

Initial Investment of the Orange Line Light Rail Transit Project Austin, Texas


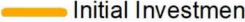

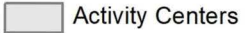
New Starts Project Development Information Prepared July 2021

The Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (CapMetro) proposes to implement the Initial Investment of the Orange Line Light Rail Transit (LRT) Project, a 12-mile dedicated transitway from North Lamar Transit Center to Stassney Lane through downtown Austin. The exclusive transitway is proposed to operate mostly at street level (primarily center-running) within existing public right-of-way, with two elevated sections – at Airport Blvd/Lamar Avenue intersection and at US 290/SH 71, and an approximately 2-mile tunnel through downtown from MLK Boulevard to South Congress. Fifteen stations are planned along the corridor, with the exact placement of the transitway and the stations to be determined during Project Development. The Project would feature transit signal priority, off-board fare collection, and stations with level boarding and other ADA accessibility features. Ultimately the Project would connect with other high capacity transit services, including the existing Red Line and the proposed Blue Line in downtown Austin. The project's current estimated capital cost is \$3.8 billion, which includes \$2.5 billion base cost plus \$1.3 billion for the tunnel section that will be shared by another proposed light rail project, the Blue Line LRT. The total cost estimate of the shared tunnel is \$2 billion, 65% of which has been attributed to the Orange Line LRT.

CapMetro believes that the Project would meet growing corridor travel demand with a reliable, safe, cost effective, state-of-the-art high capacity transit option and improve transit access to regional activity centers, jobs, and affordable housing supporting Austin's population and economic growth.

CapMetro adopted a preliminary locally preferred alternative (LPA) in June 2020, and the LPA was adopted into the fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan in May 2020. CapMetro anticipates completing NEPA by December 2022, entry into Engineering in March 2023, and receiving New Starts Grant in 2024. Revenue service is anticipated to begin in 2029.

Orange Line

-  Stations
-  Initial Investment
-  Future Extension
-  Activity Centers

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