

High Point Transit System Proposed Transit System Changes

*Plan documents are available for public review
at the following locations:*

High Point Transit System Offices

716 W. Kivett Drive
High Point, NC 27262

City of High Point Transportation Department

City Hall, 2nd Floor
211 S. Hamilton Street
High Point, NC 27262

High Point Public Library

901 N. Main Street
High Point, NC 27262

Or Online at:

[http://www.highpointnc.gov/hi-tran/About Us/fy2013 short range transit plan.cfm](http://www.highpointnc.gov/hi-tran/About%20Us/fy2013%20short%20range%20transit%20plan.cfm)

*Draft documents and comment forms will be
available beginning **January 6, 2015** through the
comment period ending January 23, 2015.*

For additional information contact:

Angela Wynes, Transit Manager

Phone 336.889.7433

hitran@highpointnc.gov



NORTH CAROLINA'S INTERNATIONAL CITY

Our Public Transportation Needs
The Citizen of the City of High Point, NC

A lot of bus patrons have to barter with family and friends to be able to get to and from work or other times and situations such as; shopping, special events, church, public meetings (such as City Council forums, such as pertaining to the public transportation agenda), etc... We must remember that most bus patrons are low-wage workers with limited services and resources (especially financial) at their disposal. As they end up missing bus schedules in the evening (meaning after 5:45pm on weekdays and 4:45pm on Saturday) they are resigned to either bartering with family and friends, which is not always possible, and where it is possible they wind up waiting hours on end for that option or they end up having to pay out-of-pocket for a taxi, which adds to the cost of public transportation. This, for these workers deprives them of monies from financial resources needed to pay for self and family needs.

We must keep in mind and understand that many of these bus patrons are already working two (and in some cases three) jobs just to provide for their basic, and I do mean bare minimal, needs. This ends up adding to the burden of survival in an already challenging economy. I'm sure we can all agree that they deserve at least a portion of the opportunities that affluent people reap.

I realize that in a city the size of High Point, NC there is limited means and federal funding to provide the type of immense transportation services like that of a city such as Charlotte, NC or Raleigh, NC, which by the way is where I came from before coming to High Point in mid-January of 2018. As a city grows and revitalization takes off and jobs become more plentiful we must keep in mind that our city's public transportation needs without question are going to increase as well. Even a city the size of Raleigh at one time, back in 1985 on up to the late 1990's had equally as poor or lack of adequate public transportation services as the city of High Point does today, but they eventually realized the correlation between revitalization and its' public transportation system. At that time I personally took on the same concerted efforts as I am taking at this time in High Point to address our public transportation matters. While in Raleigh at that time we had buses ending services very early on weekdays, poor services on Saturday, and no Sunday services at all. But as jobs, the economy and the building up of the city started and abound, and businesses started growing, as well as the population growing tremendously due to new and high tech companies relocating into the Raleigh, Cary, Durham, Chapel Hill, and RTP regions, these cities also improved their public transportation systems as well. Areas such as the economy and unemployment improved simply because people were able to accept and retain jobs due to improved public transportation services. The need to direct large portions of one's paycheck to paying for out-of-pocket transportation diminished as well, which lead to an even greater economic boost.

So, I greatly encourage our public officials, the DOT, and any operations connected to public transportation to consider this matter with great urgency. These efforts will not only satisfy bus patrons but assuredly ridership *will increase*---slowly, at first---but eventually it *will grow* because of greater

means for our citizens, (yours and mine), to accept and retain employment where they were not able to in the past, and become better contributing members to society. That is something, in time, that you and I can agree will come to be a win-win situation for both the city and its citizens. Also, as a last note to bring to your attention----I am a business person, in the beginning stages of starting a small business in the High Point and surrounding region. My success will be in part dependent on citizens that use public transportation----both as personnel and as patrons. So, myself, and I'm sure other small business owners will likely see an increase in business as well as a greater possibility for success, not only from a greatly improved public transit system, but also from all that is upcoming to the city that is in the present and near future making. So this speaks well for our city officials as they seek to improve and grow our great city. In the same light, we should want to see our public transit system become a major part of this equation just as it has for cities like Raleigh and Charlotte because from all I have seen over the years, an improved transit system creates greater and more productive, (as well as appreciative) citizens. In line with this thinking we must keep in mind that bus patrons will also have greater means to take hold of educational opportunities because of being able to get to community and higher level colleges easier at night, on weekdays, and weekends when the need to utilize resources that these colleges offer. One other note, job participation will be greater and employees will prosper more from being able to accept such advantages as overtime, later shifts, and shifting schedules. Don't you agree that everyone, you, I and all of the citizens of High Point, NC benefit greatly just from something like an improved public transportation system.

I also applaud all your efforts being put forth for improvement and growth of *our* city. So, let us not forget this one important fact---*an improved public transit system plays a vital role in all of this* and we must, for the future growth and benefit each citizen will bring to the city, not overlook this fact. I can't agree more that with a growing economy there is a need for great access to all that this will bring. When festivals, sporting events, marathons, concerts and something like a first Friday, parades, celebrations such as Fourth of July and New Year's Eve, etc... take place, many of our citizens would like to attend *all*, and not just a portion of these such occasions, wouldn't you agree. So, let's improve this great city of High Point together, with all its' citizens in mind, not just a few, and certainly not just the affluent and, as most politicians put it, *The Well Connected*. I, as well as others would like to know that they are able to have public transit access to times and areas of the city that only those with personal transportation can access. I *really* think they deserve it and I'm sure all citizens of High Point, the money makers and lower income citizens as well appreciate this fact. We would be benefiting college students such as those at HPU so much when they know they have a public transit system with them in mind as well, where they have access to all that High Point has, and will have to offer. Let us work together on this project-----and, if needed, I would certainly put myself in line to being what cities like Raleigh and others have done and that is to become a transit spokesperson that works between the city (DOT) and the private bus patrons of High Point. As I said early on in this, I had a lot of ^{INFLUENCE} ~~affluence~~ in helping Raleigh to make its' decision to greatly improve its' public transit system. Something I had done, and I know this is an important and needed step and that was to draw up a petition and get as many bus patrons to sign as a show of support for this effort. Believe me, I am and will be willing to do the same for High Point. I thank you, and I'm for certain I am speaking on receptive ears.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: KENNETH E. MILES
Phone Number: 919-397-9320
Address: 701 S Elm St., Apt. 1007
High Point, NC 27260
Contact Method: 1) Text and leave msg, will
respond ASAP
2) Email Address:
mileskenneth@yahoo.com