

## // Atlanta Streetcar System Plan

Citywide Conversation April 23, 2015

### // Overview



# A Supplement to the Connect Atlanta Plan and the ABI Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP)

- Multi-year effort that began in 2011 to strategically plan for the expansion and implementation of transit throughout the City of Atlanta
- Includes all streetcar lines in the *Connect Atlanta Plan* including the Atlanta BeltLine
- Project evaluation based on Equity, Readiness, Value Capture, Finance, Ridership
- Significant stakeholder and public input garnered to date
- Integrates the unified Atlanta Streetcar system into the Atlanta BeltLine

### // Study Funding Partners













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### // Community Engagement



#### **Ongoing Process (2011 – Present)**

- Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Technical Advisory Committee
- Citywide Conversations
- Study Group Meetings
- Online Surveys
- Crosstown Connections Meetings
- City of Atlanta Public Hearings



### // Approval of the Plan





- Recognizes that the Streetcar System Plan is a key supplement to the Connect Atlanta Plan
- Supports City population and employment growth objectives
- Provides policy framework for expansion of Atlanta Streetcar throughout the City of Atlanta
- Required to pursue Federal funding

### // Purpose of Plan Refinement



- Integrate modern streetcar with MARTA and regional transit system
- Focus streetcars vision on corridors connecting neighborhoods with key destinations and activity centers
- Address need for greater connectivity of the Atlanta Streetcar and Atlanta BeltLine
- Develop an operating strategy of integrated crosstown routes for buildout of the streetcar system
- Establish criteria for advancing streetcar corridors
- Identify a priority streetcar system with transit connections



### // Defining a Transit Corridor

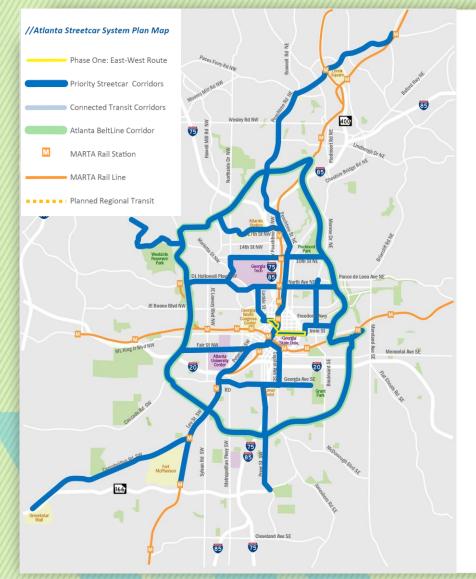


- General travel corridor where transit is identified as the transportation improvement
- Transportation solution that meets the goals, objectives and future needs of that corridor
- Not focused on a specific alignment, but a general area along the travel corridor (within ¼ mile or 2-3 city blocks)



### // Preliminary System Plan

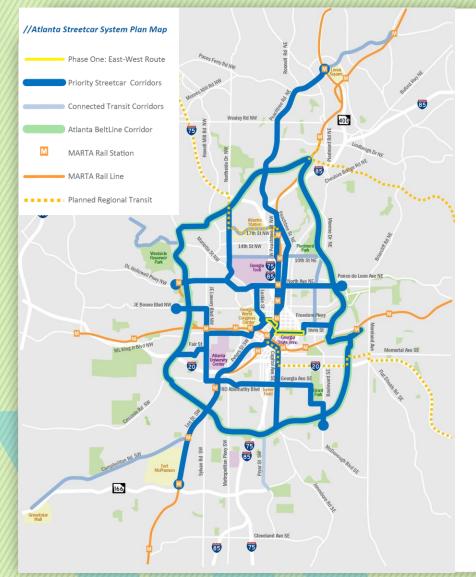




- 63-mile streetcar system
- Streetcar network from Connect Atlanta Plan
- Evaluation framework based on 5 guiding principles:
  - Project readiness
  - Practicality/ridership
  - Equity
  - Financial options
  - Development impact
- Screening process used to prioritize projects into phases
- More emphasis on streetcar segments than corridors

### // Refined System Plan





#### Priority Streetcar Network

- 50 miles of streetcar routes
- Establishes criteria for advancing corridors

#### Connected Transit Network

- 18 miles of new/enhanced transit service interfacing with streetcar system
- Includes circulators and shuttle service
- Provides direct access to the streetcar system
- More emphasis on streetcar corridors and operable routes
- Compliments existing and planned transit service

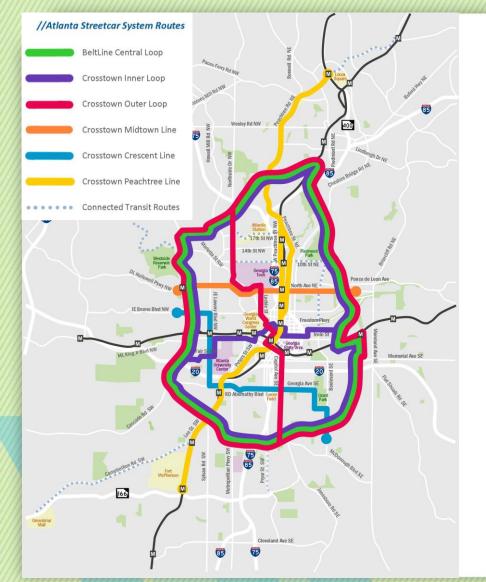
### // Criteria for Future Expansion



#### • Utilizes the 5 guiding principles, developed early in the SSP process:

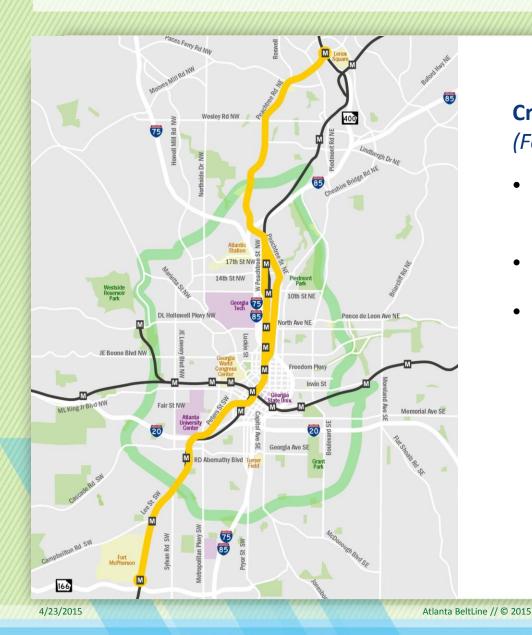
- Project Readiness
  - Direct connection to current streetcar routes in operation
  - Continued advancement through project development phases
- Practicality/Ridership
  - Demonstrates high ridership potential
  - Supports cost-effective project delivery and operation
- Equity
  - Serves transit-dependent and choice riders
  - Connects residents to major employment and activity centers
- Financial Leverage
  - Competitive in Federal funding process and attracts local investment
  - Identified/committed funding sources to build, operate and maintain
- Development Impact
  - Supports established communities and districts
  - Encourages investment in under-utilized and vacant properties





- Integrates multiple crosstown streetcar routes with service along the Atlanta BeltLine corridor
- Connects communities, key destinations and employment centers
- Promotes more one-seat rides and seamless connections to MARTA
  - Serves existing riders and attract new transit ridership
  - Supports efficient and costeffective operations

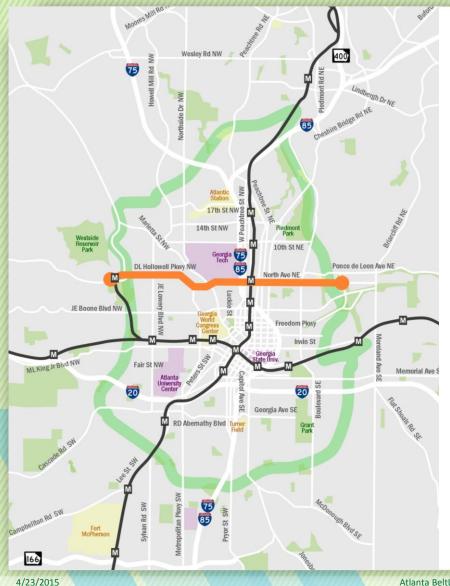




#### **Crosstown Peachtree Line** (Fort McPherson to Buckhead)

- Peachtree St/West Peachtree St/ Peters St/Lee St corridor
- Bi-directional on-street operation
- Serves key destinations:
  - Fort McPherson
  - Downtown
  - Midtown
  - Fox Theatre
  - Woodruff Arts Center
  - Piedmont Hospital
  - Buckhead

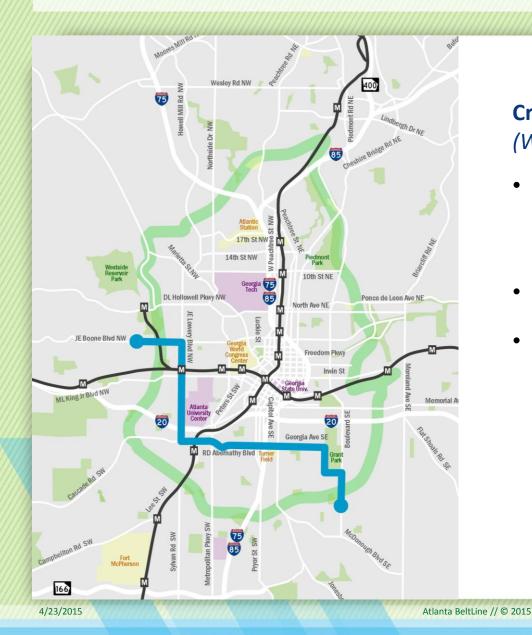




#### **Crosstown Midtown Line** (West BeltLine to East BeltLine)

- DL Hollowell Pkwy/ North Ave corridor
- Bi-directional on-street operation
- Serves key destinations:
  - Bankhead MARTA Station
  - Georgia Tech
  - North Avenue MARTA Station
  - Midtown
  - Historic Fourth Ward Park
  - Ponce City Market

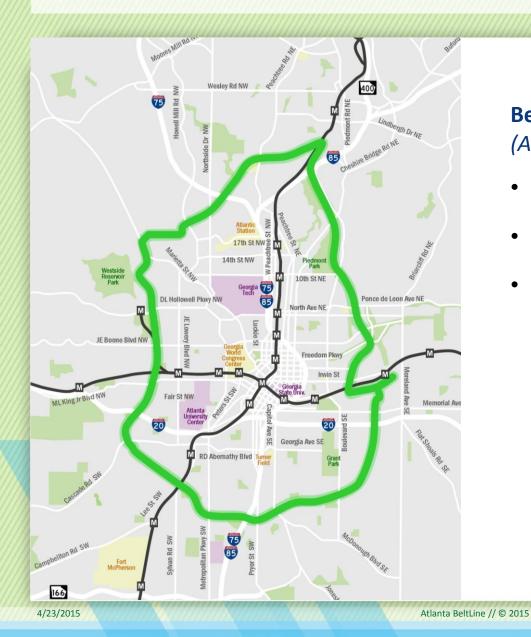




#### **Crosstown Crescent Line** (West BeltLine to SE BeltLine)

- Joseph E Lowery Blvd/ Ralph D Abernathy Blvd/ Georgia Ave corridor
- Bi-directional on-street operation
- Serves key destinations:
  - Ashby MARTA Station
  - Atlanta University Center
  - West End MARTA Station
  - Turner Field
  - Grant Park
  - Boulevard Crossings Park

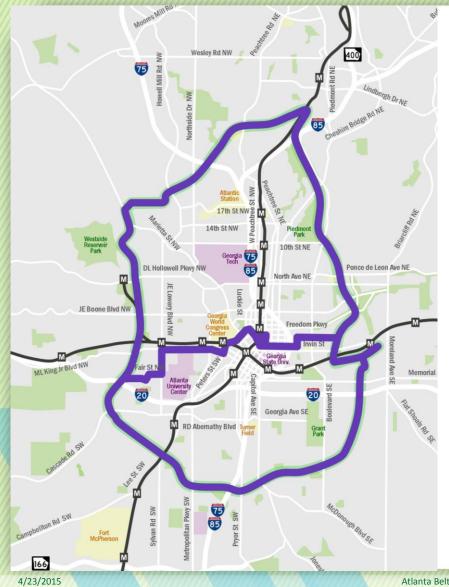




#### BeltLine Central Loop (Atlanta BeltLine)

- Atlanta BeltLine corridor
- Bi-directional loop operation
- Serves key destinations:
  - Westside Reservoir Park
  - Piedmont Hospital
  - Piedmont Park
  - Historic Fourth Ward Park
  - Boulevard Crossing Park
  - Murphy Crossing
  - Enota Park
  - Maddox Park



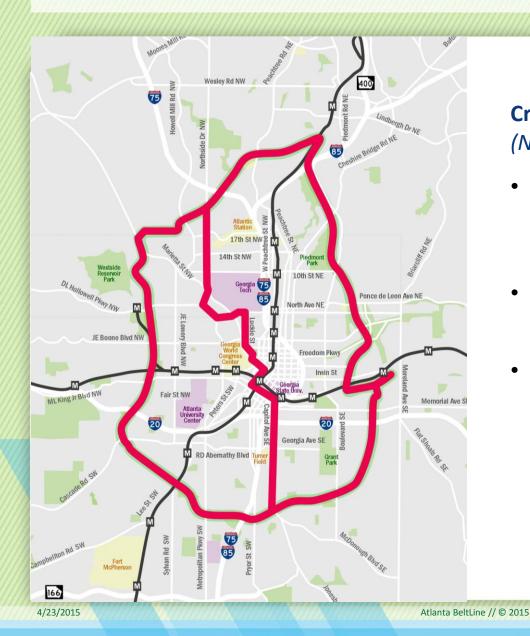


#### **Crosstown Inner Loop** (West BeltLine to East BeltLine)

- Fair St/MLK Jr Dr/Luckie St/ Auburn Ave/Edgewood Ave/ Irwin St/Atlanta BeltLine corridor
- Bi-directional on-street/one-way loop operation
- Serves key destinations:
  - Atlanta University Center
  - Centennial Olympic Park
  - Downtown
  - Georgia State University
  - King Center
  - Atlanta BeltLine Parks & Trails

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#### Crosstown Outer Loop (NW BeltLine to SE BeltLine)

- Northside Dr./Luckie St/Capitol Ave/Hank Aaron Dr/Atlanta BeltLine corridor
- Bi-directional on-street\one-way loop operation
- Serves key destinations:
  - Georgia Tech
  - Centennial Olympic Park
  - Downtown
  - Georgia State University
  - Turner Field
  - Atlanta BeltLine Parks & Trails

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### // Plan Refinement Process





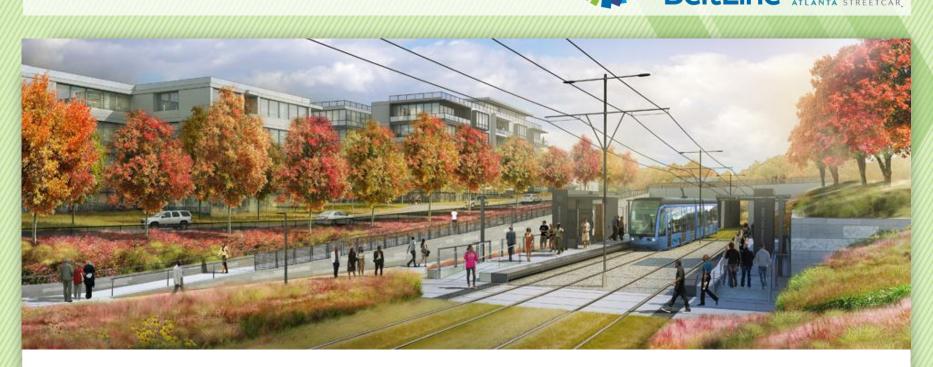
- Stakeholder Outreach
- Citywide Conversations
- Technical Refinements
- Connect Atlanta Coordination
- City Council Approval





Atlanta BeltLine // © 2015

# // Ongoing Activities/Next Steps Atlanta



- Conduct on-going system plan updates every 4 to 5 years to incorporate:
  - Implementation of streetcar projects and other programmed improvements
  - Changes in population, employment and land uses
  - New developments, key employment/activity centers and planning initiatives
  - Potential transit funding opportunities



# // Thank You

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