



This year, voters made a significant investment in the future of Austin's transit system. The Project Connect program will be transformative for Austin, improving mobility in our city for generations. Austin will also demonstrate how significant projects like this can center equity in all phases of implementation. Voters also continued to invest in our roads, bridges, sidewalks, trails and other mobility infrastructure ensuring safe, accessible and well-connected travel exists for all users and all mobility modes.

Passage of Project Connect

In November 2020, voters passed Project Connect, a \$7 billion transportation program that will transform transit in Austin, move us closer to our mode shift and climate goals, and center equity in its implementation and operation.

- **Initial Investment:**

- 3 new rails lines 27 miles of rail service and 31 stations
- Increased service, 9 new Park & Rides, 4 new MetroRapid routes, 3 new MetroExpress routes and 15 new neighborhood circulator zones
- 4 new MetroRapid routes provide frequent service with a limited number of stops
- 3 new MetroExpress regional routes
- 9 new Park & Rides and 1 Transit Center
- All-electric bike fleet stationed at transit hubs

(Source: [CapMetro](#))

- **Equity and Anti-Displacement:**

- Focused \$300 million investment in anti-displacement efforts that will include acquiring real property use of financing tools and other anti-displacement strategies.
- Creation of an Equity Assessment Tool analyzing how the implementation of Project Connect may exacerbate conditions leading to displacement of

residents and identifying investments that will create economic opportunities for residents living in the transit corridors.

(Source: [Resolution #20200807-003](#); *Project Connect Contract with the Voters*)

- **Community Expert and Resident Advisory Committees:**

- Committees of community experts and residents that will advise and provide recommendations from project design through implementation have been appointed and are currently meeting;
 - [The Community Advisory Committee](#) (City of Austin) engages with the community and advises the City Council, Cap Metro and ATP on anti-displacement measures and equity issues related to the Project Connect program
 - The [Technical Advisory Committees](#) (Austin Transit Partnership) consists of three committees comprised of community experts grouped by subject matter expertise:
 - Financial and Risk
 - Planning, Sustainability, Equity & DBE Advisory
 - Engineering, Architecture and Construction

(Source: [ATP April Board packet](#); [Interlocal between COA and CapMetro](#))

- **Accomplishments of the Austin Transit Partnership / Project Connect Implementation:**

In the first eight months, ATP and Project Connect has:

- Received FTA notice of acceptance into critical Project Development phase of the Capital Investment Grant (CIG) New Starts program for Blue and Orange Lines
- Launched 2 Neighborhood Circulators (Dessau and South Menchaca) with North Oak Hill launching late August
- Delivered 30% designs on the Red Line McKalla Station
- Submitted 15% final design packages for Orange and Blue Lines

(Source: [ATP August Board packet](#))

Passage of \$460M Safety and Active Transportation Bond

In November of 2020, voters approved the \$460M Safety and Active transportation bond to fund sidewalks, transportation-related bikeways, urban trails, transportation safety projects (Vision Zero), and safe routes to school and substandard streets.

- **Projects made possible with this funding include:**
 - Construction of 30% of the Tier 1 Urban Trail Network
 - Completion of 70% of the All Ages and Abilities Bike Network.
 - Addressing safety concerns at 25 major intersections and 70 street segments
 - Creating safe routes to school for 8% of the high and very high projects identified citywide.
 - Investments improving substandard streets and other necessary major capital improvements

(Source: [City of Austin](#))

Progress on 2018 \$160M Transportation Infrastructure Bond

In November of 2018, voters approved \$160 million in transportation bonds that would focus on rehabilitation of street, sidewalk, bridge and other infrastructure, improvements for pedestrian and intersection safety and improvement of public spaces. While many projects are still in study, planning or design, some notable work includes:

- 25% of sidewalk rehabilitation work completed resulting in over **42,000 of lineal feet (8 miles) of rehabilitated sidewalks** at dozens of locations throughout Austin.
- Safety improvements at N. Lamar and Morrow including upgraded pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

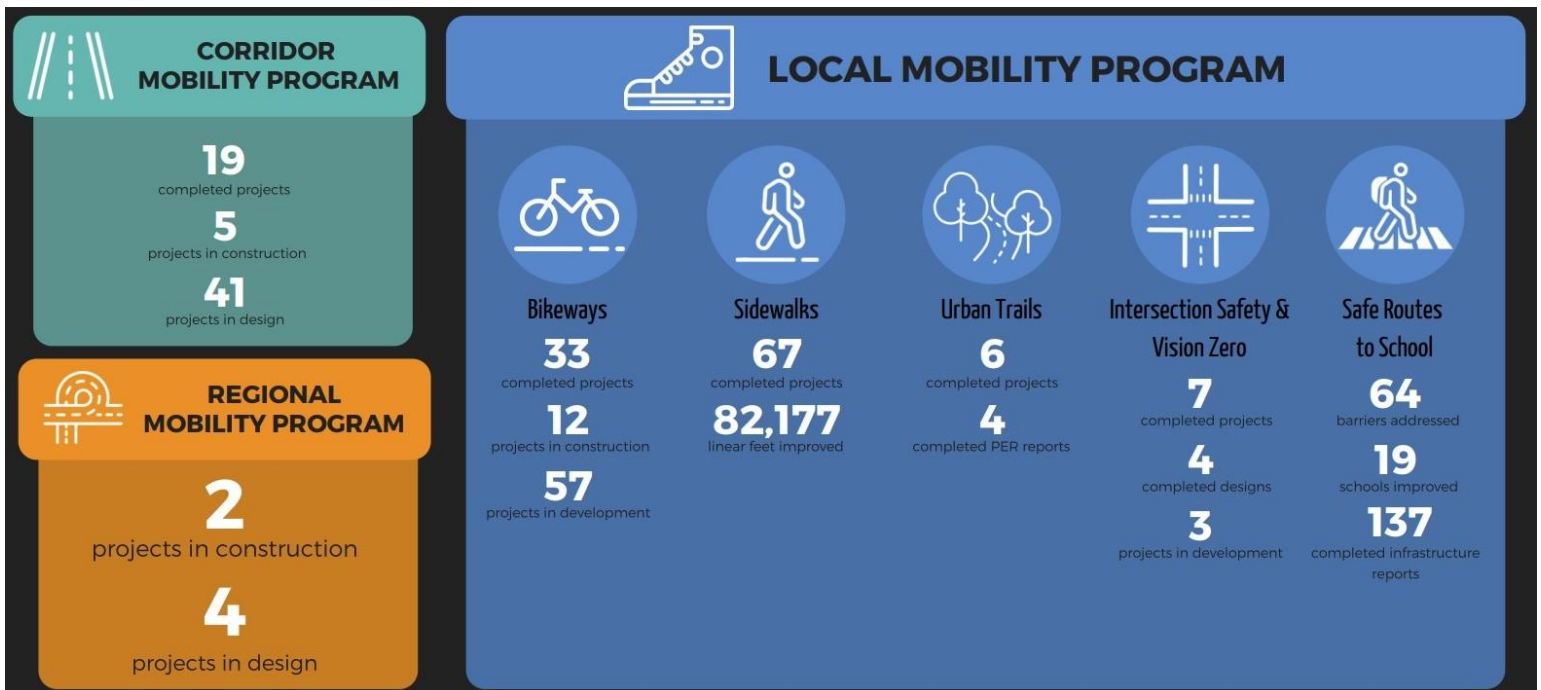
(Source: [City of Austin](#), [ATD](#), and city staff)

Progress on 2016 \$720M Mobility Bond

In November of 2016, voters approved \$720 million in transportation bonds for safety and mobility improvements across the city. A significant number of projects have been completed or are under construction. Notable completed and projects under construction include:

- **Austin's first dual track trail** along Boggy Creek allowing separation of pedestrians and those on wheeled devices along the trail.
- Broke ground on the South Lamar Corridor, **Austin's first complete street concept implementation.**

- Safe routes to school projects at Lively Middle and Paredes Elementary School including **new sidewalks and crossing islands.**
- Completed mobility and safety improvements at North Lamar intersections of W. Powell Lane, Fairfield Drive, Cooper Drive and W. Grady Drive including **smart traffic signals and pedestrian hybrid beacons.**
- Safety/Vision Zero projects at Webberville Road and the intersection of North Lamar and Payton Gin Road that will **reduce crashes and better protect pedestrians and cyclists.**



(Source: [City of Austin](#), [South Lamar](#))