



Connect Cobb



Connect Cobb
Northwest Transit Corridor Alternatives Analysis

March 2012

Connect Cobb Fact Sheet

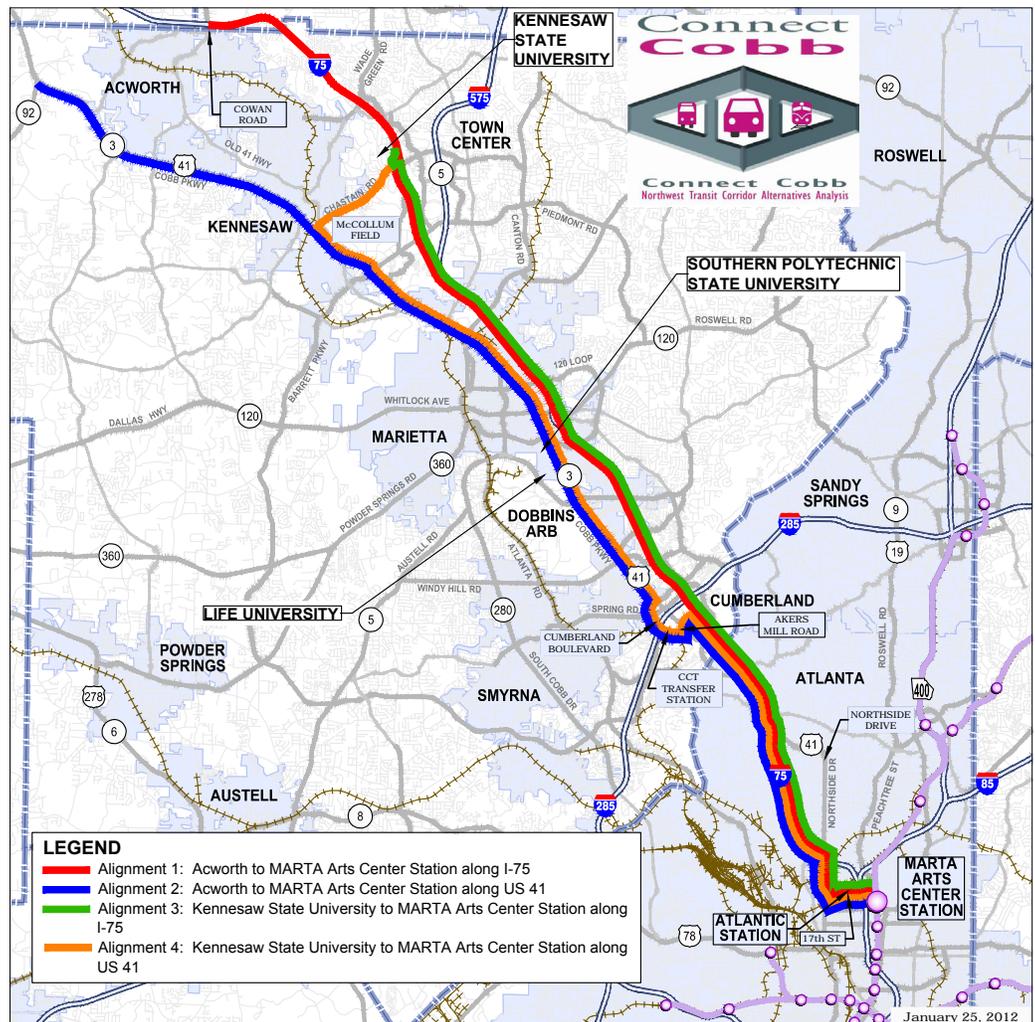
Connect Cobb in Motion

Connect Cobb, also known as the Northwest Transit Corridor Alternatives Analysis (AA) is well underway. Since the project's start in August 2011, the project team has been coordinating with the Federal Transit Administration, providing them information about the study area and need for transit improvements; the initial set of alternatives being considered; and the approach that is being used to evaluate and screen the alternatives. We've conducted a telephone survey of about 700 Cobb voters and met with numerous stakeholders in the development of the goals and objectives for the project.

We are currently looking at the proposed alignments to determine how well each one performs at meeting the study's goals and objectives. Over the next few months, we will continue to refine the alignments and station locations. We will also start to look at initial travel and ridership numbers. We expect to be complete with our initial evaluation of the alignments by the end of April 2012.

Study Alignments

The map shows four proposed "build" alignments. As part of our Alternatives Analysis process, we always consider a "no-build" alternative that only includes the existing service and any planning improvements, like maintenance, that would be on the ground by opening year of the proposed project. Once we determine the appropriate alignment, we can begin to look at the mode, such as Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), light rail, and dedicated busway.



Community Outreach

Stakeholder Roundtables

A series of very successful Stakeholder Roundtables were held in December of 2011. The December series included five individual roundtables organized by topic, including transportation and air quality, land use, economic development, environment, and financial. More than eighty attendees participated in the roundtables, many attending more than one or even all five. A broad cross-section of stakeholders attended with representation from the general public; local, state and regional agency staff; the business community; environmental groups; civic organizations; and advocacy groups. As a result of the roundtables, the project team received excellent input on the study's purpose, need, goals and objectives as well as the criteria to help evaluate the study's alternatives.

In February 2012, Roundtable participants were invited to join together for one meeting. Attendees listened to a short presentation on the project status, preliminary alignments and general station location types. The group then visited tables with maps of the alignments and provided their thoughts on each alignment, areas of issues or concerns, and potential station locations. A similar exercise was also conducted with the project's Technical and Partners' teams. Collectively, we were able to catalogue numerous valuable comments.

Additional Roundtables are tentatively planned for April and June. Please visit the project website, www.cobbdot.org/connectcobb.htm, for announcements and to view materials from past meetings.

University Outreach

The Connect Cobb study area extends from Acworth to Midtown Atlanta including many colleges and universities. To capture the important student perspective, the project team developed an online survey and distributed the link to such institutions as Kennesaw State University, Southern Polytechnic State University, Life University, Georgia State University, Georgia Tech, Chattahoochee Technical College, and Savannah College of Art and Design. More than 450 survey responses have been received to date.

How can I get more information?

Please visit our project webpage at www.cobbdot.org/connectcobb.htm for more information and to receive the latest update. If you have any questions, or would like to participate in the Roundtables, please contact Kristine Hansen-Dederick at hansen-dederick@sycamoreconsulting.net or 404-377-9147.

