decade and accommodate the projected growth.
- Housing scarcity causes housing prices to rise both in the aggregate and most acutely near areas of opportunity.
- Impacts of the housing scarcity are being felt by families in our community today.



Central Ohio Housing



EQUITABLE TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (ETOD) STRATEGY

- **Preserves** existing housing, jobs, businesses and community resources.
- **Creates** new housing, business investments, jobs and amenities.
- **Ensures** affordable housing and access to opportunities, services and amenities for all residents.

Example:

Chicago, Illinois | **CTA Green Line**



**Chicago's ETOD
Policy Plan**





TOD CASE STUDY

CLEVELAND HEALTHLINE



4.5

Number of miles on
dedicated transit guideway

\$200M

Total Cost

\$25M

Amount of ODOT
Funding

\$9.5B+

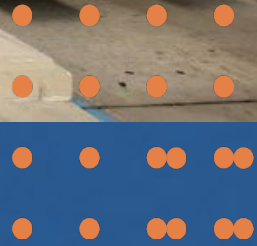
Amount of economic
development—\$190 gained for
every dollar spent on creating
and launching the service

8,800+

Number of residential
units built along
Healthline

13,000

Number of jobs created
along the Healthline



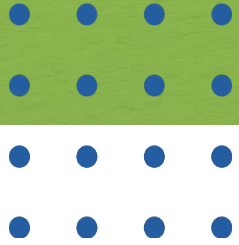


ACHIEVING DESIRED OUTCOMES:

- Increasing equitable access to opportunity
- Creating great places
- Accommodating future growth in productive ways
- Improving economic vibrancy
- Shaping the future and reimagining the region for shared prosperity



NEXT STEPS



- Continue engagement of community, government, non-profit, and business stakeholders
- Continue corridor design and federal grants process
- COTA staff bring ballot language for board consideration (May)
- Equitable Transit-Oriented Development Action Plan (June)
- Transit-Supportive Infrastructure Capital Improvement Budget and Capital Improvement Plan (August)
- COTA Levy (November)

LINKUS IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE



West Broad Corridor at Phillipi Rd. & Georgesville Rd.

- Augmented reality tour launched
- LinkUS West Broad Street Rapid Transit Corridor
- Features digital models of BRT stations and vehicles, potential housing and commercial development along West Broad Street

LINKUS IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE



- Augmented reality tour launches soon
- LinkUS West Broad Street Rapid Transit Corridor
- Features digital models of BRT stations and vehicles, potential housing and commercial development along West Broad Street

West Broad Corridor at Phillipi Rd. & Georgesville Rd.

COMMUNITY FACT SHEETS



LINKUS OVERVIEW



GET MOVING

WHY LINKUS?

LinkUS is Central Ohio's comprehensive transportation initiative to help address growth, affordability and opportunity gaps in our community.

AFFORDABILITY

The average household spends more than \$12,700 per year on transportation. LinkUS will make traveling without a car a convenient, affordable option.

GROWTH

Since 2010, the regional population has grown by +250,000 people, with 70% of that growth in Franklin County. By 2050, the regional population is projected to be more than 3 million. More mobility options will ease traffic congestion.

OPPORTUNITY GAPS

40,000 Franklin County households lack access to a personal vehicle, and 1/3 of Franklin County residents live in areas of low or very low opportunity.

HOW?



FASTER

and more reliable public transportation



SAFE

and expanded bike and pedestrian paths



WALKABLE

communities with more affordable access to work, home and entertainment

BY 2050:

5

Rapid Transit Corridors

+45%

Increase in Transit Service Hours Throughout COTA's Service Area

500

New Miles of Sidewalks, Bikeways and Trails

\$250M

in Roadway Improvements

WHAT IS IN IT FOR WHITEHALL?

WHAT IS IN IT FOR WHITEHALL?

	Proposed Service Improvements	Benefits
Bikeways/ Sidewalks/ Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eastmoor Green Line (East Broad Street to I-71) Along East Broad Street Etna Road and Siegman Avenue Project Development Big Walnut Trail (On Fairway Boulevard) Big Walnut Trail (from North Hamilton and John Glenn International Airport (CMH) to Whitehall) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides safer places to walk and bike Promotes a healthier, more active lifestyle Increases connections to CMH Airport, Columbus, and other surrounding communities
Premium Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Main Street BRT Corridor from Downtown Columbus to Reynoldsburg 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connects Whitehall residents to Downtown Columbus and other surrounding areas much faster, with no transfers Gives commuters access to school, jobs and healthcare using premium, low-cost rapid transit Provides a convenient alternative to traffic congestion

These services and other transit-supportive infrastructure projects are being confirmed through a collaborative regional engagement process. Implementation is expected to occur between 2025-2050.

LinkUS includes transit-supportive land use and development policies that promote more walkable, bikeable communities.

* Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) - A high-capacity, bus-based transit system that delivers fast and efficient service that may include dedicated lanes, busways, traffic signal priority, off-board fare collection, elevated platforms, and enhanced stations.

Updated May 2024

WHAT IS IN IT FOR BEXLEY?

	Proposed Service Improvements	Benefits
Bikeways/ Sidewalks/ Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lincoln Kelly Beck and Post Mail East Dove 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides safer places to walk and bike Promotes a healthier, more active lifestyle Increases connections to CMH Airport, Columbus, and other surrounding communities
Premium Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Main Street BRT Corridor from Downtown Columbus to Reynoldsburg 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connects Bexley residents to Downtown Columbus and other surrounding areas much faster, with no transfers Gives commuters access to school, jobs and healthcare using premium, low-cost rapid transit Provides a convenient alternative to traffic congestion

WHAT IS IN IT FOR DUBLIN?

	Proposed Service Improvement	Benefits
Bikeways/ Sidewalks/ Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Blazer Parkway from Metro Center to Bridge Street On Silver Ring Road from Avery Road to Emerald Parkway On Riverside Drive from Martin Road to Friendship Village On Dale Drive On Shier Ring to Emerald Park On Bright Road to Riverside Drive On Dublin Road from Park to Linden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides safer places to walk and bike Promotes a healthier, more active lifestyle Increases connections between Dublin and Hilliard, Columbus, Perry Township, Union and Franklin counties
COTA//Plus*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New app-based, on-demand service for residents of Dublin using 10-12 seater wheelchair-accessible vans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers convenient travel options to get around town beyond where fixed-route bus service is available
Bus Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line 32 extends with Hilliard to Ohio State University Line 25 extends with Worthington More bus stops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides direct service for Hilliard residents
Premium Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northwest Corridor Phase 1: From Bethel Road Phase 2: From Bethel Road Phase 3: From campus site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a convenient alternative to traffic congestion

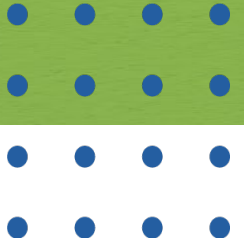
WHAT IS IN IT FOR GAHANNA?

	Proposed Service Improvements	Benefits
Bikeways/ Sidewalks/ Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Johnstown Road from Hill Street to Morse Road Havenly Corner Road and Taylor Station Road from Hamilton Road to Taylor Road Claycraft Road and Taylor Station Road from Morrison Road to Taylor Road Taylor Road from Gahanna Corner to Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road Science Boulevard from Tech Center Drive to Claycraft Road Big Walnut Creek to Taylor Road On Clark Street to Jefferson 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides safer places to walk and bike Promotes a healthier, more active lifestyle Increases connections between Gahanna and surrounding communities
COTA//Plus*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential COTA//Plus service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers convenient travel options to get around town beyond where fixed-route bus service is available
Premium Rapid Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential premium rapid transit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a convenient alternative to traffic congestion

WHAT IS IN IT FOR HILLIARD?

	Proposed Service Improvements	Benefits
Bikeways/ Sidewalks/ Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage Trail extension from Hilliard to the Arena District in Columbus Cemetery Road from Leap Road to Britton Parkway Leap Road from Cemetery Road to Scots Darby Road Hayden Run Trail from Avery Road to Evening Way Davidson Road from Lyman Drive to Trueman Boulevard Dublin Road from Quarry Trails Metro Park to Limestone Ridge Boulevard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides safer places to walk and bike Promotes a healthier, more active lifestyle Increases connections from Hilliard to other surrounding communities
COTA//Plus*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New app-based, on-demand service for residents of Hilliard using 10-12 seater wheelchair-accessible vans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers convenient travel options to get around town beyond where fixed-route bus service is available
Bus Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New service connecting Hilliard with OSU and Dublin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides new direct service for Hilliard residents

STAY CONNECTED



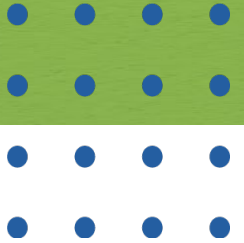
- All LinkUS Videos
- Downloadable Resources
- Media Coverage
- Ways to stay connected with LinkUS updates or get in contact with LinkUS team



THANK YOU



STAY CONNECTED



- Visit MORPC's website morpc.org/linkus to learn more about LinkUS
- Visit LinkUSColumbus.com and sign up for project updates.
- Send us an email at info@LinkUSColumbus.com with questions and comments.
- Follow us on social media [@LinkUScolumbus](https://twitter.com/LinkUScolumbus) to keep up with the latest happenings about LinkUS.
- Check out our YouTube channel [@LinkUScolumbus](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) for program videos and presentations.

