

Spring 2020



Project Overview

Reimagine The COMET is the ongoing study to redesign the agency's bus network, and you can be part of it. This 18-month study will look at the strengths and challenges in the existing bus system to redesign a bus network that reflects the community's values. Over the past few decades, the region has been growing, but the bus network has not been looked at holistically to reflect those changes. This project will review all the bus routes to come up with a new network that works better for Richland and Lexington Counties.

Key Stats

-  Operates **39 fixed routes**
-  Serves more than **9,000 passengers** each weekday
-  Provides transit service within 1/2 mile of nearly **250,000 people** in the region

- The goals of Reimagine The COMET are to:
- Analyze the existing network
 - Design a new network that reflects the values of the community we serve

Reimagine The COMET will:

-  Hear from existing riders and potential riders in Richland and Lexington Counties.
-  Build on what is working well today and identify ways to improve.
-  Understand existing operational and ridership conditions for each route and system-wide.
-  Do a "blank slate" plan to come up with a network designed for the people and places of today
-  Determine how The COMET should allocate resources and measures success.
-  Improve reliability and connections within the network

Why Reimagine The COMET?

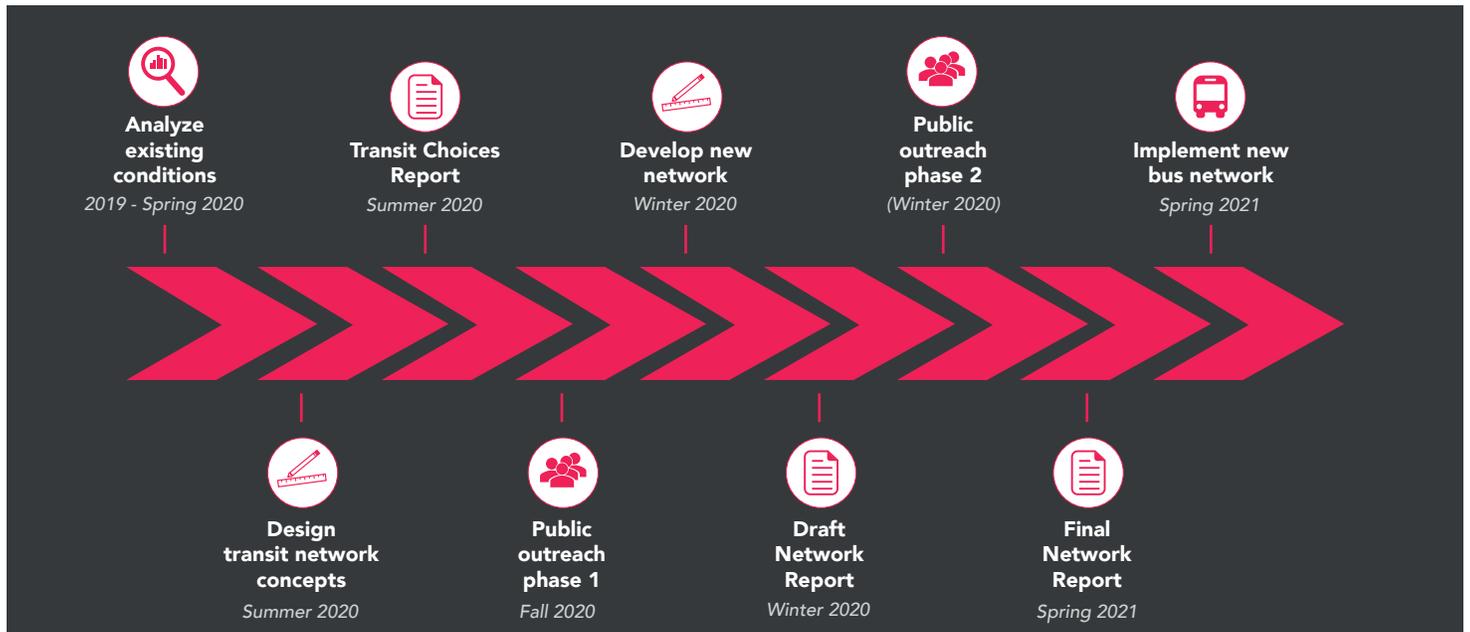
Over the past few decades, Richland and Lexington Counties have changed a lot. While specific bus routes have been tweaked over time, the entire design of the network has not been revised for 128 years. Many routes still follow old streetcar lines from the Broad River Power Company and SCE&G bus routes.

A transit network can be designed in many different ways and none of them are inherently right or wrong. However, the design of the network should reflect the values of the community it serves. Many small tweaks and the lack of a systemwide revision, often lead to an increasingly complex transit system that

does not serve the community adequately. This can discourage people from using the system. When this happens, agencies like The COMET do a “blank slate” plan to come up with a network that is designed for the people and places of today. This study will take a fresh look at the entire bus network and develop alternatives for a new network and a 10-year plan for growth and expansion of the transit system.

Reimagining a bus network forces us to make some hard choices. In this project, we will reach out to the community to ensure that we are making the choices that best reflect the values of our residents.

Project Timeline



Get Involved

We are currently analyzing the existing system and will be providing a report and will engage riders and the public soon on key choices to inform the reimagining. You can still provide any ideas and comments to us by email, phone, or at our website below.



Reimagine The COMET will include two rounds of public outreach. Event dates will be posted on the Reimagine The COMET website as they become available. Visit www.CatchTheCOMETSC.gov to learn more.



Surveys will be conducted during both public outreach phases and you can send us questions or comments through the project website, www.CatchTheCOMETSC.gov.

