

1                   **D2 Subway SDEIS Public Hearing Transcript**  
2                   **June 11, 2020 – 12:00-1:00 pm**

3  
4                   Public comments received are highlighted in **bold text**  
5  
6

7     David:

8     Good afternoon. My name is David. Thank you for joining our live call in public hearing as public  
9     safety and health continue to be the top priority in these unprecedented times DART on behalf  
10    of the Federal Transit Administration is hosting this call in public hearing to provide the public  
11    the opportunity to formally comment on the supplemental draft environmental impact statement  
12    for the D2 Subway project. We hope you've had a chance to visit the project webpage at  
13    www.DART.org/d2 to view project related information, the supplemental draft environmental  
14    impact statement and the pre-hearing informational presentation. We'll be taking as many  
15    comments from participants as we possibly can live on this event until 1:00 PM. If you have a  
16    comment, you may press star, three on your phone. Again, now if you have a comment, please  
17    press star, three on your phone keypad at any time. You'll be placed in line to make your  
18    comment.

19    David:

20    One of our team members will take down your first and last name. The next time you hear your  
21    name, you will be live on the call and you will be able to make your comment. The comments  
22    from these hearings will be recorded and transcribed. Please note that our panelists will not be  
23    answering any questions this afternoon. Again, if you do want to make a comment, you can  
24    press star, three on your phone keypad at any time. We'll begin this hearing by introducing  
25    Carlos Huerta with DART Community Affairs to provide instructions and guidelines on how to  
26    comment as well as introduce the project team is on the call today listening to comments.  
27    Carlos, good afternoon.

28    Carlos Huerta:

29    Thank you. Thank you, David. Good afternoon. Thank you for attending the D2 Subway public  
30    hearing. My name is Carlos Huerta and I will be the hearing officer for today. We also have  
31    DART Capital Planning staff on the call to listen including Steve Salin, Kay Shelton and Ernie  
32    Martinez. Kay will be serving as our co-moderator today. Kay, would you like to introduce  
33    yourself?

34    Kay Shelton:

35    Sure. Thanks Carlos. Hi everybody. I'm Kay Shelton. I'm Assistant Vice President with DART  
36    Capital Planning, and we look forward to hearing your comments today. As we go through the  
37    hearing, you might hear a few of us on the panel chime in with some project highlights as we  
38    wait for callers to join the call and make your comments. And just remember as David  
39    mentioned, you can find a lot more information on our website, DART.org/d2. There's also  
40    instructions there for how to submit your comments in writing. So thanks again for your interest  
41    and taking the time to join us and I'll turn it back over to Carlos.

42    Carlos Huerta:

43 Thanks. Kay. As David mentioned earlier, DART is conducting this call and public hearing to  
44 receive comments on the D2 Subway supplemental draft environmental impact statement. We  
45 are currently in the 45-day public review period for the project. We started on May 15th and runs  
46 until June 29th, 2020. Comments can be submitted in writing until June 29th or verbally at this  
47 hearing.

48 Carlos Huerta:

49 Los participantes en las audiencias tendrán la oportunidad de comentar en español. Por favor  
50 marque el número \* seis para hablar. Una persona le preguntará su nombre y lo agregará a la  
51 lista de participantes. Por favor sea paciente hasta que llamemos su nombre. Tendrá tres  
52 minutos para hacer su comentario. Tendremos su comentario traducido para el registro.  
53 Muchas gracias.  
54

55 Carlos Huerta:

56 During the public hearing, we must follow some guidelines. If you preregistered on the DART  
57 website, you still need to press star, three to get into the speaker queue to comment. We have  
58 you on our preregistration list and we'll make efforts to call on you first. Additional speakers will  
59 be called on the order they press star, three to enter the speaker queue. Those who do not wish  
60 to speak can stay on the line to listen or submit written comments.

61 Carlos Huerta:

62 All comments will be included in the official public record. There'll be a time limit of three  
63 minutes per speaker. I will remind you when there are 30 seconds left in your turn. Speakers  
64 must address the topic of the hearing. Other subjects will not be allowed in this hearing.  
65 Questions, interchanges and discussions are not permitted in the hearing. Today's hearing  
66 comments as well as those received in writing will be classified and recorded into appropriate  
67 subject areas. All comments will be reviewed and subsequent comments will receive responses  
68 and be documented in the final environmental impact statement in the record of decision  
69 anticipated to be issued by the Federal Transit Administration later this year. This hearing is  
70 being recorded and transcribed. So all comments received are a matter of public record. It is  
71 now 12:06 PM, Thursday, June 11, 2020.

72 Carlos Huerta:

73 According to requirements set forth in DART's enabling legislation, this public hearing on the D2  
74 Subway supplemental draft environmental impact statement is now open to receive comments.  
75 And we'll turn it back over to David to moderate the hearing and call our first speaker. David?

76 David:

77 Yes. Thank you, Carlos. We'll be taking as many comments from the public as we can today  
78 until the public hearing concludes at 1:00 PM. As a reminder, if anyone new has joined the call if  
79 you have a comment, you may press star, three. That's star, three on your phone keypad at any  
80 time, you'll be placed in line to speak with a member of our staff. All commenters who are in the  
81 queue to speak by 1:00 PM will be given the opportunity to provide their comments verbally to  
82 our project team members. Again, if you have a comment you'd like to speak, press star, three  
83 on your Touchstone keypad, all commenters who are in the queue to speak by 1:00 PM, again,  
84 will be given the opportunity to provide your comments verbally to our project team members.  
85 Our team members... Excuse me, our screeners will take down your name and where you're

86 calling from or who you represent. The next time you hear your name, you will be live on the call  
87 and you'll be able to make your comment.

88 David:

89 As Carlos stated to hear as many as possible and provide equal opportunity each speaker will  
90 be allotted a maximum of three minutes. It looks like we do have one or two in queue that are  
91 getting ready. So we're going to start taking comments as soon as we can. At this time again let  
92 me give you some instructions for our audience. You can just simply press star, three on your  
93 phone. You will be put in the queue and we'll take down your name. It looks like we have our  
94 first commenter ready to go. At this point in time, we have I think a Scott Rohrman on the call.  
95 Scott, can you please spell your first and last name for the record state, state your address or  
96 organization and you may begin your comment.

97 **Scott Rohrman:**

98 **Scott Rohrman. I'm with 42 Real Estate. My address is 2030 Main Street, Dallas, Texas.**  
99 **Thank you for allowing me to speak. I'm the general partner and I'm an investor in several**  
100 **partnerships that own property at the corner of Pearl and Commerce, at the corner or**  
101 **Pearl and Maine, at the corner of Pearl and Elm and along Elm Street. DART plans to put**  
102 **the new D2 train through the middle of most of these properties. I hereby go on record**  
103 **again as being opposed to the alignment being shown here today. I've continually**  
104 **opposed this alignment at every public meeting DART has had for this alignment and in a**  
105 **private meeting in March of 2020 with Kay Shelton, Frank Turner and Brandi Crawford,**  
106 **who are employees of DART or DART-hired consultants and with two of my coworkers. In**  
107 **that private meeting, I asked the three named persons to report back to DART that I am**  
108 **opposed to the alignment. To that end, I am disappointed in Gary Thomas' letter to T.C.**  
109 **Broadnax dated February 22, 2019 stating there is consensus.**

110 **And since that letter, at that date, there was not consensus. And Mr. Thomas' letter did**  
111 **not reflect that. Also, the current document before us does not make any reference to the**  
112 **opposition voiced in many meetings subsequent to that letter or in the private meeting I**  
113 **had with the named persons. I specifically asked in that meeting for my opposition to be**  
114 **recorded and included in any submissions to the city of Dallas and to the FTA. That does**  
115 **not appear to have happened. It appears that DART's communications ignore that fact**  
116 **and misconstrue the full thinking of the community. I am disappointed in this, and it has**  
117 **seemed to be a pattern in which DART has continued to operate. In the letter to Mr.**  
118 **Broadnax dated February 22, 2019, that's in the package, three letters are referenced as**  
119 **being in support, these letters, two of the letters only talk about support for a portion of**  
120 **the alignment not the entire alignment. And one, the Deep Ellum Foundation letter does**  
121 **not support it at all even though it's referenced that it does support it.**

122 **I'm on the board of the board of the Deep Ellum Foundation and I helped draft that letter.**  
123 **And it does not, it actually states we do not have a recommendation for any alignment at**  
124 **this time, which is the current alignment-**

125 David:

126 You have about 30 seconds, Scott.

127 **Scott Rohrman:**

128 **Thank you. The current alignment causes great problems for several areas in the area,**  
129 **including Bottled Blonde, Uber's Westdale towers and the property I control in**

130 **downtown. It will do massive damage. Furthermore, in a resolution adopted by the City**  
131 **Council, the Council specifically stated DART should come back to the council once 10%**  
132 **of the design stage is complete. This is not being done even though DART has told me**  
133 **they are at 20% moving quickly to 50%. This is incredibly disappointing. Several DART**  
134 **officials have said they do not need to go back to the City because a City Council**  
135 **member said they do not need to. I disagree with that. Thank you for allowing me to**  
136 **speak.**

137 David:

138 Thank you, Scott. Okay. We have our next speaker. If you would please spell your first and last  
139 name for the record. State your address or organization and begin your comment. Hello Allan,  
140 are you with us?

141 **Yeah, this is Allan Zreet. The first name is A-L-L-A-N, last name Z-R-E-E-T. I am the**  
142 **Mobility Committee chair with Downtown Dallas Inc. Although the comments represent**  
143 **my personal opinions on the issue. And we'll have further written confirmation from**  
144 **Downtown Dallas Inc later. Just a few comments, we would like to make sure that as the**  
145 **project advances, that the possibility of air rights development at both the Metro Center**  
146 **Portal, at the CBD West Bus Transfer Center, and the CBD East Station are considered in**  
147 **terms of integrating those stations with future development and making sure that that's**  
148 **been considered both from the standpoint of planning and how that's integrated into**  
149 **future plans there. Now the comment is that the Commerce Station in looking at the**  
150 **drawings, the access does not appear to be intuitive there.**

151 **It's very circuitous in terms of just finding your way and wayfinding through that station,**  
152 **we feel like there should be a consideration given to improving the access to that station**  
153 **and simplifying that path of travel. Then the next one is that the wye at the east portal**  
154 **obviously has been an issue of much discussion in terms of how we deal with that. We**  
155 **want to make sure that that is not leftover space and that consideration is given there**  
156 **both for air rights, as well as landscaping and public art so that doesn't just become a**  
157 **leftover space there. And then last month at the Urban Design Peer Review committee,**  
158 **there were some comments regarding to the design theme of the corridor. And we agree**  
159 **that an identity needs to be established for the entire corridor so it is cohesive through**  
160 **downtown. But that flexibility is still integrated into the design as it advances for context**  
161 **sensitive design, particularly at station portals. That ends my comments.**

162 David:

163 Thank you, Allan. Okay. For our audience, if you have a comment, if you'd like to speak to the  
164 team members today, please press star, three. Again, we're not going be taking any questions,  
165 but you will get three minutes to make your public comment. If you have a comment, again you  
166 can press star, three on your keypad at any time, you get into queue and make your comment.  
167 We'll be taking as many comments as we can today during the live segment. Again, please  
168 press star, three on your keypad at any time to get in the queue to make a comment. Please  
169 note all comments will be recorded and transcribed for the record. Also, please note that DART  
170 project team members will not be answering any questions during the hearing. Just a reminder,  
171 so if you'd like to get in the queue and make a comment, you may press star, three now on your  
172 phone keypad. Carlos, would you like to address any Spanish speakers in the audience too  
173 please?

174 Carlos Huerta:

175 Yes. Los participantes en las audiencias tendrán la oportunidad de comentar en español. Por  
176 favor marque el número \* seis para hablar. Una persona le preguntará su nombre y lo agregará  
177 a la lista de participantes. Por favor sea paciente hasta que llamemos su nombre. Tendrá tres  
178 minutos para hacer su comentario. Tendremos su comentario traducido para el registro.  
179 Muchas gracias.

180 David:

181 Okay, thank you Carlos. At this point in time, while we wait for any other of our audience  
182 members to hit star, three to be put into queue and make your public comment, I'd like to turn it  
183 back over to Kay. Kay if you'd like to give the audience an update on some of the D2 additional  
184 projects that are going on at this time?

185 Kay Shelton:

186 Sure. Thanks, David. Yeah, while we wait for more people to press star, three and get into the  
187 queue, we have some project highlights that we'll run through just to update people on the  
188 project. And our first one is really focused on purpose and need of the project. And Ernie  
189 Martinez, our project manager is on the call. So Ernie do you mind taking this one?

190 Ernie Martinez:

191 Sure, Kay. I'll take it. I want to mention that although the D2 subway project is in Downtown  
192 Dallas, it is an important project for the entire DFW region. The region is experiencing high  
193 growth and increasing traffic congestion. So regional population is expected grow from over 7  
194 million today to over 11 million by the year 2045. That's a 55% increase. Jobs are projected to  
195 grow by the same percentage to more than 7 million. Now in the Downtown Dallas study area,  
196 population and jobs are forecast to double. Strong growth along with plans for regional transit  
197 expansion increases demand on our system and strains our capacity. Right now DART relies on  
198 the existing at grade Bryan/Pacific Transit Mall for all four light rail lines. And we are at capacity  
199 in terms of what we operate. This constrains the ability of both DART and the region to build  
200 additional rail projects or improve service levels on the existing light rail lines.

201 Ernie Martinez:

202 So dependence on one single downtown transit mall increases the risk for system-wide service  
203 disruptions due to incidents on the mall such as traffic accidents, or emergencies to or in  
204 adjacent buildings. The purpose of the D2 Subway project would be to address the core  
205 capacity issues and increase operational flexibility, reliability, and quality of passenger service  
206 throughout downtown and really throughout the entire light rail system. The project would also  
207 enhance access to both established and growing markets in downtown. So we identified five  
208 specific transportation needs that the D2 Subway project would address and those are A,  
209 relieve CBD light rail capacity constraint, accommodate growing regional demand, maintain a  
210 quality system and service, serve new downtown markets and to enhance land use and  
211 redevelopment potential.

212 Kay Shelton:

213 Right. Thanks Ernie for that overview. And if anyone that's listening today is interested in a little  
214 bit more about the project, its background and the purpose and need, we'd encourage you to  
215 look at chapter one of the supplemental draft environmental impact statement. These needs are  
216 key to the type of federal grant we're pursuing, and we have some information on that we can

217 talk about later in the meeting while we're waiting for callers. So I'll turn it back over to David  
218 right now just to reiterate our instructions and see if we can get more people in the queue.

219 David:

220 Thank you Kay. So again, for anyone joining us later in the hour for this event, we'd like to first  
221 thank you for joining our live call in public hearing. As public safety and health continue to be the  
222 top priority in these unprecedented times, DART on behalf of the Federal Transit Administration  
223 is hosting this call in public hearing to provide the public the opportunity to formally comment on  
224 the supplemental draft environmental impact statement for the D2 Subway project. We hope  
225 you've had a chance to visit us as Kay mentioned, the project webpage at [www.DART.org/d2](http://www.DART.org/d2) to  
226 view project related information, the supplemental draft environmental impact statement, and  
227 the pre-hearing informational presentation. We'll be taking as many comments from participants  
228 as we possibly can live in this event until 1:00 PM. We've already had two people in the  
229 audience make their public comments. We encourage everyone if you do have a comment, you  
230 can press star, three. That's star, three on your keypad at any time.

231 David:

232 You'll be placed in line to make your comment. Our screeners will take down your first and last  
233 name. The next time you hear your name, you will be live on the call and you'll be able to make  
234 your comment. The comments from these hearings will be recorded and transcribed. Please  
235 note that our panelists will not be answering questions this afternoon. We've already started the  
236 hearing. We've been introduced to Carlos Huerta with the DART Community Affairs and also  
237 with some of the other team members. As we continue to wait for the audience, at this time Kay  
238 would you like to update us on another project?

239 Kay Shelton:

240 Sure. And before I get to that all, I'll go ahead and just remind others if you don't want to make a  
241 comment today, if you're shy and you'd rather put it in writing, or you need to talk to your  
242 organization a little bit more, we do have several different ways for you to comment in writing.  
243 You can email [d2@dart.org](mailto:d2@dart.org). You can mail comments to Ernie Martinez at DART Capital  
244 Planning, and that's at PO Box 660 163 in Dallas, 75266. We also, if you're out on our system  
245 using our buses and trains, we have postage paid comment cards on our vehicles. And you're  
246 more than welcome to fill one of those out and it will come back to Carlos at the DART offices.  
247 And again, any way you'll comment, all comments are equal.

248 Kay Shelton:

249 And any of those received by Monday, June 29th will be documented and responded to in our  
250 final environmental impact statement and record of decision. And we're continuing to work with  
251 Federal Transit Administration to prepare that document and have that ready later this year. But  
252 if it's okay, we'll go ahead and do another project highlight, Ernie talked a little bit about purpose  
253 and need before and one of those key needs was related to capacity. So we do have our Vice  
254 President of Capital Planning, Steve Salin on line. And see a little bit of background noise, but  
255 I'll turn it-

256 Steve Salin:

257 Yeah this-

258 Kay Shelton:

259 And-

260 Steve Salin:

261 Yeah, this is Steve.

262 Kay Shelton:

263 He'll talk about the federal grant.

264 Steve Salin:

265 This is Steve. The neighbor's lawnmower service just arrived. So what I'd like to do is spend just  
266 a couple of minutes talking about the federal grant that we're pursuing. As you know DART's  
267 been advancing the D2 project as a core capacity project under the Federal Transit  
268 Administration's capital investment grant program. Projects in that program need to qualify by  
269 demonstrating that the corridor will be at or near capacity, meaning crowded within the next five  
270 years. And projects typically have to show how they will improve that capacity by at least 10%.  
271 And in our case here, the capacity is demonstrated by being able to take some trains off the  
272 existing mall and putting them into the new alignment. And although the current COVID-19  
273 situation is currently affecting ridership, some of DART's light rail trains are typically at, or over  
274 capacity on trips in the peak hour. Because we only have one transit way mall through the  
275 downtown, we are at capacity.

276 Steve Salin:

277 And we can't add more trains through the downtown on the existing mall without affecting the  
278 schedule and potentially reliability. So what D2 allows us to do is to shift the green and orange  
279 lines over to the new corridor, which frees up room to add more service on the mall itself.  
280 Overall, this core capacity investment will sustain DART well into the future as the system  
281 grows, and we accommodate regional demands. The federal process that we're following really  
282 has two key steps, project development, which we're in now and are actually working towards  
283 completing. And the next piece is engineering. As part of the FTA process, the D2 Subway has  
284 been rated as a medium high project in the past. And we plan to submit information later this  
285 summer as the project comes towards 30% design and work with FTA to enter the next phase  
286 of engineering.

287 Steve Salin:

288 And during that step, DART will do our final design and construction of the project, which would  
289 actually be the implementation of all of this planning work. We'll talk a little bit more about the  
290 project schedule a little bit later on if given the chance.

291 Kay Shelton:

292 Great. Thank you, Steve. Let's turn it back over to David in case we've had some new people  
293 join and just review some of the instructions.

294 David:

295 Thank you, Kay. And we appreciate that overview of the project. And I think you found a quiet  
296 space there where the lawn mowing crew got ready to do their job there. Because he came  
297 through loud and clearly. At this time I think Carlos, if you would, if you can address our Spanish  
298 speaking audience and also give us a review during this public hearing of the guidelines that

299 we're going to follow, I think that would be helpful as we wait for other participants who want to  
300 make the public comment on this call in hearing. Okay, go ahead Carlos.

301 Carlos Huerta:  
302 Absolutely. Los participantes en las audiencias tendrán la oportunidad de comentar en español.  
303 Por favor marque el número \* seis para hablar. Una persona le preguntará su nombre y lo  
304 agregará a la lista de participantes. Por favor sea paciente hasta que llamemos su nombre.  
305 Tendrá tres minutos para hacer su comentario. Tendremos su comentario traducido para el  
306 registro. Muchas gracias.

307  
308 During the public hearing, we must follow some guidelines. If you pre-registered on a DART  
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310 you on our pre-registration list we'll make efforts to call on you first. Additional speakers will be  
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313 included in the official public record. There'll be a time limit of three minutes per speaker. And I  
314 will remind you when there are 30 seconds left in your turn. Speakers must address the topic of  
315 the hearing. Other subjects would not be allowed in this hearing. Questions, interchanges and  
316 discussions are not permitted in the hearing. Today's hearing comments as well as those  
317 received in writing will be classified and recorded into appropriate subject areas.

318 Carlos Huerta:  
319 All comments will be reviewed and subsequent comments will receive responses and be  
320 documented in the final environmental impact statement and record of decision anticipated to be  
321 issued by the Federal Transit Administration later this year. David?

322 David:  
323 Okay, thank you, Carlos. Again, we encourage anyone to make a public comment today during  
324 this call in public hearing, you may press star, three. That's star, three on your Touchstone  
325 keypad. We will take as many people as we can live and you'll get into queue, one of our team  
326 members will take down your first and last name, organization, where you're calling from. And  
327 the next time you hear your name called you will be live on the call. Okay. While we wait for the  
328 audience to step up if they'd like to make a public comment again, we will be open in live for all  
329 public comments until 1:00 PM Central. So if you do have one, we do encourage you to go  
330 ahead and press star, three. Kay, would you like to take this time to update the audience on any  
331 other projects that DART has concerning the D2 Subway?

332 Kay Shelton:  
333 Sure. Steve mentioned that we could talk about schedule, so I'll go ahead and take that one. I  
334 know a lot of people are interested about the timing for D2. So we are taking steps to get into  
335 the next phase of engineering under the federal grant process. And many of you may know that  
336 DART has a financial plan and that plan looked 20 years ahead to help our agency prioritize  
337 services and projects. Our current financial plan that we're working under has D2 with an  
338 opening service date of about 2024 and 2025. So that's schedule means we need to keep  
339 moving full speed ahead on the schedule that we're on. Since March though a lot of agencies  
340 including DART when COVID-19 hit our region are looking at our financial plan and what some  
341 of the implications might be. Ridership has dropped due to the stay at home orders and the



342 economy has slowed down some, that does affect sales tax which is a big part of our revenue  
343 streams.

344 Kay Shelton:

345 So we have made some changes to services that are out on the ground today, and there could  
346 be potential changes to the D2 project schedule. Over this spring and during the summer, the  
347 DART board is discussing next year's budget. And looking ahead at our next 20-year financial  
348 plan under these new conditions. There is a lag in sales tax reports. So we don't really have a  
349 clear picture of what the future holds at this point. The good news is that our financial plan had a  
350 conservative smaller federal grant assumption of about 20 to 25 percent of the project cost  
351 compared to about a 50% grant, which is what we are actually pursuing. So one of the changes  
352 to our financial plan that's being discussed is actually to put in a larger grant amount into our  
353 financial plan and take some of the pressure off of DART's finances.

354 Kay Shelton:

355 Even with this larger grant assumption, there may still be some changes to the opening day. It  
356 could be a year or two, it could be more. Again that's what is being discussed by our board of  
357 directors and they are scheduled to approve a new financial plan this September. So we have a  
358 new section on our website about the project schedule, and we'll continue to post updates there,  
359 or you can always listen to our board of directors meetings as they continue to talk about  
360 agency priorities. So let's go back to David now, see if we have anyone new or review the  
361 instructions for anyone new that's joined the call.

362 David:

363 Sure. Thank you Kay. I appreciate that update too on the schedule. For any of those on the  
364 audience that are joining us late, it is now 12:31 Central, we're going to be live until 1:00 PM  
365 Central to make public comments. I'd like to just kind of give you an overview of the reason for  
366 the call in public hearing. As a public safety and health continue to be the top priority in these  
367 unprecedented times, DART on behalf of the Federal Transit Administration is hosting this call  
368 in public hearing to provide the public the opportunity to formally comment on the supplemental  
369 draft environmental impact statement for the D2 Subway project. We hope you've had a chance  
370 to visit the project webpage and that project webpage is located at [www.dart.org/d2](http://www.dart.org/d2). To view  
371 project related information, the supplemental draft environmental impact statement, and the pre-  
372 hearing informational presentation.

373 David:

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377 your comment. Our screeners will take down your first and last name. The next time you hear  
378 your name, you will be live on the call and you'll be able to make your comment. The comment  
379 from these hearings will be recorded and transcribed. And please note that our panelists will not  
380 be answering questions this afternoon. So we do encourage anyone who hasn't made a  
381 comment. We did have a couple of comments earlier. This is a forum for these types of  
382 comments in this kind of shelter in place time and remote engagement. Please press star, three  
383 on your Touchstone keypad and you can enter our queue very simply. And then the next time  
384 you hear your name, you will be called on and to make your public comment which can last up  
385 to three minutes.

386 David:  
387 Okay. We still are waiting for audience and participants to step up and hit star, three to make  
388 additional comments. At this juncture, would you like to review anything we've talked about  
389 since again, people might've joined us late or talk about any of the new projects. So I'll hand it  
390 over to you Kay.

391 Kay Shelton:

392 Thank you, David. I'll just give everyone a reminder that if you haven't been to our website, we  
393 mentioned that we did post an informational presentation. So if you don't want to read a 300-  
394 page document and just want to kind of hit the highlights there is about a 17-minute video  
395 narrated presentation that is on our website. It's on the DART YouTube channel, and you're  
396 more than welcome to look at that. And it does give you some information in terms of where to  
397 find certain things in the document itself. And again, all of the instructions are on our website  
398 about how to provide comments in writing as part of the process. I would also note too that if  
399 you're calling in and don't necessarily have internet access, a lot of the cities in our DART  
400 service area are showing the informational presentation through their public access TV  
401 channels as well, if you're interested in looking at it that way.

402 Kay Shelton:

403 But while we're waiting, we'll go ahead and maybe let's talk a little bit about project history for  
404 those of you that might be new to the project. And I think we'll have Ernie take that one.

405 Ernie Martinez:

406 Thanks. Kay. And yes, D2 does have a little history and some of you on the call with us today  
407 may have been involved during some of that early planning. Planning for D2 started in 2007  
408 when we initiated an alternative analysis and draft environmental impact statement. And through  
409 that process, we reviewed 16 alternatives and screened those down to four final alternatives.  
410 The FTA and DART then published a draft EIS in March of 2020. Excuse me, 2010. However,  
411 as many of you may remember, the 2008/2009 recession led to a new schedule. And at that  
412 same time, Dallas was starting to discuss modern streetcar, high-speed rail to Houston as a  
413 possibility and Dallas was preparing a new downtown plan called the Downtown Dallas 360  
414 Plan. Now all of these factors and change conditions led DART to consider some additional  
415 alternatives in the 2012 to 2015 timeframe. As a result of that effort, both the DART board and  
416 the Dallas City Council approved a locally preferred alternative or LPA in 2015, the initial  
417 alignment was along Lamar and Young Street, mostly at grade along Young Street. As we went  
418 through the public involvement process for that initial alignment, there was concern from many  
419 stakeholders about the at grade alignment along Young Street. Based on those concerns, the  
420 Dallas City Council approved the resolution in the summer of 2016 supporting the development  
421 of a mostly subway project. And based on that action, DART conducted a nearly one-year effort  
422 to refine the project as a subway. We have both stakeholder and technical work groups evaluate  
423 several different alternatives as part of that effort. Ultimately, there was broad consensus on the  
424 Victory Commerce alignment. And in September, 2017, both the DART Board and Dallas City  
425 Council approved that corridor as the new subway LPA or locally preferred alternative. And  
426 since that time we've completed 20% preliminary design and prepared a supplemental draft  
427 environmental impact statement, which is the subject of today's hearing.

428 Kay Shelton:

429 Thanks Ernie. That's a good snapshot of the planning history. And again a lot of that is in the  
430 draft environmental impact statement. And there's also a section on the DART website for the  
431 D2 project where you can go back and look at a lot of information from some of those prior  
432 phases of the project. So if we want to, let's go back to David quickly. We can always come  
433 back to more project highlights, but let's see if David wants to review just in case anyone new  
434 has joined the call.

435 David:

436 Thank you, Kay. And thanks for that update too. So for all the audiences that have just joined  
437 us, we'll be taking as many comments as we can today from the public. And the hearing will  
438 conclude at 1:00 PM. As a reminder if you have just joined the call and you do have a comment,  
439 you may press star, three. That's star, three on your Touchstone keypad at any time and you'll  
440 be placed in line to speak with a member of our staff. All commenters, who are in the queue to  
441 speak by 1:00 PM were given the opportunity to provide their comments verbally to our project  
442 team members. Our screeners will take down your name, where you're calling from and who  
443 you represent. The next time you hear your name, you will be live on the call and you'll be able  
444 to make your comment. As Carlos stated, we're going to try to get to as many as possible and  
445 provide equal opportunity too. So each speaker, again, as I mentioned earlier, will be allotted a  
446 maximum of three minutes.

447 David:

448 It looks like we do have someone that has entered the queue. Let's give them a second to be  
449 screened. So again, if you are in the audience, you would like to make your public comments, a  
450 very simple process, that's why we're having this call in for the public, for this event to discuss  
451 the D2 project, just hit star, three, and one of our team members will screen your first and last  
452 name and we'll give you three minutes to publicly comment. Carlos, while we're waiting for this  
453 gentleman to be screened, you want to go over the guidelines briefly, and then we can take his  
454 comment live and also address any Spanish speaking audience members that might have just  
455 dialed in?

456 Carlos Huerta:

457 Sure. Yeah, for Spanish speaking participants. Los participantes en las audiencias tendrán la  
458 oportunidad de comentar en español. Por favor marque el número \* seis para hablar. Una  
459 persona le preguntará su nombre y lo agregará a la lista de participantes. Por favor sea  
460 paciente hasta que llamemos su nombre. Tendrá tres minutos para hacer su comentario.  
461 Tendremos su comentario traducido para el registro. Muchas gracias.

462

463 During this public hearing we must follow some guidelines. If you pre-registered on our website,  
464 you still need to press star, three, to get into the speaker queue to comment. If we have you on  
465 a pre-registration list, we'll make efforts to call on you first. Additional speakers will be called on  
466 in the order they press star, three to enter the speaker queue. Those who do not wish to speak,  
467 may stay on the line to listen or submit written comments. All comments will be included in the  
468 official public record. There'll be a time limit of three minutes per speaker and I will remind you  
469 when there are 30 seconds left in your turn. Speakers must address the topic of the hearing.  
470 Other subjects will not be allowed at this hearing. Questions, interchanges and discussions are  
471 not permitted in the hearing.

472 Carlos Huerta:

473 Today's hearing comments as well as those received in writing will be classified recorded into  
474 appropriate subject areas. All comments will be reviewed and subsequent comments will  
475 receive responses and documented in the final environmental impact statement and record of  
476 decision anticipated to be issue by the Federal Transit Administration later this year. Thank you,  
477 David.

478 David:

479 Yeah. Thank you, Carlos. Okay. This time we do have a member of the audience who would  
480 like to make their comment. We have a Kevin, I believe Feldt. Kevin, if you would please spell  
481 your first and last name for the record, state your address or organization, and you may begin  
482 your comment. Kevin you're live.

483 **Kevin Feldt:**

484 **Thank you. Good afternoon. My name is Kevin Feldt, K-E-V-I-N. Last name F like Frank, E-**  
485 **L-D like David, T like Tom. And I'm calling representing the North Central Texas Council**  
486 **of Governments that's located in Arlington, Texas. Basically I'd like to say that while we**  
487 **recognize the North Central Texas region is home to the longest light rail system in**  
488 **United States, we believe that accommodating planned and programmed improvements**  
489 **to the DART system and adding additional capacity is required to the Downtown Dallas**  
490 **area. The current LRT system converges four lines into one alignment in Downtown**  
491 **Dallas and to increase the light rail transit system efficiency and effectiveness an**  
492 **additional alignment through Downtown Dallas is essential. Light rail transit in the Dallas**  
493 **area provides a vital transportation choice to travelers. The regional transportation**  
494 **council and the North Central Texas Council of Governments support the proposed D2**  
495 **project.**

496 **However, planning and implementation of the D2 project should also consider proposed**  
497 **improvements to IH-345 in Downtown Dallas. Both projects are vital transportation**  
498 **components to the DFW region transportation system and the city of Dallas. While all**  
499 **agencies are working diligently to advance both projects, agreement on the design of**  
500 **both must be coordinated. Coordinating the projects to ensure each is implemented in**  
501 **conjunction with the other will provide an opportunity to move the D2 project forward**  
502 **more expeditiously. Being able to advance D2 in a timely manner is important in post**  
503 **COVID-19 pandemic conditions. There may be an opportunity to advance critical projects**  
504 **such as this in a way to provide critical economic stimulus to the region, the nation and**  
505 **the economy. Thank you.**

506 David:

507 Thank you for your comment, Kevin.

508 Kevin Feldt:

509 Oh, I'm sorry.

510 David:

511 Okay. Well, Kevin, we thought you were done at that point in time. We appreciate your  
512 comments. And if anyone else has a comment, we'll be taking as many as we can publicly until  
513 the hearing concludes at 1:00. I now have 12:43 PM and anyone that's just joined the call if you  
514 do have a comment, you may press star, three on your phone keypad at any time. You'll be  
515 placed in line to speak with a member of our staff. All commenters who are in the queue to

516 speak by 1:00 PM will be given the opportunity to provide their comments verbally to our project  
517 team members. Our screeners will take down your name, where you're calling from and who  
518 you represent, the next time you hear your name, you'll be live on the call. You'll be able to  
519 make your comment. We're here to again, get as many comments as possible and provide  
520 equal opportunity.

521 David:

522 Each speaker will be allotted a maximum of three minutes. I'd like to go ahead and turn it back  
523 over to Kay. Kay, do you have an update on anything else you'd like to talk to us about? It looks  
524 like Kevin has gone back in the queue. We'll take to him once he's been screened again. Do  
525 you want to give us a brief update on anything? Well, it's like he's ready to go live. Let me go  
526 ahead and take to him live again. It looks like he did not use his three minutes and it looks like  
527 he has an additional comment. Could you please Kevin, go ahead and spell your first and last  
528 name for the record. State your address or organization and begin your comment. I believe you  
529 were about a minute and a half into your three minutes.

530 **Kevin Feldt:**

531 **Thank you. Kevin Feldt, North Central Texas Council of Governments. I wanted to also**  
532 **mention that the proposed DART D2 light rail transit line extension project is consistent**  
533 **with the Mobility 2045, which is the regional metropolitan transportation plan for North**  
534 **Central Texas. Due to the project's critical nature, the North Central Texas Council of**  
535 **Governments is willing to provide any assistance in planning, design, and**  
536 **implementation for the proposed improvements. Thank you.**

537 David:

538 Thank you, Kevin. Kay, do you want to go ahead and give us an overview of other projects? I  
539 have another 15 minutes it looks like for our call in public comment period. And again, we'll be  
540 taking calls up into 1:00 PM. Kay?

541 Kay Shelton:

542 Sure. Thank you. I think what I'll cover right now is cultural resources. I'll just hit on a few topics  
543 that we have in our environmental documents. Cultural resources and historic resources are  
544 one of the key environmental topics and of interest to a lot of people in the downtown area.  
545 When we talk about cultural resources, there's two primary federal regulations that DART and  
546 the Federal Transit Administration have to follow. Section 106 of the National Historic  
547 Preservation Act, and also Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act. Federal  
548 Transit Administration staff and DART have been consulting regularly with the Texas Historical  
549 Commission. At the beginning of the process, we worked with them to establish an area of  
550 potential effects, otherwise known as an APE. And one of the first steps that we did was to  
551 document the existing historic resources within that area of potential effects, and also find out if  
552 there were new resources that might now be eligible for the national register of historic places.

553 Kay Shelton:

554 This spring, once we had the 20% design done, we completed a determination of effects report  
555 and the Texas Historical Commission has finished their review of that report. They just finished  
556 that this past mid-May, just a few weeks ago, and this was also provided to the city of Dallas  
557 Historic Preservation Department and Preservation Dallas. And both of those groups we've  
558 been consulting with through this process as well, keeping them informed. Based on the

559 evaluation that we did for cultural resources, we identified two Section 106 adverse effects. One  
560 is to the St. James AME Temple on Good Latimer Expressway. And this is due to the addition of  
561 the live Oak Station in the median of Good Latimer Expressway. We won't be having any impact  
562 to the building, but we would need to acquire a sliver of property in front of it to shift the  
563 northbound lanes of the street and the sidewalk over.

564 Kay Shelton:

565 And the station also represents a new visual condition in front of the building. The second  
566 adverse effect would be to the former Magnolia Gasoline Station building. This is at 902 Ross,  
567 it's now a FedEx office, and that is due to the proposed demolition for a construction staging  
568 area. And if possible, we would try to avoid that Magnolia gas station building, but we just don't  
569 have enough information yet on our construction needs for the project. Adverse effects under  
570 Section 106 also constitute a Section 4(f) Use. So there is additional evaluation that's contained  
571 in Section 4.17 of our draft EIS. We're continuing to coordinate now with Texas Historical  
572 Commission and also working with the city and Preservation Dallas on developing a  
573 programmatic agreement. And that would outline how we would mitigate those adverse effects  
574 and outline the future design review and consultation process once we get into the next phase  
575 of the project.

576 Kay Shelton:

577 There's also some new information that we were just informed of, and that is that DalPark  
578 Garage, which is on Commerce Street. 1600 block of Commerce was recently added to the  
579 Downtown Dallas Historic District as a contributing resource. So it is going to be added to our  
580 Final EIS and it will be covered in the programmatic agreement. This is a location that's being  
581 considered for a possible station entrance portal to the Commerce Station. So I'll go ahead and  
582 turn it back over to David and Carlos, that's just a quick snapshot of cultural resources and we  
583 have some other topics that we'll talk about too, if we have more time before we end the  
584 hearing. So David I'll turn it back to you.

585 David:

586 Thank you very much, Kay. Again, my name is David, I'm moderating today's event. And if  
587 you're joining us late, I wanted to thank you for joining our live call in public hearing. As public  
588 safety and health continue to be the top priority in these unprecedented times, DART on behalf  
589 of the Federal Transit Administration is hosting this call in public hearing to provide the public  
590 the opportunity to formally comment on the supplemental draft environmental impact statement  
591 for the D2 Subway project. We hope you've had a chance to visit the project webpage and that's  
592 located at [www.dart.org/d2](http://www.dart.org/d2). You can view project related information there. The supplemental  
593 draft environmental impact statement is also located at the website along with the pre-hearing  
594 informational presentation. We'll be taking as many comments from participants as we possibly  
595 can live on this event until 1:00 PM. We have 10 minutes so if you are interested to make your  
596 public comment, please press star, three. Very simple, on your Touchstone keypad at any time.

597 David:

598 You'll be placed in line to make your comment. Our screeners will take down your first and last  
599 name. The next time you hear your name, you'll be live on the call and you'll be able to make  
600 your comment. The comments from these hearings will be recorded and transcribed. Please  
601 note that our panelists will not be answering questions this afternoon. Also, as a reminder,  
602 comments are being accepted between May 15th, 2020 and June 29th, 2020. In addition to

603 participating in today's hearing, you may also submit a comment email to d2@dart.org. Again, a  
604 comment email to d2@dart.org. You may also provide your mail in a written comment to Ernie  
605 Martinez, DART Capital Planning, PO box 660 163, Dallas, Texas, 75266-7213.

606 David:

607 DART also has postage paid comment cards on the buses and trains that can be used to make  
608 your comment additionally. All comment methods are considered equal and all comments that  
609 are received on or before Monday, June 29th, 2020 will be documented and responded to in the  
610 final environmental impact statement in record of decision. And that scheduled to be completed  
611 by the Federal Transit Administration later this year. So as we continue to wait up until our 1:00  
612 closing time for this live call in public hearing on the D2 project, Kay if you, or Carlos, if you'd  
613 like to maybe give us one more in case someone's joined us live in Spanish instructions for  
614 them, and then the guidelines for the hearing and if that point in time if we still don't have  
615 anyone to make a comment, Kay, you can give us an update or reviews of one of the additional  
616 projects. So Carlos, if you would please address our Spanish speaking audience.

617 Carlos Huerta:

618 Absolutely. Los participantes en las audiencias tendrán la oportunidad de comentar en español.  
619 Por favor marque el número \* seis para hablar. Una persona le preguntará su nombre y lo  
620 agregará a la lista de participantes. Por favor sea paciente hasta que llamemos su nombre.  
621 Tendrá tres minutos para hacer su comentario. Tendremos su comentario traducido para el  
622 registro. Muchas gracias.

623

624 During the public hearing, we must follow some guidelines. If you pre-registered on the DART  
625 website, you still need to press star, three to get into the speaker queue to the comment. If we  
626 have you on our pre-registration list, we'll make efforts to call on you first. Additional speakers  
627 will be called on in the order they press star, three to enter the speaker queue. Those who do  
628 not wish to speak, they can stay on the line to listen or submit written comments. All comments  
629 will be included in the official public record. There'll be a time limit of three minutes per speaker.  
630 And I will remind you when there are 30 seconds left in your turn. Speakers must address the  
631 topic of the hearing. Other subjects will not be allowed in this hearing. Questions, interchanges  
632 and discussions are not permitted in the hearing. Today's hearing comments, as well as those  
633 received in writing will be classified and recorded into appropriate subject areas.

634 Carlos Huerta:

635 All comments will be reviewed and subsequent comments will receive responses and  
636 documented in the final environmental impact statement, and record of decision anticipated to  
637 be issued by the Federal Transit Administration later this year. As a reminder, this hearing is  
638 been recorded and transcribed. So all comments received are a matter of public record. David?

639 David:

640 Yes. Thank you, Carlos. At this point in time in the public hearing, I have 12:54 PM. We have six  
641 minutes left. Anyone that gets into queue by 1:00 PM before we close out this call we'll get a  
642 chance to make their comment. Kay, while we wait for additional potential public comments,  
643 would you like to take this time to inform our audience about any of the other projects or review  
644 any of them that we talked about earlier in the show for people that might have joined us later?

645 Kay Shelton:

646 Yeah, actually I think we have time for one more. And Ernie, if you're still on the line I think it'd  
647 be great if maybe you cover noise and vibration. That's one of the topics in our environmental  
648 impact statement as well.

649 Ernie Martinez:

650 Sure. Kay. I just want to mention that just like all our capital projects, we conducted a noise and  
651 vibration analysis for the D2 Subway project. Three locations were identified with moderate  
652 noise impacts all in the Victory Park area. And these include moderate noise impacts to 96 units  
653 of the W Residences. And there we had an increase of 1.6 decibels, a moderate noise impact to  
654 48 units at the Vista Apartments due to an increase there of 1.3 decibels and a 2.3 decibel  
655 increase to 32 units at the Northend Apartments. So all of these noise increases are under 3  
656 decibels. So they do not require mitigation under DART policy or federal guidelines. Also, just as  
657 an FYI, in an urban downtown area, typical mitigation like noise walls isn't really appropriate.  
658 Now we also did some vibration propagation testing. There are no vibration impacts anticipated  
659 after the project is built and operational.

660 Ernie Martinez:

661 Some vibration impacts would be associated with construction. And these are discussed in  
662 chapter five of the SDEIS. We'd make sure to work with downtown residents and the city to  
663 follow noise ordinances and work to minimize impacts as much as possible. Now, lastly,  
664 sometimes noise impacts are identified after we start operations especially where there are  
665 curves in the track. We actually had a situation like this at the Green Line near the Live Oak  
666 lofts, where there was some wheels squeal due to the curve near the Live Oak Street. In that  
667 case, we added a track lubricator as a mitigation measure to reduce noise. So one of our  
668 mitigation measures would be to monitor noise when operations starts to see if there is a need  
669 for measures like that.

670 Kay Shelton:

671 Great, thank you, Ernie. I'd also like to point out too that we do have a mitigation guidelines  
672 policy at DART, and we have a document that we follow, and there is a process in that  
673 document for how we would address any post-construction issues. And we have had to do that  
674 on occasion. Once projects are in operation and there might be a new condition or something  
675 we need to analyze. So our goal is to really be a good neighbor as we build our projects. And  
676 with the growing number of residents downtown, that's really important to us. So I think we're  
677 getting close to wrapping up. So, I'm going to go ahead and back to David and see if we have  
678 anyone who wants to get into the queue in the last couple of minutes.

679 David:

680 Thank you, Kay. Again we'll be taking as many comments as we can today from the public until  
681 the public hearing concludes in three minutes at 1:00 PM. As a reminder, if anyone new has  
682 joined the call, if you have a comment, you may press star, three on your phone keypad at any  
683 time. You'll be placed in line to speak with a member of our staff. All commenters who are in the  
684 queue to speak by 1:00 PM, we'll give them the opportunity to provide their comments verbally  
685 to our project team members. Our screeners will take down your name, where you're calling  
686 from and who you represent. Next time you hear your name, it will be live on the call. You'll be  
687 able to make your comment. We're trying to take as many as we can today and provide equal  
688 opportunity. So each speaker will be allotted a maximum of three minutes. Here's your chance,



689 we have two minutes left. If you'd like to again make a comment, if you've not already done so,  
690 please press star, three on your Touchstone keypad.

691 David:

692 Kay and Carlos at this juncture. I think we can give it maybe a minute. If we don't see anyone  
693 else lineup in queue to speak, we can go ahead to the closing. Any additional last thoughts here  
694 in the last two minutes, Kay or Carlos?

695 Kay Shelton:

696 No, I don't think so.

697 Carlos Huerta:

698 No. I think we're good. We're good.

699 David:

700 Okay. All right. I have one minute to go. So I think without anyone else in queue, then we're  
701 going to go ahead and have our closing. We're coming to the end of our live public hearing this  
702 afternoon. Thank you for taking the time to join us in this public hearing with DART on behalf of  
703 the FTA. If you were not able to submit your comment this afternoon, you can join us at 6:30 this  
704 evening. We have another hearing that's going to be public, same dial in information, or you can  
705 send us an email at [d2@dart.org](mailto:d2@dart.org) or comment in writing. More project information can be found  
706 on the project website at [dart.org/d2](http://dart.org/d2). Comments can be submitted at any time between now and  
707 Monday, June 29th, 2020. No one is in queue. So thank you again. Everyone have a good  
708 afternoon. We appreciate your participation.

709

710