

Overview:

Meeting Open: 5:30 PM

Doug Middleton discusses general operation information:

- We began 2023 with 108 bus operators, which was approximately 30 bus operators short of the goal of 100% to operate at full service. As of December 2023, we currently have 134 bus operators.
- Full-service restoration, operating at 100%, will begin in January 2024.
- Electric buses continue to join the fleet, aiding in convenience and encouragement towards a better environment with 0 emission.

Jennifer Green provides Short Range Transit Plan (STRP) updates:

- The Durham Transit Plan, which was adopted in June of 2022, however, The Short-Range Transit Plan is a smaller and more detailed extract from the Durham Transit Plan.
- The Short-Range Transit Plan defines very detailed functionalities exercising technical processes in collaboration with the community to grow the current transit model and explain how the service will grow and expand within the span of the next 3-5 years.
- Extensive public engagements occurred in the fall, some of which occurred in August 2023 and October 2023. These Public Engagements have been prioritized to ensure the community being serviced has the opportunity to share their feedback about all proposed changes before they are put into effect.
- The First round of Service Expansion is anticipated to begin in the Summer/Fall of 2024. Servicing North Durham, Route 9, Route 1, and Route 4. Route 14 will also be introduced from Duke Regional Hospital to Durham VA Medical on Erwin through Fulton Road.
- The second round of service expansion will expand service frequency in East and South Durham.
- The current service, operating on Sundays, will be extended until midnight.
- Several routes will increase to 15 minutes within the next two years.

Brenda Jones discusses an overview The Marketing Department:

The Marketing Department at GoDurham has also had the opportunity to be involved within the community in various ways through 2023, involving the community, especially through education.

- We had the opportunity to host 5 events involving education. We worked with Back-to-School Bash Night at the Book Harvest, IR Holmes Recreation Center, Durham Rescue Mission, and the Peacekeeper Kingdom Ministry where we provided students with bookbags, pens, pencils, and other school essentials to prepare them for productivity.
- The very first annual Durham Public Schools 8th Grade Accelerated Career Day to the Durham stadium. 2400 students attended, where we spoke to them about various career paths within the transportation industry.
- National Night Out sponsored by the Durham Police Department where we provided material educating about the Short-Range Transit Plan.
- Annual Treats and Fleet sponsored by the Dorham Police Department, providing treats to various children within their costumes.
- Electric Bus Fare, educating and demonstrating how to properly place bikes on the bus racks.

The Marketing Department was also able to be involved in various volunteer initiatives throughout the year:

- Open Table Ministry where we sorted through various clothes, shoes, and other necessities to give out to the community.
- Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina, where we sorted through produce to provide families with safe family-size portions to eat.
- Parkwood Elementary School, helping them raise money for their trip to Washington DC, through the fundraising of candy.

Tara Walton provides updates with GoDurham ACCESS:

GoDurham Access began 2023 with 22 operators, and as of December 2023, they are currently at 47 operators and anticipate being fully staffed at 50 operators by January 2024.

Shauna Parker provides updates with improvements to Durham Station:

Various Improvements are expected to come to Durham Station within the outdoor bus island.

- Shade Structures
- Additional Seating
- Outdoor restroom facilities
- Outdoor kiosk
- Plaza between Pettigrew Street and the bus island

Sean Egan states:

Fare-free bus service will continue until June 30, 2024. The budget process has begun to determine if the fare-free process can be extended until June 2025 and whether it can be extended indefinitely.

The Durham County Transit Plan paid for the six new buses added to the fleet. There is a half-cent sales tax within the City of Durham. A portion of the sales tax is implemented towards transit.

A 5.7-million-dollar Federal Grant has been rewarded towards the purchase of 0-emission buses.

Meeting Concludes: 5:35 pm

Public Meeting Homepage Notes

December 2023 Public Meeting

Service Restoration

- GoDurham began 2023 with 108 bus operators equating to approximately 30 bus operators short of the goal of 100% to operate at full service. As of December 2023, GoDurham has successfully increased and maintained a total of 134 bus operators with an upward trajectory towards full service in January 2024.

Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP)

- The SRTP is entering the second phase. Within the Second phase there will be initiatives to expand service frequency in East and South Durham and expanding various current services, to conclude to 12 am, midnight.
- Many other routes currently in service will increase to every 15 minutes.

For more information about the Short-Range Transit Plan, visit: goforwardnc.org/srtp

Service Improvements

- The First round of Service Expansion is anticipated to begin in the Summer/Fall of 2024. Servicing North Durham, Route 9, Route 1, and Route 4.
- Route 14 will be introduced from Duke University Hospital to Durham VA Medical on Erwin through Fulton Road.
- GoDurham will remain fare-free through June 2024. Continuation of fare-free service beyond this is being inquired to serve the community better; funding and discussion are underway to have this continue until 2025, and ultimately indefinitely.