

Durham-Orange LRT
Durham, North Carolina
Project Development
Information Prepared February 2014

GoTriangle proposes to implement a 17.1-mile light rail transit (LRT) line in a corridor that extends from North Carolina Central University in the City of Durham on the east end of the corridor to the University of North Carolina Hospital in the Town of Chapel Hill on the west end of the corridor. The proposed project includes 17 stations, 3,900 parking spaces, a maintenance facility and the purchase of 12 LRT vehicles. The project's current estimated capital cost is \$1.8 billion. GoTriangle expects to seek \$910.3 million from the New Starts program.

Both ends of the corridor have central business districts, large medical facilities, and universities that serve as major employment centers for the region. Major trip generators in the corridor include: University of North Carolina; North Carolina Central University; Duke University; Durham Veterans Affairs Medical Center; Durham Amtrak Station; Durham Performing Arts Center; Durham Station; and downtown Durham. Bus service in the corridor today is slow due to traffic congestion. GoTriangle believes that the project would provide an alternative to congested roadways.

In February 2012, the Durham-Orange LRT project was adopted by the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization as the locally preferred alternative (LPA). The LPA was subsequently included in the fiscally constrained long range transportation plan in April 2013. GoTriangle expects to complete the environmental review process with receipt of a Record of Decision in late February 2016, gain entry into the Engineering phase in 2016, receive a Full Funding Grant Agreement in 2019, and start revenue service in 2026.