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## **Two August open houses set on Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project**

Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT) will host two public open houses next week on the proposed North-South Corridor Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project.

The open houses will be held 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26, and 10 a.m.-noon Thursday, Aug. 27. Both will take place in the Geldbart Auditorium at Selby Library, 1331 First St., Sarasota. Interested citizens can attend anytime during either of the open houses.

If they cannot attend an open house, but wish to comment on the project, citizens are encouraged to visit [www.scgov.net/brt](http://www.scgov.net/brt) and click on the "Your Opinion Counts" button.

The proposed BRT line is approximately 8.5 miles long and includes about 20 proposed stations. It would connect the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee campus, the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport, downtown Sarasota and the commercial centers near Siesta Drive.

Among the BRT project goals are improving the quality, speed and attractiveness of transit services in areas of high residential and employment density, supporting regional economic development, improving the operating efficiency of transit services in congested corridors and roadways and supporting long-term sustainable development and land use in the region.

The open houses will launch the environmental assessment process to consider the potential impacts of the preferred alternative for the BRT line. During the workshops, citizens will have the opportunity to review the alternatives that were under consideration, learn about the environmental assessment process and comment about the study's goals and objectives.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000, or visit the Web site, [www.scgov.net/brt](http://www.scgov.net/brt).

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