



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION VI
Arkansas, Louisiana,
New Mexico, Oklahoma,
Texas

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Fort Worth, TX 76102
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June 28, 2010

Mr. Donald Patterson, President
Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma
1 Rush Buffalo Road
Tonkawa OK. 74653


Dear President Patterson:

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), the local lead agency, intend to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to study the implementation of rail passenger service on the 26-mile long Cotton Belt Corridor from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFWIA) in Tarrant County Texas, through a large portion of northwest Dallas County, to the existing DART Red Line in Collin County, Texas. The EIS will be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended. As part of this EIS, DART will conduct historical and archeological investigations to identify both prehistoric and historic sites within the construction boundaries of this proposed light rail corridor.

The proposed project would lie within right-of-way purchased by DART in 1990 and designated as a preserved corridor for future passenger rail service. The corridor has been included in various DART and North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) planning documents since 1983 as an alignment alternative for passenger rail. The right-of-way width varies throughout the corridor, but is generally 100 feet..

We respectfully ask that you review the enclosed map and inform us if you have any concerns regarding Traditional Cultural Properties or sacred sites as part of this project. We realize that information on Traditional Cultural Properties is very sensitive. If information regarding Traditional Cultural Properties is provided to FTA, the locations will be considered as privileged and confidential information and will not be released to the public. We look forward to hearing from you. Comments should be directed to John Hoppie, DART Project Manager, at 1401 Pacific Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75266; or at jhoppie@dart.org; or at (214) 749-2525. You are also welcome to attend an inter-agency scoping meeting that will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 28 at DART Headquarters located at 1401 Pacific Avenue in Dallas, TX. If you are unable to attend the meeting, Scoping materials and additional information on the project will be available online at (<http://www.dart.org/cottonbelt>)

Sincerely,


Robert C. Patrick
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

cc: Lynn Hayes, FTA
John Hoppie, DART