

Transit Spine Bus Rapid Transit

Flagstaff, Arizona

Small Starts Project Development

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The Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (NAIPTA) proposes to implement corridor-based bus rapid transit (BRT) service in a 13 mile corridor between the Flagstaff Pulliam Regional Airport in the southwest and the Flagstaff Mall in the northeast. The project would connect key activity centers and transit routes along an east-west alignment. Stations will be spaced in increments of approximately two-thirds of a mile and will include stops in downtown Flagstaff and on the campus of Northern Arizona University. The Transit Spine BRT will also connect to NAIPTA's Mountain Link line, a Very Small Starts BRT project that opened in 2011. Other features of the project will include traffic signal prioritization, queue jump lanes, and some bus-only lanes. NAIPTA believes the project will improve mobility in this rapidly developing corridor that spans diverse neighborhoods.

NAIPTA currently estimates the total project cost to be \$32.9 million, but has not yet identified the amount of Small Starts funding the project will seek. A locally preferred alternative was selected in April 2016, and is expected to be adopted into the region's fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan late 2016 or early 2017. NAIPTA expects to complete its environmental review process in late 2017 with the receipt of a Categorical Exclusion. The project sponsor expects to receive a Small Starts Grant Agreement in 2020 and begin revenue service in 2021.