CONNECT Beyond
A Regional Mobility Initiative

High Capacity Transit Corridors

Agenda

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Project Overview
3. Total Mobility Network
4. High Capacity Transit Input
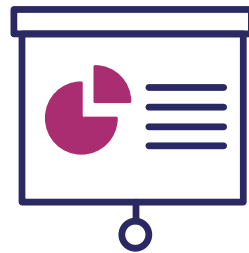5. Candidate Corridors
6. Wrap Up & Next Steps
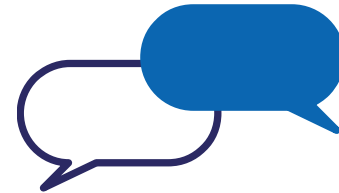
CONNECT Beyond

Meeting Objectives

Update you on the status of the CONNECT Beyond Project

Present candidate high capacity transit corridors and answer your questions

Get your feedback/ local area expertise to inform our analysis

What we need from you

- Feedback on the candidate corridors
- Tell us what's missing
- Be our champions for future public involvement to further refine the corridors to be evaluated

Project Overview

Jason Wager, CONNECT Beyond Project Manager, Centralina Regional Council

Our Region

2 States

12 Counties

5K Square Miles

2.6 Million People

Why Mobility Matters

As our region continues to grow, access to reliable, efficient, and well-connected transportation options is one of the **most important factors** to ensure everyone can benefit.

We need to find solutions to ensure that our neighbors and visitors can easily get where they want and need to go.
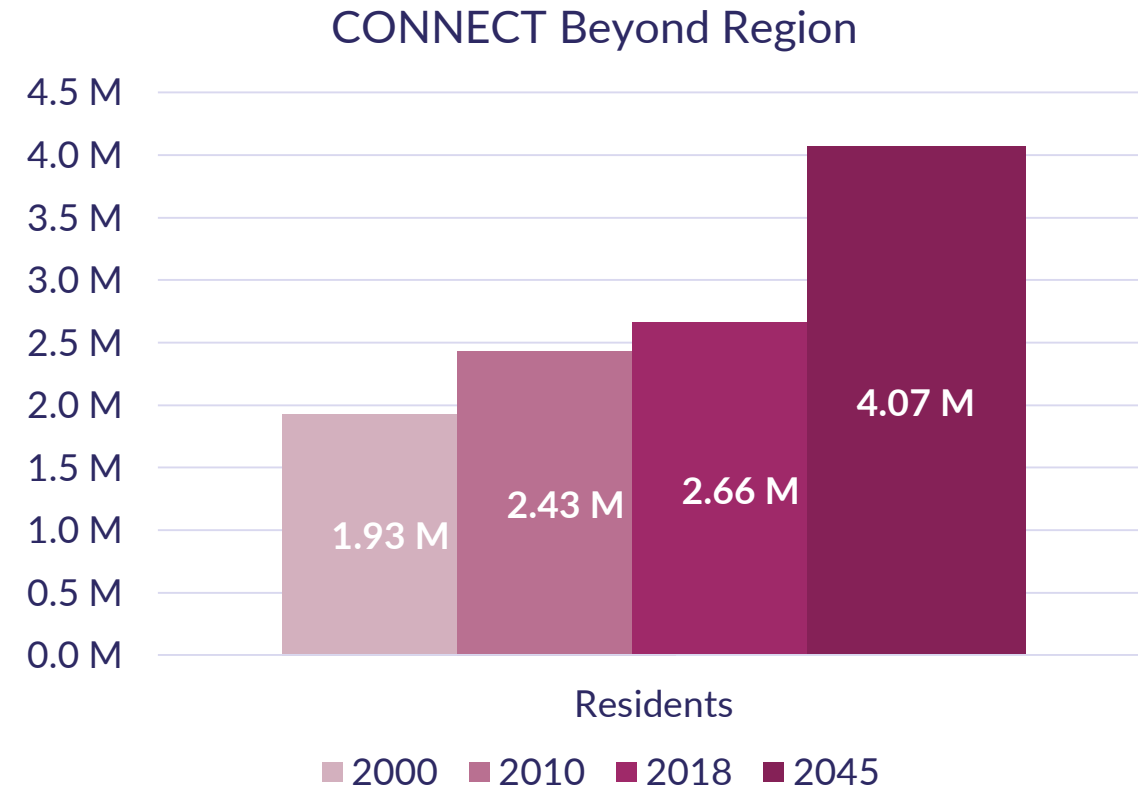
CONNECT Beyond Region

Residents

■ 2000 ■ 2010 ■ 2018 ■ 2045

Source: Metrolina Regional Model (MRM2001, Working Version, Aug 8, 2020)
Source: NC Statewide Travel Model (NCSTM, Version 3.0)

CONNECT Beyond will...

- **Define** a transit vision

- **Identify** corridors and complement plans and infrastructure

- **Strategize** coordination opportunities

- **Develop** implementation tools

Project Priorities

Increase Economic Competitiveness

Improve Transportation Choices

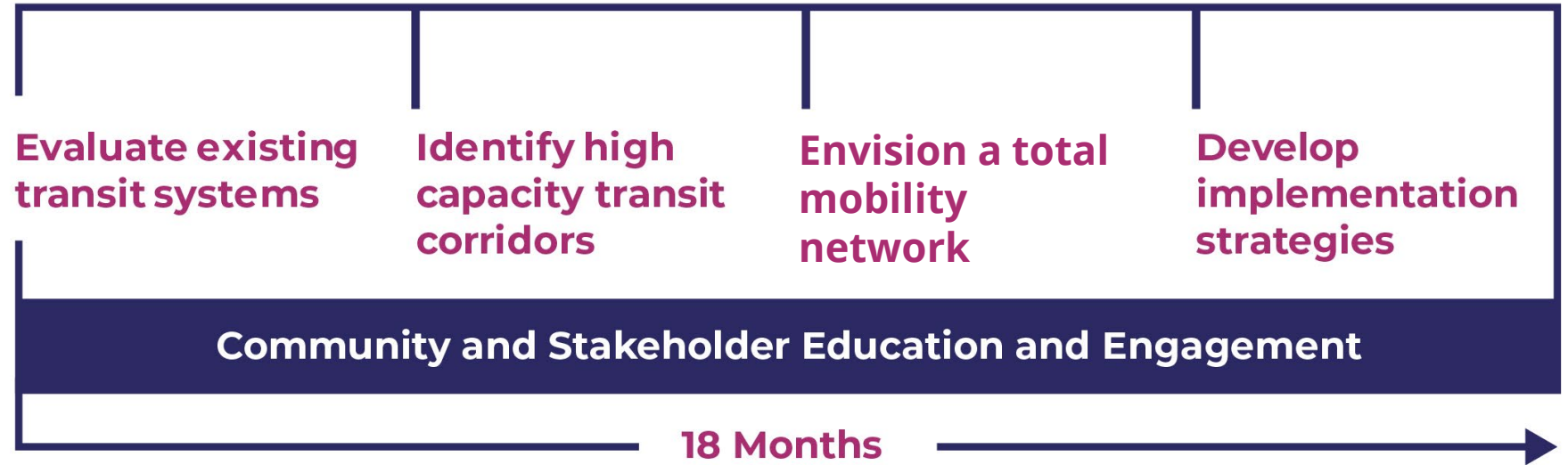Enhance Public Transit

Promote Sustainable Regional Growth

Advance Social Equity

Encourage Environmental Stewardship

Project Timeline

Your feedback today impacts step 2
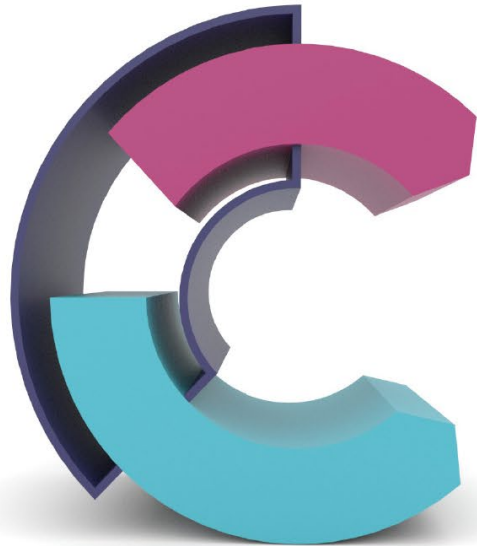
Evaluate existing transit systems

Identify high capacity transit corridors

Envision a total mobility network

Develop implementation strategies

Community and Stakeholder Education and Engagement

18 Months

Total Mobility Network

LIGHT RAIL

REAL TIME TRACKING

CARPOOL

VAN

WALK

TRANSIT CENTER

BUS

TRANSIT CENTER

BIKE SHARE

WALK

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

AUTONOMOUS

TAXI

UBER

E-SCOOTER

STREET CAR

SHUTTLE

COMMUTER RAIL

PARK & RIDE
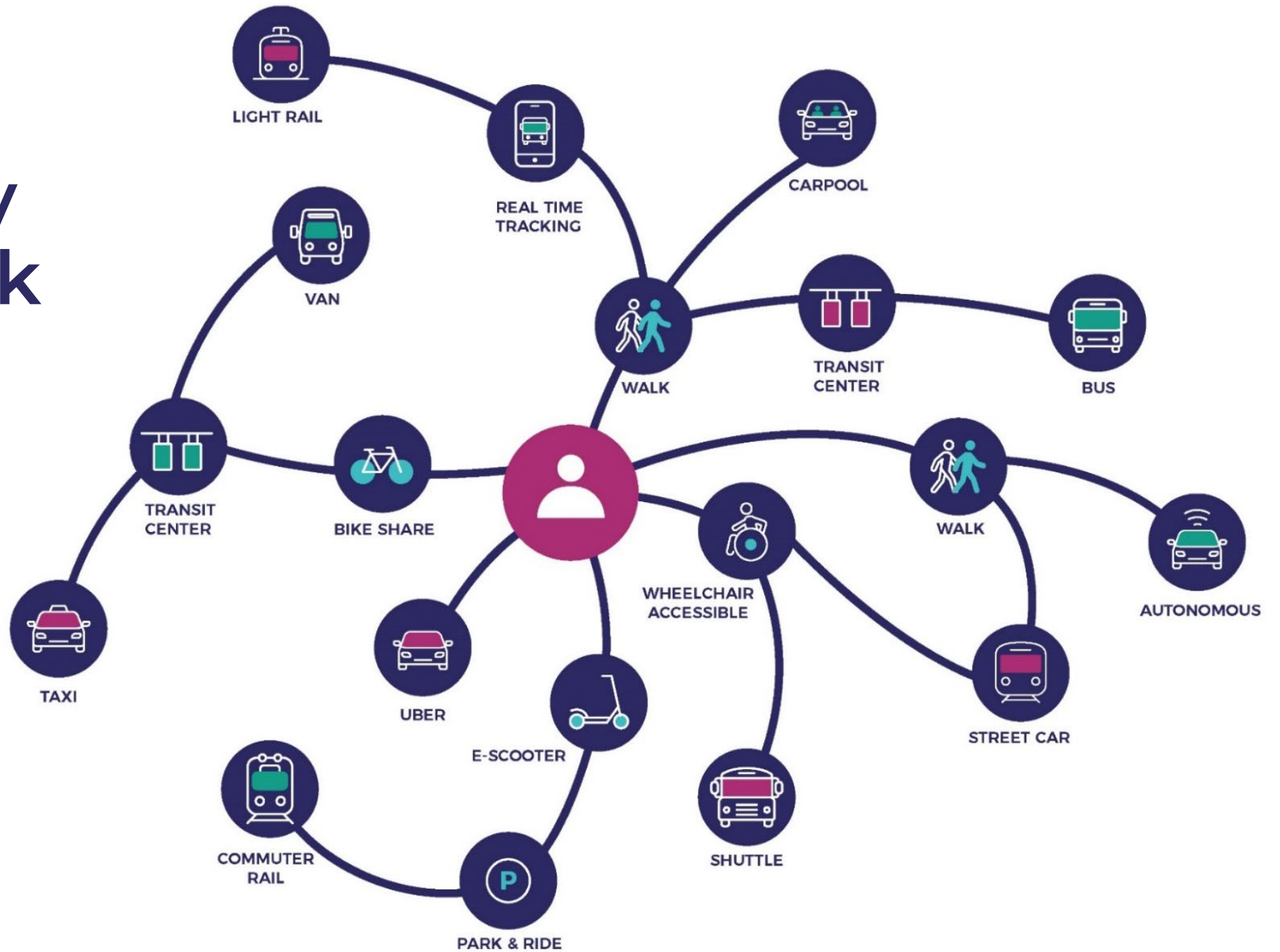
Planning Process

1 Evaluate existing transit systems

> What are we doing well?

> Where are the gaps and barriers to mobility?

2 Identify high capacity transit corridors

> Which corridors would be good candidates for regional transit connections to best connect people to jobs, housing, medical services, education and other key destinations?
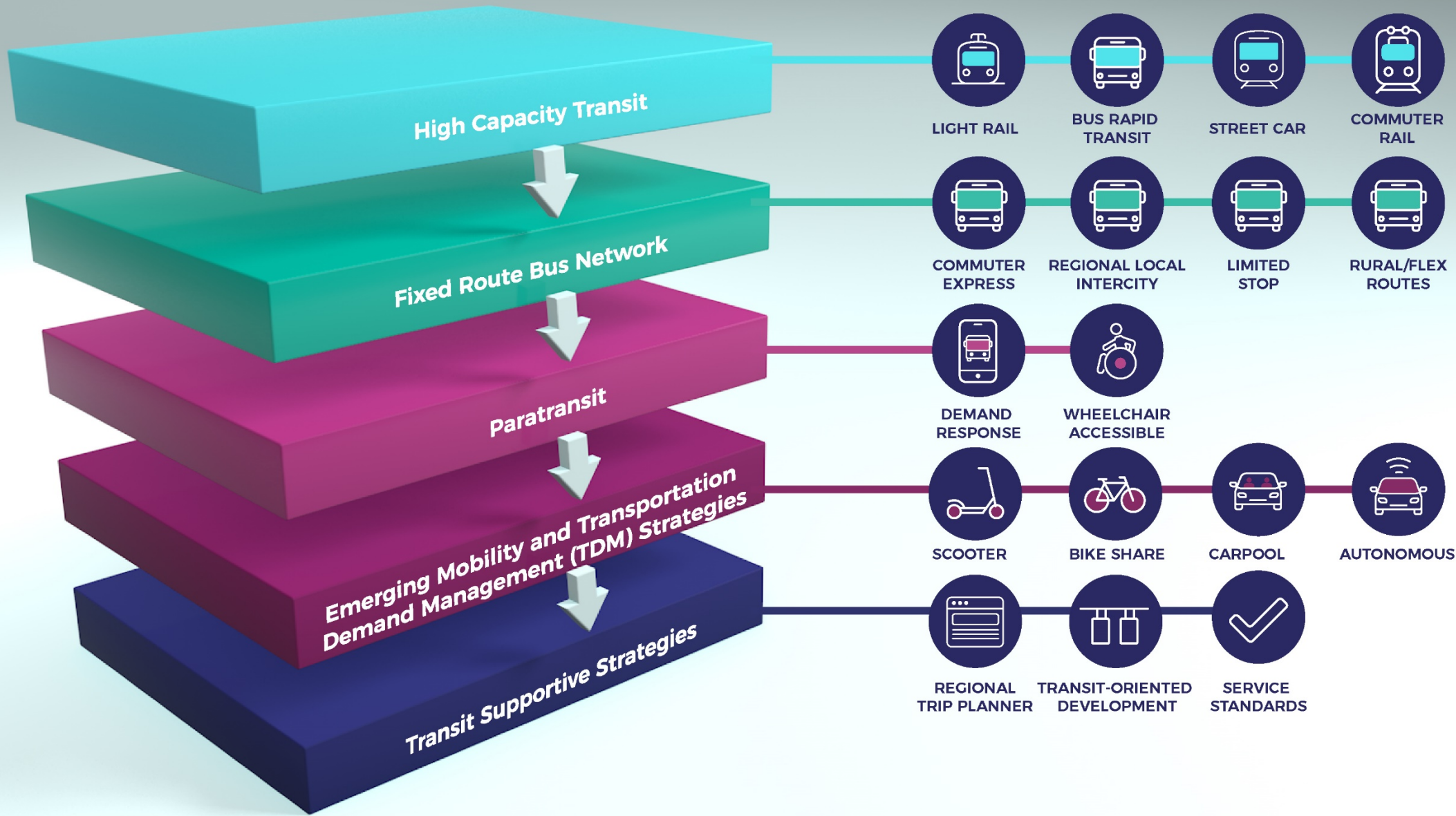
3 Envision a total mobility network

> How can we best expand local services to increase transportation options and increase access to high capacity transit corridors?

4 Develop implementation strategies

> How can local transit providers and planning agencies use the results of the initiative?

High Capacity Transit
- LIGHT RAIL
- BUS RAPID TRANSIT
- STREET CAR
- COMMUTER RAIL

Fixed Route Bus Network
- COMMUTER EXPRESS
- REGIONAL LOCAL INTERCITY
- LIMITED STOP
- RURAL/FLEX ROUTES
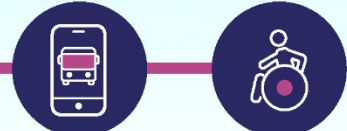
Paratransit
- DEMAND RESPONSE
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

Emerging Mobility and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategies
- SCOOTER
- BIKE SHARE
- CARPOOL
- AUTONOMOUS

Transit Supportive Strategies
- REGIONAL TRIP PLANNER
- TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT
- SERVICE STANDARDS

High Capacity Transit Input

What is High Capacity Transit?

High capacity transit refers to transit modes that have more capacity than traditional bus, such as light rail, bus rapid transit, express bus, and commuter rail.
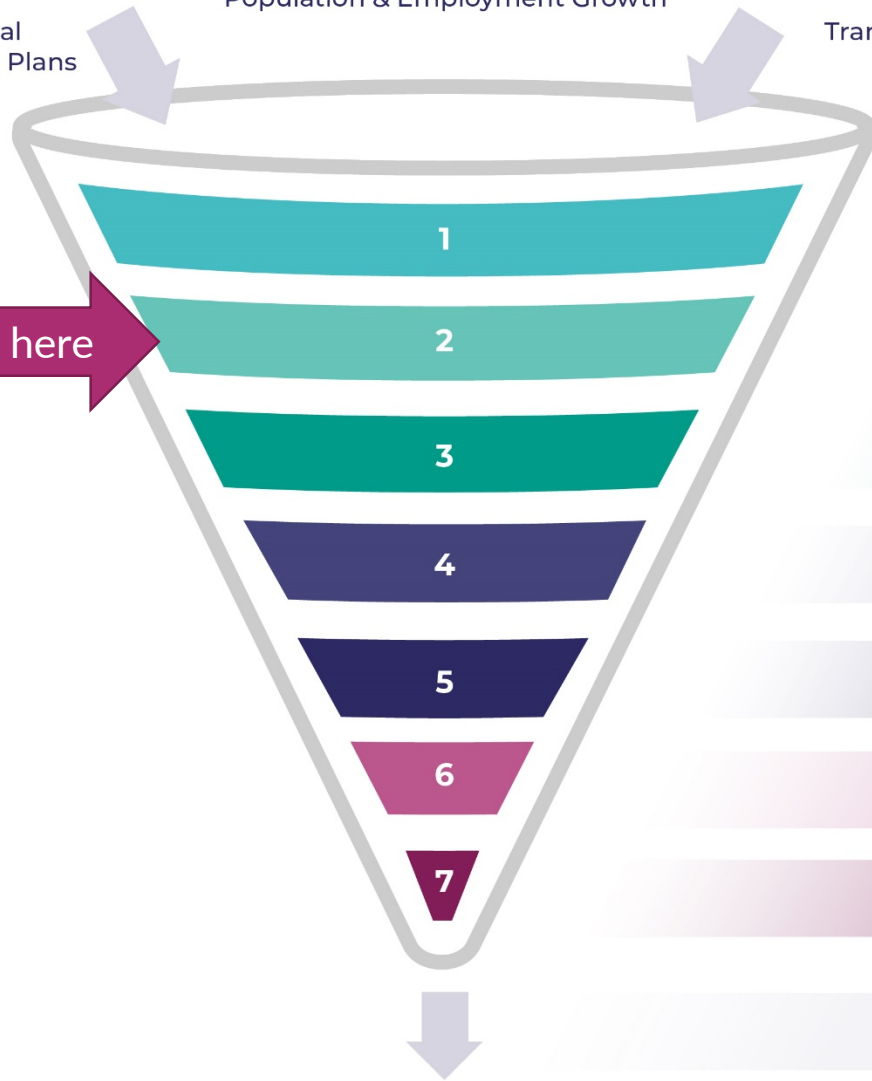
What is Commuter Rail?

Urban passenger train service consisting of local travel between a central city and outlying areas operating on a regular basis and is generally characterized by specific station-to-station fares, relatively long distance between stops, and only 1-2 stations in the central business district.

REGIONAL DATA

Additional Stakeholder Input

Project Goals & Vision

Regional Transit Engagement Series

CONNECT Our Future

Travel Patterns/Behaviors

Land Use Growth/Changes

Population & Employment Growth

Local & Regional Transportation Plans

Transit Plans

1

2 — We are here

3

4

5

6

7

Development of Candidate High Capacity Transit Corridors
The data informs what corridors could be candidates

Committee & Public Input
Review high capacity transit corridors and obtain agreement

Refine
Identify missing corridors, refine, confirm, conduct readiness screening

**Refined Candidate Corridors**
Refined per input and analysis

TAC & PAC Input
Review high capacity transit corridors and obtain agreement

Preferred High Capacity Transit Corridors
CONNECT Beyond high capacity transit preferred corridors

Next Steps
Incorporate preferred corridors into additional tasks

Transit Market Areas

- **3,400+ TAZs** Metrolina Travel Demand Model and the Statewide Model

- Condensed them down to **55 Transit Market Areas**

- Each of the Transit Market Areas has **unique transit service needs** and **different levels of potential transit demand**

- Data shows **travel within and between market areas**
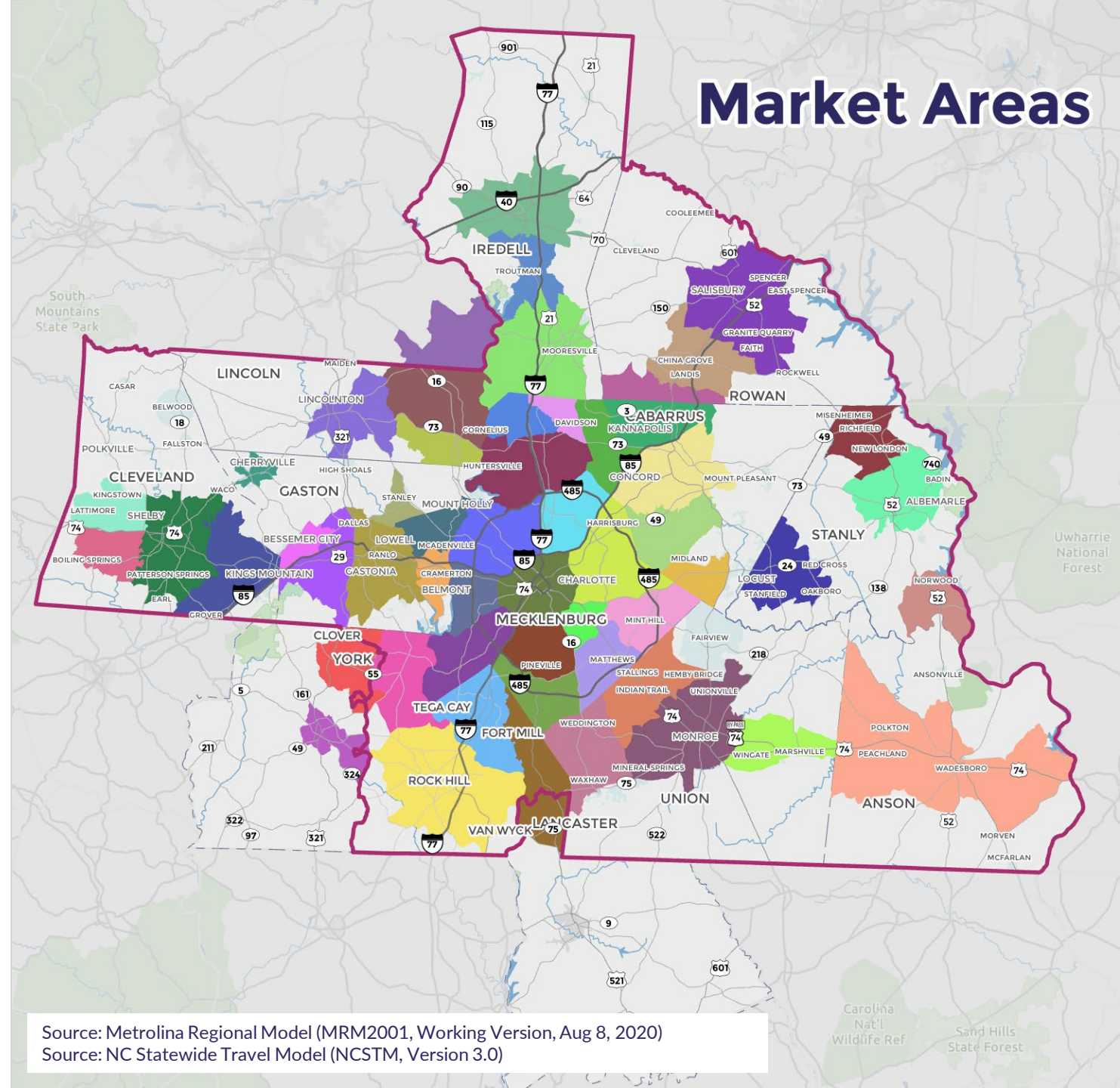
Market Areas

Source: Metrolina Regional Model (MRM2001, Working Version, Aug 8, 2020)
Source: NC Statewide Travel Model (NCSTM, Version 3.0)

Mecklenburg Internal Market Areas

- Many trips stay internal to market areas , they **start and end in Uptown**

- Strong attraction from outer market areas to Uptown from the north

- Strong radial travel patterns surrounding Uptown

- Airport attractor

Trip Flows/Market Areas within Mecklenburg

Internal Market Flows
- 2000 – 20000
- 20001 – 100000
- 100001 – 200000
- 200001 – 400000
- 400001 – 600000

Market-to-Market Flows
- 4001 – 8000
- 8001 – 16000
- 16001 – 32000
- 32001 – 240000

Source: Metrolina Regional Model (MRM2001, Working Version, Aug 8, 2020); NC Statewide Travel Model (NCSTM, Version 3.0)
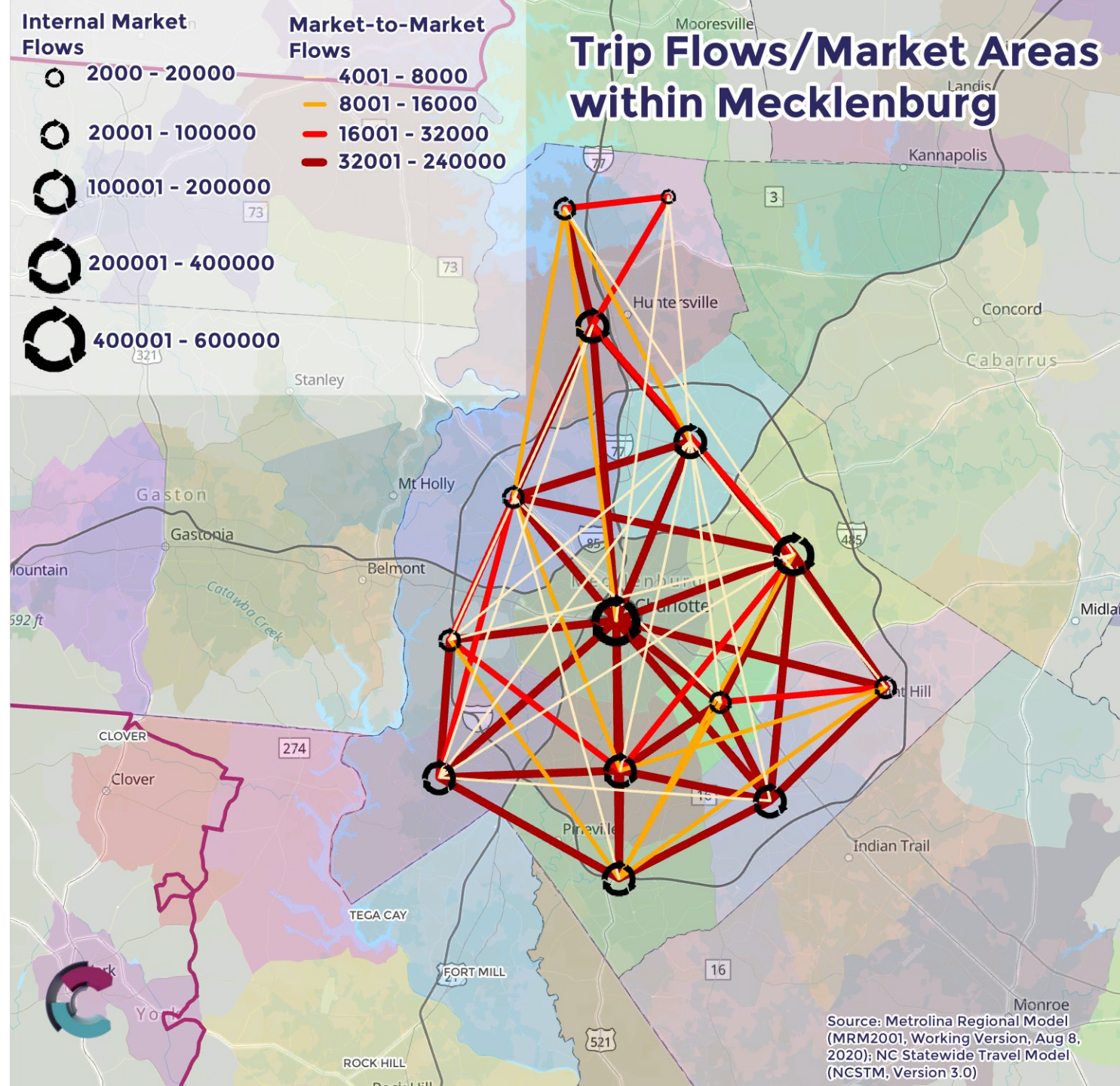
Market Areas Excluding Internal Mecklenburg

- Many trips stay internal to market areas: Uptown, Gaston, Salisbury, Monroe, Rock Hill

- East-west travel on NC73

- Ballantyne area drawing trips from southern study area

- Concord / Kannapolis attracting neighboring travel markets

Internal Market Flows
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Candidate Corridors

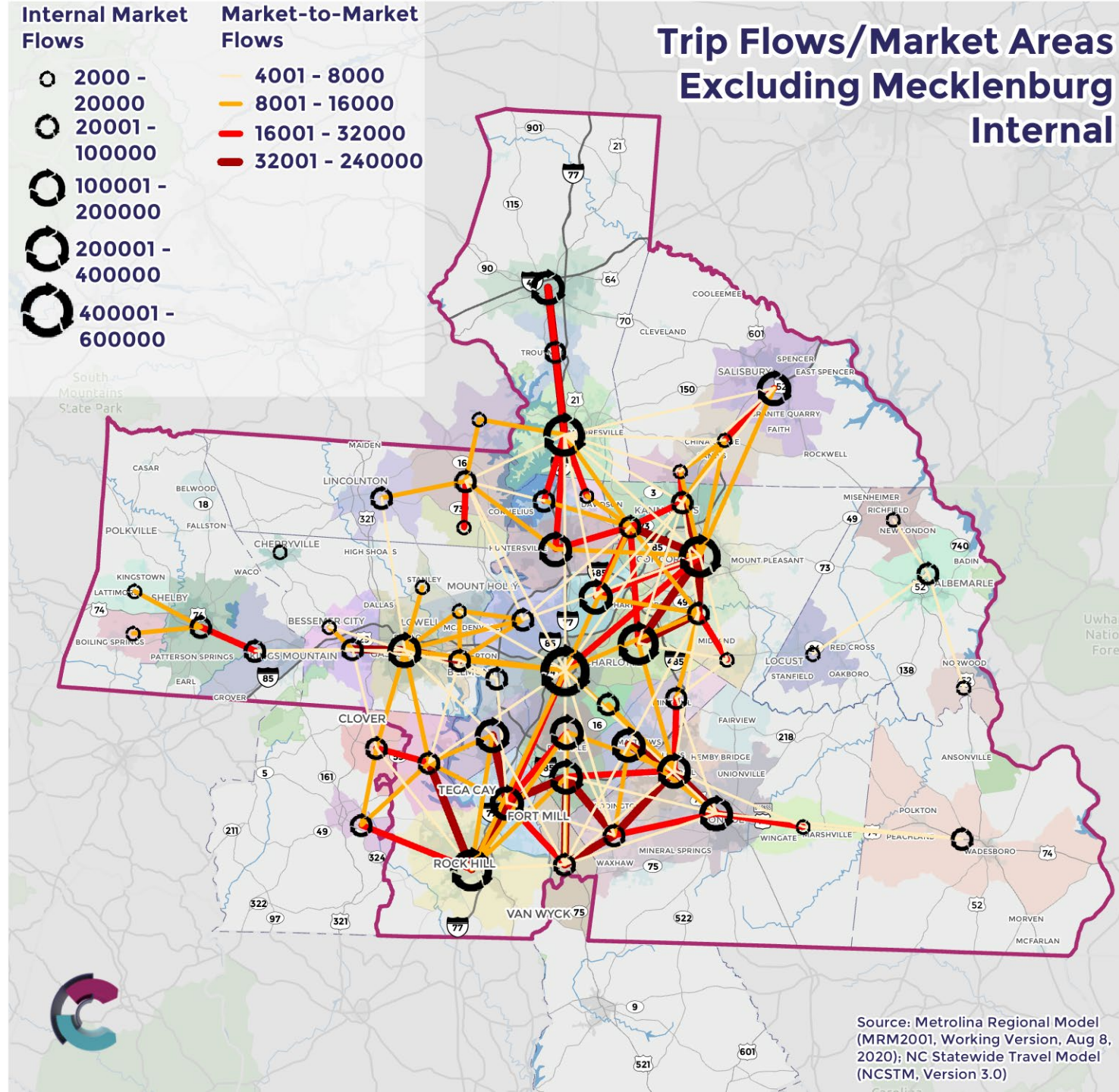**REGIONAL DATA**

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Local & Regional
Transportation Plans

Transit Plans

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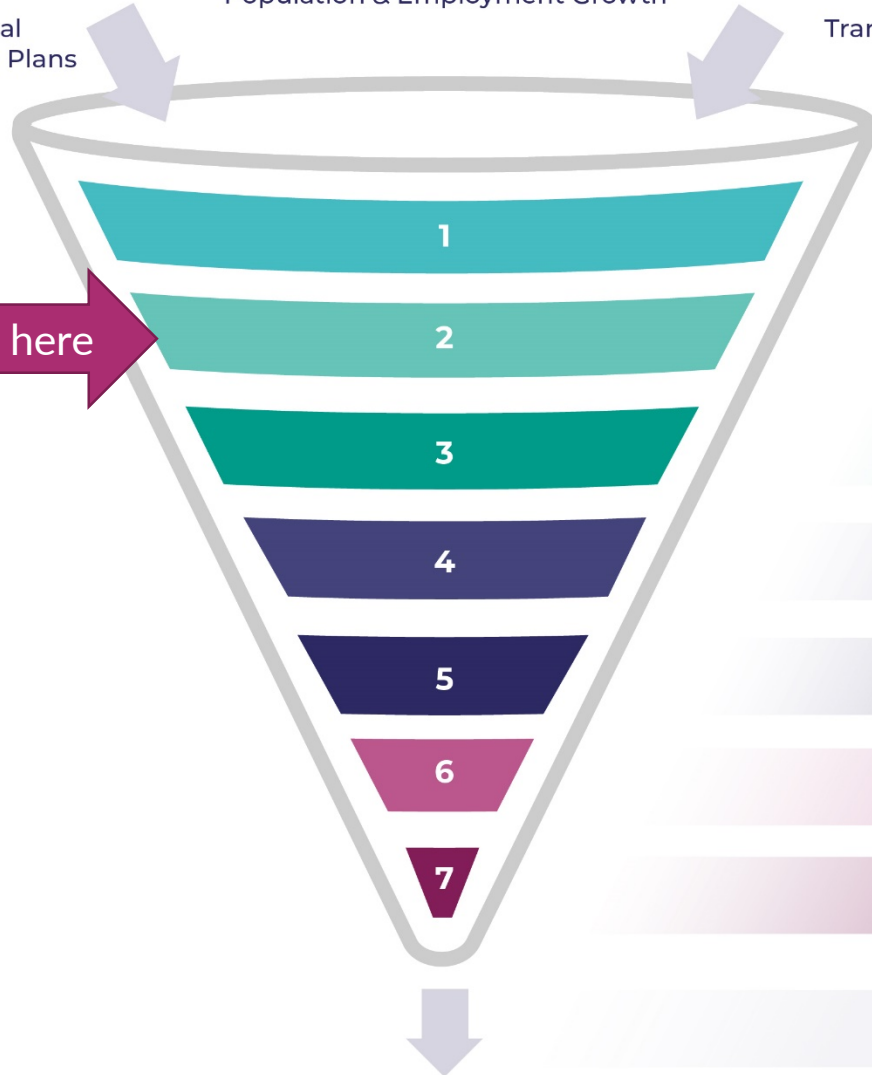
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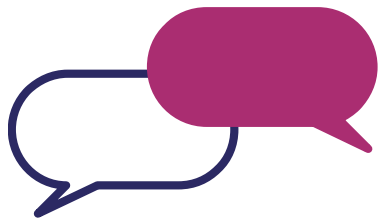Incorporate preferred corridors into additional tasks

What we need to know

1. Do the preliminary corridors make sense?

2. Are there additional corridors that need to be considered and are we reaching the right key destinations?

3. Are there key areas or emerging areas of your community that may warrant HCT in the future?

4. Are there areas of regional significance that we need to know about because either the area should be considered for a corridor connection or because the area should be avoided due to cultural, environmental, or other reasons?
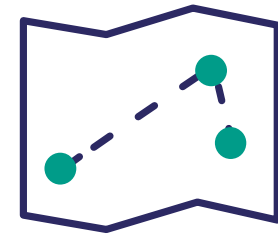
CONNECT Beyond

How to provide feedback

Chat box

Raise hand to speak

Leave comments
directly on the map

Interactive Map Exercise

https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/8772693fcf674538bac057f8d37bd58f

Next Steps

What's Next?

Project Management Team	Committee
• Present candidate corridors to all MPO/RPOs, Policy Advisory Committee and Community Advisory Committee • Launch Community Survey	• Provide feedback on candidate corridors through the StoryMap if they have more to share • Be our champions for future public involvement to further refine the corridors to be evaluated

Contact Us

✉ contact@connect-beyond.com

	2020									2021							
Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.

Public Engagement

Community Survey #1

Tell us where you want to go and how you want to get there.

Listening Sessions

We'll take a deeper dive to understand the needs the community

Community Survey #2

Review our recommendations and share feedback.

Advisory Committees

Evaluating existing transit systems

Make recommendations for potential high capacity corridors

Identify opportunities for commuter rail

Strategize ways to better coordinate regional bus services

Develop a transportation demand management plan

Document transit-oriented development strategies

Consider improving connections between urban & rural transit services

Develop final recommendations & implementation strategies

Technical Advisory Committee
Upcoming Milestones

Fall 2020	Winter 2020/2021	Spring 2021	Summer 2021

Fall 2020
- Present Refined Candidate Corridors
- Form ad hoc committee to begin regional bus coordination and TDM strategies

Winter 2020/2021
- Field observations and ride-arounds
- Evaluate local TDM needs – local interviews
- Targeted meetings to evaluate urban to rural connections

Spring 2021
- Scenario workshops for integrated bus service strategies

Summer 2021
- Review preliminary and consolidated final results
- Present draft and final plan

Thank You