



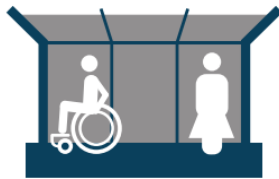
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# BRT in OKC Luncheon

Guest Speaker:

Kristen Torkelson – EMBARK

# ΣMBARK



**12-20**  
MINUTES



**TRAFFIC  
SIGNAL  
PRIORITY**



## Bus Rapid Transit

Kristen Torkelson | August 2019



# Timeline- 2005

- 2030 Fixed Guideway Plan
  - Identifies potential transit solutions that:
    - Improve connections among Central OK's growth centers
    - Enhance economic development opportunities
    - Improve mobility
    - Expand transportation options and improve air quality



# Timeline- 2005

- Solutions include:
  - Local bus
  - Bus rapid transit
  - Streetcar
  - Commuter rail





# Timeline- 2015

- Public Health and Transportation Corridor Planning Framework
  - NW BRT was selected by ODOT as one of 5 U.S. locations
  - Study focused on:
    - Improving community health
    - Access to health resources
    - Air quality
    - Mobility access for disadvantaged populations
    - Safety for non-motorized users
    - Access to recreational opportunities



# Timeline- 2016

- Smart Growth America TOD Assessment
  - Examined TOD opportunities along the NW BRT corridor
    - Santa Fe Station
    - 23<sup>rd</sup> and Classen
    - 63<sup>rd</sup> and Meridian
  - Included recommendations to improve pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure





# Timeline- 2017

- NW Multimodal Transportation Corridor Concept Plan
  - Identifies next steps to implement NW BRT project
    - Improvements to traffic signals & existing bus stops
    - Planning & design
    - NEPA
    - Finalizing funding sources
  - Included community workshops
  - Plan received national recognition





## Timeline- 2018

- BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) Grant
  - \$14.4M federal grant
  - Local match includes \$10.8M in bond funds



**Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is a high-quality bus-based transit system that delivers fast, reliable and efficient service operating in a “rail-like manner” but with a significantly lower cost.**







# NORTHWEST BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) AT A GLANCE



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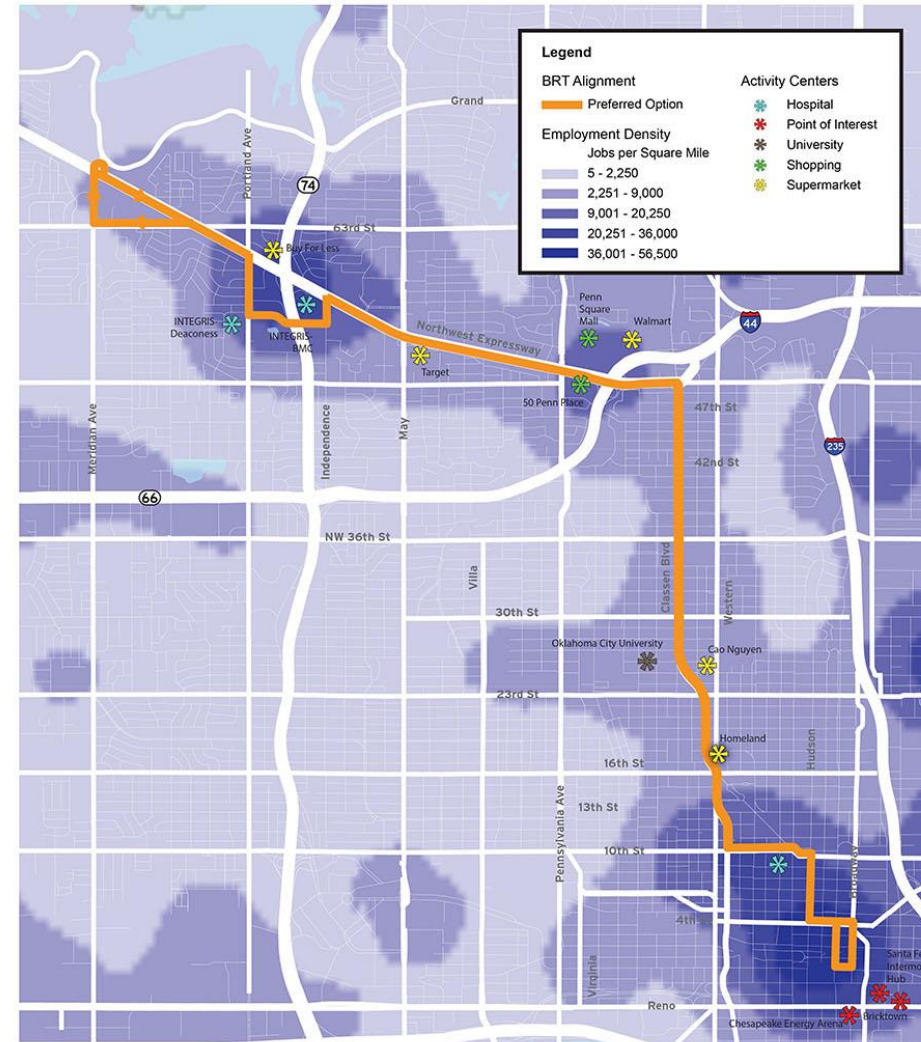
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## Land Use

- The Northwest BRT project will help transition a state highway (Northwest Expressway) into an urban multimodal transit corridor.
- Already dense with employment and affordable housing, the project will introduce infrastructure to accommodate pedestrians, cyclists, public transit, and motorists alike in a safety-first environment.
- The permanence of BRT infrastructure supports increased private investment and development in the corridor, contributing to increased economic opportunity and quality of life.

## Strategic Alignment

- The Northwest BRT route will provide access to work, education, healthcare, restaurants, entertainment, and shopping.
- Stops will be strategically placed to reduce travel times, minimize congestion, and maximize access to dense employment and residential areas.



91,000 jobs – roughly 23% of OKC's

employment base





# NORTHWEST BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) AT A GLANCE



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## Enhanced Stations and Vehicles

- BRT stations and vehicles will include several components to make using the service convenient for passengers and ensure fast and frequent operation.
- Vehicles are built specifically for BRT featuring wider doors, and level boarding. Both buses and stations will be fully accessible in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## Complete Streets

- The Northwest BRT project seeks to activate transit spaces that enable safe access for all of its users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders of all ages and abilities.
- Working in tandem with Oklahoma City's Better Streets, Safer City initiative, the project will plan for sidewalks, bike lanes (or wide paved shoulders), accessible pedestrian signals, curb extensions, specialized travel lanes, and more.
- The goal is to balance safety and convenience for everyone using the road.







# NORTHWEST BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) AT A GLANCE



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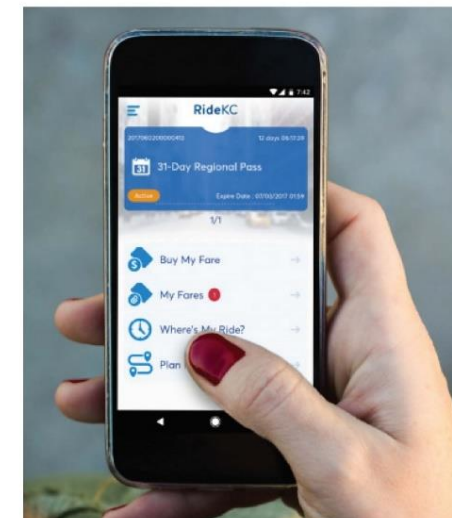
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## Advanced Technology

- The Northwest BRT project will use Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) technologies.
- The integrated technologies will allow for vehicle prioritization and tracking, and advanced passenger information systems which include journey planning and predictive arrival times.
- ITS technologies have proven to help increase safety and operational efficiencies.

## Park and Ride

- Opportunities to establish multiple park and ride sites allow remote commuters to avoid long drives while relieving road congestion and reducing single occupant vehicles.



LET'S TALK  
TRANSIT

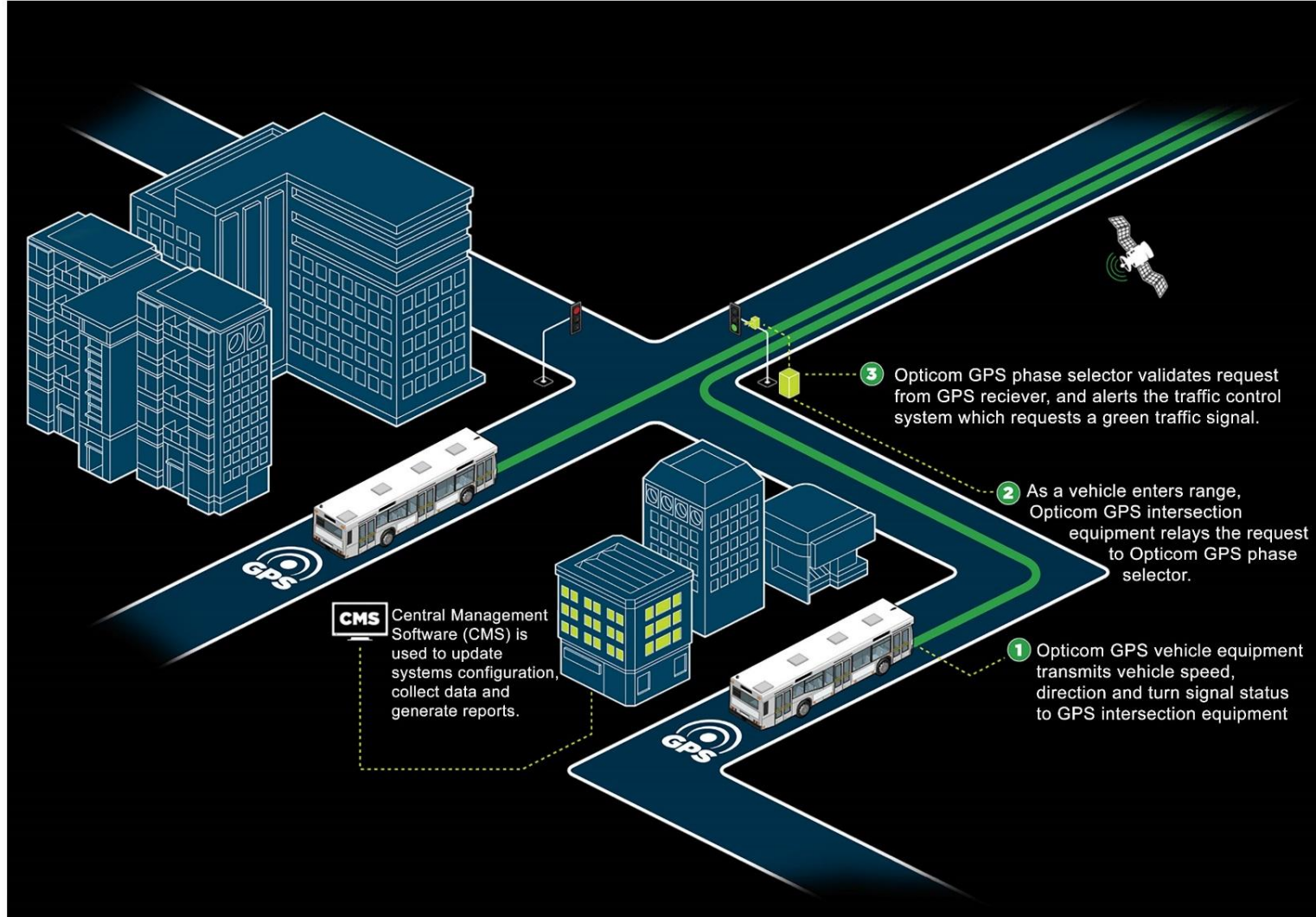
# NORTHWEST BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) AT A GLANCE



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## Transit Signal Priority (TSP)







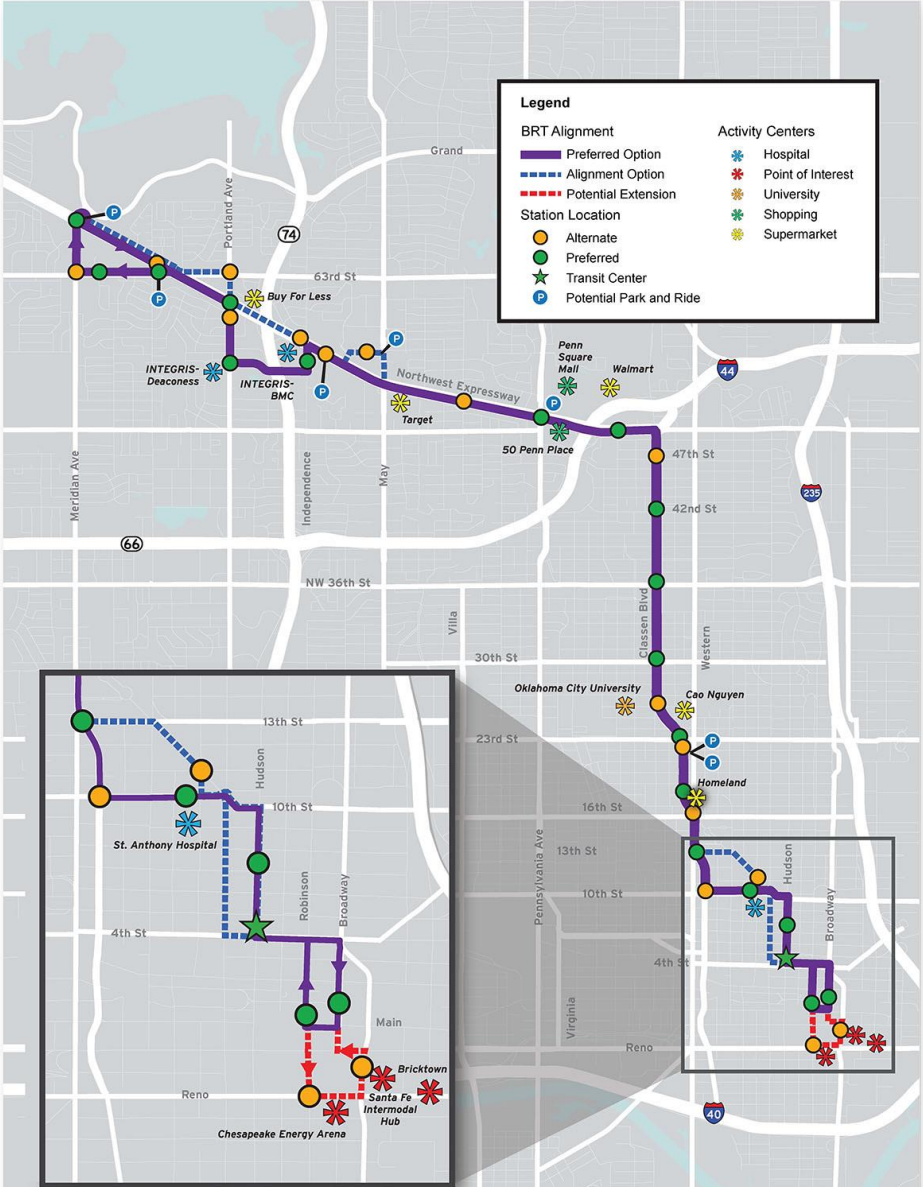
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# NORTHWEST BRT PROPOSED ROUTE MAP



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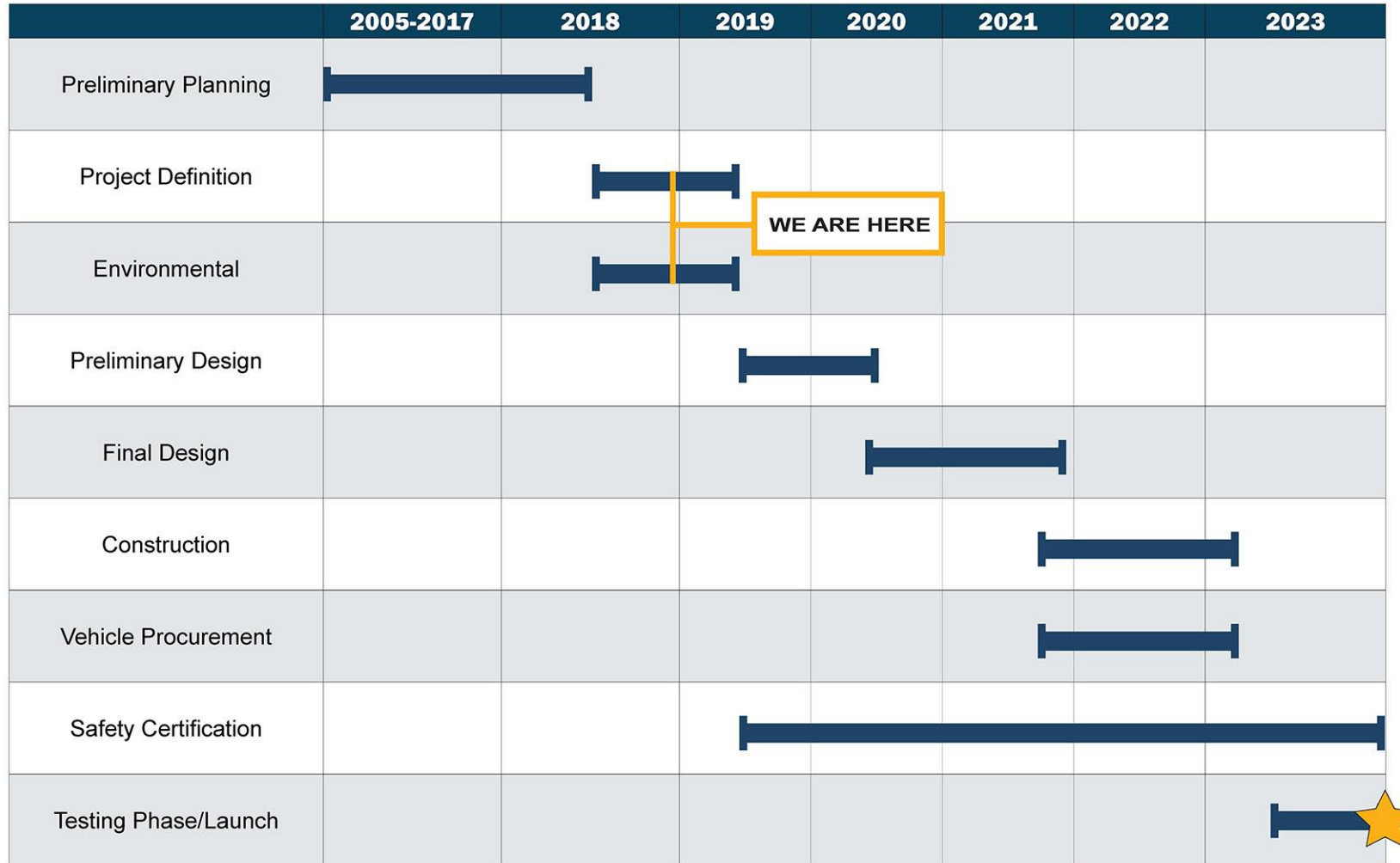
# NORTHWEST BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT)

## PROJECT TIMELINE



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### Key Milestones:

BUILD Award (December 2018)  
NEPA Clearance (2019)  
Preliminary Design (2019 - 2020)

Final Design (2020 - 2021)  
Vehicle Delivery (2022)

Construction Complete (2023)  
Anticipated Launch (Late 2023)



# NORTHWEST BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT)

## ADA LEVEL BOARDING



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# NORTHWEST BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT)

## CONCEPT BRT STATION



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- Shelter
- ADA accommodations
- Level boarding platform
- Station marker
- RTA display
- Ticket vending machines
- Bicycle facilities
- Benches
- Trash receptacles
- Lighting





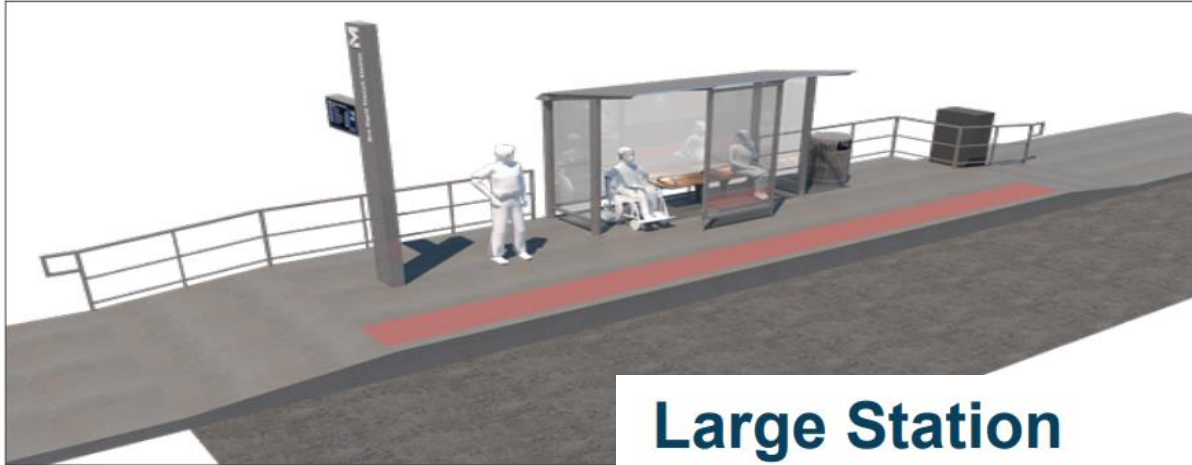
# NORTHWEST BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) CONCEPT BRT STATION



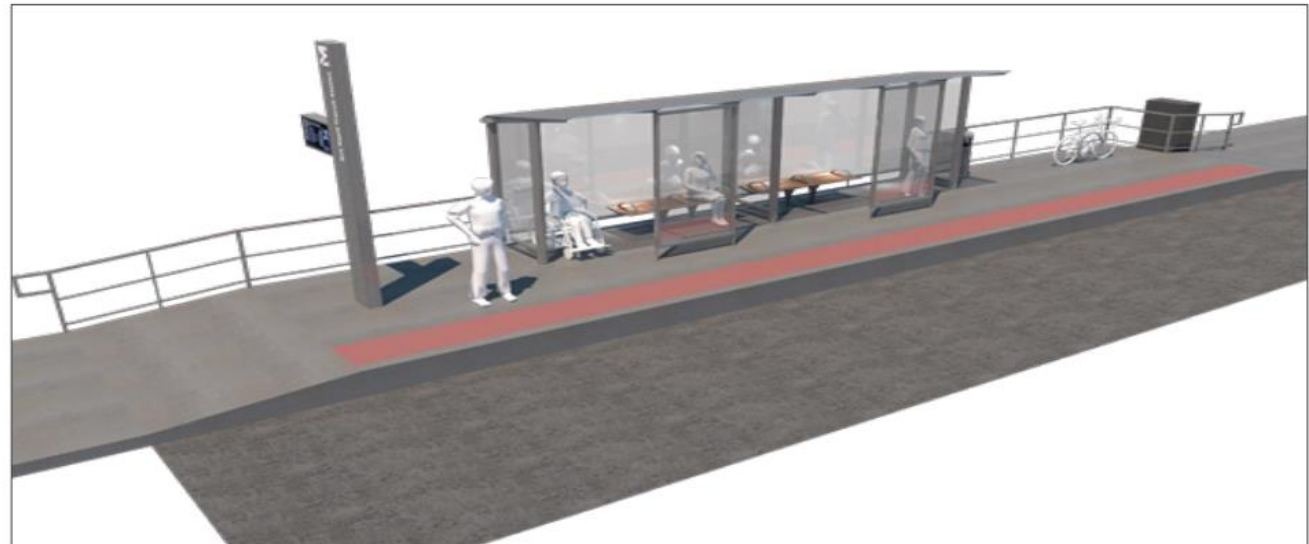
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## Standard Station



## Large Station







# NORTHWEST BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) MULTIMODAL EXPERIENCE



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Existing

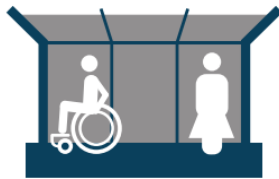


Concept Plan



Northwest Expressway and Independence

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**12-20**  
MINUTES

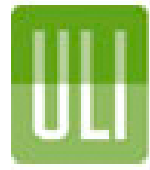


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## Bus Rapid Transit

Kristen Torkelson | August 2019



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# Q&A

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 7th** – Pecha Kucha

**September 6-7th** – NWA Peer City Trip

**September 18-21st** – Fall Meeting

**September 18th** – Fall Meeting Midwest Member Social