South Lamar Bus Rapid Transit Project

Austin, Texas Small Starts Project Development Information Prepared September 2020

The Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (CapMetro) proposes to connect downtown Austin to southwest Austin by extending the current MetroRapid BRT Route 803 further to the south and southwest in two branches - approximately 4.5 miles along Manchaca Road to Manchaca and approximately 5 miles along US290 to Oak Hill. The project is proposed to have 14 near-level boarding stations with improved amenities, better pedestrian access, and enhanced safety and security, along with increased transit service, transit priority treatments, off-board fare payment, and branded vehicles. The corridor serves several major employment areas and key activity centers including downtown Austin, Ascension Seton Southwest, Small Middle School, Crockett High School, Austin Community College (ACC) South Austin Campus, and Joslin and Cunningham Elementary Schools. CapMetro believes that the project would build on the success of the current Route 803 BRT service by extending the frequent and reliable service, and upgraded passenger amenities to the south and southwest of the corridor. The project's current estimated capital cost is \$26 million.

CapMetro adopted the locally preferred alternative (LPA) for the South Lamar BRT corridor in June 2020. CapMetro anticipates adoption of the LPA into the fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan in Fall 2020, completing the environmental review process with a Categorical Exclusion in Spring 2021, and receiving a Small Starts Grant in Fall 2021. Revenue service would begin in Summer 2023.

