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Contact: Hillary DeLong, 704-432-2549 Hillary.delong@charlottenc.gov

CATS to Host Public Meetings Sharing Rapid Transit Options to the North, West and Center City.

Charlotte, N.C. –Based on public outreach in fall 2017 and technical analysis, Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) is presenting rapid transit options for the North and West Corridors at several public meetings in July and August. Additionally CATS will provide details for how transit will integrate through Center City Charlotte. The public will be asked to review, evaluate and give input on rapid transit options to the west, serving communities near the Charlotte-Douglas International Airport and into Gaston County, and to the north to Mooresville, as well as a rail integration strategy for the Center City area. Meetings begin on July 17 in the West Corridor and on July 19 in the North Corridor.

In October 2017, CATS conducted a series of public meetings gathering feedback on transit-related priorities in the study areas. Survey respondents were asked to rate a series of transit options, like travel frequency and weekend service, as well as appropriate roads and corridors transit could travel. Almost 1,000 surveys were returned. That feedback has been evaluated and the public can now respond to specific alignment options, and provide feedback at the upcoming summer meetings. New to this set of public meetings will be a series of options related to how rapid transit could connect through the Center City area.

"Charlotte and the surrounding areas are growing rapidly," said John Lewis, CATS CEO. We need to be able to meet this growth with an updated system plan so commuters will have mobility options that sustain our high quality of life."

Details of all meeting locations can be found on the <u>CATS website</u>. All public meetings will be streamed on CATS Facebook Live. In addition to public meetings, CATS is also gathering public feedback of transit options via an in-depth survey tool that can be found on the <u>CATS website</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>. For additional information about the study and upcoming public meetings go to ridetransit.org or please email telltransit@charlottenc.gov or call 704-336-7433.