

2017 successes for top three priorities of the regional business community:

1. **Accelerate 540: Federal government approves final environmental document for 540 extension**
The federal government, NCDOT and NC Turnpike Authority signed the final environmental impact statement in December – eight months early – for the extension of 540 to I-40 in southern Wake Co.
2. **Fund RDU Master Plan: More than \$30m in annual recurring funds for RDU approved by NC legislature**
In 2017 the NC Legislature approved more than \$30m in annual recurring funds for RDU Airport to help fund the Vision 2040 RDU Master Plan, which was just approved by the federal government in fall 2017.
3. **Create low-cost project fund: \$44m annually in new statewide fund approved by NC legislature**
RTA introduced a new funding concept in 2017 to accelerate low-cost congestion relief projects. The NC legislature and NCDOT created a new \$44m annual recurring fund for low-cost projects statewide.

Additional 2017 successes of RTA and/or the region:

- **Wake Transit begins implementation** of the largest successful county transit referendum in NC history
- **\$207m Raleigh Transportation Bond referendum** approved easily by voters
- **Durham-Orange light rail receives federal approval** to move into Engineering phase
- **Successful implementation of on-ramp signals** for I-540 in north Raleigh
- **I-540 express shoulder lanes receive \$70m in funding** in draft state transportation plan
- **Wake County welcomes Interstate 87**, its first north-south primary Interstate, along the US 64 freeway
- **Bicycle share expands from zero to six systems** in less than six months
- **RTA releases America's Most Moving-Forward Region** new mobility report

Regional Transportation Alliance

The voice of the regional business community on transportation

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