

HILL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION STUDY and BRT UPDATE



Port
Authority

FEBRUARY 23, 2021

AGENDA

- Introduction
- Neighborhood Plan Guide
- Current Transportation Study Content
- Greater Hill District Master Plan / Centre Avenue Redevelopment and Design Plan
Mobility Overview
- BRT Update
- Next Steps

AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Department of Mobility and Infrastructure (DOMI)**
 - Provide the physical mobility necessary to support the social and economic mobility of the people of Pittsburgh through the management, design, improvement, and operation of the public right-of-way (ROW).
- **Port Authority of Allegheny County (PAAC)**
 - Port Authority provides safe, reliable, and affordable public transportation throughout Allegheny County.

NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN GUIDE – MOBILITY

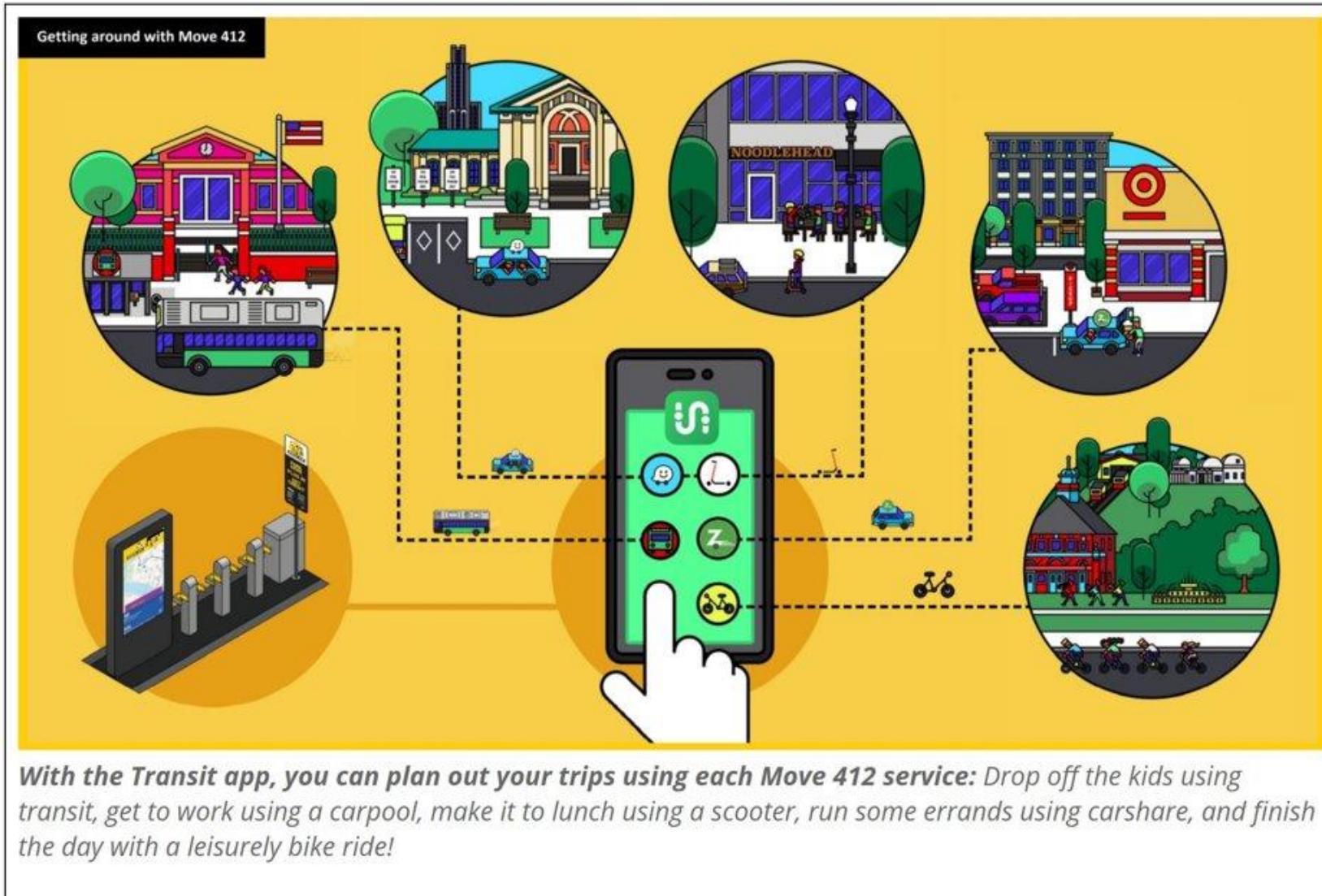
Required

- Accessibility
- Pedestrian Infrastructure
- Bicycle Infrastructure
- Traffic Safety
- Parking
- Transit Service and Stops

Optional

- Mobility as a Service (MaaS)
 - Loading Operations
-
- Partners include DOMI, PAAC, Pittsburgh Parking Authority (PPA), and you
 - Transportation subject matter experts / consultants will be preparing the chapter
 - These are defined generally so what do they mean for the Hill District?

MOBILITY AS A SERVICE – MOVE 412



Learn more at: <https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/move-412>

WHAT IS INCLUDED WITH THIS TRANSPORTATION STUDY?

Accessibility

- Identify areas of particular concern for those with limited mobility.
- Identify transit accessibility issues.
- Understand where people have difficulty driving.
- Understand gaps in destinations served by the bike network.

Pedestrian Safety and Infrastructure (including city steps)

- Identify missing sidewalk connections.
- Identify narrow sidewalks or those with impediments.
- Identify city steps in need of replacement or maintenance.
- Identify intersections where crossings are uncomfortable.
- Identify locations where drivers speed or create other unsafe conditions.

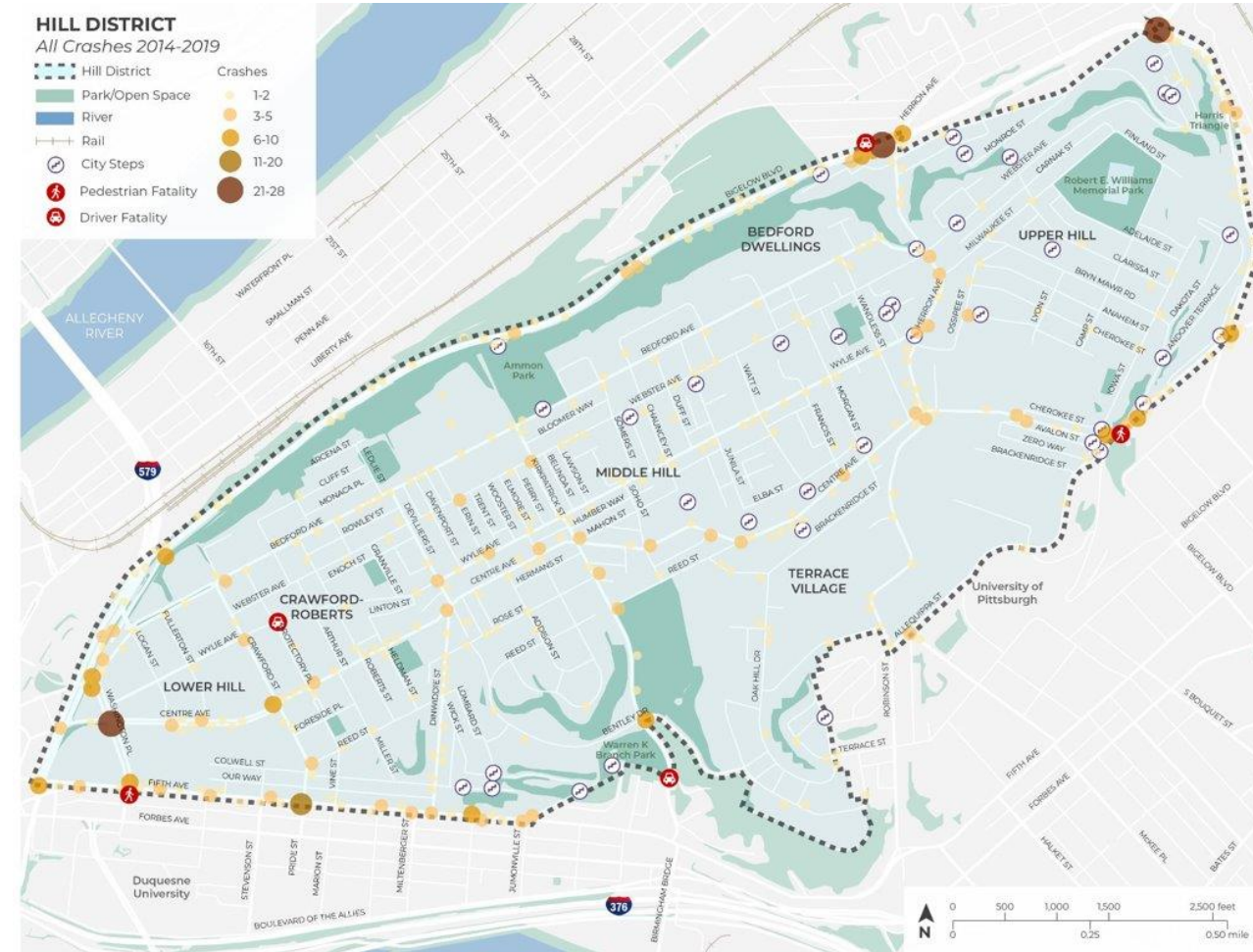
WHAT IS INCLUDED WITH THIS TRANSPORTATION STUDY? (con't)

Bicycle Safety and Infrastructure

- Identify missing links in the bike network.
- Identify intersections where biking feels uncomfortable.
- Identify locations where drivers speed or create other unsafe conditions.
- Understand where users want and need to bike.

Traffic Calming and Safety

- Identify locations for crashes.
- Identify locations for unsafe activity (i.e., high speeds, violations, etc.).
- Identify locations for dangerous pedestrian activity.



WHAT IS INCLUDED WITH THIS TRANSPORTATION STUDY? (con't)

Parking

- Identify locations where demand for parking is high.
- Identify locations where regulations are being violated.
- Understand residential parking needs not being met.
- Understand what residents might want to change about on-street parking.
- Identify opportunities for shared parking to reduce overflow on-street parking and / or reduce the amount of new structured parking required.

Loading Operations and Curbside Activity

- Understand loading from the resident perspective.
- Understand what areas trucks need to access.
- Identify problem locations for street loading.
- Identify locations where truck operations of loading create safety concerns.

WHAT IS INCLUDED WITH THIS TRANSPORTATION STUDY? (con't)

Transit Service and Stops

- Understand how and when people use transit.
- Understand the types of trips for which people use transit.
- Identify gaps in locations where people can take transit.
- Understand what types of trips people want transit to better accommodate.
- Identify locations where stop amenities (i.e., shelters, lighting, benches, etc.) may be desired or warranted.

Transportation Demand Management

Implementation Plan

- Short- and long-term improvements
- Priority projects
- High capital investment projects

ACCESSIBILITY

Greater Hill District Master Plan

- Ensure viable and affordable transportation access for the community.
- Improve transportation networks and services to other parts of the city and within the Hill District.
- New infrastructure should promote walkability and accessibility for all and safe connections to jobs and other amenities.
- Increase transportation options for residents and visitors alike.

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Greater Hill District Master Plan

- Improve the overall pedestrian experience and safety.
- Improve the Bedford and Herron avenues streetscapes as well as other gateway locations.
- Improve Chauncey Street steps.
- Establish Coal Seam Trail and improve connections to access this new resource.

Centre Avenue Redevelopment and Design Plan

- Establish the Heritage Walk and Greenspace Walk sites.
- Reiterates the need for streetscape improvements.
- Identifies need and challenge of implementing bike infrastructure.
- Widen sidewalk in certain locations and install street trees and other amenities.

VEHICULAR ACCESS, SAFETY, AND PARKING

Greater Hill District Master Plan

- Create a comprehensive traffic and parking study for Uptown.
- Create a parking strategy that supports new development, including the Lower Hill redevelopment, and minimizes adverse impacts to residents.

Centre Avenue Redevelopment and Design Plan

- Evaluate potential realignment of Centre Avenue at (1) Dinwiddie Street and (2) Mahon Street.
- Reiterates the need for a comprehensive parking strategy.
- Evaluate potential improvements to the Centre Avenue and Reed Street intersection.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE TRANSIT

Greater Hill District Master Plan

- Establish short-term public transit to serve immediate residential needs (i.e., shuttles) and advocate for changes or additional transit services.
- Establish a shuttle system that takes residents to and from major employment centers at key times (i.e., start and end of shifts).
- Establish regular jitney service for small groups to major employers.

MOBILITY OTHER

Greater Hill District Master Plan

- Establish a transportation advocacy group to engage on transportation projects and initiatives.
- Develop a comprehensive Hill District transportation plan that aligns with city, state, and federal transportation projects.
- Improve mobility for residents while decreasing carbon emissions.
- Establish an online ride-sharing clearinghouse for drivers and users, potentially run by a Hill District organization.
- Create Complete Streets and employ residents for construction activities.

Centre Avenue Redevelopment and Design Plan

- Close segments of the street for festivals or other activities for a limited duration.

**Downtown – Uptown – Oakland – East End
Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project
Final Design Review Meeting
Project Stakeholders**

Project Goals

ACCESS

Improve accessibility for persons of all ages and abilities

COMFORT AND EASE OF USE

Improve access to shelter and amenities for waiting passengers

EFFICIENCY

Improve transit reliability and speed

EQUITY

Ensure that communities of greatest need benefit from these investments via direct transit connections

SAFETY

Improve conditions for pedestrians and riders, and develop a safe bicycle network

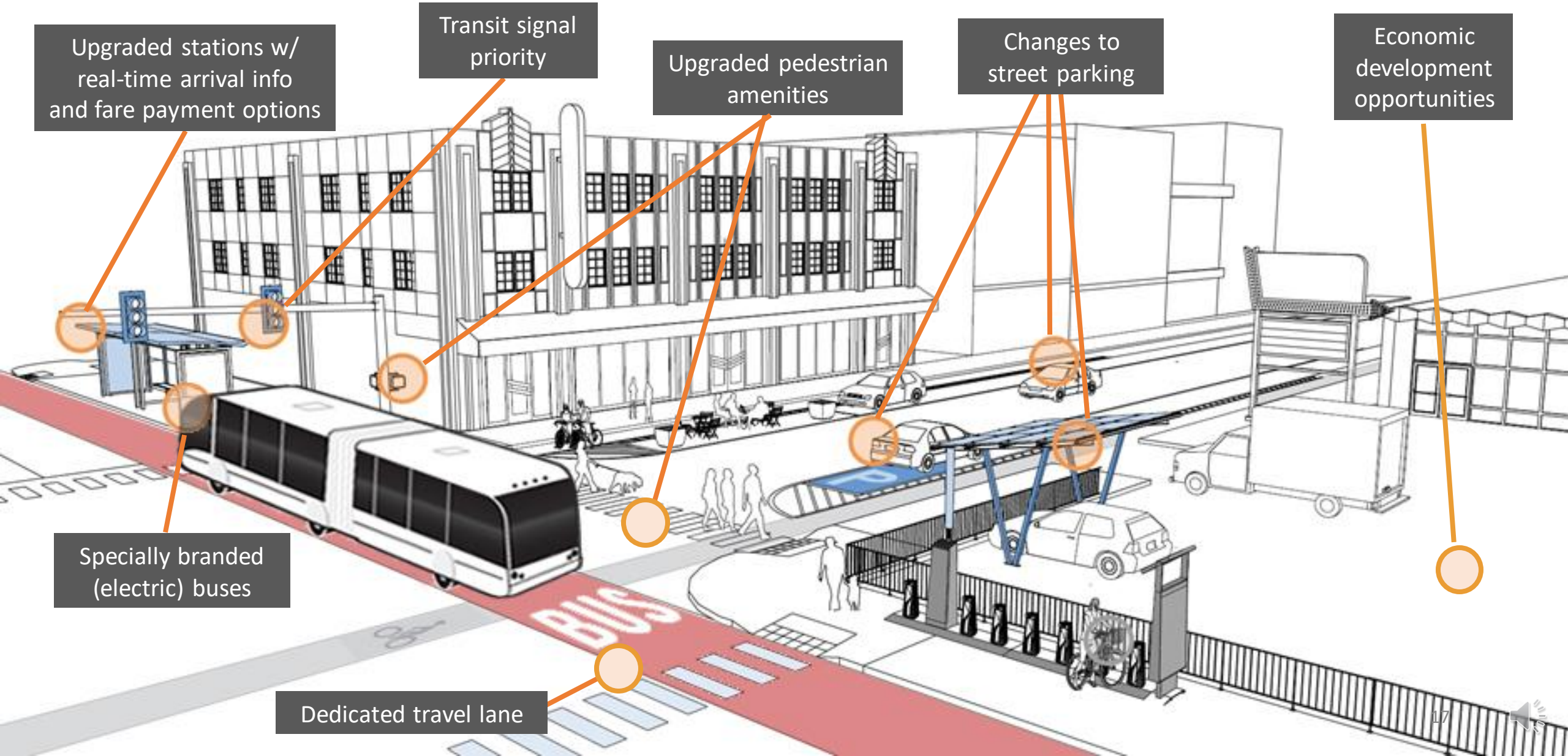
SUSTAINABILITY

Encourage mode shift out of cars

Improve air quality through electric technology



What is Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)?



Where will the BRT go?

Area with bus only lanes and protected bicycle facilities

Downtown

Uptown

Oakland

Bus Routes becoming BRT: P3, 61A, 61B, 61C, 71B
Local Routes Terminating in Oakland: 61D, 71A, 71C, 71D

Other Route Changes:

- P3 – shortened at outer end to Wilkinsburg
- 67, 69 – Use Blvd of Allies inbound through Uptown
- Downtown Minor Routing Changes – discussion in 2021
- Oakland Minor Routing Changes – discussion in 2021

To Highland Park

East Liberty
Shadyside

Wilkinsburg

Regent
Square

Squirrel Hill

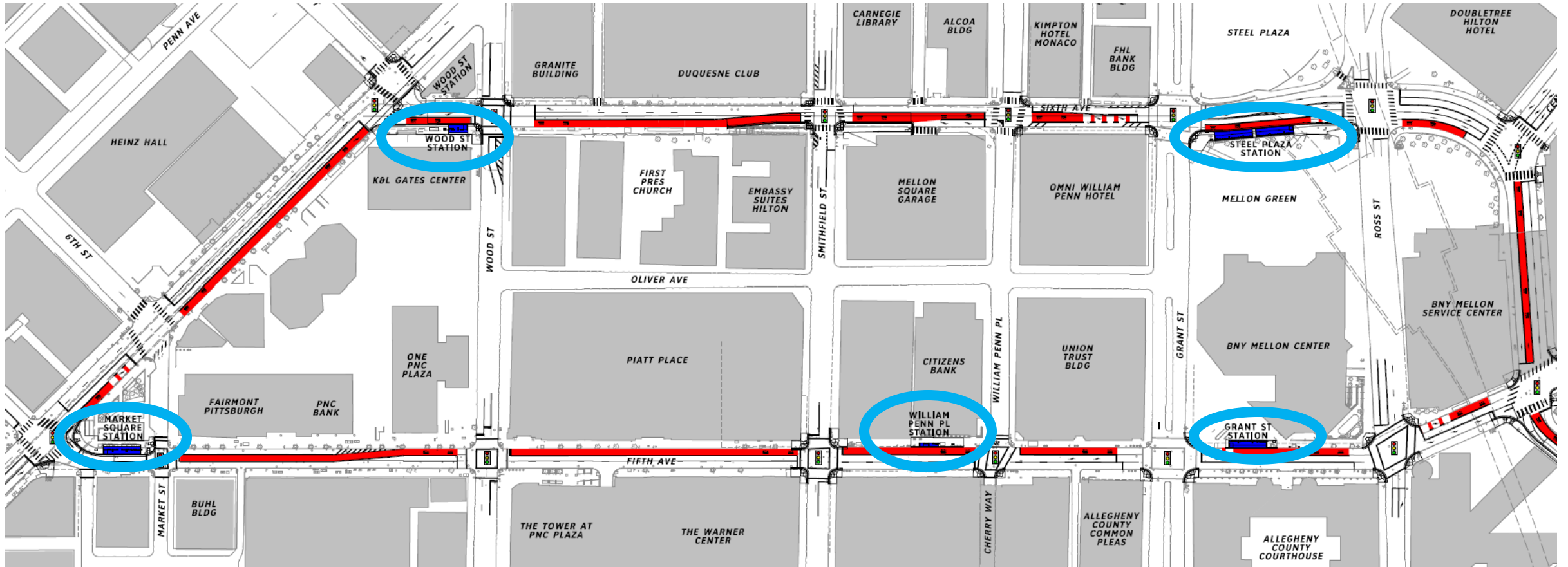
Greenfield

Edgewood

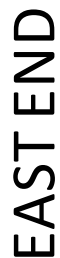
To Braddock

To Homestead,
Duquesne, and
McKeesport

Downtown Overview



WEST END



Station at Duquesne University





Station at University of Pittsburgh



Station Amenities and Fares

Paying your Fare

- Fares are paid at stations before boarding at ticket machines or validators
- Fare structure is not different than the rest of the system

Shelter

Seating

Real-Time Signs

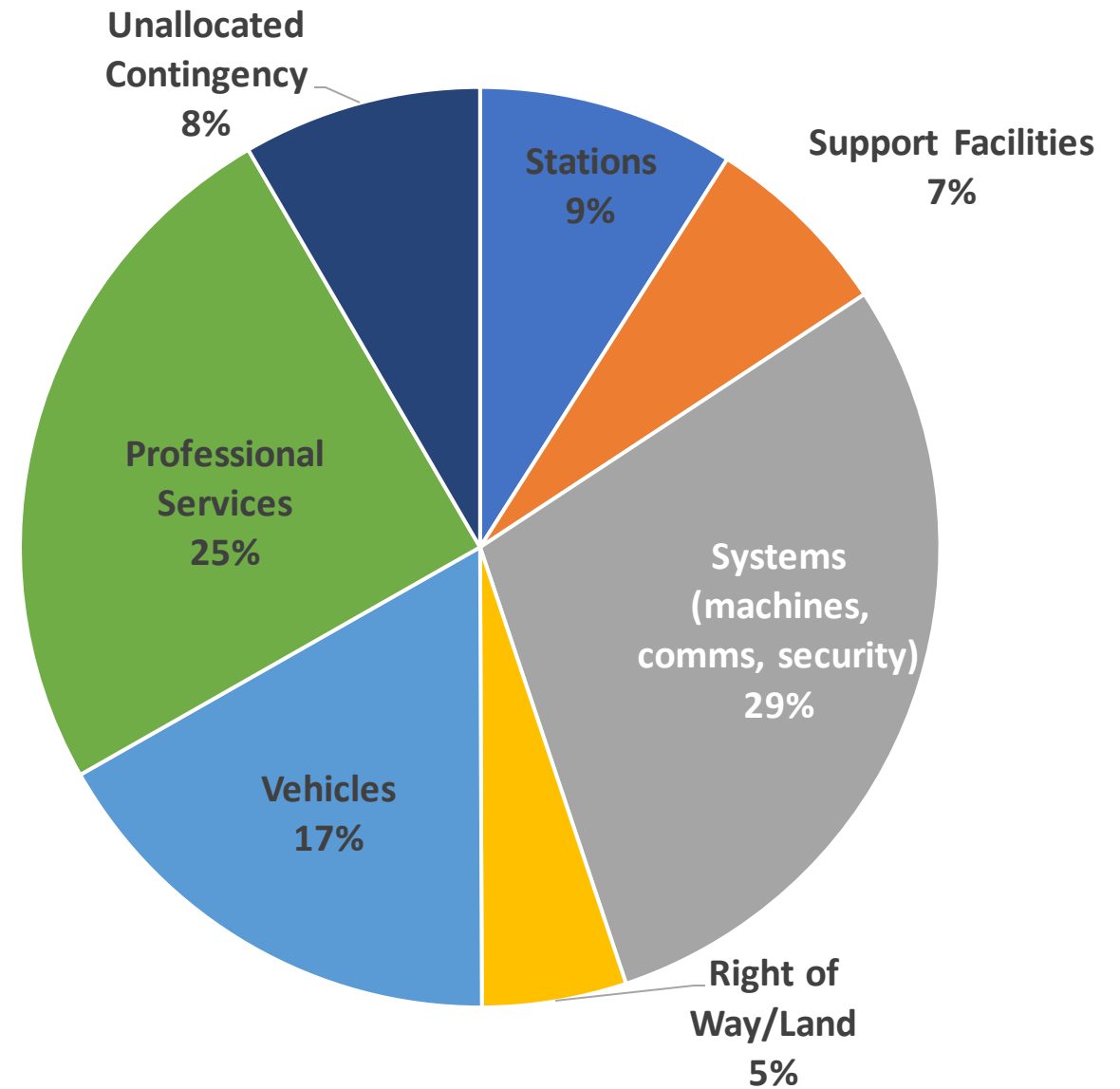
Ticket Vending & Validators

Emergency Call Buttons*

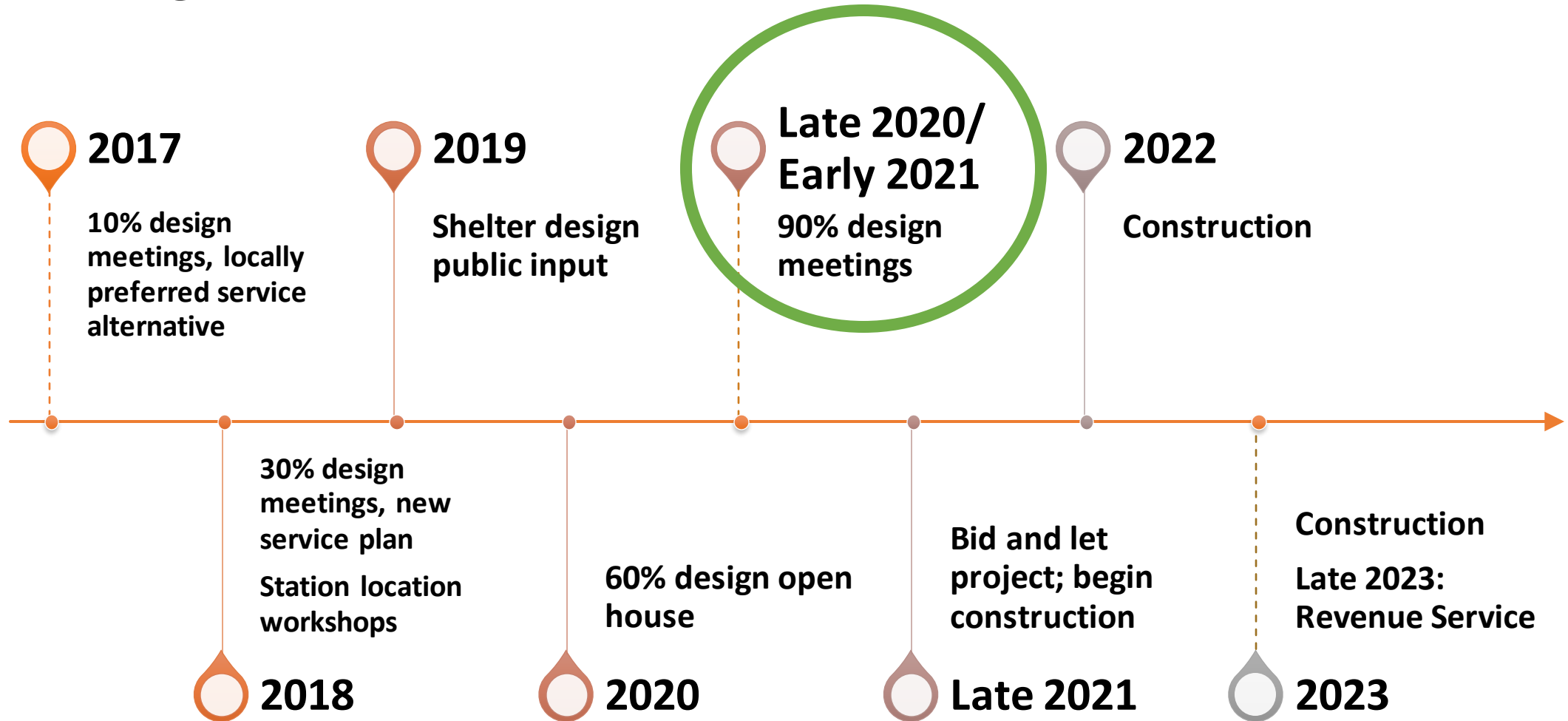


Project Costs

Total Budget:
\$230 million



Project Timeline



BRT Information Online

PortAuthority

Schedules ▾Rider Info ▾Fares ▾Services ▾

TRIP TOOLSSEARCH

90% Design Public Meeting Presentation (January 2021)

- 90% Design Overview - January 2021 Public Meeting Presentation Slides with Neighborhood-specific Updates (PDF) (4.9 MB)

90% Design Documents (Fall 2020)

- 90% Design Roll Plots by Neighborhood
 - Downtown (2.1 MB)
 - Uptown (4 MB)
 - Oakland (6 MB)
- 90% Design Overview - November 2020 Stakeholder Meeting Presentation Slides (4 MB)
- 90% Design Drawings (26.1 MB)

Annual Report on Funding Recommendations, Fiscal Year 2021 (prepared by the Federal Transit Administration), February 2020 (< 1 MB)

Bus Rapid Transit

[What Is BRT?](#)

[BRT Service](#)

[Project documents](#)

[BRT Events Calendar](#)

[BRT Public Meeting Registration](#)

NEXT STEPS

- Working on a somewhat expedited timeframe
- Public meeting via Zoom on March 9th @ 5:30
 - www.hilldistrict.org/register!
- Ask that you help us market the meeting
- Will be setting up a table at the YMCA and Family Dollar next week to advertise the meeting and start gathering feedback
- Collect feedback from the community
 - <https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/ghdmp>
- Form Mobility Action Team – could this be the assembling of the Transportation Advocacy Group the 2011 plan called for?
- Prepare Existing Conditions

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Contact Us

Dara Braitman, AICP, Principal Planner, DOMI

Email: dara.braitman@pittsburghpa.gov

Breen Masciotra, AICP and EcoDistrict AP, Manager of Transit-Oriented Communities, PAAC

Email: bmasciotra@portauthority.org