



## Corridor ID Explainer: Moving New Passenger Rail Routes Forward

The **Corridor Identification and Development (Corridor ID) Program**, led by the Federal Railroad Administration, is the federal government's primary pipeline for developing new and expanded passenger rail routes.

For North Carolina, this program is a **game changer**—providing a clear, step-by-step path to move projects from early ideas to construction.

### How the Process Works

#### 1. Corridor Selection

North Carolina has been especially successful, with seven routes selected:

- Atlanta to Charlotte
- Charlotte to Kings Mountain
- Charlotte to Washington, D.C.
- Fayetteville to Raleigh
- Salisbury to Asheville
- Wilmington to Raleigh
- Winston-Salem to Raleigh

#### 2. Planning & Development

Once selected, corridors receive federal support for detailed planning, including:

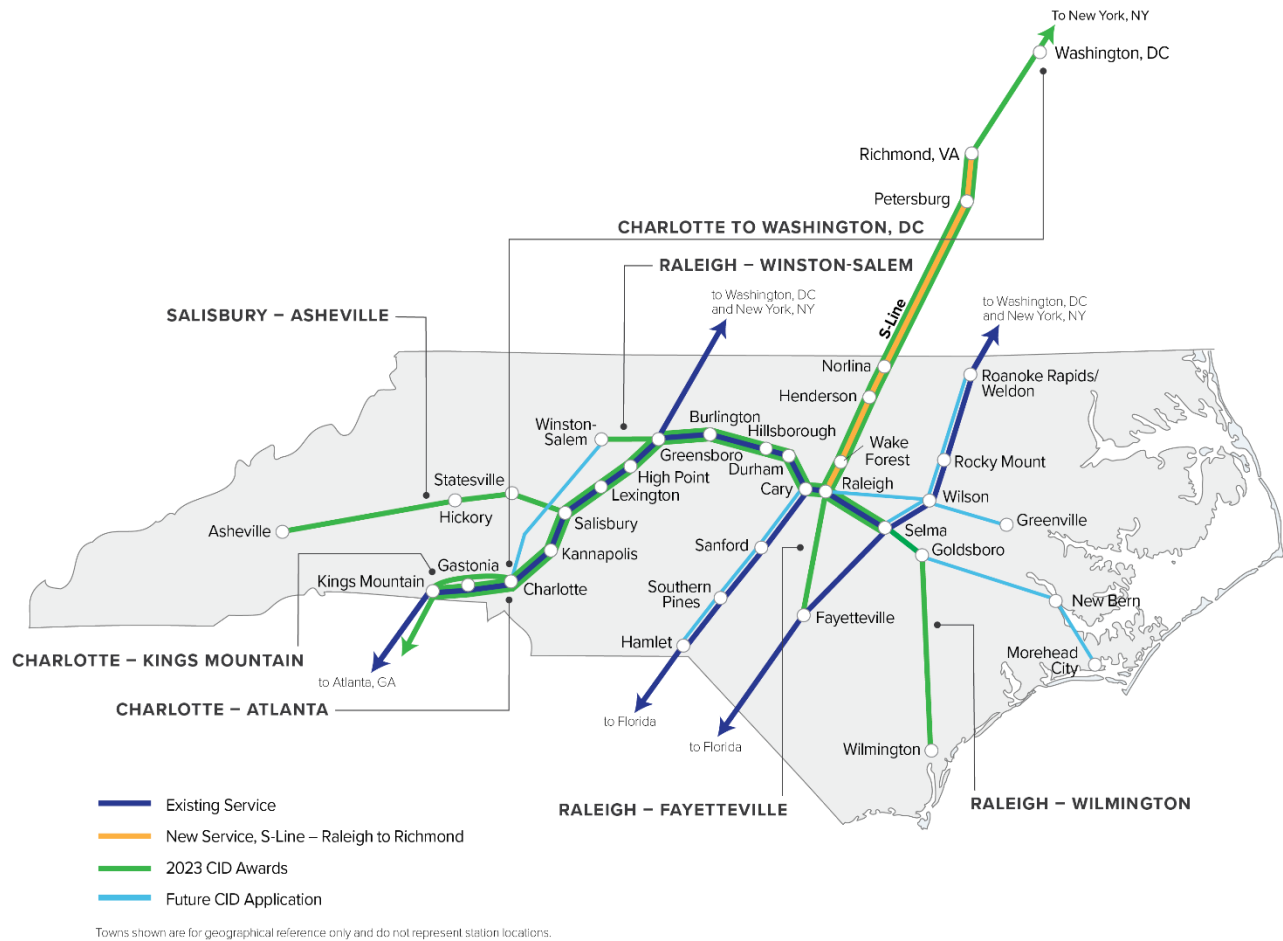
- Service plans (frequency, travel times, stations)
- Environmental review
- Cost estimates and ridership projections

This stage answers a key question: What will the service look like, and how will it perform?

#### 3. Project Pipeline for Funding

After planning is complete, corridors are positioned to compete for major federal construction funding.

This is where projects move from concept to reality.



## How Local Governments Can Position for Success

Communities play a critical role in determining where and how rail service is implemented.

- **Prepare for Matching Funds:** Federal grants often require local contributions for stations and infrastructure—being financially ready helps projects move faster.
- **Plan for Growth:** Updating zoning and land use around future stations can attract

housing, jobs, and private investment.

- **Engage Early:** Coordinating with NCDOT and regional partners ensures local priorities are reflected in project development.

## Why It Matters for North Carolina

- **Accelerates Progress:** Corridor ID replaces uncertainty with a structured path to implementation.

- **Unlocks Federal Funding:** Projects in the pipeline are far more competitive for major grants.
- **Supports Rural Access:** Links smaller towns to major job centers and opportunities.

## The Bottom Line

Corridor ID is how new passenger rail lines actually happen. North Carolina is already a national leader—**but continued state and local partnership is critical to move these corridors from planning to construction.**

## Contact

### Beau Mills, Chair

North Carolinians for Passenger Rail  
(919) 637-0873

