

INVEST ATLANTA

Westside Tax Allocation District

Environmental Assessment for Crosstown Inner Loop (Purple Line) Atlanta Streetcar Extension

FUNDING SOURCE: \$650,000 of Westside TAD Tax Increment
\$365,625 from Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)

**PROJECT SPONSOR/
IMPLEMENTATION AGENT:** Atlanta Beltline, Inc. (ABI)

LOCATION: The Crosstown Inner Loop (Purple Line) is a bi-directional, on-street and loop operation along Fair Street, MLK, Jr. Drive, Luckie Street, Auburn Avenue, Edgewood Avenue, Irwin Street and the Atlanta BeltLine corridor serving the following key destinations:

- Centennial Olympic Park
- Downtown
- Georgia State University
- The King Center

The Crosstown Inner West Streetcar Corridor is the western portion of the Crosstown corridor that runs from Centennial Olympic Park to the Atlanta BeltLine Westside Trail via MLK, Jr. Drive, Joseph E. Lowery Blvd., Fair Street and Westview Drive. The project is 2.5 miles long of which 1.59 miles, or 64%, falls within the Westside TAD. This addition to the Crosstown Inner Loop will expand service to include the following key destinations:

- Castleberry Hill Neighborhood
- Historic Ashview Heights Neighborhood
- Atlanta University Center
- Atlanta Preparatory Academy
- Booker T Washington High School
- Jones Elementary School
- Atlanta BeltLine Parks and Trails

Council District: 3 & 4 NPU: L & M

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Atlanta BeltLine, Inc., under the direction of the City of Atlanta, has been managing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) clearance for the Atlanta BeltLine East Environmental Assessment transit project, which extends from Montgomery Ferry Drive south to Glenwood Avenue through an alignment along Edgewood Avenue and/or Irwin Street.

The recent adoption of the Streetcar System Plan (SSP) which identifies specific operating routes, along with the ongoing progress with the NEPA process has proved it prudent and cost effective to include the corridor west of the Downtown Streetcar,

which will allow the City to complete the NEPA process for the Purple Line route.

This proposed extension would include the 2.5 mile western portion of the Crosstown corridor which runs from Centennial Olympic Park through the Atlanta University Center (AUC) to the Atlanta BeltLine Westside Trail via MLK, Jr. Drive, Joseph E. Lowery Blvd., and Westview Drive. This effort would enable ABI to clear the remainder of the Purple Line under the current NEPA effort, and would also prevent the City from incurring greater costs in clearing the rest of the Purple Line under a separate procurement process. This recommendation been discussed with FTA Region 4 and there is mutual agreement that this is a cost effective and logical approach. This effort would also ensure that both East-West crosstown alignments on the SSP are cleared and ready to be eligible for major federal funding opportunities.

BACKGROUND:

The Crosstown Inner West Corridor streetcar project emerged from The Atlanta Streetcar System Plan (SSP) which was approved and adopted by Atlanta City Council in December 2015. The Project includes approximately 2.5 route miles of a streetcar system that would connect to Atlanta's existing streetcar service in Downtown Atlanta. It would operate on embedded rails within the public road right-of-way, and connect to planned transit along the Atlanta BeltLine corridor's west side (site of the Westside Trail currently under construction). The Project would include the streetcar alignment, station stops, a maintenance facility, and other ancillary facilities. The Purpose and Need for the Project is to:

- Achieve the goals of Plan 2040 Regional Transportation Plan;
- Provide improved mobility, accessibility, and connectivity; and
- Support Atlanta's goals for economic development.

The Project would serve key destinations in Atlanta's urban core, such as Centennial Olympic Park, the College Football Hall of Fame, Philips Arena, the CNN Center, the Georgia World Congress Center, Mercedes-Benz Stadium (opening 2017), the Atlanta University Center, and the Atlanta BeltLine Westside Trail. It would provide transit services within or adjacent to the West End, Westview, Ashview Heights, Just Us, College Town at West End, Vine City, and Castleberry Hill. It is also expected to result in economic development opportunities and provide an alternative travel mode for residents, employees and visitors alike.

JOB CREATION:

1,800 construction jobs will be created to construct the project and 2,000 permanent jobs will be created once the system is completed.

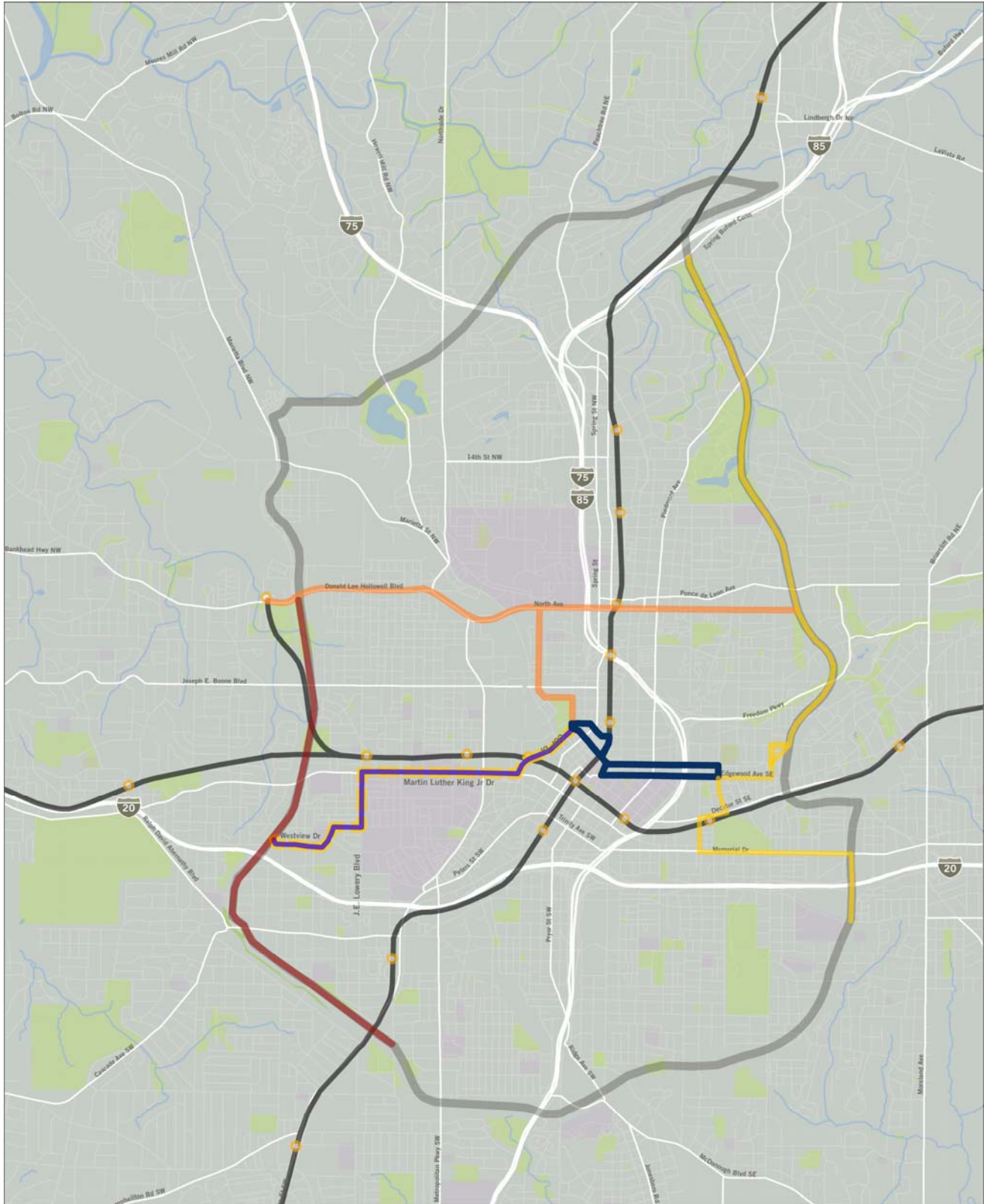
FUNDING USES:

SOURCES	USE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	% PROJECT COST
ARC	Consultants for Federal Planning/Environmental Documentation	\$365,625	36.0%
Westside TAD	Consultant Design Engineer to Support Environmental Documentation	\$650,000	64.0%
	TOTAL	\$1,015,625	100%

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

ACTIVITY	DATE
Consultants resume EA work on revised scope	May 2016
Complete Environmental Review and New Starts Documentation	December 2016

The Crosstown Inner West Streetcar Corridor (Purple Line)



- Crosstown Inner Loop
- Environmental Assessment East
- Downtown Streetcar
- Beltline Central Loop
- Environmental Assessment West
- Environmental Assessment Crosstown



Atlanta Streetcar System Routes

