WHAT IS CONNECTIONS 2025?

Connections 2025 is Capital Metro’s big, bold transit vision for a more frequent, more reliable and more connected transit system. This plan will guide the evolution of our network over the next five years, and identifies long-range opportunities over the next 10 years.

STAY INVOLVED

Now that the Connections 2025 strategic plan has been adopted by the Capital Metro board of directors, we’ll continue working with the community throughout each implementation phase. Each implementation phase will require a subsequent public hearing process to sufficiently notify the community of upcoming service changes and consider feedback. We will also assess Title VI impacts of the proposed service changes and submit them to the Capital Metro board for review and approval.

Connections 2025 is one of the ways we’re improving mobility in Central Texas; other studies such as Project Connect will help Capital Metro build upon the existing network and establish a long-term vision for high-capacity transit in the region.

LET’S MAKE TRANSIT BETTER – TOGETHER!

Stay up to date with the latest project information and find out about opportunities to get involved.

Capmetro.org
Feedback@connections2025.org
Customer Service GO Line 512-474-1200

WE ARE RETHINKING TRANSIT TO BETTER SERVE YOU, OUR CENTRAL TEXAS COMMUNITY.

MORE FREQUENT
MORE RELIABLE
MORE CONNECTED
MORE EAST-WEST SERVICE
MORE METRORAPID
MORE METROEXPRESS
SIMPLIFIED FARES
FACTS

- Transit commuting is higher in Austin (4.3 percent) compared to peer cities Dallas (4 percent) and San Antonio (3.4 percent).
- Central Texas is projected to see a population increase of 20-29 percent by 2025 and 45-80 percent by 2040.
- Since 2000, costs to provide service have increased while service hours have remained flat and ridership has slightly decreased.
- More than 35 percent of Capital Metro’s total daily ridership occurs in the top five bus corridors (Routes 1/801, 3/803, 7, 10 and 300).
- Frequent transit service reduces wait time and makes connections easier; creating more convenience while building ridership.
- MetroRapid routes are faster than Local bus routes.

WHY DO WE NEED CONNECTIONS 2025?

- Affordability in Austin is pushing growth outside the urban core.
- Dense mixed-use corridors are the most productive for transit.
- Emerging employment centers are locating outside the central city.
- High-Frequency Routes launched in 2015 have proven successful.

GOALS

- Increase ridership throughout the bus system.
- Match service to lifestyle, commuter and coverage markets.
- Enhance the customer experience.
- Ensure financial stability so Capital Metro can keep improving service.

TOP 10 BENEFITS

1. MORE FREQUENT
   A High-Frequency Route Network boosted from 6 to 17 routes traveling every 15 minutes or better means over ½ million people will be within walking distance of a frequent route.

2. MORE EAST-WEST
   Adds two MetroRapid routes going east-west with nine High-Frequency routes running every 15 minutes or better.

3. MORE DIRECT
   Routes will be straighter and better connected to activity centers and denser parts of town for easy traveling.

4. SIMPLIFIED FARES
   Flatfens fares into two tiers for fast, easy boarding and simplified connections.

5. MORE RAPID
   Adds two new MetroRapid routes through downtown and East Austin, with stations added to current routes and increased frequency every 7-10 minutes.

6. “SUPER” BRT
   Adds a MetroRapid route operating on future IH-35 Express Lanes with in-line stations.

7. GOES FURTHER
   Ability to access more distant destinations in less time with less waiting and more frequency.

8. MORE EXPRESS
   Adds more reliable Express bus service by utilizing new MoPac Express Lanes, connecting to growing communities outside the central core.

9. MOBILITY INNOVATION ZONES
   New services that may include on-demand, partner services or flex routes, connecting to the larger transit network.

10. FASTER
    Additions such as transit priority lanes, curb extensions, signal priority and other ways to keep buses ahead of traffic congestion.

TIMELINE

The service recommendations are divided into implementation phases spread over the next 10 years.

2017: CURRENT NETWORK ADJUSTMENTS
- Express routes operating in MoPac Managed Lanes (service to begin after lanes open).
- Increased frequency on MetroRapid Route 801 and 803 to every 10 minutes.

2018: NEW NETWORK ADDITIONS
- Frequency enhancements on high-ridership routes.
- Route adjustments and realignments.
- Elimination of duplicative routes.
- Some UT Shuttle transition to Local routes.

2019: MOBILITY INNOVATION PROJECTS
- Development and implementation of Mobility Innovation Zones.
- Removal of unproductive service.

2020: INFRASTRUCTURE
- Installation of new MetroRapid stations (additional stations along Routes 801 and 803 to create 1/3 mile stop spacing & new Routes 804 and 820).
- Implementation of priority treatments (transit signal priority, queue jumps, bus bulbs and transit-only lanes).
- Increased core MetroRail frequency to every 15 minutes during peak travel times.
- Increased MetroRapid Route 801 frequency to every 7 minutes.
- Additional Park & Ride facilities introduced.

2023: IH-35 BRT
- Implementation of IH-35 Bus Rapid Transit service.