

GoTriangle – Durham Orange Light Rail



How Do I Submit Comments?

- Written Comments: Complete and submit this form.
- Electronic Comments: Submit comments by visiting www.lightrailonline.com.

Comments:

_____ We object to the planned Durham/Chapel Hill Light Rail project on the grounds that it is _____
_____ economically absurd. _____
_____ GoTriangle has not calculated (or made public) an estimate of the cost per rider. Here is _____
_____ a simple calculation, based entirely on the numbers provided by GoTriangle (likely _____
_____ optimistic): _____
_____ 1. Capital cost: \$2.45b _____
_____ 2. Assumed interest rate: 5% (our assumption) _____
_____ 3. Interest cost per year: \$122m _____
_____ 2. Daily number of riders: 24,000 _____
_____ 3. Annual number of round-trips: 4.4m _____
_____ 4. Interest cost per round-trip: \$28 _____
_____ This calculation does not account for operating costs (about \$7 per round-trip based on _____
_____ GoTriangle's estimate of \$30m in annual operating costs). It also does not account for _____
_____ the fact that operation does not start until 10 years after the start of construction (capital _____
_____ costs accrue). _____
_____ A more likely scenario: Capital costs double (the typically cost overrun for public transit _____
_____ projects in the U.S. is over 100%) and ridership is about half of GoTriangle's projection _____
_____ (GoTriangle estimates 60% more riders than Charlotte's Blue Line which is 60% longer _____
_____ and runs through an area with 3 times the population of Durham and Chapel Hill). In that _____
_____ case, the cost per round-trip would quadruple to over \$100. _____
_____ In other words, each daily commuter would cost between \$8,400 (\$28x300) and \$30,000 _____
_____ (\$100x300) per year. _____
_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Contact Preference: ☐ Direct Mail ☐ Email ☐ Do Not Contact

Please fold, fasten with tape and mail. No envelope necessary. Do not staple.

Place
Stamp
Here

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