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LOCAL NEWS

VIA lands \$268M federal grant to fully fund its Rapid Green Line corridor

The 10.35-mile route will connect San Antonio International Airport to Missions

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Funds for the grant came through an agreement with the Federal Transit Administration.

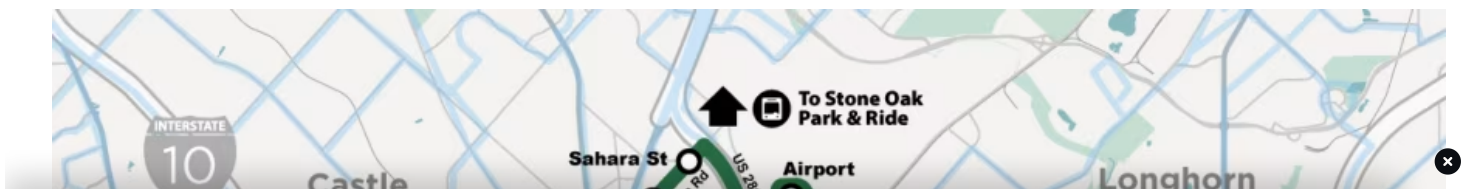
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VIA has set a goal of delivering the high-frequency service, a first for the region, by late 2027, a news release from the transit company said.

The planned 10.35-mile corridor is designed to improve transportation access to an estimated 54,000 residents and 108,000 jobs within the route, which travels from the San Antonio International Airport south to the Missions.





Planned map for VIA Metropolitan Transit's Rapid Green Line (VIA Metropolitan Transit)

"Right now, many San Antonio households are spending nearly a quarter of their income just on transportation. This new transit line will help lessen that financial burden and create a thriving environment where everyone can enjoy greater mobility and economic opportunities," FTA Deputy Administrator Veronica Vanterpool said.

San Antonio voters approved a measure in 2020 to redirect an existing 1/8 sales tax to VIA, which will start in 2026, the release said.

"Together with the FTA, we're now fully funded to construct the backbone of a system designed to meet the mobility needs of San Antonio, well into our evolving future," VIA President/CEO Jeffrey C. Arndt said.

Planned transportation measures in San Antonio

Advanced Rapid Transit corridors — of which VIA has a second East-West line planned — are central to its voter-approved *Keep SA Moving Plan*.

VIA said the route could open at least two years after the Green Line; however, a target goal is unclear.

Conversations in San Antonio have stayed ongoing this year around **transit-oriented development (TOD)**, a measure to support housing and mixed-use development around the forthcoming lines.

Both corridors would run through a downtown expected to see significant change in transportation over the coming years.

Plans to reimagine Hemisfair and the Alamodome under the city's "**Project Marvel**" venture would likely emphasize transportation and ease of access.

Last week, the San Antonio City Council **approved a funding agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation** to construct a nearly one-mile, two-way cycle track from Flores Street to Interstate 37. VIA board approves \$102 million in local funding for East-West Rapid Line

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR



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Mason Hickok is a digital journalist at KSAT. He graduated from the University of Texas at San Antonio with a communication degree and a minor in film studies. He also spent two years working at The Paisano, the independent student newspaper at UTSA. Outside of the newsroom, he enjoys the outdoors, reading and watching movies.

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