





## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Link Transit will Expand Service to the City of Mebane

Burlington and Mebane City Councils approve the expansion that will provide connections to Orange County Public Transit and GoTriangle

**Burlington**, **NC** – Beginning September 30, 2024, <u>Link Transit</u> will expand service to the City of Mebane. The Burlington City Council and Mebane City Council approved a new interlocal agreement to bring Link Transit's Orange Route 2 and its complementary paratransit service to the City of Mebane for a one-year trial period. With the latest expansion, Link Transit will now serve residents and visitors in Burlington, Gibsonville, the Town of Elon, Elon University, Alamance Community College, Alamance County Government Offices, and Mebane.

The Orange Route 2 extension will bring Link Transit services to the <u>Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation</u> (PART) Park and Ride lot near the <u>Tanger Outlets</u>. From that lot, riders can catch the <u>GoTriangle</u> ODX route to Durham, PART service to Chapel Hill, and <u>Orange County Public Transit</u> service to locations throughout Orange County. Riders will also be able to take Link Transit to locations throughout Alamance County including <u>Alamance Community College</u>, the Burlington Train Station, Downtown Burlington, Downtown Gibsonville, Downtown Elon, Elon University, and Alamance Regional Medical Center.

"The City of Mebane is pleased to provide public transportation connecting Mebane to Alamance Community College. This has been a long time coming, and we believe connecting to Alamance Community College will offer further opportunities for Mebanites to gain access to this valuable educational institution."

"Since Burlington first launched Link Transit in 2016 in partnership with Gibsonville and Alamance Community College, our goal has been to provide a robust, affordable, accessible public transit service for our community," stated Burlington Mayor Jim Butler. "With new partnerships providing expanded service first to the Town of Elon and now to the City of Mebane, we are making important progress towards that goal."

Buses operate Monday-Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9:30am to 6:30pm. Buses run every 90 minutes. The City of Mebane and Link Transit will evaluate the performance of the new extended route in 2025 to determine future continuation of service. It is anticipated that Orange

County Public Transit will start a circulator route within Mebane for local service that Link Transit passengers can connect to in January 2025.

Complementary Link Transit paratransit service will be available to those who have disabilities that prevent them from being able to board a Link Transit bus or access a Link Transit bus stop. Application for door-to-door complementary paratransit service for travel within/to/from Mebane, Elon, Burlington, Gibsonville, Alamance County Government Offices, and Alamance Community between during the same hours as the bus route can be found at <a href="LinkTransit.org">LinkTransit.org</a>.

Link Transit and Elon University recently entered into a partnership that allows Elon University affiliates such as students, employees and faculty members to ride Link Transit free by showing their ID card to the bus driver. Elon University will reimburse each passenger trip back to Link Transit at the current fare. This partnership is intended to increase access to Elon University affiliates for travel throughout the Link Transit service area.

"Link Transit continues to become a better service for those traveling in Burlington, Gibsonville, Elon to/from Alamance County Office Building, and Alamance Community College" said John Andoh, Transit Manager for Link Transit. "Now with this new service to the City of Mebane, plus a partnership with Elon University for their affiliates to ride free, it is getting more convenient and easier to ride public transportation in the Burlington-Graham urbanized area". Stated Andoh

Andoh also stated "Since the City of Mebane approached Link a year ago and did community surveys, many of their residents were excited to bring Link Transit to Mebane so they can access shopping, medical services, employment, and other of quality-of-life opportunities. We are grateful of the Town's participation in Link Transit to make Link Transit accessible for those needing transportation."

"Since starting Link Transit in 2016, it was always our goal to ensure Link provided a way for people to travel in the Burlington-Graham urbanized area. We got partnerships with Alamance County, Alamance Community College, the Town of Gibsonville, Town of Elon and now the City of Mebane." said Mike Nunn, Director of Transportation for the City of Burlington. "We grew from ending service at 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., now to 9:00 p.m. and added Saturday Service and as a result, we are seeing ridership continue to grow with an anticipation of exceeding 150,000 passenger trips this year". Stated Nunn. "We are excited that public transit continues to grow and these partnerships formed are essential towards increasing mobility".

Learn more about Link Transit, its routes, fares and how to ride at www.linktransit.org or call (336) 222-LINK. Follow Link Transit on X @LinkTransitNC, Facebook @LinkTransitNC and on Instagram @LinkTransitNC.

You can also track Link Transit in real time by visiting www.mylinktransit.org, calling (336) 429-5465 and input the bus stop number, texting "LINK" to 41411, downloading the Transit App, Moovit App from App Store and Google Play store or using Apple Maps, Google Maps or Bing Maps to plan a trip in real time.

## **About Link Transit**

Link Transit operates five fixed routes and a door-to-door demand response service for persons with disabilities is available in Burlington, Gibsonville, Elon and to/from Alamance County Offices and Alamance Community College, Monday through Saturday. All routes meet in Downtown Burlington at the transfer hub located at Worth Street and Webb Avenues. Link Transit is funded with local, state and federal funds. Learn more about Link Transit at www.linktransit.org or call (336) 222.LINK.

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