CAC SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
May 4, 2023
Six-week community dialogue allows time and space for gathering meaningful and informed feedback

More than 80 community engagement events since March 21:
- 532 participants attended the ATP Light Rail Open House
- 161 participants joined the ATP Virtual Community Update Meeting

Currently analyzing comments for continued planning and technical team discussions:
- 5,951 total comments received*
WHERE WE HAVE BEEN
WHAT ARE WE HEARING

- Support for ATP to build light rail as soon as possible
- Questions about length and value of underground segment
- Desire to reach farther north and south
- Questions about timeline and budget
- Questions about elevated options downtown
- How light rail connects with other modes of transportation
- Mixed feedback about reaching airport
- Questions about traffic operations and impacts, and reliability of options downtown
Austin Light Rail Implementation Discussion Topics:

1. Crestview/Redline Crossing
2. Grade Separation
3. Connection to the Airport
4. Maintenance Facility
5. State Right of Way
Constraint

Freight cannot cross Light Rail at the same level

Current Condition

Light Rail: ELEVATED
Red Line & Freight: AT-GRADE (No Change)
**Constraint**

Freight cannot cross Light Rail at the same level

**Opportunity**

Light Rail: AT-GRADE

Red Line & Freight: BELOW-GRADE*

*construction not yet funded
Bird's-Eye View of N Lamar Blvd & Airport Blvd facing Northwest

Orange Line Elevated Crestview Station

MetroRail Red Line

Justin Ln
N Lamar Blvd
Crescent Shopping Center
Airport Blvd
Red Line Parkway Trail

For illustration purposes only. Final design subject to change.
Bird's-Eye View of N Lamar Blvd & Airport Blvd facing Northwest
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Austin Light Rail Implementation Discussion Topics:

1. Crestview/Redline Crossing
2. Grade Separation
3. Connection to the Airport
4. Maintenance Facility
5. State Right of Way
To ensure that any future maintenance facility created as a part of Austin Light Rail does not have a disparate impact on the surrounding community, consider the following:

• Environmental Review and Transparency
  • Ensure that environmental review documentation is shared with the public in a transparent and timely fashion.
  • Public engagement efforts as a part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process must follow the Community Engagement and Inclusion Commitments included in the Joint Powers Agreement.
  • Assess and consider impacts from an environmental justice perspective.
  • As appropriate, include the CAC in this process.
MAINTENANCE FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

• Ongoing Environmental Evaluation and Transparency
  • Throughout the lifetime of the facility, periodically track any potential air quality and noise impacts.
  • Ensure that any data from tracking is shared periodically with the Community Advisory Committee in a meeting open to the public.
  • Share any data from tracking on an easily accessible webpage for the public to review.
MAINTENANCE FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

• Facility Design and Environmental Sustainability
  • Engage with the surrounding community and the Community Advisory Committee in the design of the facility.
  • Minimize impacts on any adjacent residential uses, including any site utilized for providing shelter to unhoused neighbors.
  • If there is to be any fuel storage, ensure that there is no underground fuel storage.
  • Ensure that there is proper on-site stormwater mitigation.
  • If possible, allow direct pedestrian access to the facility from the surrounding neighborhood, to allow workers and community members to access the site easily.
  • If a sound wall or other solid barrier is built, consider working with the community on a public arts project similar to that for the former Holly Power Plant.

• Utilize green building techniques and advanced environmental standards.
• Preserve or relocate as many heritage trees on the site as possible.
MAINTENANCE FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

• Noise and Light Mitigation
  • Utilize a landscaped buffer and setbacks from residential uses.
  • Where necessary, create a sound wall or other solid barrier.
  • Utilize shielded and directional light fixtures.
  • Locate any potential noisy activities on the site further away from residential uses and enclose in a structure, where possible.
  • If necessary, provide adjoining residential property owners the opportunity to soundproof openings in the direction of the facility, this includes both owner and renter-occupied properties.
  • Ensure that there is minimized idling of non-light rail vehicles on the site.
MAINTENANCE FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

• Community Benefits
  • Explore the potential for education and workforce partnerships with local school districts and community college to create work opportunities for local residents during the construction and operation phases.
  • Within the constraints of federal guidelines, create a space accessible to the community for hosting meetings and other activities.
  • Explore the ability to provide walking paths on the periphery of the facility.
  • Proactively work to ensure the participation of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in the project, with an aim to support business of all types.
  • Explore opportunities to incorporate public art programs, such as those at the former Holly Power Plant site.
THANK YOU!