

Public Transportation

Summary

As a basis, the 2045 MTP adopts the transit services as approved in the county plans:

- Durham County Transit Plan, originally approved in 2011 and updated April 28, 2017. The detailed plan is available at <http://ourtransitfuture.com/plans/durham/>
- Orange County Transit Plan, originally approved in 2012 and updated April 28, 2017. The detailed plan is available at <http://ourtransitfuture.com/plans/orange/>

The plans include major projects such as Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) and Wake-Durham Commuter Rail (CRT), but do not include specific programmed bus facility or service projects beyond 2023. The bus services operating in the DCHC MPO in 2045 reflect the MPO's best predictions of transit services operating at that time.

The 2045 MTP makes two notable transit investments that exceed the county transit plans:

- The Wake-Durham Commuter Rail Transit (CRT) is extended from West Durham to Hillsborough in the 2045 timeframe; and,
- The Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (LRT) is extended from Chapel Hill to downtown Carrboro.

Durham County Services

The program of projects and services in the Durham County Transit Plan include the following:

■ Bus Services

Already Implemented Additional Bus Service (including new routes, increases in frequency, etc.)

- GoTriangle, 7,640 annual service hours
- GoDurham, 24,350 annual service hours

Planned Additional Bus Service

- GoTriangle, 6,260 annual service hours
- Durham County Access, 7,896 annual demand responsive trips

The Durham County Transit Plan also supports the increased cost of existing GoDurham service – e.g., the increased cost of providing service that GoDurham provided before the transit plan was implemented. About 9,000 existing annual service hours are assisted with Durham County Transit Plan funds.

An anticipated 15,000 – 27,500 additional bus service hours may be available following implementation of D-O LRT. These “rail dividend hours” reflect bus service currently

operating in the D-O LRT corridor that could be redirected to meet other Durham County transit priorities.

■ **Bus Capital Projects**

The purchase of new vehicles (and subsequent replacement) to support the service funded by the Durham County Transit Plan.

Bus facility improvements to facilitate transit access and improve the customer experience, including new park-and-ride lots, stop improvements and other capital investments along transit emphasis corridors, new transit centers, and stop improvements.

- **Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT)** – 2028 estimated completion date
Light rail transit service between UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill and North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in Durham, providing 50,000 hours of transit service. Project includes bicycle, pedestrian and bus infrastructure improvements along the alignment.

- **Wake-Durham Commuter Rail (CRT)** – 2035 estimated completion date
Commuter rail service linking Durham, RTP, Cary, Raleigh and Garner. The service will be funded in coordination with Wake County.

- **Wake-Durham Commuter Rail Extension (CRT)** – 2045 estimated completion date
Commuter rail service will be extended from West Durham to Hillsborough, with a station at NC 10/US 70 area and S Churton St/US 70 Business. This extension is not in the Durham County Transit Plan. It will be financed in the last decade of the 2045 MTP by assuming that legislative restrictions that currently restrict funding that can be used for transit will be repealed.

Orange County Services

The program of projects and services in the Orange County Transit Plan include the following:

■ **Bus Services**

Already Implemented Additional Bus Service (including new routes, increases in frequency, etc.)

- Orange Public Transit, 4,500 annual service hours
- GoTriangle, 6,708 annual service hours
- Chapel Hill Transit, 6,427 annual service hours

Planned Additional Bus Service

- Orange Public Transit, 2,387 annual service hours
- GoTriangle, 1,492 annual service hours
- Chapel Hill Transit, 6,392 annual service hours

The Orange County Transit Plan also supports the increased cost of existing Orange Public Transit and Chapel Hill Transit services – e.g., the increased cost of providing Orange Public Transit and Chapel Hill Transit service that was provided before the transit plan was implemented. About 9,000 existing annual service hours are assisted with Orange County Transit Plan funds.

An anticipated 30,000 – 45,000 additional bus service hours may be available following implementation of D-O LRT. These “rail dividend hours” reflect bus service currently operating in the D-O LRT corridor that could be redirected to meet other Orange County transit priorities.

■ **Bus Capital Projects**

The purchase of new vehicles (and subsequent replacement) to support the service funded by the Orange County Transit Plan.

Bus facility improvements to facilitate transit access and improve the customer experience, including new park-and-ride lots, improved transit amenities, and access improvements (e.g. new sidewalks) to bus stops.

■ **Hillsborough Train Station** – 2020 completion date

The station will be served by two Amtrak passenger routes.

■ **North-South Bus Rapid Transit (N-S BRT)** – 2023 estimated completion date

Bus rapid transit service using a mix of dedicated and mixed-traffic lanes between the Eubanks Road and Southern Village park-and-ride facilities, with direct service to UNC Hospitals.

■ **Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT)** – 2028 estimated completion date

Light rail transit service between UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill and North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in Durham, providing 50,000 hours of transit service. Project includes bicycle, pedestrian and bus infrastructure improvements along the alignment.

■ **Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Extension (D-O LRT)** – 2045 est. completion date

Light rail transit will be extended from the UNC Hospitals station to a station near Main Street in Carrboro. The route, along S Columbia St and W Cameron Ave, is a conceptual placeholder until further study can be completed. This extension is not in the Orange County Transit Plan. It will be financed in the last decade of the 2045 MTP by assuming that legislative restrictions that currently restrict funding that can be used for transit will be repealed.

■ **Wake-Durham Commuter Rail Extension (CRT)** – 2045 estimated completion date

Commuter rail service will be extended from West Durham to Hillsborough, with a station at NC 10/US 70 area and S Churton St/US 70 Business. This extension is not in

the Orange County Transit Plan. It will be financed in the last decade of the 2045 MTP by assuming that legislative restrictions that currently restrict funding that can be used for transit will be repealed.

Chatham County Services

The express bus services from Pittsboro to UNC and the UNC Hospitals will be improved in frequency and service hours. Bus stops and stations will be increased and improved.

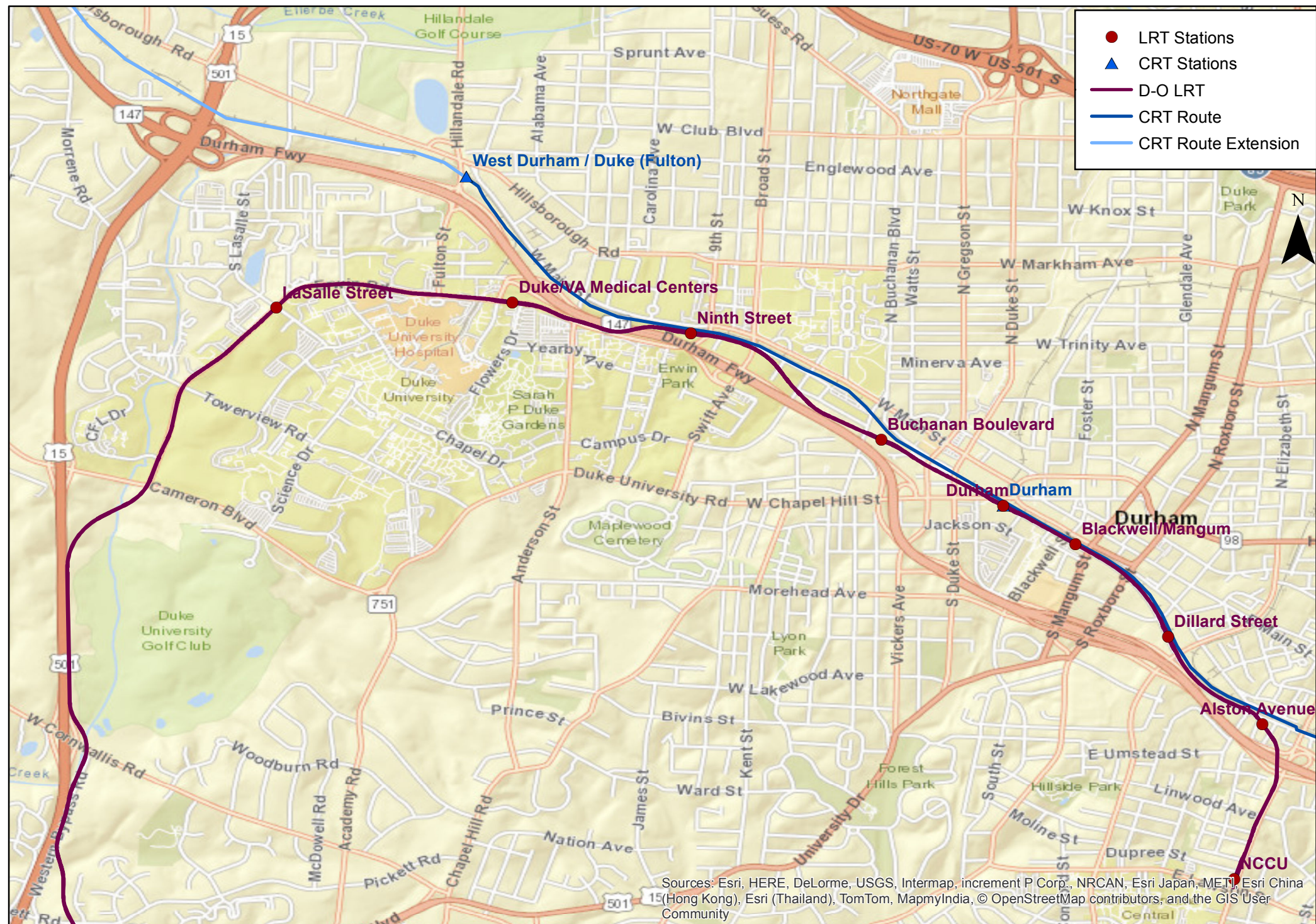
Fixed Guideway Maps

The following three pages are MPO-level, Durham close-up and Chapel Hill/Carrboro close-up maps of the fixed-guideway services in the Preferred Option. Fixed guideway includes light rail transit, commuter rail transit and bus rapid transit.

An interactive, online map is also available at the Fixed-Guideway map tile at the top of the following MTP Web page: www.bit.ly/DCHC-MTP-Preferred

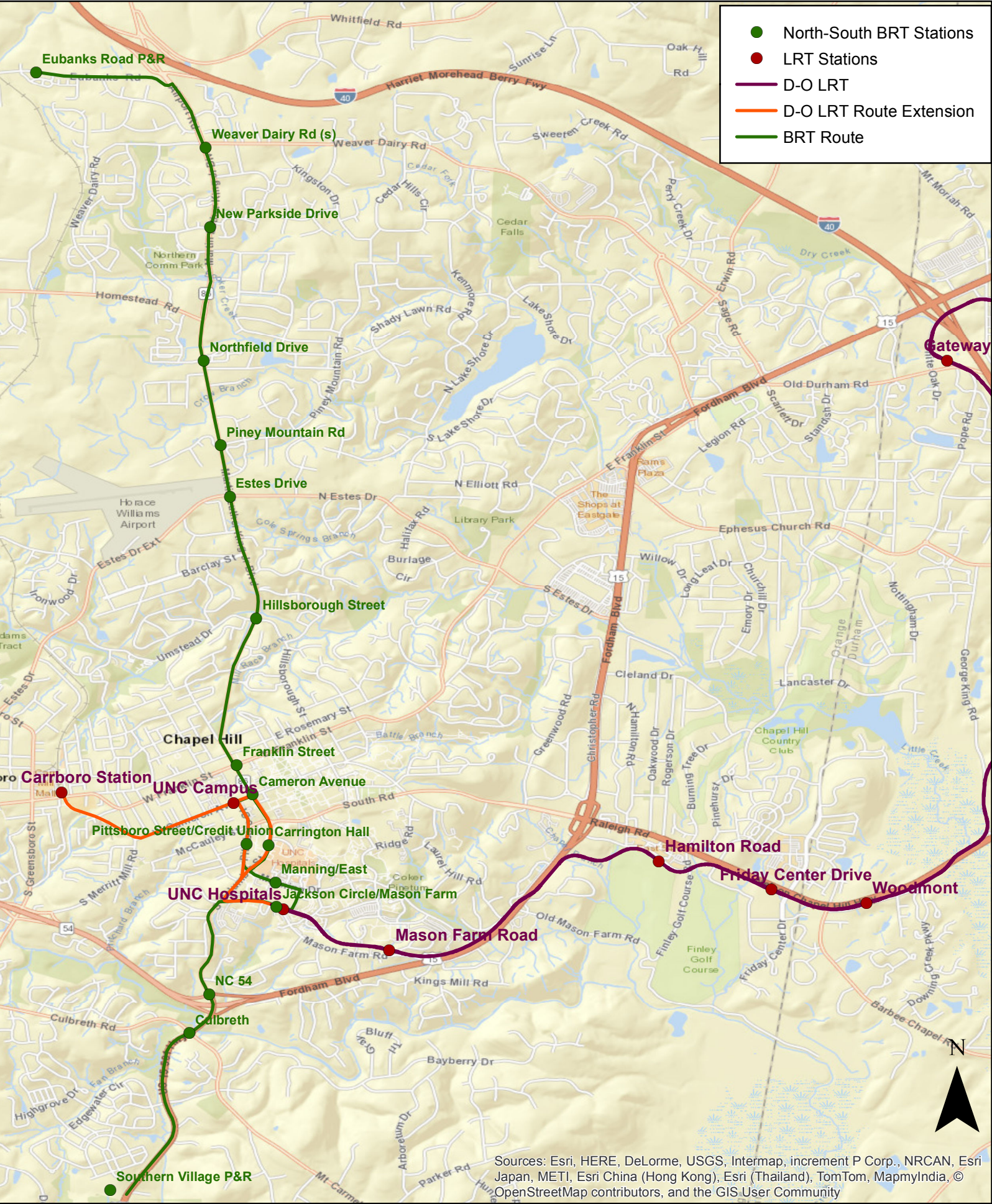
2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Preferred Option -- Fixed Guideway Projects -- Durham Close up



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Preferred Option -- Fixed Guideway Projects -- Chapel Hill/Carrboro Close-up



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