



## Rail Division

# Corridor Identification and Development (CID)

Aug. 2024

### CID Program Overview

- In Dec. 2023 North Carolina was awarded seven initial grants totaling \$3.5 million as part of the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Corridor Identification and Development (CID) program.
- The selected corridors were:
  - Atlanta to Charlotte
  - Charlotte to Kings Mountain
  - Charlotte to Washington D.C
  - Asheville to Salisbury
  - Wilmington to Raleigh
  - Fayetteville to Raleigh
  - Winston-Salem to Raleigh
- The CID program's purpose is to develop new or improved intercity passenger rail service.

[Program website](#) at [ncdot.gov](https://www.ncdot.gov)

### How CID Works

- CID is a three-step program including 1) scoping, 2) service development planning, and 3) project preliminary engineering and environmental planning.
- Step 1: Scoping—The grants of \$500,000 per corridor (with no matching funds required) are for scoping service development plans which will include more detailed coordination with the freight and passenger railroad partners.
- Step 2: Service Development Planning—This step requires a 10% state and local match to leverage additional federal funding without a separate grant application. The result of this step is an inventory of projects tied to service outcomes.
- Step 3: Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Planning—The step requires a 20% state and local match to leverage additional federal funding without a separate grant application. The result of this step is "shovel ready" projects.
- The FRA program is intended to create a "project pipeline" that can be funded for final design and construction through discretionary grant programs like the Federal State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail.

[USDOT program website](#) at [railroads.dot.gov](https://www.railroads.dot.gov).

### Program Status

- While each of the seven corridors will proceed through the steps simultaneously and independently, completion of service development plans is expected to take at least two years to complete.
- North Carolina submitted five other corridors that were not selected in this round. Those can be resubmitted when the CID program grant applications reopen in the future.

- All seven step 1 grants were obligated in the spring of 2024, allowing work to proceed.
- The NCDOT team is engaging with corridor stakeholders.
- Consultant teams to execute the step 1 work have been selected.
- The Program is on track to complete step 1 for all seven 2023 corridors by the end of 2025.

### How the CID Process Benefits Major Rail Initiatives

- The NCDOT Rail Division has a long history of planning and development to prepare projects for funding opportunities such as the FRA Corridor Identification and Development program grants.
- Feasibility studies for two of the selected CID corridors have been finalized, the Western NC Passenger Rail Feasibility Study and the Southeastern NC Passenger Rail Feasibility Study. These studies provide conceptual level capital costs, operating costs, and a range of ridership and revenue projections associated with new intercity passenger rail services.
- The CID grants allow these feasibility studies and similar projects to move from idea to execution.

### Western N.C. Passenger Rail Feasibility Study

- The Rail Division finalized and released the Western North Carolina (WNC) Passenger Rail Feasibility Study in Dec. 2023.
- The study evaluates the feasibility of a new intercity passenger rail service connecting Asheville with services in Salisbury.
- The Asheville to Salisbury service would operate along the Norfolk Southern (NS) AS-Line for approximately 139 miles.
- Passenger rail service has not served western N.C. since 1975.

### Southeastern N.C. Passenger Rail Feasibility Study

- The Rail Division finalized and released the Southeastern North Carolina (SENC) Passenger Rail Feasibility Study in August 2024.
- The study evaluates the feasibility of a new intercity passenger rail service connecting Wilmington with services in Raleigh.

### Raleigh to Richmond: S-Line Projects

- The S-Line is part of the Charlotte to Washington D.C. corridor which is one of the seven corridors funded by the CID program.
- CID will help NCDOT work with its partners to determine how to best integrate the various segments of the Southeast Corridor into an integrated system.

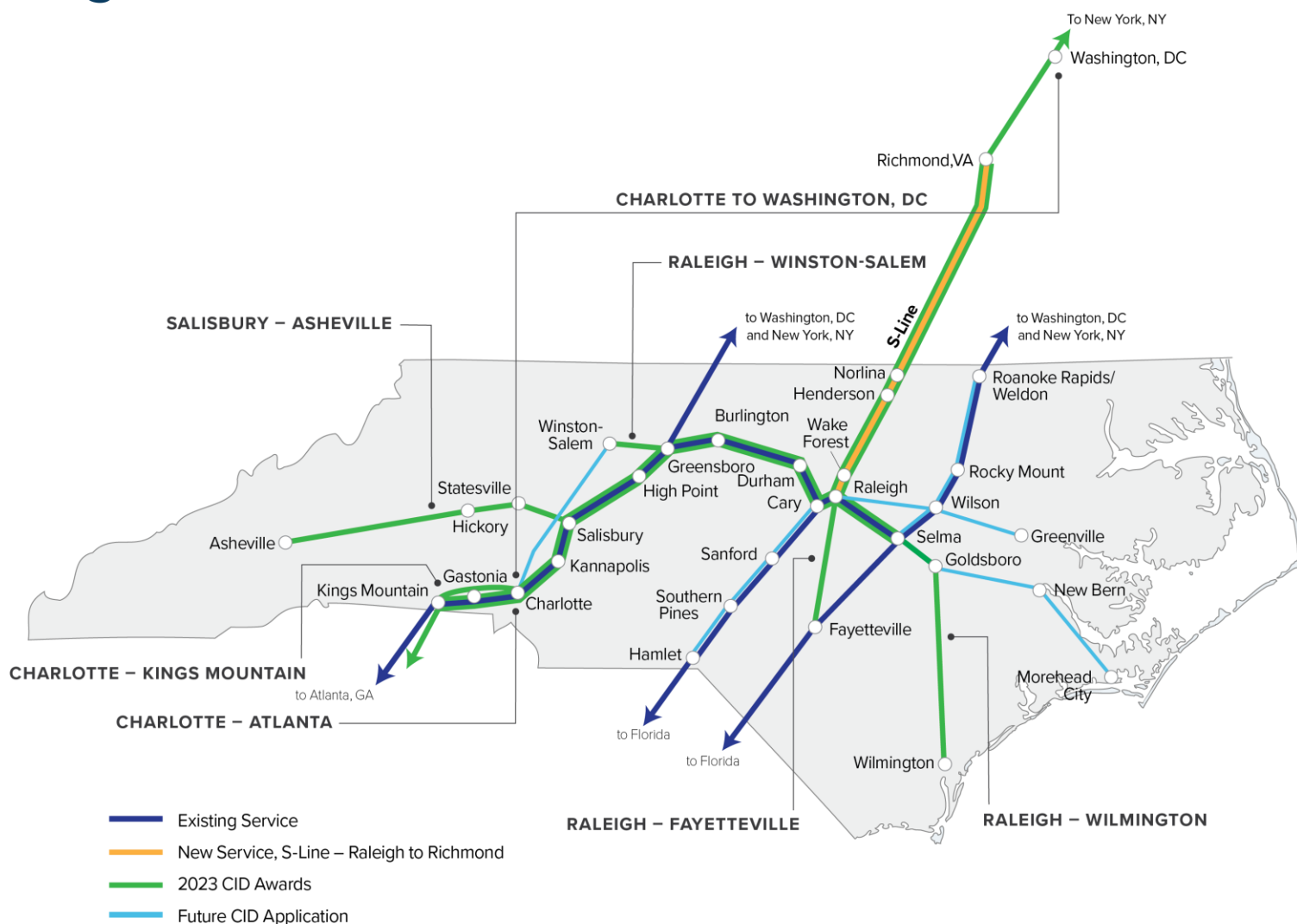
- A successful Southeast Corridor will enable extensions to other destinations to be successful.

[Project website](#) at [ncdot.gov](https://ncdot.gov).

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## N.C. Corridor Identification and Development (CID) Program



Towns shown are for geographical reference only and do not represent station locations.