

Spokane Central City Line

Spokane, Washington

Small Starts Project Development

Information Prepared June 2015

The Spokane Transit Authority (STA) proposes to implement Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service in the 5.8-mile Central City Line corridor that extends from Browne's Addition, a residential area and National Historic District located west of downtown Spokane, to an eastern terminus at Spokane Community College. The proposed corridor-based BRT would use modern electric trolley bus vehicles. The project's current estimated capital cost is \$72.0 million. STA has not determined the amount of Section 5309 Small Starts funding it will request for the project.

STA believes the proposed project will address the need for improved transit accessibility and efficiency; greater mode choice in downtown; reduced barriers to pedestrian mobility; and convenient transit service beyond peak periods. STA expects the project will encourage new development in downtown Spokane that supports local and regional land use goals.

STA selected a preliminary locally preferred alternative (LPA) in July 2011. In April 2013, it was adopted into the region's fiscally constrained long range transportation plan. The LPA was revised in July 2014 to extend the alignment 2.5 miles eastward to serve Spokane Community College. STA anticipates completion of the environmental review process with receipt of a Categorical Exclusion determination in summer 2016, receipt of a Small Starts Grant Agreement in 2018, and the start of revenue service in September 2019.