



# BIRMINGHAM FORWARD

## City of Birmingham Transit Program

June 2017 Bulletin

### *“TIGER Grant, BRT Design, and Community Engagement”*

The TIGER Grant, which will provide up to \$20,000,000 in funding for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project, is nearing final award after updates to the project and budget budgets were made to the City’s draft application in the FTA’s Transit Award Management System or TrAMS. Once the application is submitted, it will be reviewed on the federal level prior to final award and set-aside of funds. Additionally, the City of Birmingham worked to execute the Paper Grant Agreement (PGA) between the City and the United States Department of Transportation in relation to the terms and conditions for use of the grant for the BRT implementation. This was a significant step for the City’s grant application in TrAMS to advance to the final stage before award. Satisfactory continuing control agreements are currently being developed for the BRT program. These agreements will provide legal assurance that any project property will remain available to be used for its original purpose throughout its useful life or until disposition of the property. These agreements are necessary for receipt of the grant.

Public involvement meetings continue in relation to the Transit Development Plan (TDP), which will serve as a transit blueprint for continuous improvement and development of the City’s transit system. Integration of the TDP and the BRT is a key component of the transit system.

The Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Core Group met to cast a vision for the TOD Program in Birmingham while Smart Growth America began market analyses to identify the most advantageous BRT Stations for immediate TOD Projects.



*TOD Core Group Vision Casting*

#### **About the City of Birmingham Transit Program**

The City of Birmingham Transit Program comprises various projects, which include a new rapid transit service, an enhanced bus service, and expanded transit service throughout the Birmingham region. These projects will enhance public transportation over the long-term, resulting in a world-class transit system that will provide neighborhoods with access to numerous educational opportunities, employment opportunities, and vital services. The City of Birmingham Transit Program will:

- ✓ **Connect neighborhoods to opportunities;**
- ✓ **Improve mobility and access to businesses and jobs;**
- ✓ **Complement and encourage community reinvestment;**
- ✓ **Improve the public transit network and state of good repair; and**
- ✓ **Provide a foundation for special events transportation.**

The BRT is a high-capacity, public-transit project that will serve the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Area and the Birmingham-Hoover Metropolitan Statistical Area. As currently planned, the BRT route is approximately ten miles from the proposed east terminus, located in the Woodlawn area on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North between 56<sup>th</sup> Street South and 57<sup>th</sup> Street North, to the proposed west terminus, located at 47<sup>th</sup> Street Ensley and Avenue W. Public benefits of the BRT are wide-ranging and include economic competitiveness, an improved quality-of-life, safety improvements, and environmental sustainability.

For more information about the Birmingham Transit Program, BRT Project, or other current and future projects, please visit [www.birminghamtransitprogram.org](http://www.birminghamtransitprogram.org) or contact the Program Management Office at 205-900-7191 or [info@birminghamtransitprogram.org](mailto:info@birminghamtransitprogram.org). You may also sign up to receive future email updates or submit questions and comments online at <http://birminghamtransitprogram.org/contact/>.