

# DENTON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY



*The Public and Location of Rail Stations*

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

## Background Information

- Alternatives Analysis (AA) 2005
- Rail Corridor
  - approximately 21 miles long
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
  - Draft Completed July 2007



# PROJECT OVERVIEW

## Public Involvement Plan - Purpose

- Inform the public and keep them up-to-date.
- Provide opportunities for the public to participate in decisions, including station locations.
- Maintain established coalitions and develop consensus for the preferred alternative.
- Fulfill statutory requirements under NEPA.

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

## Public Involvement Plan - Approach

- Groups
- Public
- CAG
- TAG
- Meetings
- General
- **Roundtables**

# ROUNDTABLE PROCESS

## Overview

- Tailored discussions to information needs
- Illustrated possible station and facility locations
- Allowed for input on land use decisions
- Progressively eliminated options –
  - 3 stage process



# ROUNDTABLE PROCESS

## Participants and Notice

- Technical
- TAG/CAG
- Public

### Community Roundtables to Consider Station, Facility and Bicycle Pedestrian Path Issues

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News Flash

The RailDCTA project will hold two "community roundtable" meetings in

The workshops will solicit public comment on preferred locations for passenger stations and operations maintenance/layover facilities.

Workshop participants will provide input to be planning for the relocation of the bicycle path in the northern part of the project study area, and bicycle access at all stations. See reverse for dates, times and locations.

What Is This All About

Get Involved Now

Project Library

Blenvenidca



Get Involved Now!

Make A Comment

Denton County Transportation Authority

#### RailDCTA September Community Roundtables Scheduled

The Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) would like to invite you to attend an upcoming community roundtable being held to discuss the final recommendations for station and maintenance/operations facilities locations.

Please plan to join us at one or both of the community roundtables on the dates, times and locations shown below.

#### RSVP by Wednesday, September 6

If you plan to attend, please RSVP by calling the RailDCTA toll-free hot line at 1-888-RailDCTA (724-5328) or sending an email to [info@dcta.net](mailto:info@dcta.net) no later than Wednesday, September 6, 2006 so we can adequately prepare.

#### Highland Village

Monday, September 11, 2006

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Highland Village City Hall

1000 Highland Village Road

Highland Village, TX 75077

[Map](#)

#### Denton

Thursday, September 14, 2006

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Fred Moore High School Gym

815 Cross Timbers St.

Denton, TX 76205

[Map](#)

We appreciate your continued involvement and look forward to seeing you on September 11th or 14th.





# ROUNDTABLE PROCESS

## Stage I – March-April 2006

- Technical Roundtables
- Introduced station and facility options
- Public working session
- Aerial maps to illustrate surrounding area land uses
- Areas divided into subdivisions
  - Table for each geographic area



# ROUNDTABLE PROCESS

## Stage II – June-July 2006

- Technical Roundtables
- Options refined from stage I
- Public meeting served as Roundtable
- Display easels with prompts for comments

### DOWNTOWN DENTON STATION CONCEPT



WHAT DO YOU LIKE?

Blank lined area for positive feedback.

WHAT DO YOU DISLIKE?

Blank lined area for negative feedback.

CONCEPTUAL - SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON PUBLIC COMMENT AND FUTURE DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

RAIL/DCTA ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



# ROUNDTABLE PROCESS

## Stage III – August - September 2006

- Technical Roundtables
- Options eliminated
- Public Roundtables consisted of presentation about station locations and concepts to move forward



# ROUNDTABLE PROCESS

## Other Activities

- Local elected officials invited to roundtables
- Presentations to city councils throughout process
- City councils provided information about public feedback
- Workshops on Transit Oriented Development (TOD) involved city councils

# ROUNDTABLE PROCESS

## Participation Results

- 245 people took part in Public Roundtables
- Land use comments, preferences brought forward
- City councils adopted resolutions



# ROUNDTABLE PROCESS

## Lessons Learned

- Conduct more technical roundtables – redefine participants
- Conduct first public session as “roll-up sleeves” working roundtable; follow-on gatherings can take form more like public meetings
- Do more in terms of education about TOD with local elected officials, and/or conduct roundtables only for elected officials
- Don’t hold a public roundtable on a beautiful Saturday morning in April in North Texas

# ROUNDTABLE PROCESS

## Take-Away Strategies

- Leverage contacts of technical staff to connect with local organizations and/or local elected officials
- Offer opportunities to learn about TOD early in the process to local elected officials, and local organizations, and offer follow-on information
- Make questions asked of public focused and simple to understand (such as What do you like about this station concept?)



# ROUNDTABLE PROCESS

## Next Steps

- Utilize this process during design phase to help engage group in deciding station design and theme
- Leverage partnerships and relationships built to help communicate during construction phase.
- Follow up on TOD opportunities and surrounding land uses
- Continue level of communication throughout remainder of the project.