



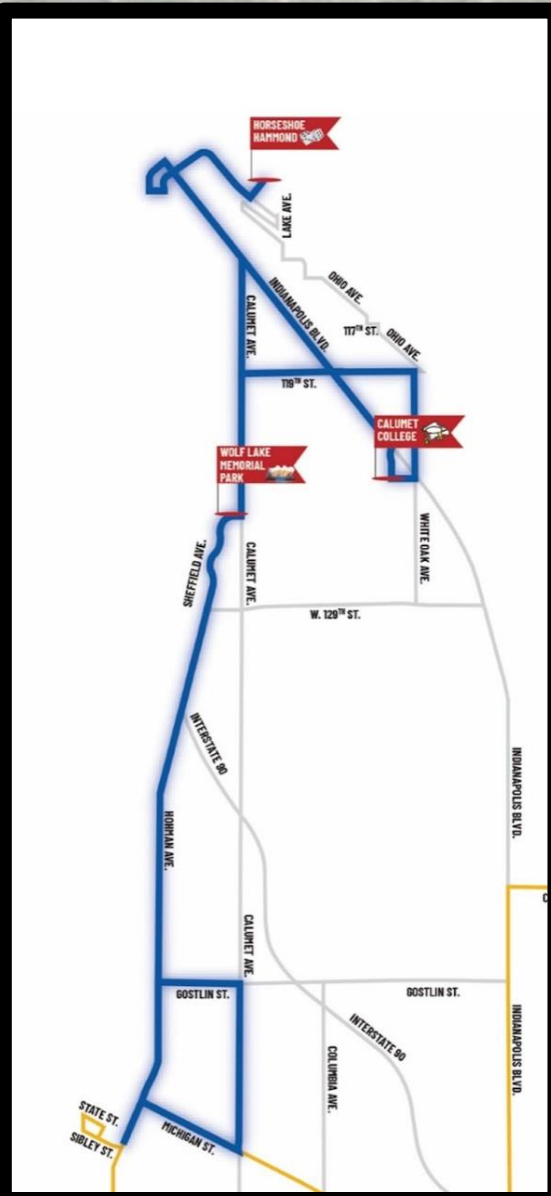
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# PUBLIC HEARING May 25, 2023

HEARING SUBJECTS:  
LAKESHORE SERVICE  
BROADWAY METRO EXPRESS  
BURR/LAKE RIDGE





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# AGENDA

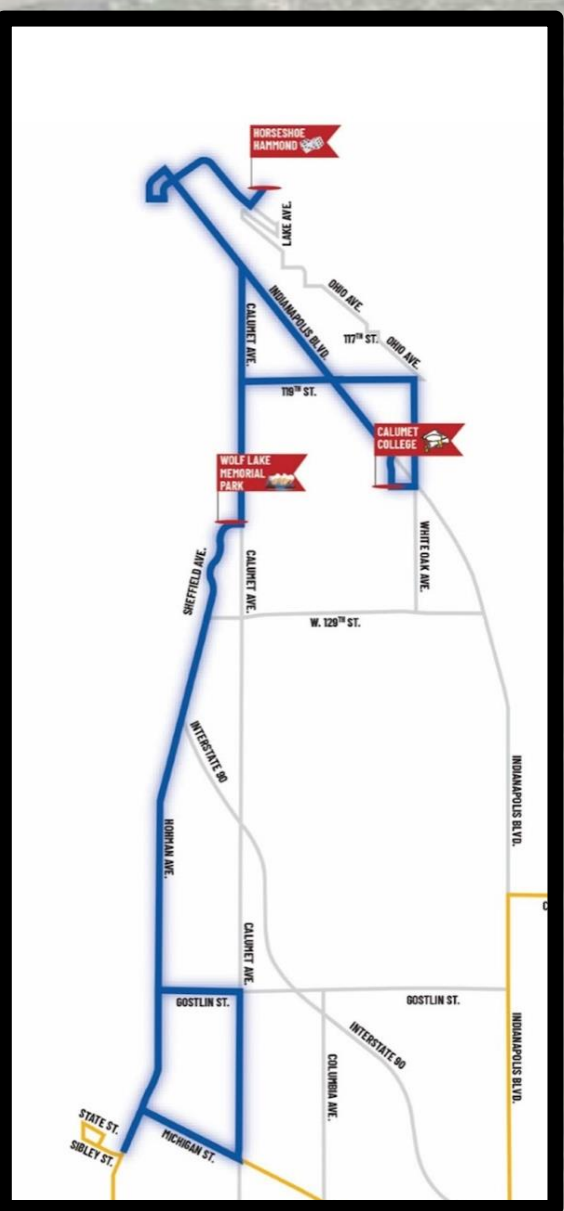
## Introductions and Acknowledgements

## Presentation

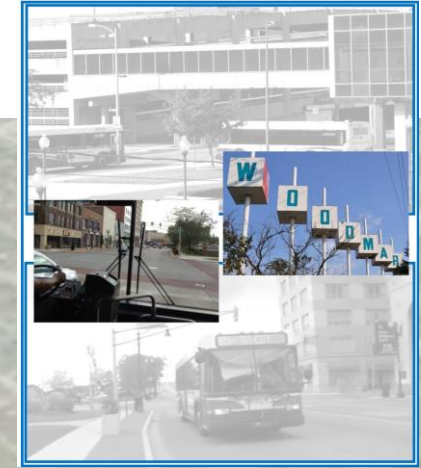
- Lakeshore North Description
- Status of Bmx and Lake Ridge
- Other Subjects
  - Battery Electric Bus Project
  - Central Gary and Hobart
  - Cycle219 Bikeshare

## Public Comments (2:00 maximum)

## Adjournment



# **LAKESHORE NORTH** Lakeshore Planning Timeline



**2014**

Tri-City Analysis completed, with funding secured for Lakeshore Connection and Lakeshore North

**2014**

Calumet College first expresses support for Lakeshore Service

**2019**

Regional funding secured: Hammond, Lake County began providing local funds for regional services. (Merrillville had begun providing funds in 2018)

**2022**

GPTC resumes all-day Lakeshore South service but suspends Saturday service  
Renewed request for service from Calumet College  
GPTC revisits plans for Lakeshore North service

**Surveys indicate high support for re-alignment to create Lakeshore North**

# LAKESHORE NORTH: Lakeshore North: Route Features

## LAKESHORE NORTH WILL PROVIDE TRANSIT

### ACCESS TO:

**DOWNTOWN HAMMOND:** Connections to other Lakeshore service, Pace Suburban Bus

**SOUTH SHORE:** Connection to existing Hammond station, future Central Station with Westlake

**WOLF LAKE MEMORIAL PARK:** Venue includes natural features as well as the Pavilion outdoor event venue



# LAKE SHORE NORTH: Lakeshore North: Route Features

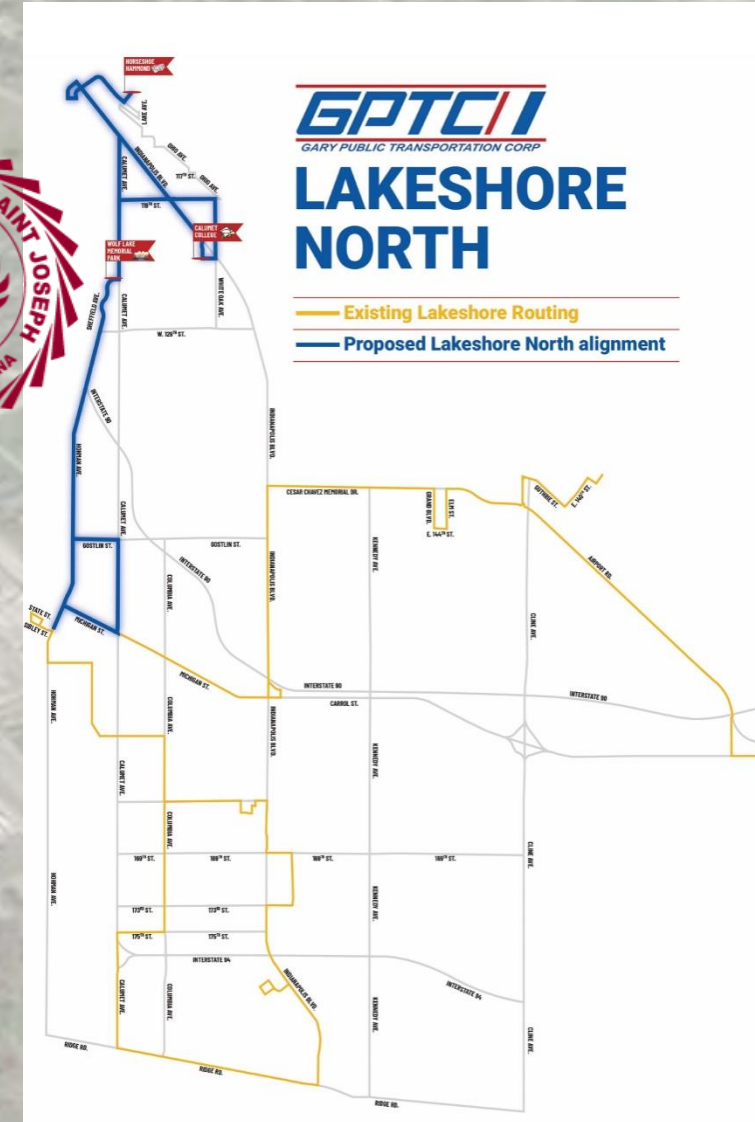
## LAKE SHORE NORTH WILL PROVIDE TRANSIT

### ACCESS TO:

**CALUMET COLLEGE:** The college would become the sixth major campus to be served by GPTC

**DOWNTOWN WHITING & ROBERTSDALE:** Lakeshore North would bring transit connections to this mixed-use area

**HORSESHOE CASINO:** This major generator would receive fixed route access after a decade without service



# LAKESHORE NORTH

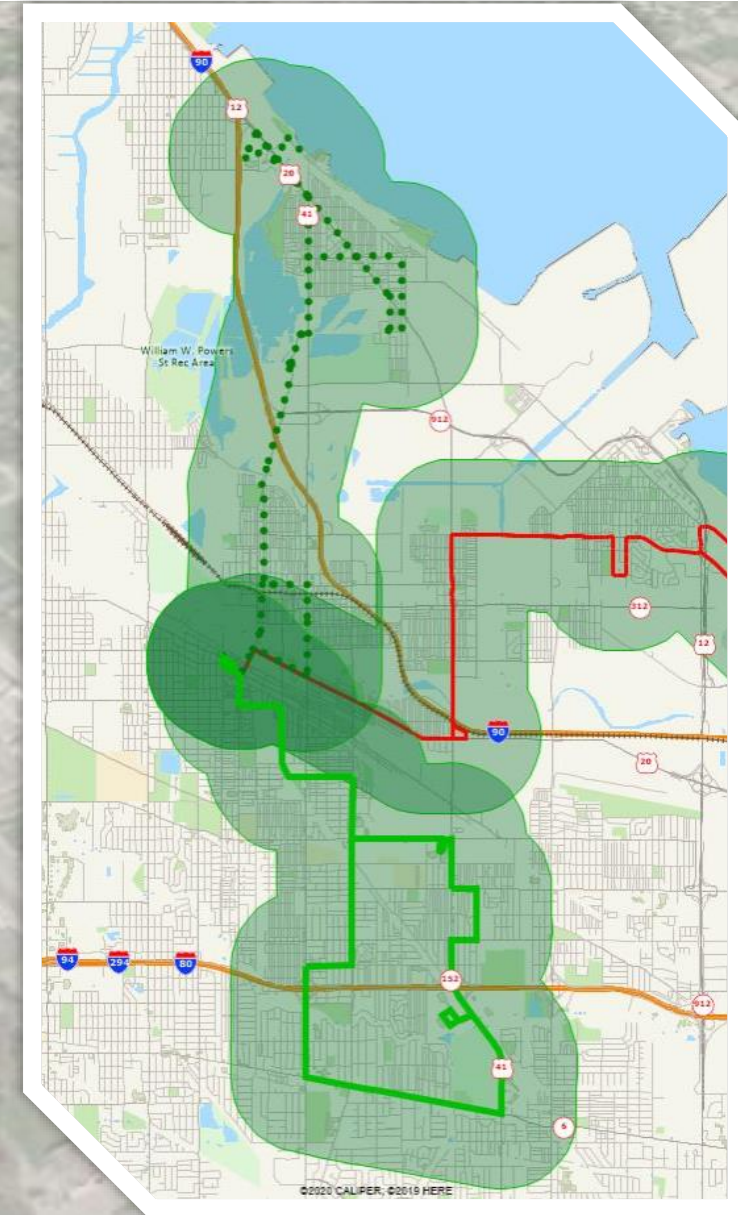
## Lakeshore and Paratransit

**ACCESS219** is GPTC's

complementary paratransit  
service

Any extension of GPTC's fixed  
route service would require an  
extension of paratransit service  
accordingly

All areas within .75 miles of the  
Lakeshore North would be added  
to GPTC's Access219 service area



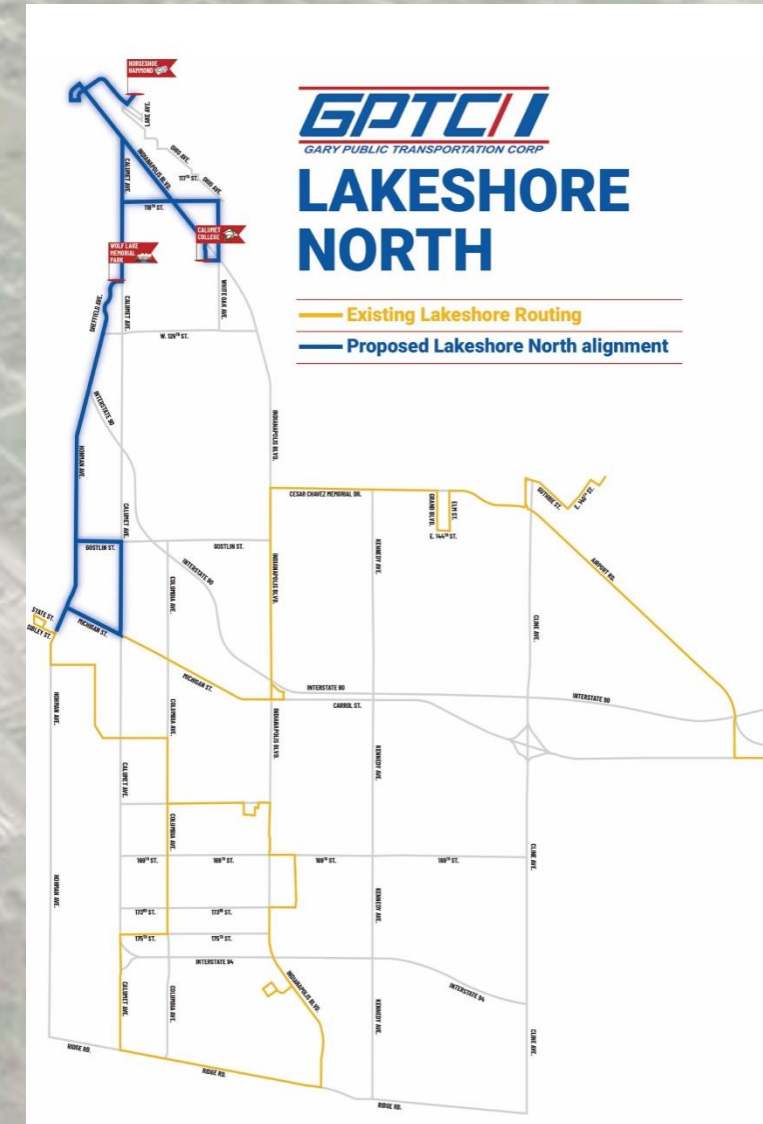
# LAKESHORE NORTH

# Lakeshore North: Options

## GPTC'S PLANNING AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT IDENTIFIED SEVERAL OPTIONS

FOR FIRST LAUNCH, the Lakeshore North will share staffing and rolling stock with the Lakeshore South, creating an interlined, alternating alignment. Frequency options include:

- All Day:
  - Lakeshore South would continue to meet Route R1 (Lakeshore North) and serve southern Hammond/Highland/Munster every odd hour
  - The new Lakeshore North would provide northern Hammond with service every even hour



# LAKESHORE NORTH

## Lakeshore North: Options

### GPTC'S PLANNING AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT IDENTIFIED SEVERAL OPTIONS

FOR FIRST LAUNCH, the Lakeshore North will share staffing and rolling stock with the Lakeshore South, creating an interlined, alternating alignment. Frequency options include:

- Peak Service:
  - The Lakeshore North service would be limited to 8A, 10A and 4P and 6P, with the Lakeshore South maintaining service for the remainder of the day





# LAKESHORE NORTH

## Lakeshore North: Options

### GPTC'S PLANNING AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT IDENTIFIED SEVERAL OPTIONS

FOR FIRST LAUNCH, the Lakeshore North will share staffing and rolling stock with the Lakeshore South, creating an interlined, alternating alignment. Frequency options include:

- Saturday Service?
- Future Upgrades
  - Additional capacity – hourly service for both routes?
  - On-demand trips into Munster, Schererville (UPDATE)



# LAKESHORE NORTH

## Lakeshore North: Next Steps

- Public Comment: Ongoing (including tonight) thru June 7, 2023
- GPTC Board Action: 5:30PM June 8, 2023
- IF APPROVED: Route Planning and schedule creation throughout summer.
- Route launch: August/September 2023



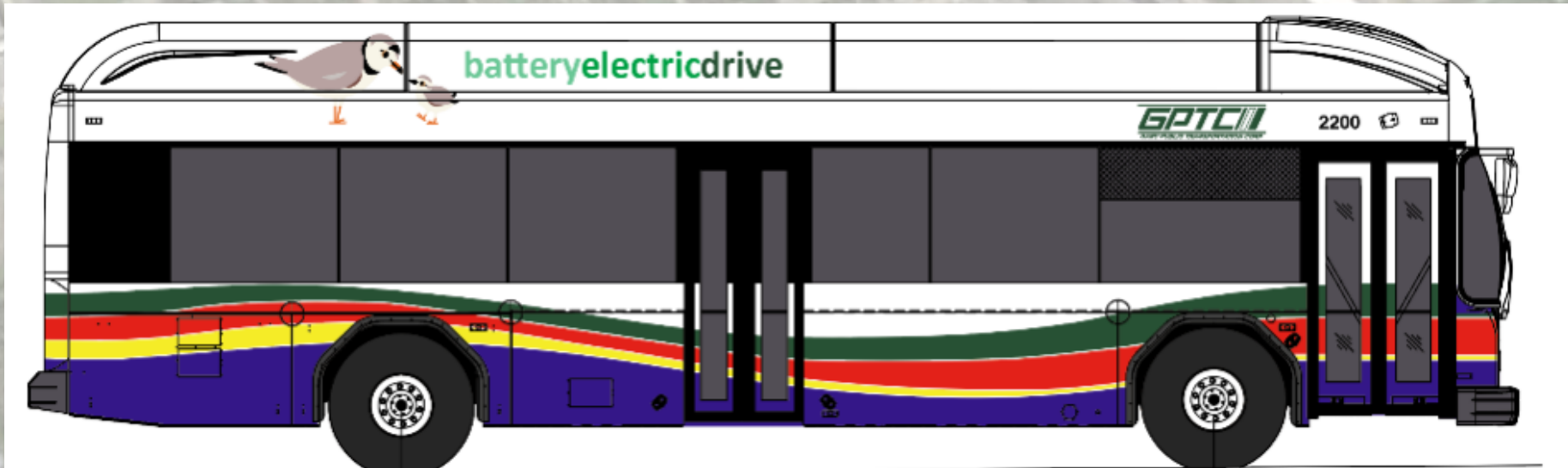
# Service Frequency Update

- **Service Frequency on Bmx and Lake Ridge:**
  - **Broadway Metro Express**
    - **Current ridership is strongest since 2020**
    - **However, due to staffing issues, GPTC will maintain hourly service on the Broadway Metro Express until new buses arrive**
  - **Burr/Lake Ridge (Route R3)**
    - **Frequency changes in 2021 did not lead to increased ridership**
    - **To preserve funding and adjust to demand, Burr/Lake Ridge will maintain its current hourly frequency**



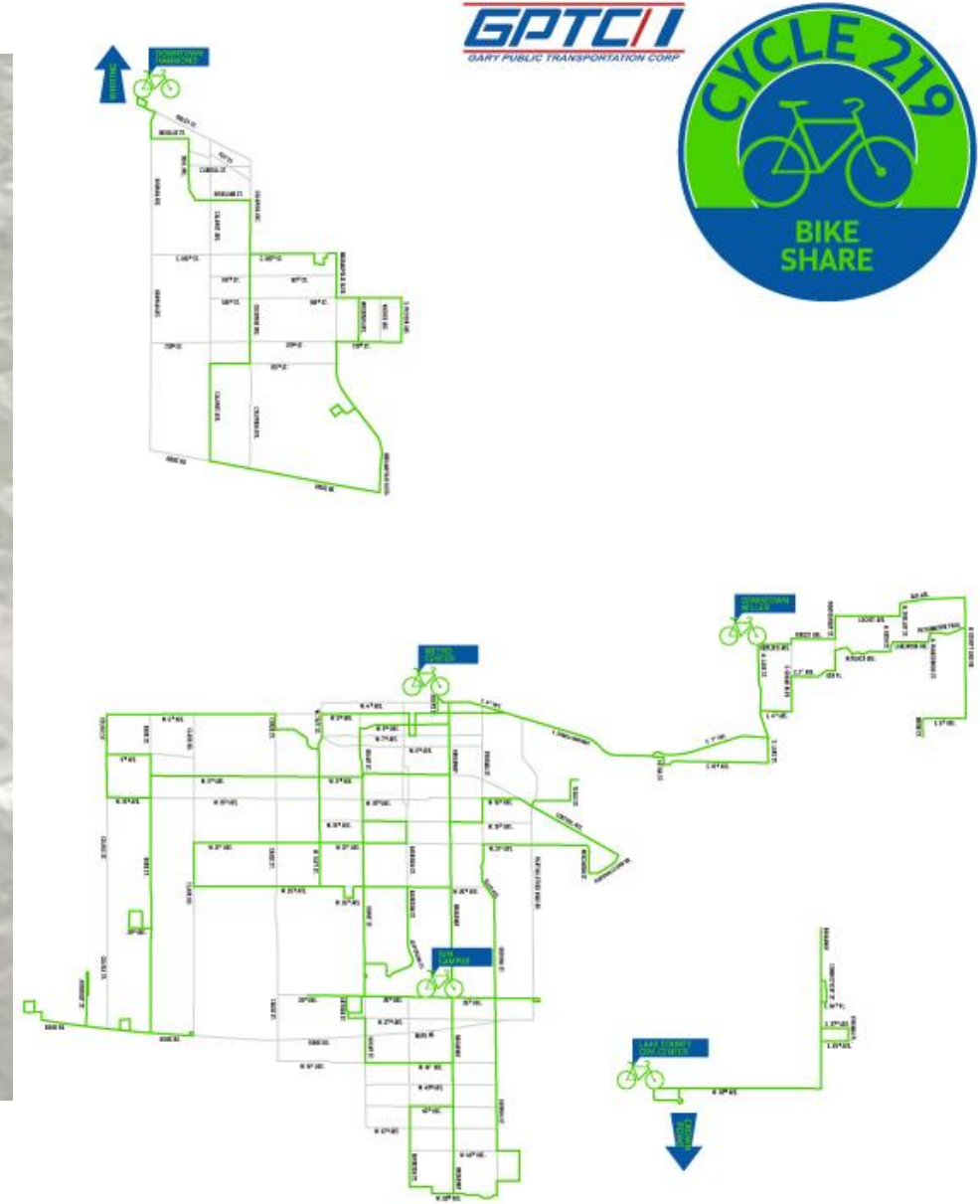
# Other GPTC Plans

- Electric Buses for the Broadway Metro Express
  - NWI's first battery electric buses are funded in part through the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), and will drastically reduce pollution
  - Buses will be equipped with Traffic Signal Priority (TSP) technology to maintain on-time performance
  - The vehicles are currently *ON THE ASSEMBLY LINE*
  - An introductory event is planned for later this summer

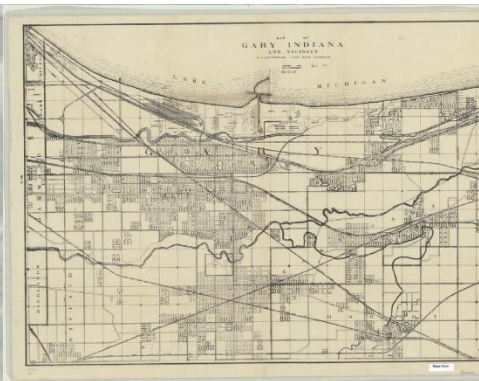


# Other GPTC Plans

- Bikeshare
  - Thanks to a grant from the Legacy Foundation/Knight Foundation and funding from Pivotal, GPTC will be introducing bike rentals available at selected stops to improve access to transit and nearby activities
  - Bikeshare stations were recommended for downtown, in Miller Beach, and University Park in Gary; downtown Hammond; and the Lake County Government Center.
  - Additional stations are being planned, both before and after a planned July 2023 launch



# Other GPTC Plans



- **Central Gary/Hobart Rapid Bus Service**
  - **GPTC has received a grant to improve service in Central Gary and expand into adjoining areas. Elements include:**
    - **Rapid bus elements and increased frequency on the Grant Street corridor (similar to the Bmx)**
    - **Lines and feeders to maintain and/or improve service to neighborhoods served by Routes L1, L3 and L5**
    - **Returning transit to areas of Hobart, potentially including downtown, St. Mary's and the US6 corridor**
    - **Updates are planned for late summer, with final recommendations set for fall 2023**

# LAKESHORE NORTH

