Charlotte South Corridor LRT

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Charlotte South Corridor LRT The Big Picture



- Important markets / modeling approach
 - Traditional walk-access market / traditional model calibrated to existing bus system
 - New park-ride access market / park-ride nests and constants imported from Houston Park-and-Ride model

4,400 trips/day 3,100 trips/day

1,700 trips/day

9,200 trips/day

10,800 trips/day 4,000 trips/day

Very significant

14,800 trips/day

- Special event ridership / off-model procedures based on event data
- What was forecasted to happen in opening year:
 - Walk access:
 - Drive access:
 - Special events:
 - Total:
- What actually happened:
 - Walk access:
 - Drive access:
 - Special events:
 - Total:
- Conclusion: LRT attracted more choice-based walk-access (and feeder bus) trips than forecasted

Charlotte South Corridor LRT The Project

- New 9.6 mile light rail line along South Boulevard serving:
 - Uptown Charlotte (CBD)
 - 4 stations
 - Walk egress / bus transfer
 - Southend
 - 4 stations
 - Walk access / bus transfer
 - Inner PNR Stations
 - 6 stations
 - PNR / walk access / bus transfer
 - I-485 PNR
 - PNR / walk access / bus transfer





Charlotte South Corridor LRT

Before

Charlotte South Corridor Forecasting Model

- Four step model calibrated to 1999/2000 on-board survey
- Separate nests for walk and drive access for
 - Local Bus
 - Express Bus
 - Premium (LRT)
- Calibrated to match existing CATS bus volumes
- Premium Park-and-Ride to CBD constants:
 - Based on Houston model (Bus PNR)
 - Largely eliminated calibrated negative constants for PNR
 - LRT forecasts compared to aggregate model (developed by Phoenix MPO) to confirm reasonableness

Charlotte South Corridor LRT 1999-2000 Transit Markets

1999-2000 Transit Survey

| | | CBD | | | Non-CBD | | | Total | |
|----------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| | Walk | Drive | Total | Walk | Drive | Total | Walk | Drive | Total |
| HBW - Income 1 | 1,583 | 10 | 1,593 | 4,304 | 4 | 4,308 | 5,887 | 14 | 5,901 |
| HBW - Income 1 | 2,658 | 23 | 2,681 | 3,773 | 8 | 3,781 | 6,431 | 31 | 6,462 |
| HBW - Income 3 | 1,857 | 318 | 2,175 | 2,157 | 32 | 2,189 | 4,014 | 350 | 4,364 |
| HBW - Income 4 | 1,508 | 1,140 | 2,648 | 1,249 | 27 | 1,276 | 2,757 | 1,167 | 3,924 |
| HBW - Total | 7,606 | 1,491 | 9,097 | 11,483 | 71 | 11,554 | 19,089 | 1,562 | 20,651 |
| HBO - Income 1 | 1,249 | 0 | 1,249 | 3,261 | 3 | 3,264 | 4,510 | 3 | 4,513 |
| HBO - Income 1 | 530 | 13 | 543 | 1,907 | 49 | 1,956 | 2,437 | 62 | 2,499 |
| HBO - Income 3 | 337 | 10 | 347 | 1,219 | 19 | 1,238 | 1,556 | 29 | 1,585 |
| HBO - Income 4 | 312 | 37 | 349 | 910 | 43 | 953 | 1,222 | 80 | 1,302 |
| HBO - Total | 2,428 | 60 | 2,488 | 7,297 | 114 | 7,411 | 9,725 | 174 | 9,899 |
| NHB | 823 | 60 | 883 | 2,759 | 23 | 2,782 | 3,582 | 83 | 3,665 |
| Total | 10,857 | 1,611 | 12,468 | 21,539 | 208 | 21,747 | 32,396 | 1,819 | 34,215 |
| HBW - Income 1 | 13% | 0% | 13% | 20% | 0% | 20% | 17% | 0% | 17% |
| HBW - Income 1 | 21% | 0% | 22% | 17% | 0% | 17% | 19% | 0% | 19% |
| HBW - Income 3 | 15% | 3% | 17% | 10% | 0% | 10% | 12% | 1% | 13% |
| HBW - Income 4 | 12% | 9% | 21% | 6% | 0% | 6% | 8% | 3% | 11% |
| HBW - Total | 61% | 12% | 73% | 53% | 0% | 53% | 56% | 5% | 60% |
| HBO - Income 1 | 10% | 0% | 10% | 15% | 0% | 15% | 13% | 0% | 13% |
| HBO - Income 1 | 4% | 0% | 4% | 9% | 0% | 9% | 7% | 0% | 7% |
| HBO - Income 3 | 3% | 0% | 3% | 6% | 0% | 6% | 5% | 0% | 5% |
| HBO - Income 4 | 3% | 0% | 3% | 4% | 0% | 4% | 4% | 0% | 4% |
| HBO - Total | 19% | 0% | 20% | 34% | 1% | 34% | 28% | 1% | 29% |
| NHB | 7% | 0% | 7% | 13% | 0% | 13% | 10% | 0% | 11% |
| Total | 87% | 13% | 100% | 99% | 1% | 100% | 95% | 5% | 100% |

- 60% Home-Based Work purpose
- 65% Attracted to non-CBD locations
- CBD: Even income distribution, more work trips, more drive access
- Non-CBD: Lower income distribution, more non-work, few drive access

Charlotte South Corridor LRT Opening Day Forecast



Derived 2006 (Opening Day) Boardings

| South LRT Boardings | Work Trips | | Non Wo | ork trips | Total | Grand | |
|-------------------------------|------------|---------|--------|-----------|-------|---------|---------|
| South EICI Boardings | Walk | Drive | Walk | Drive | Walk | Drive | Total |
| Modeled In Bound - South LRT | 1,565 | 4,138 | 753 | 472 | 2,319 | 4,610 | 6,929 |
| Modeled Out Bound - South LRT | 1,540 | 8 | 556 | 20 | 2,096 | 28 | 2,124 |
| Ramp up in PNR market | | (1,382) | | (164) | 0 | (1,546) | · · · / |
| Induced NHB/Event LRT Trips | | | | | | | 1,700 |
| Total Modeled Demand | 3,105 | 2,764 | 1,310 | 328 | 4,415 | 3,092 | 9,207 |
| | | | | | | | |

Charlotte South Corridor LRT 2007 CATS System "Before" Survey

| Contraction for your transit Rider Survey *26726* ease take a minute to help us plan for your transit needs by filling out this survey. *26726* turn the completed survey to the surveyor and you will receive a FREE FOUR-RIDE TICKET (while supplies last). All personal information is confidential and WILL NOT be shared or sold. Print letters/numbers clearly in upper case: A B C 1 2 3 Fill bubble with: • | | |
|---|--|--|
| ○ Fill bubble if you have already completed a survey on another trip and then continue filling out this Example One-way Trip: Example One-way Trip: about the ONE+WAY TRIP | × _& | 10. How many registered CARS, TRUCKS, or MOTORCYCLES are in running condition and available to your household? |
| You are making NOW! ROME BUS ANOTHER BUS WORK (FND) | S WORK S (END) | ○ None ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 or more |
| Did you have a MOTOR VEHICLE AVAILABLE to make THIS ONE-WAY TRIP? (If your car is in the st someone else is using your car right now, then you did NOT have a car available for this trip and must fill in "No".) | top or AL DESTINATION which ROUTE will you use? | 11. Including yourself, how many PEOPLE live in your household? |
| ⊖ Yes ○ No | pecify): | ○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 or more |
| 2. What type of place are you COMING FROM NOW? (starting place of this one-way trip) (fill one bubble only) | le to your FINAL DESTINATION on | 12. Of ALL the people who live in your household, INCLUDING YOURSELF, how many have a VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE? |
| Home Work Medical appointment/Hosp College/University (student only) Restaurant (eat meal) Shopping School (K-12) (student anly) Recreation/Sightseeing/Sporting event Social visit/Church/Persona | | None 1 2 3 4 5 or mol 13. What is your AGE? |
| a. What is the name of the PLACE, BUSINESS OR Example: CHARLOITE CITY HALL | | 0 17 and under 0 18 - 24 0 25 - 64 0 65 + years of age |
| BUILDING you are COMING FROM NOW? | is one-way trip) (fill one bubble only) | 14. Are you (fill the bubble that best describes you) |
| Place Name b. What is the ADDRESS? Example: 500 E TRADE ST | Medical appointment/Hospital visit | A student: Kindergarten through 12th Grade Not a student |
| (Provide the NEAREST INTERSECTION if you don't know the EXACT ADDRESS.) | Shopping ting event Social visit/Church/Personal | A student: Other (specify institution name): |
| | IG you are GOING TO NOW? | 15. Are you (fill the bubble that best describes you) |
| Address Intersecting Street 1 Intersecting Street 2 | | Employed full-time (35 hours or more per week) Not currently employed and not retired |
| Intersecting Street 1 Intersecting Street 2 | | Employed part-time (less than 35 hours per week) Retired |
| City Stote Zip 5. How did you get to the VERY FIRST BUS you rade on THIS ONE-WAY TRIP? (fill one bubble only) | e EXACT ADDRESS.) | 16. Do you have a VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE? |
| How did you get to the VERT FIRST BUS you rade on THIS ONE-WAT TRIP ? (fill one bubble only) Bicycled: # block? Walked: # block? Drove my car & parked: # mile? | | ⊙ Yes |
| Rode with someone who parked Dropped off | cting Street 2 | 17. What was your estimated combined HOUSEHOLD INCOME in 2006? |
| I. If you TRANSFERRED to get to THIS BUS, which bus ROUTE did you use? | | ○ Less than \$15,000 ○ \$25,000 - \$49,999 ○ \$75,000 or more |
| ○ I did not transfer | | ○ \$15,000 - \$24,999 ○ \$50,000 - \$74,999 |
| Continue inside | vill use to make THIS ONE-WAY TRIP: | Thank you for helping us improve YOUR transit system. Please provide us with your name and phone number in case we need to verify your survey. Remember: All personal information is confidential and WILL NOT be shared or sold. |
| 7. II DOS SERVICE WAS NOT AVAILABLE, IIOW ENTIRE ONE-WAY TRIP? (fill one bubble only) | woola yoo make THIS | Name () |
| ○ I would not make this trip ○ Taxi ○ Ride with someone else ○ Walk/Bit | ○ Drive myself cycle | RETURN the COMPLETED SURVEY to the SURVEYOR, OR drop it in any MAILBOX (no postage required). Thank you! |
| March 2009 ETA Wo | rkshon on Travel Forecasting fr | |

FTA Workshop on Travel Forecasting for New Starts

Charlotte South Corridor LRT 2007 CATS System "Before" Survey



2007 Transit Survey

| | | CBD | | | Non-CBD | | All | | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------|-------|--------|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|--|
| | Peak | Off-Peak | Total | Peak | Off-Peak | Total | Peak | Off-Peak | Total | |
| Home-Based Work | 5,813 | 1,344 | 7,157 | 6,767 | 5,772 | 12,539 | 12,580 | 7,116 | 19,696 | |
| Other | 999 | 1,246 | 2,245 | 5,808 | 10,401 | 16,209 | 6,807 | 11,647 | 18,454 | |
| Total | 6,812 | 2,590 | 9,402 | 12,575 | 16,173 | 28,748 | 19,387 | 18,763 | 38,150 | |
| Home-Based Work | 15% | 4% | 19% | 18% | 15% | 33% | 33% | 19% | 52% | |
| Other | 3% | 3% | 6% | 15% | 27% | 42% | 18% | 31% | 48% | |
| Total | 18% | 7% | 25% | 33% | 42% | 75% | 51% | 49% | 100% | |

Characteristics of transit market:

- Evenly split between work and non-work purposes
- 75% of customers travel to attractions outside CBD

Charlotte South Corridor LRT 2007 CATS System Before Survey



2007 Transit Survey

| | | CBD | Peak | | | Non-CBD c | or Non-Peak | | | To | tal | |
|----------------|-------|-------|----------|-------|--------|-----------|-------------|--------|--------|-------|----------|--------|
| | Walk | Drive | Drop-Off | Total | Walk | Drive | Drop-Off | Total | Walk | Drive | Drop-Off | Total |
| HBW - Income 1 | 311 | 4 | 13 | 328 | 4,432 | 14 | 305 | 4,751 | 4,743 | 18 | 318 | 5,079 |
| HBW - Income 1 | 434 | 56 | 23 | 513 | 3,721 | 52 | 353 | 4,126 | 4,155 | 108 | 376 | 4,639 |
| HBW - Income 3 | 699 | 635 | 21 | 1,355 | 3,192 | 53 | 125 | 3,370 | 3,891 | 688 | 146 | 4,725 |
| HBW - Income 4 | 1,086 | 2,310 | 223 | 3,619 | 1,121 | 376 | 138 | 1,635 | 2,207 | 2,686 | 361 | 5,254 |
| HBW - Total | 2,530 | 3,005 | 280 | 5,815 | 12,466 | 495 | 921 | 13,882 | 14,996 | 3,500 | 1,201 | 19,697 |
| HBO - Income 1 | 134 | 0 | 0 | 134 | 4,557 | 12 | 280 | 4,849 | 4,691 | 12 | 280 | 4,983 |
| HBO - Income 1 | 110 | 0 | 11 | 121 | 2,572 | 12 | 130 | 2,714 | 2,682 | 12 | 141 | 2,835 |
| HBO - Income 3 | 67 | 0 | 0 | 67 | 1,629 | 12 | 160 | 1,801 | 1,696 | 12 | 160 | 1,868 |
| HBO - Income 4 | 159 | 8 | 0 | 167 | 576 | 12 | 61 | 649 | 735 | 20 | 61 | 816 |
| HBO - Total | 470 | 8 | 11 | 489 | 9,334 | 48 | 631 | 10,013 | 9,804 | 56 | 642 | 10,502 |
| HBU | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,062 | 51 | 193 | 2,306 | 2,062 | 51 | 193 | 2,306 |
| NHB | 405 | 50 | 56 | 511 | 4,392 | 128 | 615 | 5,135 | | 178 | 671 | 5,646 |
| Total | 3,405 | 3,063 | 347 | 6,815 | 28,254 | 722 | 2,360 | 31,336 | 31,659 | 3,785 | 2,707 | 38,151 |
| HBW - Income 1 | 5% | 0% | 0% | 6% | 32% | 0% | 2% | 34% | 24% | 0% | 2% | 26% |
| HBW - Income 1 | 7% | 1% | 0% | 9% | 27% | 0% | 3% | 30% | 21% | 1% | 2% | 24% |
| HBW - Income 3 | 12% | 11% | 0% | 23% | 23% | 0% | 1% | 24% | 20% | 3% | 1% | 24% |
| HBW - Income 4 | 19% | 40% | 4% | 62% | 8% | 3% | 1% | 12% | 11% | 14% | 2% | 27% |
| HBW - Total | 44% | 52% | 5% | 100% | 90% | 4% | 7% | 100% | 76% | 18% | 6% | 100% |
| HBO - Income 1 | 27% | 0% | 0% | 27% | 46% | 0% | 3% | 48% | 45% | 0% | 3% | 47% |
| HBO - Income 1 | 22% | 0% | 2% | 25% | 26% | 0% | 1% | 27% | 26% | 0% | 1% | 27% |
| HBO - Income 3 | 14% | 0% | 0% | 14% | 16% | 0% | 2% | 18% | 16% | 0% | 2% | 18% |
| HBO - Income 4 | 33% | 2% | 0% | 34% | 6% | 0% | 1% | 6% | 7% | 0% | 1% | 8% |
| HBO - Total | 96% | 2% | 2% | 100% | 93% | 0% | 6% | 100% | 93% | 1% | 6% | 100% |
| HBU | | | | | 89% | 2% | 8% | 100% | 89% | 2% | 8% | 100% |
| NHB | 79% | | | | 86% | 2% | 12% | 100% | 85% | | 12% | |
| Total | 50% | 45% | 5% | 100% | 90% | 2% | 8% | 100% | 83% | 10% | 7% | 100% |

- 50% Home-Based Work purpose
- Peak travel to CBD: Higher income distribution, more work trips, more drive access
- Other travel: Lower income distribution, more non-work, few drive access



Charlotte South Corridor LRT

After

Charlotte South Corridor LRT Implementation Progress

- South Corridor LRT opened 11/2007
- LRT and bus operations generally implemented as modeled
- Average weekday ridership April 2008 of 14,800 per day (16,500 in June 2008)
- Strong PNR market at southern stations
- Strong special event and non-work markets



Charlotte South Corridor LRT Interim Before/After Analysis

- Goal: Understand project success and update model to reflect current bus and LRT market acceptance
- Approach: Collect data on LRT usage, incorporate LRT and "before" bus survey into model, and test procedures for capturing customer response to LRT

Charlotte South Corridor LRT April 2008 Rail Intercept Survey



- Survey conducted for southbound trains
- Conducted at 7th Street, CTC, and 3rd Street stations
- 903 usable survey records

Charlotte South Corridor LRT April 2008 Rail Intercept Survey

| STATIO | N SURVEYOR |
|--------|--|
| DATE | TIME |
| Please | am conducting a survey for CATS about the trip you are about to make right now. take a moment to answer a few questions for me about your trip to help CATS plan r future transit needs. |
| 1: | A) Where are you coming from right now? WORK HOME ANOTHER LOCATION |
| | B) And where is that located? |
| | *Oh, you don't know the exact address, then please tell me the nearest intersection the zip code? |
| | OR |
| | C) How did you get here? Did you: UWALK or BIKE TAKE THE BUS (Oh, you took the bus, what route was that?) GET DROPPED OFF DRIVE AND PARK YOUR CAR |
| | Right now, which station are you going to? 7TH STREET CTC/ARENA 3RD ST/CONV. CTR. STONEWALL CARSON BLAND EAST/WEST NEW BERN SCALEYBARK WOODLAWN TYVOLA ARCHDALE ARROW00D SHARON RD. W I-485 |
| | A) Are you going to your: I HOME I WORK I ANOTHER LOCATION |
| | B) And where is that located? |
| | *Oh, you don't know the exact address, then please tell me the nearest intersect or the zip code? OR |
| | C) When you get off the train how will you get to your destination? WALK or BIKE DRIVE YOURSELF TAKE THE BUS (Oh, you are going to take the bus, what route will you take GET PICKED UP |
| | will ask you a couple of final questions in order to best group your survey response A) How many cars are available to your household? □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 OR MORE |
| | B) What range does your combined household income fall between? □ LESS THAN \$15,000 □ \$15,000 But Less Than \$25,000 □ \$25,000 BUT LESS THAN \$50,000 □ \$50,000 BUT LESS THAN \$75,000 □ \$75,000 OR MORE □ \$150,000 BUT LESS THAN \$75,000 |
| | |



Charlotte South Corridor LRT Intercept Survey Results



2007 Transit Survey

| | CBD | | | Non-CBD | | | All | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------|-------|---------|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|
| | Peak | Off-Peak | Total | Peak | Off-Peak | Total | Peak | Off-Peak | Total |
| Home-Based Work | 5,813 | 1,344 | 7,157 | 6,767 | 5,772 | 12,539 | 12,580 | 7,116 | 19,696 |
| Other | 999 | 1,246 | 2,245 | 5,808 | 10,401 | 16,209 | 6,807 | 11,647 | 18,454 |
| Total | 6,812 | 2,590 | 9,402 | 12,575 | 16,173 | 28,748 | 19,387 | 18,763 | 38,150 |
| Home-Based Work | 15% | 4% | 19% | 18% | 15% | 33% | 33% | 19% | 52% |
| Other | 3% | 3% | 6% | 15% | 27% | 42% | 18% | 31% | 48% |
| Total | 18% | 7% | 25% | 33% | 42% | 75% | 51% | 49% | 100% |

2008 LRT Survey

| | | CBD | | | Non-CBD | | All | | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|----------|--------|--|
| | Peak | Off-Peak | Total | Peak | Off-Peak | Total | Peak | Off-Peak | Total | |
| Home-Based Work | 3,545 | 1,551 | 5,096 | 1,610 | 1,226 | 2,836 | 5,155 | 2,777 | 7,932 | |
| Other | 1,305 | 2,049 | 3,354 | 1,490 | 2,024 | 3,514 | 2,795 | 4,073 | 6,868 | |
| Total | 4,850 | 3,600 | 8,450 | 3,100 | 3,250 | 6,350 | 7,950 | 6,850 | 14,800 | |
| Home-Based Work | 24% | 10% | 34% | 11% | 8% | 19% | 35% | 19% | 54% | |
| Other | 9% | 14% | 23% | 10% | 14% | 24% | 19% | 28% | 46% | |
| Total | 33% | 24% | 57% | 21% | 22% | 43% | 54% | 46% | 100% | |

Key findings (2008 LRT as compared to 2007 System survey):

- Much higher non-work trip making to CBD
- One LRT line attracts more off-peak CBD trips than entire bus system (and nearly as many peak CBD trips)

Charlotte South Corridor LRT Peak HBW Trips to CBD



2007 Transit Survey Peak HBW Trips to CBD

| | Walk | PNR* | KNR | Total |
|----------|-------|-------|-----|-------|
| Income 1 | 311 | 4 | 13 | 328 |
| Income 2 | 434 | 56 | 23 | 513 |
| Income 3 | 699 | 635 | 21 | 1,355 |
| Income 4 | 1,086 | 2,310 | 223 | 3,619 |
| Total | 2,530 | 3,005 | 280 | 5,815 |
| Income 1 | 5% | 0% | 0% | 6% |
| Income 2 | 7% | 1% | 0% | 9% |
| Income 3 | 12% | 11% | 0% | 23% |
| Income 4 | 19% | 40% | 4% | 62% |
| Total | 44% | 52% | 5% | 100% |

2008 Intercept Survey Scaled to Total Peak HBW Trips to CBD

| | Walk | PNR* | KNR | Total |
|----------|------|-------|-----|-------|
| Income 1 | 67 | 14 | 0 | 81 |
| Income 2 | 102 | 35 | 0 | 137 |
| Income 3 | 240 | 349 | 26 | 615 |
| Income 4 | 337 | 2,345 | 30 | 2,712 |
| Total | 746 | 2,743 | 56 | 3,545 |
| Income 1 | 2% | 0% | 0% | 2% |
| Income 2 | 3% | 1% | 0% | 4% |
| Income 3 | 7% | 10% | 1% | 17% |
| Income 4 | 10% | 66% | 1% | 77% |
| Total | 21% | 77% | 2% | 100% |

Key findings

- LRT customers have higher average incomes
- LRT customers more likely to
 PNR

Charlotte South Corridor LRT LRT Forecasts Based on Before-Survey Model Calibration

| Weekday | Year 2008 Obs | served and I | Modeled Ric | lership | | | | | I | |
|----------|---------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------------|--------|------------|-------------|--------------|----|
| | | Observed | No | 30% Rail | 30% Rail | LI | RT Prefere | nce Constar | nts (minutes |) |
| | | | Guidway | IVTT Discount | TT Discount IVTT Discount HBW& | | HBW&H | BO Peak | Other | |
| | | | Preference | Reduced Transfer | Reduced Transfer | Income | Income | Income 4 | Income 4 | |
| | | | | Penalty | Penalty and LRT Preference | 1&2 | 3 | CBD | non-CBD | |
| Peak | Walk/KNR | 5,000 | 2,241 | 3,294 | 5,289 | 15 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 20 |
| | PNR | 2,950 | 1,439 | 1,711 | 2,777 | 15 | 20 | 25 | 20 | 20 |
| | Total | 7,950 | 3,680 | 5,005 | 8,066 | | | | | |
| Off-Peak | Walk/KNR | 5,800 | 2,059 | 2,994 | 5,431 | 15 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 27 |
| | PNR | 1,050 | 703 | 868 | 1,329 | 15 | 20 | 25 | 20 | 20 |
| | Total | 6,850 | 2,762 | 3,862 | 6,760 | | | | | |
| Total | Walk/KNR | 10,800 | 4,300 | 6,288 | 10,720 | | | | | |
| | PNR | 4,000 | 2,142 | 2,579 | 4,106 | | | | | |
| | Total | 14,800 | 6,442 | 8,867 | 14,826 | | | | | |

- Model previously scrubbed for trip table and travel time skim problems - generally replicates observed ridership patterns but with large negative transit constants
- Calibrated model underestimates ridership across the board by 50% or more without inclusion of special guideway effects
- Very heavy LRT preference factors/constants required to match observed ridership

Charlotte South Corridor LRT LRT Forecasts Based on Before-Survey Model Calibration



Large constants appear to attract too many short trips and too few long PNR trips at Sharon West and South I-485

Charlotte South Corridor LRT Alternate "Choice Set" Approach

- The conventional approach requires implausibly large constants
- Alternative hypothesis: LRT has increased population of travelers who consider transit to be an option
 - Awareness of transit
 - Social acceptability
 - Other
- Approach:
 - Feed mode choice model with person trip containing only those trips where travelers are willing to choose transit
- Test Implementation:
 - Limit rail guideway effects to 30% time discount + 12 minutes
 - Limit <u>transit</u> income constants to gradual decline in high income travelers willingness to ride transit
 - Find proportion of trip table willing to consider transit to match pre- and post-rail ridership results

Charlotte South Corridor LRT



Limited Income Constants







Charlotte South Corridor LRT Calibrated Fraction of Trips Considering Bus Transit

| Trip Purpose | Inc1 | | In | c2 | In | ic3 | Inc4 | | |
|----------------|------|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|------|---------|--|
| | CBD | Non-CBD | CBD | Non-CBD | CBD | Non-CBD | CBD | Non-CBD | |
| HBW Peak | 55% | 100% | 55% | 100% | 71% | 56% | 53% | 45% | |
| HBW Off-Peak | 100% | 100% | 54% | 75% | 36% | 43% | 18% | 20% | |
| HBO Peak | 100% | 100% | 54% | 75% | 36% | 43% | 18% | 20% | |
| HBO Off-Peak | 100% | 100% | 54% | 75% | 36% | 43% | 18% | 20% | |
| NHB Peak** | 36% | 43% | | | | | | | |
| NHB Off-Peak** | 50% | 50% | | | | | | | |
| HBU Peak** | 75% | 75% | | | | | | | |
| HBU Off-Peak** | 75% | 75% | | | | | | | |

** NHB and HBU Purpose trip tables are not stratified by income group

Note: Calibrated Fraction of Trips Considering Rail=100% for all cells

Charlotte South Corridor LRT Modeled Station Volumes for Alternative Methods



| Station | April APC Counts | | | Model w/ | Guideway C | onstants | Model w/ Choice Set Approach | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------|--------|----------|------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|--------|
| | Peak | Off-Peak | Daily | Peak | Off-Peak | Daily | Peak | Off-Peak | Daily |
| 7th Street | 504 | 545 | 1,049 | 869 | 404 | 1,273 | 679 | 581 | 1,260 |
| СТС | 1,479 | 1,534 | 3,013 | 1,933 | 1,365 | 3,298 | 1,655 | 1,295 | 2,950 |
| 3rd Street | 751 | 372 | 1,123 | 241 | 150 | 391 | 240 | 209 | 449 |
| Stonewall | 180 | 78 | 258 | 561 | 192 | 753 | 452 | 332 | 784 |
| CBD Stations | 2,914 | 2,529 | 5,443 | 3,604 | 2,111 | 5,715 | 3,026 | 2,417 | 5,443 |
| Difference | | | | 24% | -17% | 5% | 4% | -4% | 0% |
| Carson | 107 | 90 | 197 | 157 | 161 | 318 | 137 | 109 | 246 |
| Bland | 124 | 134 | 258 | 169 | 176 | 345 | 154 | 138 | 292 |
| East-West | 254 | 331 | 585 | 331 | 467 | 798 | 283 | 370 | 653 |
| New Bern | 236 | 339 | 575 | 225 | 267 | 492 | 221 | 229 | 450 |
| Southend Stations | 721 | 894 | 1,615 | 882 | 1,071 | 1,953 | 795 | 846 | 1,641 |
| Difference | | | | 22% | 20% | 21% | 10% | -5% | 2% |
| Scaleybark | 369 | 307 | 676 | 264 | 299 | 563 | 302 | 360 | 662 |
| Woodlawn | 395 | 465 | 860 | 513 | 612 | 1,125 | 494 | 599 | 1,093 |
| Tyvola | 399 | 349 | 748 | 445 | 679 | 1,124 | 435 | 616 | 1,051 |
| Archdale | 264 | 312 | 576 | 378 | 365 | 743 | 386 | 426 | 812 |
| Arrowood | 557 | 512 | 1,069 | 538 | 657 | 1,195 | 509 | 575 | 1,084 |
| Sharon West | 803 | 577 | 1,380 | 545 | 410 | 955 | 543 | 394 | 937 |
| Inner PNR Stations | 2,787 | 2,522 | 5,309 | 2,683 | 3,022 | 5,705 | 2,669 | 2,970 | 5,639 |
| Difference | | | | -4% | 20% | 7% | -4% | 18% | 6% |
| South I-485 | 1,498 | 941 | 2,439 | 898 | 555 | 1,453 | 1,014 | 862 | 1,876 |
| Difference | | | | -40% | -41% | -40% | -32% | -8% | -23% |
| Total | 7,920 | 6,886 | 14,806 | 8,067 | 6,759 | 14,826 | 7,504 | 7,095 | 14,599 |
| Difference | | | | 2% | -2% | 0% | -5% | 3% | -1% |

 Choice set approach also improves model performance for short trips and long PNR trips (at South I-485)

Charlotte South Corridor LRT Conclusions



- Introduction of LRT had impact on selected markets not fully explained by time and cost changes
- Alternative approaches for capturing fixed guideway preferences may yield better forecasts and a more plausible explanation than mode specific constants
- TCRP H-37 will research values of unmeasured attributes in fixed guideway transit including possible impacts on choice sets