

Quarterly NEWSLETTER

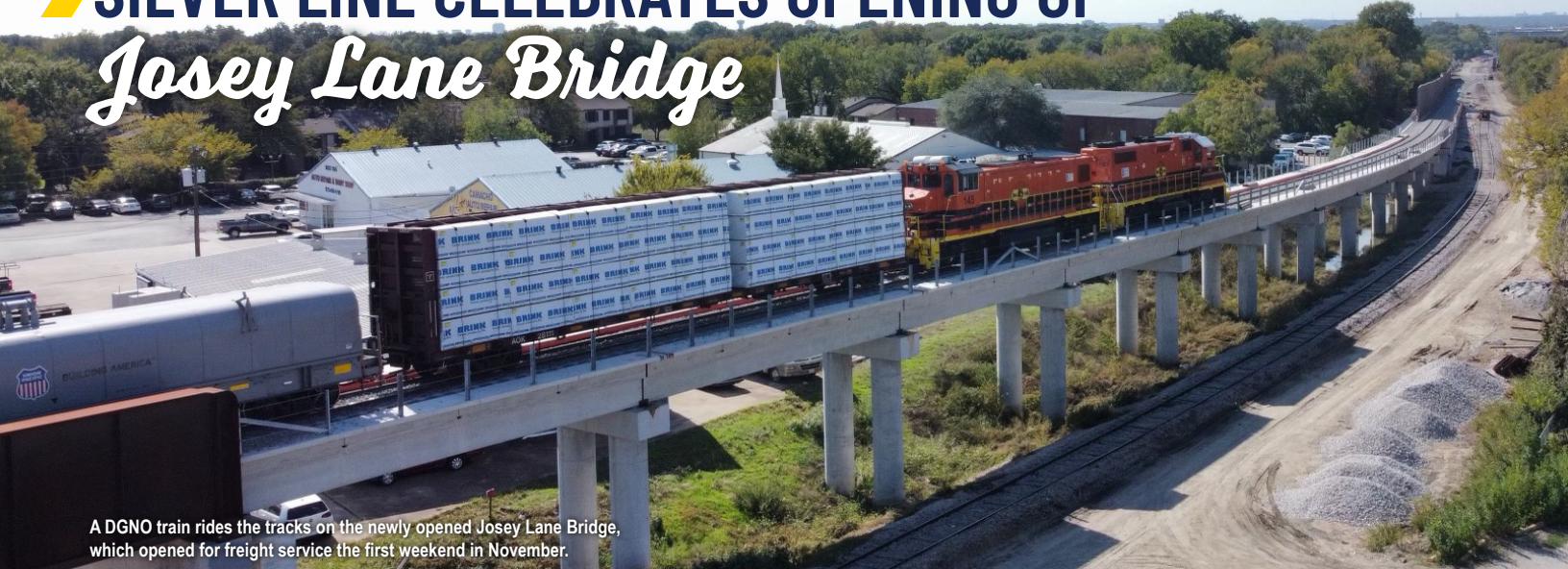
ISSUE NO. 6 | NOVEMBER 2023



Newsletter Contents

Josey Lane Bridge Opening	02	40 Years of Making Connections	09
Silver Line Benefits	03	Hillcrest Road Closure	10
Frequently Asked Questions	04	12th Street Construction	11
Good Neighbor Stories.....	06	Meet Mario	12
Rembering Lyle Novinski	08		

SILVER LINE CELEBRATES OPENING OF *Josey Lane Bridge*



A DGNO train rides the tracks on the newly opened Josey Lane Bridge, which opened for freight service the first weekend in November.

The Silver Line is DART's newest expansion in commuter rail, connecting DFW Airport to Plano across 26 miles with 10 stations in seven cities. The project, which is expected to be ready for revenue service in late 2025 or mid 2026, is about 50% complete and recently celebrated a milestone with the opening of the Josey Lane Bridge for freight rail usage in Carrollton the first weekend in November.

Freight operations were shifted from the at-grade crossing to the bridge, signaling the beginning of the second phase of construction. Silver Line crews can now remove the at-grade crossing and build the companion bridge for the second track in Carrollton.

The Silver Line corridor shares operations with four freight rail operators and is being constructed to support existing freight operations and expanded commuter service. Much of the former Cotton Belt Regional Rail Corridor is being utilized, with DART expanding the alignment from single track to a double-track configuration in phases to ensure a safe and seamless operation of freight and commuter passengers.

To accomplish this task, construction followed the phasing listed below:

1. Freight operations continued to use the legacy track while Silver Line crews built a new second track.
2. Freight operations are shifted to the new track, while Silver Line crews demo the legacy track and rebuild an improved version.

Opening of the Josey Lane Bridge is the completion of this portion of the project's first phase. The bridge, which was constructed to separate rail operations from existing traffic on Josey Lane, will also receive aesthetic improvements with input from the City of Carrollton.

In the Addison and Carrollton portions of the Silver Line corridor, DART shares alignment with freight operator DGNO (Dallas, Garland & Northeastern Railroad). Similar phased operations will occur in Grapevine and Coppell with freight operator Fort Worth & Western.

SILVER LINE BENEFITS

- Improved & increased mobility
- Linkages to major employment, population & activity centers
- Creation of sustainable growth
- Local & regional land-use visions
- Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) and additional housing near transit
- 210,000 jobs within 1/2 mile of the Silver Line corridor
- Improved access to surrounding cities and DFW International Airport
- Public access to more activities, festivals, concerts, fairs, and sporting events
- Office space, multi-family, retail growth & development
- Accessibility for students at University of Texas at Dallas (UTD); help increase student population
- Increased business for conventions & hotels
- Regional access and connectivity to hike & bike trail



FREQUENTLY ASKED Questions

Q: Where is the Silver Line Project located?

A: The Silver Line will traverse 26 miles across seven cities (Grapevine, Coppell, Dallas, Carrollton, Addison, Richardson, Plano) between DFW Airport and Shiloh Road in Plano. The regional rail alignment crosses three counties (Collin, Dallas, Tarrant) and will help alleviate travel congestion for the growing DFW area.

Q: When will the DART Silver Line Project go into revenue service?

A: The DART Silver Line will go into revenue service in late 2025 to mid 2026. The testing phase of the project is anticipated to begin in late 2024 to early 2025.

Q: Who is responsible for the cost and construction of the Cotton Belt Regional Trail?

A: The Cotton Belt Regional Trail is a part of the North Central Texas Council of Governments' (NCTCOG) Mobility 2045 Regional Veloweb Trail network. NCTCOG is responsible for the cost and construction of the trail.

Q: Are trees still being removed for the Silver Line project? When the Cotton Belt Regional Trail is constructed, will more trees be removed?

A: Trees within the DART right-of-way that required removal due to the design and construction of the Silver Line have already been removed. Existing trees within the DART right-of-way in the trail alignment are anticipated to be removed in certain locations of the trail construction. Trees located outside the DART right-of-way will remain; however, any root systems extending into the right-of-way may be impacted during overall construction.

Q: How long will it take to get from the East terminus to DFW Airport once the trains are operational? And will there be non-stop service available?

A: The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) estimated travel time from the east terminus at the Shiloh Road Station in Plano to DFW Airport is 58 minutes. As final design progresses, the operating plan will be refined, and the anticipated travel time will be updated. There is no non-stop service from Plano to DFW Airport at this time as the Silver Line train will make a stop at each station.

Q: What is the maximum speed the DART Silver Line will operate at in North Dallas?

A: Maximum operating train speed in North Dallas will be 45 mph.

Q: Will Coit Road in North Dallas have any full shutdowns during construction?

A: No, Coit Road will remain open with two lanes available in each direction throughout the construction of the Silver Line Project.

Q: Is the Silver Line Project a single-track or double-track rail? I am only seeing a single track from Addison to Carrollton.

A: The project is a double-track rail; however, there is a small portion of the line where it will be a single track in Plano.

Q: Will Hillcrest Road in North Dallas close for a year?

A: Yes, in mid-January 2024, Hillcrest Road will close for 1-year (52-weeks) between McCallum Boulevard and Wester Way to construct the Silver Line grade separation.

Q: How many Silver Line trains are expected per day?

A: DART continues to work on a planned schedule with multiple trains running per day. The baseline schedule includes two trains per hour in each direction between 6-9 am (morning peak hours), two trains per hour in each direction between 3-6 pm (evening peak hours), and a single train per hour in each direction the remainder of the day (times outside of peak hours). The DART Board has not yet established the final operating plan, so this schedule is subject to change.

Q: Will the Silver Line trains blow their horns when passing throughout the corridor?

A: All Silver Line crossings in residential areas are deemed to be in quiet zones. Establishing quiet zones required cooperative action among the municipalities along the corridor, the Federal Rail Administration (FRA), the freight railroads and DART. During the testing phase, train horns will be used by operators in the quiet zones. However, during revenue service, train horns will only be used in quiet zones where there is an emergency or work being completed along the tracks.

Q: How many stations will this line include and where are they located?

A: The DART Silver Line Project will feature 10 new stations – two in Dallas, Grapevine, Plano and Richardson as well as one in Carrollton and Addison. The stations are located at:

Shiloh Road Station

1101 Shiloh Road
Plano, TX 75074

12th Street Station

1180 12th Street
Plano, TX 75074

CityLine/Bush Station

1300 E President George Bush Hwy.
Richardson, TX 75082

UT Dallas Station

3416 Waterview Parkway
Richardson, TX 75080

Knoll Trail Station

15292 Knoll Trail Drive
Dallas, Texas 75248

Addison Station

4925 Arapaho Road
Addison, Texas 75001

Downtown Carrollton Station

1205 North Denton Drive
Carrollton, Texas 75006

Cypress Waters Station

445 E. Belt Line Road
Dallas, Texas 75019

DFW North Station

1867 Dallas Road
Grapevine, Texas 76051

DFW International Airport Station Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport - Terminal B

1601 E. Dallas Road
Grapevine, TX 76051



Photo credit: DART Daily

Oktoberfest

The Addison Oktoberfest was a huge success. Silver Line team members hosted a booth at the event and about 100 people stopped by to get information on the Silver Line and receive fun goodies. Most of the visitors were familiar with DART and were excited about the commuter rail project coming to Addison.



DART Police interacting with local students.

School's Back!

School is back in session! This means that students will be around and near DART rail lines and active construction sites more regularly. To make sure that parents and students received rail safety information, the Silver Line team attended Meet the Teacher Night at several local schools. The team had a table that parents and students were able to visit and get Silver Line information and a goody bag. The bags included rail safety material, Silver Line swag, DART coloring books, and information on DART's other programs. If you would like the Silver Line team to come out to your school, email SilverLine@DART.org for more information.



DART encouraged festival attendees at Addison's Harvest HeyDay Festival in October to write birthday messages near its booth celebrating the transit agency's 40th anniversary.

Forty Proud. Forty Forward.

In celebration of 40 years, DART is holding block parties in each service city. Find a free block party near you and learn more at <https://www.dart.org/40th>.



More than 200 residents of the Highland Springs Senior Living Community attend update on Silver Line.

Pastries and Highland Springs

DART visited the Highland Springs Senior Living Community in September to provide an update on the status of the construction of the Silver Line and the Cotton Belt Regional Trail with pastries in hand. With construction ramping up, the team was able to answer questions and concerns regarding construction on roads and near their property. The Highland Springs residents will have two access points to the Cotton Belt Trail from their property and are eager to be able to use it for daily exercise and there were approximately 250 residents in attendance.



Residents view artwork that highlights the historic Douglass Community that will be featured at the future 12th Street Station.

Jazz Under the Starz

DART Silver Line co-sponsored "Jazz Under the Starz" with the Douglass Visions Committee in Plano. This event celebrated art, culture, and community with a live jazz performance by The Michael Walker Project. DART shared a display of the windscreens that will be located at the 12th Street Aerial Station. This station will be at the entrance to the Douglass Community and provide a new connection to public transit for the neighborhood.



Carrollton residents check out the DART Silver Line Lego Train Display at an ice cream social in downtown Carrollton.

I Scream for Ice Cream!

DART and AWH (Archer Western Herzog) traveled to Coppell, Addison, Carrollton, Plano and Richardson bringing along ice cream and the DART Lego train. They were there for community members to have easy access to the construction team and be able to ask all of their construction related questions while enjoying a sweet treat. Thank you to everyone that came out to eat ice cream with the team and made the events such a success!



Trunk-or-treater spinning the DART wheel of treats.

Trunk-or-Treat!

The DART Silver Line team was at Campbell Green Recreation Center's (North Dallas) and (Carrollton) Creekview High School's Trunk-or-Treat events. Participants spun the wheel to win Silver Line and DART swag. Parents and families learned more about upcoming closures and the ongoing project construction.



City of Carrollton residents and visitors enjoying the Switchyard Festival 2023

Carrollton's Switchyard Festival

Carrollton's place on a Texas map is because of its connection to trains and rail. Carrollton's Switchyard Festival is a celebration of this history and an opportunity to honor the critical role the railroad played in making Carrollton what it is today. The event is held in downtown Carrollton and includes live music, food vendors, and merchants that set up booths where festival goers can stop and shop or ask questions to booth operators. At this November's Switchyard Festival, DART set up a booth celebrating the construction of the Silver Line and DART's 40th anniversary. Those walking downtown stopped to ask questions regarding Silver Line and other DART programs while enjoying the music and fun treats. Thank you to the City of Carrollton for such an amazing event!

REMEMBERING LYLE NOVINSKI

June 23, 1932 – April 28, 2023

Novinski's work will live on through DART rail projects

DART was excited to work with local artist Lyle Novinski once again on the new 12th Street Station that is planned as part of the Silver Line project. The station is scheduled to open in late 2025 to mid 2026 with the beginning of revenue service on the Silver Line.

Novinski's artwork and design will be prominently featured at the station, but the artist won't be there himself. He passed away in April at the age of 91. His son, David, is working to complete his father's final project to share with the community.

The 12th Street Station will focus on the legacy of the Douglass Community – one of the oldest, established African-American communities in Texas – and its impact on the City of Plano. Situated a few blocks from downtown Plano, Novinski's work will feature images of Douglass pioneers on windscreens and tell the story of the community's rise in the area through other artistic concepts and design elements.

Novinski is no stranger to interpreting a community's story and sharing it with the public. He was commissioned by DART to develop the station art and design for light rail stations at the nearby Downtown Plano Station on the Red Line in 2001 and the University of Dallas Station on the Orange Line in 2008.

The art and designs Novinski created always sought to take advantage of the context in which he was working. Informed by his vast knowledge of art history, Novinski would amplify

the character of an area by carefully selecting from its already existing design details. Through skillful embellishment, he created new spaces that seamlessly echoed their surroundings.

The design on the Red Line Station features ornamental brickwork and stylized ironwork that ties in the 19th century architecture found in downtown Plano's historic business district. The design on the Orange Line station highlights a "zipper brick" detail found on campus buildings tied into the design of the station and used art installations created by both Lyle and David to represent the four natural elements, tying the university to the native landscape on which it was built.

A Dallas resident since 1960, Novinski served as a professor and chair of the Art Department for decades at the University of Dallas. He was a prize-winning painter and sought-after designer whose work outside of DART projects include spaces at Cistercian Prep School in Irving and the Neuhooff Catholic Student Center Chapel at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

DART will look to honor the Novinski family for their commitment to sharing art in public spaces at the 12th Street Station once the Silver Line project is complete.

For the latest in construction updates and traffic information visit dart.org/silverline.

See more of the artist's work at novinskistudio.com.

40 YEARS IN, DART IS STILL Making Connections

Since its inception in 1983, DART has been doing more than just helping people get from Point A to Point B. From its promotion of fine arts through its Student Art Contest to its helping those less fortunate through its Stuff A Bus program that provides gifts to disadvantaged families during the holidays, DART views transit as a way of connecting people.

A transit agency's primary purpose is to provide ways to get passengers to their jobs, schools, appointments, and errands. DART has routinely found ways to do just that and expand its offerings, so more people have those ways to connect to the places they need to be and unite with the people they want to see.

DART launched Express Bus Service, connecting residents in multiple service-area cities to downtown Dallas in 1984. Two years later, in 1986, it expanded paratransit bus service to the entire service area, providing residents with disabilities a way to mobilize.

A decade later, in 1996, DART began setting the groundwork for a burgeoning rail system by connecting downtown Dallas to Irving through the Trinity Railway Express (TRE) commuter rail. The TRE would eventually connect to downtown Fort Worth. That same year, DART also launched its 20-mile Light Rail Transit (LRT) service with the Red Line starter system in Dallas.

The LRT system became a hit for commuters and the communities as it sparked an interest in transit-oriented development (TOD) in 2000 and 2001 with the opening of the Cedars and Mockingbird Stations in Dallas. Both would lead to adjacent high-profile TOD projects with the construction of the Mockingbird Station retail and residential project and the South Side on Lamar apartments.

DART expanded LRT service to Carrollton with the opening of the Green Line in 2009 and further into North Dallas with the opening of the Lake Highlands Station on the Blue Line in 2010. Two years later, in 2012, the Orange Line opened, connecting downtown Dallas to the growing business center in Irving and eventually DFW International Airport.

Fast forward another decade to today and DART has completed almost 50% of the Silver Line commuter rail and recently completed retrofitting its entire bus fleet with upgraded vinyl seating. Add in the payment and scheduling flexibility offered by the GoPass app and GoLink, the largest operating micro transit system in the United States, and you have plenty of reasons to celebrate DART's 40th Anniversary!

Want to find out more ways DART is connecting people? Visit dart.org.



DART is Turning 40 DART cumple 40 años

Come join the fun and celebrate at our block parties!
¡Únase a la diversión y celebre en nuestra fiesta de la comunidad!

Visit us online to join your local celebration!

DART.org/40th



HILLCREST ROAD CLOSURES COMING SOON

The North Dallas area will see the closure of a small stretch of one of its main thoroughfare roads in January of 2024. As DART continues to make progress on the Silver Line Regional Rail, construction on a major portion of the rail pathway calls for a 52-week closure of Hillcrest Road.

Hillcrest Road will be closed for a small stretch (approximately one-fifth of a mile) between McCallum Boulevard and Wester Way. The closure will have a direct impact on the areas between Campbell Road to the north and Frankford Road to the south.

The closure allows construction crews to focus on the installation of beams to support the rail so the Silver Line trains can run above traffic. The area is narrow and heavily populated, making the closure necessary to maximize safety and productivity. Once complete, motorists will travel underneath the rail and a pump station will be in place to avoid flooding during heavy rain.

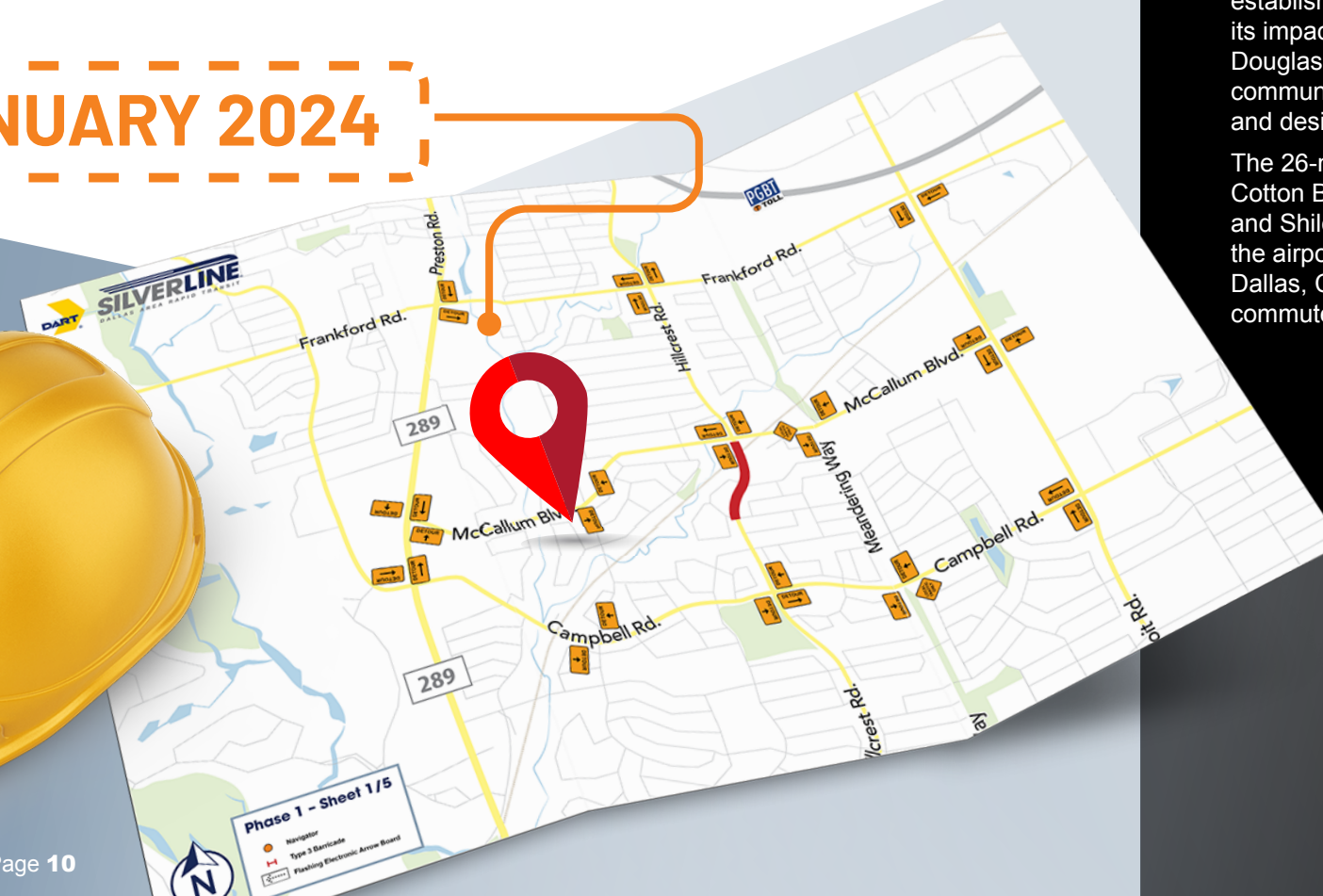
DART focused its communication efforts on informing the nearby residents impacted by the construction and the many schools, churches and local businesses in the area through community meetings, construction notification letters and postcards while also sharing information online through its website and social media channels. The agency worked closely with the City of Dallas to have as minimal of an impact on traffic flow as possible in the area.

By working closely with Plano Independent School District transportation, DART ensured minimal impact to school bus transportation. Plano ISD adjusted its bus routes away from the area for the upcoming school year, while communication with neighboring Richardson ISD further advanced rail safety. Additionally, local private schools and early education centers informed parents, teachers and students of detours around Hillcrest Road and the dangers of active construction zones.

The detours going southbound on Hillcrest Road include turning east (left) on McCallum and turning south (right) on Meandering Way to access Campbell Road or turning west (right) on MacCallum to access FM 289/Preston Road for north or south access.

The detours going northbound on Hillcrest Road include turning east (right) onto Campbell Road to gain access to Meandering Way or Coit Road for continued north travel. Those wishing to continue north or access the neighborhoods, schools or businesses on Hillcrest Road can turn west (left) to access FM 289/Preston Road and turn north (right) to continue northbound travel or turn east (right) on McCallum Boulevard to regain access to Hillcrest Road heading north toward Frankford Road. For the latest in construction updates and traffic information visit dart.org/silverline.

JANUARY 2024



12TH STREET CONSTRUCTION

Construction of the DART Silver Line project's newest station in Plano – the 12th Street Station – is coming along nicely, with additional work coming in 2024.

The DART 12th Street Station will provide easy transfer opportunities between the Red and Orange Lines on the light rail transit (LRT) system and the future DART Silver Line, providing greater access in one convenient stop. Combined, the two stations will include 313 parking places, five DART bus bays, and easy access to the future Cotton Belt Regional Trail.

Non-DART branded shuttle buses operated by a third-party bus company will provide service between CityLine/Bush Station, Downtown Plano Station, and Parker Road Station for passengers. Future passengers will catch the charter buses at the red "Rail Disruption" bus stop signs located near each station to board a shuttle bus. DART personnel will be stationed on the platforms to provide directions and assistance.

Once the platform slab is secured, crews will begin work on installing the canopies for the new LRT station. DART oversaw the setting of beams and the formation of the diaphragm to support those beams earlier this fall, providing the public a first-hand look at what the aerial station will look like.

The 12th Street Station's art and design will focus on the legacy of the Douglass Community – one of the oldest, established African-American communities in Texas – and its impact on the area. The station will showcase images of Douglass pioneers on windscreens and tell the story of the community's rise in Plano through other artistic concepts and design elements.

The 26-mile DART Silver Line, operating on the historic Cotton Belt Corridor, extends between DFW Airport and Shiloh Road in Plano, traversing seven cities from the airport to the east including Grapevine, Coppell, Dallas, Carrollton, Addison, Richardson, and Plano. The commuter rail will include 10 stations along the alignment.

The primary purpose of the Silver Line is to provide passenger rail connections and service that will improve mobility, accessibility and system linkages to major employment, population, and activity centers in the northern part of the DART service area. Each of the cities will also share a portion of the planned Cotton Belt Hike and Bike Trail, which is being built alongside the Silver Line and funded by the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) in phases.

When completed, the Silver Line will connect with the Trinity Metro TEXRail commuter rail line at DFW North station, providing access to downtown Fort Worth and various other Tarrant County locales. The Silver Line will also provide access to the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) A-train commuter rail line connecting to Denton County locations; DART's Green Line, connecting to Dallas Love Field and Downtown Dallas via Downtown Carrollton Station; and DART's Red and Orange Lines at CityLine/Bush Station, giving riders easy access to downtown Plano and the eastern side of the DART transit network.

For the latest in construction updates and traffic information visit dart.org/silverline.



MEET MARIO

Mario Zavala serves as the Project Communications Manager for DART. He oversees communication efforts for all current and future DART projects under development, including the Silver Line Regional Rail project. Mario brings over a decade of experience in public engagement, marketing and communications, having served in leadership roles with the Denton Independent School District and CoServ, the third-largest electric co-operative in the country.

He is a former journalist, having worked with the Dallas Morning News, Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Fox Sports among many media outlets. Prior to joining DART, Mario worked in corporate public relations handling several high-profile restaurant and hospitality clients. A graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, he holds a bachelor's degree in journalism and is a longtime DFW resident.



Q: What have you learned about the project since joining the team?

A: The scope and impact of this project on the Dallas Fort Worth (DFW) area is immense. The work that DART and our partner cities have done to not just get this project going, but to have it thrive with increased ridership and planned transit-oriented development is amazing. And just seeing the development that UT-Dallas has in the works around the Silver Line, it's a game changer for them and the City of Richardson.

Q: Knowing what you do now, what are you most looking forward to when the Silver Line is in revenue service?

A: This one is easy – riding the train into DFW Airport! The commute time from East Plano to DFW International Airport during rush hour in the morning and afternoon is well over an hour, so being able to provide a service that cuts that travel time under 60 minutes will be awesome.

Q: What are the big milestones you are looking to hit?

A: Outside of getting into revenue service and having riders taking the Silver Line to the airport, work and across DFW, the two biggest milestones I'm looking forward to are seeing the trains running on the track and people use the adjacent Cotton Belt Regional Hike and Bike Trail. Being able to test the trains as segments of the project are completed later next year will be the "a ha" moment for so many people who have worked and watched this project from the beginning. Once the cities connect all the segments of the trail together, it's going to be incredible to be able to basically run a marathon from Plano to Grapevine.

 @DARTDallas

 @DARTmedia

 DART
(Dallas Area Rapid Transit)

 @DARTdaily



let's get
social

Follow DART on social media to keep up-to-date with the latest news, highlights, project updates, existing events and breaking news. Get connected by following us today!