Appendix J

Comments Received on the Cotton Belt Corridor Regional Rail Project (Project) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
Cotton Belt Irving May 16, 2018, Public Hearing Summary
Meeting Summary Notes

Project: DART Cotton Belt Regional Rail Line

Subject: Irving Public Hearing

Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 6:30 PM

Location: Dallas Fort Worth Airport Marriott
8440 Freeport Parkway, Irving, TX 75063

Attendees:
- DART
  - Steve Salin, Vice President of Rail Planning
  - John Hoppie, Project Manager
  - Lawrence Meshack, Community Engagement Representative
  - Carlos Huerta, Community Engagement Representative
- General Planning Consultant (GPC6)
  - Tom Shelton, Project Manager
  - Emily Riggs, PI Specialist
  - Keith Bilbrey, PI Specialist

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) conducted an Irving Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 16, 2018. The purpose of the meeting was to present the draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Cotton Belt Regional Rail Project and allow for public comment.

Attachments

- Email Invitation
- Sign-in Sheets
- Presentation
- Court Reporter Minutes

Welcome & Introductions

Lawrence Meshack, DART Community Engagement, welcomed attendees, thanked them for coming to the public hearing, gave details of the meeting objective and introduced the evening’s speaker, John Hoppie, DART Project Manager.

There were a total of 16 people that signed in to attend the public hearing in Irving on Wednesday, May 16. Formal comments were made at the end of the presentation. All comments were recorded and transcribed by the court reporter.

Agenda

- About DEIS
  - Primary document to facilitate review of DART Cotton Belt project by federal, state, and local agencies; public
  - Analyzes project impacts on human and natural environment
- Public Hearing Dates
- Monday, May 14 (Addison)
- Tuesday, May 15 (Richardson)
- Wednesday, May 16 (Irving)

- Public Hearing Objectives
  - Opportunity to receive formal comments on the DEIS
  - All comments transcribed and become part of the record

- DEIS Availability
  - 45-day public comment period from April 20 – June 4, 2018
  - Online at www.DART.org/CottonBelt
  - Local Libraries

- How to Provide Comments
  - Attend one of three public hearings
  - Submit in writing: email, comment card, or letter to DART Project Manager

- Project Alignment
- 11 Proposed Stations
- 2 Options for Equipment Maintenance Facilities – Luna Road and Irving Yard

- Environmental Impacts/Mitigation
- Public Hearing Guidelines
  - Comments should focus on Cotton Belt Corridor DEIS
  - No questions, interchanges or discussions. Just comments to be formally recorded.
  - Pre-registered speakers will speak first at in-person hearings.

**Formal Comments**
*See court reporter minutes*
Greetings!

You're invited to attend one of the following public hearing sessions hosted by DART to provide comments on the Cotton Belt Regional Rail Corridor Project and its Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). Please read the brochure attachment below for more information. We encourage you to share this information with any of your contacts, chambers, homeowners associations, family, friends and any other interested parties. You are also welcome to post this information on organization websites!

**DART Cotton Belt Public Hearing Sessions**

**Monday, May 14, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.**
Renaissance Dallas Addison  
Lalique Ballroom  
15201 Dallas Parkway  
Addison, TX 75001  
*Free surface parking*

**Tuesday, May 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.**
Richardson Civic Center  
Grand Ballroom  
411 W. Arapaho Road  
Richardson, TX 75080

**Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.**
Dallas Fort Worth Airport Marriott  
8440 Freeport Parkway  
Irving, TX 75063
Click here to download the official DART brochure
Corredor de tren regional en Cotton Belt

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), junto con la Federal Transit Administration (FTA) y en cooperación con la Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), han completado la Declaración Preliminar de Impacto Ambiental (DEIS) para el Proyecto de tren regional del corredor de Cotton Belt. El proyecto consiste en una línea de tren de 26 millas desde el aeropuerto DFW hasta Shiloh Road en Plano, Texas.

El documento está disponible para su revisión en DART.org/cottonbelt. El período de comentarios públicos respecto al DEIS es del 20 de abril de 2018 al 4 de junio de 2018. Copias del DEIS también están disponibles para el público en las siguientes bibliotecas: Biblioteca pública de Carrollton en Josey Ranch Lake, Carrollton; Biblioteca Cozby y Community Commons, Coppell; Biblioteca sucursal Fretz Park, Dallas; Biblioteca sucursal Park Forest, Dallas; Biblioteca pública de Grapevine, Grapevine; Biblioteca pública de Richardson, Richardson; y la Biblioteca Harrington, Plano.

El DEIS evalúa y resume los impactos ambientales potenciales asociados con dos alternativas: el no construir y el sí construir (el proyecto de tren regional), e identifica las formas apropiadas para aminorar dichos impactos. Los impactos potenciales incluyen, pero no se limitan a: una consecuencia adversa conforme a la Sección 106 de la Ley nacional de preservación histórica (NHPA) que afectaría el puente White Rock Creek en Dallas, la utilización del Spring Creek Trail en Richardson conforme a la sección 4(f) de la Ley del Departamento de transporte y al Capítulo 26 del Código de parques y vida silvestre de Texas, y una intrusión en el aluvial de la sucursal Cottonwood del Aeropuerto DFW. También se identifican los impactos de ruido y vibración y su mitigación a lo largo del corredor.

Haga planes para asistir a una audiencia pública para proporcionar comentarios orales sobre el documento de DEIS. Las personas que deseen ejercer su derecho de palabra en la audiencia deberán comunicarse con el Departamento de Participación Comunitaria de DART (DART Community Engagement) al 214-749-2543 para registrarse. Si desea asistir a la audiencia pública y necesita servicios de interpretación en lenguaje de señas, notifíquelo a DART, con una anticipación de por lo menos 24 horas, a través del número de TTY, 214-749-3628. Se dispondrá, por solicitud, de una versión Braille o grabada de la información.

También se pueden proporcionar comentarios por escrito por correo electrónico a Cottonbelt@DART.org o por escrito a Sr. John Hoppie, DART Capital Planning, PO Box 660163, Dallas, TX 75266-7213.

Audiencia pública

La audiencia pública es parte del periodo de comentarios públicos de 45 días.

Las sesiones de audiencia pública se llevarán a cabo en los siguientes lugares:

14 de mayo, 2018 – 6:30 PM
Renaissance Dallas Addison • Sala Lalique
15201 Dallas Parkway • Addison, TX 75001
Estacionamiento en superficie gratuito

15 de mayo, 2018 – 6:30 PM
Richardson Civic Center • Grand Ballroom
411 W. Arapaho Road • Richardson, TX 75080

16 de mayo, 2018 – 6:30 pm.
Dallas Fort Worth Airport Marriott
8440 Freeport Parkway • Irving, TX 75063

Si desea obtener información adicional
Visite dart.org/cottonbelt o póngase en contacto con Participación de la Comunidad de DART llamando al 214-749-2522.
Cotton Belt Regional Rail Corridor

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), along with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and in cooperation with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), have completed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Cotton Belt Corridor Regional Rail Project. The project consists of a 26-mile regional rail line from DFW Airport to Shiloh Road in Plano, Texas. The document is available for review at DART.org/cottonbelt. The public comment period for the DEIS is from April 20, 2018 through June 4, 2018. Copies of the DEIS are also available for public viewing at the following libraries: Carrollton Public Library at Josey Ranch Lake, Carrollton; Cozby Library and Community Commons, Coppell; Fretz Park Branch Library, Dallas; Park Forest Branch Library, Dallas; Grapevine Public Library, Grapevine; Richardson Public Library, Richardson; and Harrington Library, Plano.

The DEIS evaluates and summarizes a range of potential environmental impacts associated with a No-Build Alternative and a Build Alternative (the regional rail project), and identifies appropriate mitigation to address the impacts. Potential impacts include, but are not limited to: a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) adverse effect to the White Rock Creek Bridge in Dallas, a Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act and Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code use of Spring Creek Trail in Richardson, and an encroachment into the Cottonwood Branch floodplain at DFW Airport. Noise and vibration impacts and mitigation along the corridor are also identified.

Make plans to attend a public hearing to provide oral comments on the DEIS document. Individuals wishing to speak at the hearing should contact DART Community Engagement at 214-749-2543 to register. If you wish to attend the public hearing and need sign language interpretation, please notify DART 24 hours in advance by calling the TTY number, 214-749-3628. A Braille or taped version of information will be made available upon request.

Written comments can also be provided via email to Cottonbelt@DART.org or in writing to Mr. John Hoppie, DART Capital Planning, PO Box 660163, Dallas, TX 75266-7213.

Public Hearing

The public hearing is part of the 45-day public comment period.

Public hearing sessions will be conducted at the following locations:

May 14, 2018 – 6:30 pm
Renaissance Dallas Addison
Lalique Ballroom
15201 Dallas Parkway • Addison, TX 75001
Free surface parking

May 15, 2018 – 6:30 pm
Richardson Civic Center
Grand Ballroom
411 W. Arapaho Road • Richardson, TX 75080

May 16, 2018 – 6:30 pm.
Dallas Fort Worth Airport Marriott
8440 Freeport Parkway • Irving, TX 75063

For Additional Information

Please visit DART.org/cottonbelt or contact DART Community Engagement at 214-749-2522.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>FIRST NAME</th>
<th>LAST NAME</th>
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<td>Carter Estates Residential Community</td>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>Weatherford</td>
<td>437 Carter Dr.</td>
<td>Coppell 75019</td>
<td>972-304-1675</td>
<td><a href="mailto:r.weatherford@verizon.net">r.weatherford@verizon.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>NTTIC</td>
<td>Allen</td>
<td>Bean</td>
<td>Richard</td>
<td>Plano 75075</td>
<td>972-244-6056</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bale.bean@parsons.com">bale.bean@parsons.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>NCTCOG</td>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>Chadderson</td>
<td>PO Box 5888</td>
<td>Arlington, TX 76005</td>
<td>817-695-9180</td>
<td><a href="mailto:schadderson@nctcog.org">schadderson@nctcog.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>CBCC</td>
<td>Dennis</td>
<td>Desha</td>
<td>8503 Riverwalk Ln</td>
<td>Dallas 75248</td>
<td>972-527-0861</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ddessha@msn.com">ddessha@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>WSP</td>
<td>Redfern</td>
<td>Jared</td>
<td>2777 W.成熟街, 1600, Dallas 75201</td>
<td>Dallas, TX 75201</td>
<td>214-583-3494</td>
<td><a href="mailto:redfern.jared@wsp.com">redfern.jared@wsp.com</a></td>
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<td>LJA Engineering</td>
<td>Kelsey</td>
<td>Latta</td>
<td>316 E. Bethel School</td>
<td>Coppell, TX 75019</td>
<td>214-208-4885</td>
<td><a href="mailto:klatta@lja.com">klatta@lja.com</a></td>
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<td>The Burwell Group</td>
<td>Thoma</td>
<td>Johnson</td>
<td>8500 N. Stemmons Fwy</td>
<td>Dallas TX 75217</td>
<td>214-575-7335</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@theburwellgroup.net">info@theburwellgroup.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steve</td>
<td>McCullough</td>
<td>4100 Oak Manor Dr</td>
<td>Irving TX 75061</td>
<td>214-602-7746</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SteveMcCullough51@yahoo.com">SteveMcCullough51@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angie</td>
<td>Christie Smith</td>
<td>814 Balliwick Ct</td>
<td>Coppell TX 75019</td>
<td>469-449-9180</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shawangych@yahoo.com">shawangych@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vin &amp; Betsy</td>
<td>Merrill</td>
<td>317 Meadowgreen Circle</td>
<td>Coppell TX 75019</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:betsy_merrill@bluehost.com">betsy_merrill@bluehost.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scott</td>
<td>Latta</td>
<td>316 E Bethel School Rd</td>
<td>Coppell TX 75019</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:latta31@gmail.com">latta31@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Soto's Auto</td>
<td>Tony Soto</td>
<td>Soto</td>
<td>1517 Sunswep</td>
<td>Louisville, TX</td>
<td>214-908-4121</td>
<td>T.S. Soto @ verizon</td>
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<td>Fun Zone</td>
<td>Mark Anthony Collins</td>
<td>Collins</td>
<td>5128 Polo Club Pk. Arlington</td>
<td>214-881-1722</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:mark.collins7@gmail.com">mark.collins7@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Riverchase HOA</td>
<td>Lydia Goulas</td>
<td>Goulas</td>
<td>905 Crestview Dr</td>
<td>Coppell, TX</td>
<td>214-912-6346</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Goulas905@verizon.net">Goulas905@verizon.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Davis Advocates</td>
<td>Jay Barksdale</td>
<td>Barksdale</td>
<td>7411 Hines Place Ste 100</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>972-935-1308</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jay@davisadvocates.com">jay@davisadvocates.com</a></td>
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<td>NTTX Towing</td>
<td>Andrew Hudson</td>
<td>Hudson</td>
<td>2560 Commerce</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>214-880-8460</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Hudson.leg@comcast.net">Hudson.leg@comcast.net</a></td>
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Cotton Belt Corridor Regional Rail Project

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
Public Hearing

May 2018

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Public Hearing Dates

May 14, 2018 – 6:30 pm
Renaissance Dallas Addison
Lalique Ballroom
15201 Dallas Parkway
Addison, TX 75001

May 15, 2018 – 6:30 pm
Richardson Civic Center
Grand Ballroom
411 W. Arapaho Road
Richardson, TX 75080

May 16, 2018 – 6:30 pm
Dallas Fort Worth Airport
Marriott
8440 Freeport Parkway
Irving, TX 75063

• Opportunity to receive formal comments on the DEIS
• All comments will be transcribed and become part of the record

Agenda

• Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
• How to Provide Comments
• Project Scope
• Environmental Impacts/Mitigation
• Public Hearing Guidelines

DEIS Availability

• Available beginning April 20, 2018
• Online: www.DART.org/CottonBelt
• Local Libraries
  – Carrollton Public Library at Joasy Ranch Lake
  – Cozy Library and Community Commons
  – Fretz Park Branch Library
  – Grapevine Public Library
  – Harrington Library
  – Park Forest Branch Library
  – Richardson Public Library
• 45-day public comment period through June 4, 2018

DEIS

• Prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
• Authors: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in cooperation with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and DART
• Analyzes project impacts on the human and natural environment
  – Impacts identified per FTA/FAA standards
  – Mitigation
• Primary document to facilitate review of the project by federal, state and local agencies; and the public

How to Provide Comments

• At one of the three public hearings
• In writing:
  – Email to Cottonbelt@DART.org
  – Comment card (postage paid)
  – Letter to DART Project Manager John Hoppie

John Hoppie
Project Manager
Dallas Area Rapid Transit
P.O. Box 660163
Dallas, TX 75266–7213
**Proposed Stations**

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<th>Station Name</th>
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<td>DFW</td>
<td>include in project (under construction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Cypress Waters Station</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>include in project</td>
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<td>3 Downtown Carrollton Station</td>
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<td>4 Addison Station</td>
<td>Addison</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Knox Trail Station</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Preston Rd Station</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>City of Dallas Resolution Opposes</td>
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<td>7 Coit Rd Station</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>City of Dallas Resolution Opposes</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 UT-Dallas Station</td>
<td>Richardson</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 CityLine/Bush Station</td>
<td>Richardson</td>
<td>include in project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 12th Street Station (Light Rail and Cotton Belt)</td>
<td>Plano</td>
<td>include in project</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Shirah Station</td>
<td>Plano</td>
<td>include in project</td>
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**EMF Site Option 1: Luna Road**

- City of Carrollton opposes use of this site
- Impacts include:
  - Property Acquisition
  - Floodplain encroachment
  - Wetlands encroachment
- Alternative site included in DEIS

**EMF Site Option 2: Irving Yard**

- Existing facility accessible by DART-owned Madill line
- Consolidates operations with TRE
- No Impacts along Madill due to limited use
  - Noise/Vibration
  - Visual
  - Traffic
- Avoids impacts associated with Luna Road Site

**Environmental Impacts and Mitigation**
Environmental Impact Categories

- Waters/Wetlands
- Hazardous Material
- Construction
- Environmental Justice
- Soils and Geology
- Land Use
- Air Quality
- Biology/Natural Resources
  
  Traffic
  Noise
  Vibration
  Visual/Aesthetics
  Acquisitions/Displacements
  Safety/Security
  Hydrology/Floodplain
  Cultural Resources/Section 4(f)
  Parks & Recreation/Section 4(f)

Categories with Minimal Impacts

- Waters/Wetlands – Minor amounts of fill
- Hazardous Material - Environmental Site Assessments (ESA)
- Construction – Best Management Practices
- Environmental Justice - No disproportionately high and adverse effects
- Soils and Geology – Best Management Practices
- Land Use - No Impact; consistent with local plans and policies
- Air Quality - No Impact
- Biology/Natural Resources – Avoid, Preserve, Replace Vegetation

Categories with Impacts and Mitigation

- Traffic – 10 new roadway grade separations; 1 railroad grade separation; 6 intersection improvements
- Noise – 36 Quiet Zones, 18 Noise Barriers, 8 Crossing Bell Mitigations
- Vibration – 5 Tire Derived Aggregate (TDA) locations
- Visual/Aesthetics – Screening/landscaping along residential areas; Complementary Wheeler Bridge design
- Acquisitions/Displacements – Up to 110 acres; 9 businesses; 1 residence
- Safety/Security – Corridor safety fencing; safe crossings; coordination with emergency responders
- Hydrology/Floodplain – see following slide
- Cultural Resources/Section 4(f) – see following slide
- Parks & Recreation/Section 4(f) – see following slide

Hydrology/Floodplain

- 1,300 linear feet of the Cottonwood Branch Floodplain
- Minor amounts of fill
- Will not result in of loss of human life or property
- Will not have a notable and effect on the floodplain’s natural and beneficial values.

FAA Executive Order 11988: Floodplain encroachment is any action within a base floodplain.

Cottonwood Branch Floodplain Encroachment - DFW

Cultural Resources/Section 4(f)

- Section 4(f) of DOT Act protects parks and historic sites
- “Adverse effect” to historic White Rock Creek Bridge
  - Memorandum of Agreement with Texas Historical Commission (THC)
  - Relocation and Adaptive Reuse as trail bridge
- FTA determined 4(f) does not apply as relocation/reuse is a transportation enhancement
  - THC concurred with 4(f) exception

Parks & Recreation/Section 4(f)

- Partial Relocation of Spring Creek Trail in Richardson
  - Staged Construction
  - Minimize closures
  - Provide detours
  - Coordination with City
- Chapter 26 of Texas Parks and Wildlife Act
  - Public Hearing being scheduled by City of Richardson
- Section 4(f) of DOT Act protects parks and historic sites
  - de minimis impact determination from FTA anticipated

Spring Creek Trail Relocation - Richardson
Public Hearing Guidelines

1. Pre-registered speakers will speak first, followed by order of sign-in at the hearing
2. Written comments are acceptable and included as part of the official Public Record (accepted through June 4)
3. Time Limit is three minutes per speaker
4. State Name and Address for the record
5. Comments should focus on Cotton Belt Corridor Regional Rail Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
6. No Questions, Interchanges or Discussions
   • Public Hearing provides an opportunity to receive comments into the formal record

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Public Hearing

• Primary focus of this hearing is the DEIS
  – Project Scope
  – Impacts
  – Mitigation
• All comments will be documented and categorized into subject area
• All substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)
PUBLIC HEARING

Request to Address the Board

Persons who wish to address the DART Board of Directors are asked to complete this form. *(PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY)*

Name  
Sarah Chadderdon, NCTCOG

Address  
616 Six Flags Dr

City, State, Zip  
Arlington, TX 76005

Phone  
(817) 695 - 9180

Email  
schadderdon@nctcog.org

I wish to address the Board concerning the following matter:

Agenda Item #: ________ – Public Hearing ONLY

Description

Signature  
[Signature]

Each speaker will have three (3) minutes in which to make their comments. Speakers must address the topic of the hearing. Other subjects will not be allowed in this hearing.

Pre-registered speakers will make their comments first, followed by sign-in speakers in the order received. Those who do not wish to speak may submit written comments. All comments will be included in the official public record.

Questions, interchange and discussions are not generally allowed in a hearing. However, if a Board Member wishes to raise a question, he or she may do so.

Technical Staff will be available after the public hearing for questions. Information provided on this form is subject to the Texas Public Information Act.

Tonight’s Hearing is being recorded by a court reporter so all comments received are a matter of public record.
PUBLIC HEARING

Request to Address the Board

Persons who wish to address the DART Board of Directors are asked to complete this form. (PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY)

Name: [Signature]

Address: [Signature]

City, State, Zip: [Signature] [Signature]

Phone: [Signature] [Signature]

Email: [Signature] [Signature]

I wish to address the Board concerning the following matter:

Agenda Item #: _______ – Public Hearing ONLY

Description: ________________________________

Signature: [Signature]

Each speaker will have three (3) minutes in which to make their comments. Speakers must address the topic of the hearing. Other subjects will not be allowed in this hearing.

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Tonight’s Hearing is being recorded by a court reporter so all comments received are a matter of public record.
DALLAS AREA RAPID TRANSIT
PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS
ON THE
COTTON BELT REGIONAL RAIL CORRIDOR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2018 6:56 P.M.
DALLAS FORT WORTH AIRPORT MARRIOTT
8440 FREEPORT PARKWAY
IRVING, TEXAS
MR. MESHACK: Today's hearing is being recorded by a court reporter, so all comments received are a matter of public record.

It is now Wednesday, May 16th, 2018. The time is 6:56. This public hearing on the Cotton Belt Regional Rail Corridor is now open to receive comments in accordance with our enabling legislation.

Our first speaker is Ms. Sarah Chadderdon.

We have a timer here. The green light means you're speaking. The yellow light means you have like a minute left and the red light will flash when you're close to your time limit. Appreciate it.

MR. CHADDERDON: Hello. My name is Sarah Chadderdon. I'm here representing the North Central Texas Council of Governments, and our office is located at 616 Six Flags Drive in Arlington.

On behalf of the North Central Texas Council of Governments and the Regional Transportation Council, which together serve as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas/Fort Worth region, I'm speaking in support of the project.

I'd like to highlight its important role in our region's transportation system. The project will not
only connect DART's light rail lines, the Orange, Green and Red Lines, but also play a key role in connecting to other existing and future transit services to the north, west and south, completing a very important part of our region's transportation networks.

A formal statement of support from my agency was read into the record last night and submitted electronically, and I'm just in general, speaking for the project.

Thank you.

MR. MESHACK: Thank you, Ms. Chadderdon.

Our next speaker is Ms. Angela Christy Smith.

MS. SMITH: My name is Angela Christy Smith. I live at 844 Fallkirk Court in Coppell 75019, and I'm speaking on behalf of my concern for the security and safety of this project going through Coppell.

I've been actually riding DART since probably October of 2010, right when it first -- the Green Line first opened in Carrollton, and I'm very concerned about the safety. I know that reading through some of the plans, there are several neighborhoods that are going to be, well, several neighborhoods north and south of the school in Coppell are close enough that walking or biking to school is likely to occur. Students walking from one neighborhood northwest of the school would cross the
passenger rail line twice, once at Coppell Road and once at Southwestern Boulevard. There's also a new middle school that's gonna be -- that's built and they haven't determined yet about the zoning or how that's going to impact that project.

I personally have been on DART multiple times and have had, and witnessed pedestrian fatalities. It happens -- it's happened three times. So those trains come quickly. I'm very concerned about the safety of the kids crossing.

Second of all, personal safety. I've had several incidents on DART that have occurred, and I'm concerned because DART police cannot even cover their current routes, and you're going to be adding another whole corridor. We do not have security at any point before 7 a.m. on our train.

Just a few events that have happened to me. I have recently had to quit riding DART. It's become too dangerous. I've had a -- I had a schizophrenic guy threaten to kill me a couple of days ago. It's just other things. I've been harassed by gang members. I've had my hair stroked. I've been -- I've had juveniles attempt to pour liquor down my throat. I've had several multiple events of verbal abuse. Panhandlers, extremely abusive, if you don't give them quarters or
whatever.

I just don't see that DART can actually provide the security to cover this line, and you are now opening up a town where the average income is about $111,000 to all kinds of potential riff-raff that's riding the train, the panhandlers, the homeless, the gang members. It's become very, very violent.

So I guess that's my concern. At this point, I actually almost have DART PTSD. I've called DART several times and they do not respond to my complaints. So I'm very, very concerned with the train coming this close to schools, and I want to know what is going to be done and what is the expectation of the City of Coppell to cover some of these extra security issues. I haven't read in any of the documentations how this is going to be addressed. So in order to be supportive of this project, you know, I'm very, very curious.

Coincidentally, the gang members that attempted to pour liquor down my throat, one of the gentleman's name was Roosta, and he was arrested for murder at the Mockingbird Station.

THE REPORTER: What was his name?

MS. SMITH: His gang name was Roosta. It came up on this --

THE REPORTER: Ruth Stock?
MS. SMITH:  R-o-o-s-t-a.  And he actually, came up on a CBS DFW app as one of the people that was harassing me.

That's all. Thank you.

MR. MESHACK:  Thank you, Ms. Smith.

At this point, do I have anyone else signed up to speak?  Does anyone wish to make any additional comments this evening?  I'll ask that a couple of more times.

In the interim, you're also capable of submitting written comments. The last panel on this brochure can be -- it's perforated and you can tear this and attach it and submit before leaving. And, of course, all of these comments will also be accepted until June 4th, which is the end of the 40-day -- 45-day comment period.

Again, is there anyone else who would like to make comments this evening?

Once more. Yes, come right here.

MR. McCULLOUGH:  Good evening. My name is Steve McCullough. I'm a resident of Irving and former City Manager of the City of Irving.

I can say that I -- this is, I'm speaking for myself only, but I have been a supporter of this project since DART was first implemented in this region. I think that the DART board in its wisdom in the beginning of the
system, created the light rail system, and it all was centered on the city of Dallas.

The system needs this east/west corridor connection, and I believe it does provide -- the young lady from COG said this evening a major connection, an important connection to the rest of the transit system, the transportation system for this entire region.

I think the Cotton Belt is an important project for DART to complete. I believe it was a promise that was made in the beginning, and I think DART should keep its promises. So this is -- I think it should be built. I think it's been a good project. They've been working on it forever, and it's time to get going. So looking forward to it, and after this, you can look at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe, which connects the old downtown Irving with downtown Carrollton.

Thank you.

MR. MESHACK: Thank you, sir.

Here again, is there anyone else who would like to make comments or submit a written comment this evening?

If not, I'd like to thank each of you for attending tonight's public hearing, which is now concluded at 7:05 p.m.

Thank you again for attending and we are
adjourned.

(Proceedings Concluded.)
STATE OF TEXAS **

I, DON R. WILLIS, Certified Shorthand
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