



Board Chair Report

A performance update from your regional transit agency

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RANDALL D. CHRISMAN
DART Chairman
of the Board

Irving, Rowlett design-build proposals being reviewed || *A special message from Randall D. Chrisman*

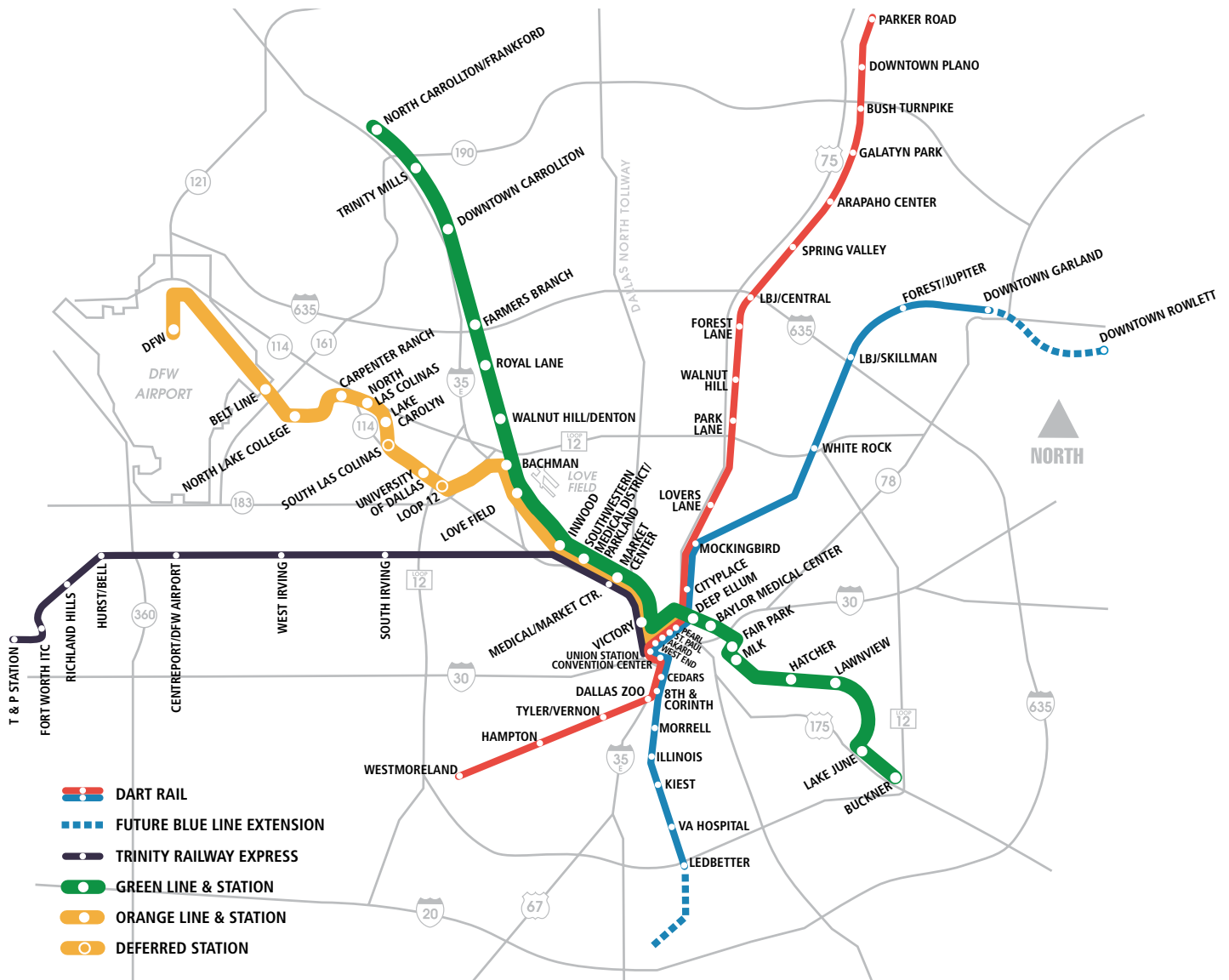
Proposals are being reviewed for the design-build contracts for the Orange Line to Irving and the Blue Line extension from Garland to Rowlett. The proposals were received Monday and are being reviewed by a technical evaluation committee with members from DART, Irving (Orange Line) and Rowlett (Blue Line).

The proposals will first be reviewed to determine if they

are responsive to the solicitation requirements and then evaluated to ensure they meet the technical criteria of the solicitation. An initial presentation on the Orange Line proposal was made to the DART Board during our October 28 meeting. Additional Board presentations are scheduled for November 11 and 18. The evaluation committee is scheduled to make a recommendation to the Board on December 9.

The evaluation team will then review the Blue Line proposals and make presentations to the Board on November 11 and 18, December 9 and January 13. The Board is scheduled to make a selection on January 27.

All of these steps keep us on schedule to open the first phase of the Orange Line in December 2011, and the second phase of the Orange Line and the Blue Line extension in December 2012.



Ridership still setting records

Even after months of falling gas prices, we continued our record-breaking pace of more than 400,000 daily passenger trips and finished Fiscal Year 2008 with more than 116.8 million passenger trips on our growing network of buses, trains, high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, paratransit services and vanpools.

The ridership gains of recent months are particularly significant given the steady decline in regional gasoline prices from their highest prices in mid-July. Total and average weekday ridership on buses, DART Rail, Trinity Railway Express and HOV were up over FY 2007.

Total ridership for FY 2008

MODE	RIDERSHIP	% INCREASE
DART Rail	19,437,603	up 8.6% over FY 2007
Trinity Railway Express	2,746,992	up 10.9% over FY 2007
DART Bus	45,033,990	up 1.3% over FY 2007
HOV Lanes	48,094,350	up 27.9% over FY 2007

HOV, DART Rail and TRE set records for total ridership, and TRE set an all-time record for average weekday ridership for the year. July was the best month for the TRE, setting a record in average weekday ridership of 11,234 daily riders. The DART Rail weekday average of 73,058 riders in August was also an all-time high.

DART hosts Transportation Secretary, FTA Administrator

We were honored to host Secretary of Transportation Mary Peters and James Simpson, Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), last week. Peters, seen in the photo to the right, was in Dallas for a speaking engagement and toured the future Deep Ellum Station on our Green Line. She used that opportunity to release the latest data on vehicle miles traveled during a news conference at the station. She spoke highly of DART and the region during her remarks and at the news conference.

Simpson was a keynote speaker at the "Partnerships in Transit" conference conducted by the FTA and The National Council for Public-Private Partnerships. The sessions are designed to bring together transit agencies with private firms interested in developing partnerships for transit projects at the local, state and national level.



Simpson was introduced by Gary Thomas, DART President/Executive Director, who also was a speaker at the conference.

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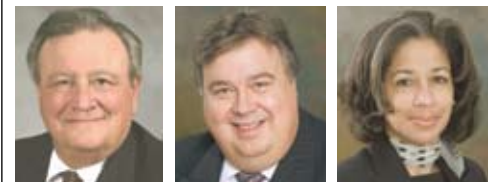
Cockrell Hill)

Claude R. Williams, Jr.

(Dallas)

Board officers elected

At our October 14 meeting I was honored to be elected Chair by my colleagues on the DART Board. Board members also elected Dallas member Robert Strauss vice chair, Irving member John Danish secretary and Dallas member Pamela Dunlop Gates assistant secretary.



(Left to right) Robert Strauss, Vice Chair; John Danish, Secretary; and Pamela Dunlop Gates, Assistant Secretary