Public Engagement Update

Board Workshop
March 28, 2019
Disclaimer

This presentation is being provided solely for discussion purposes by the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Texas (METRO) during a workshop session on March 28, 2019. It includes draft alternative transit plans, which utilize a range of modes of transportation based on different funding scenarios, including a draft long-term plan that provides a vision of future transit in the service area assuming unconstrained financial resources. The draft plans are based on various financial estimates, economic forecasts and other assumptions, which are subject to change. As a result, the final proposed plan could differ materially. Additionally, any proposed plan or project conducted by METRO is subject to certain approvals and authorization, including approval by the METRO Board of Directors.

METRO makes no claim, promise or guarantee of any kind, including with respect to the feasibility or future implementation of any proposed plans or projects discussed herein.
Project Milestones

January 2017
Set Overall Direction

2017
FRAME

Public Input

2018
ENGAGE

System Planning

2019
PLAN

Public Input & Public Education

SHARE
We Are Here

July 2019
DELIVER
SHARE

Phase 2 Public Engagement
## Public Engagement

**January 2019 – present**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>21 Public Meetings</th>
<th>Over 200 Community and Business Meetings</th>
<th>35 METRO Staff Speaking Engagements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

![Image of public engagement meetings and presentations]
Public and Media Engagement
January 2019 – present

<table>
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<tr>
<th>25 Community Festivals and Events</th>
<th>60 Transportation Fairs and Functions</th>
<th>76 Media Hits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>42 Social Media Posts</td>
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- 25 Community Festivals and Events
- 60 Transportation Fairs and Functions
- 76 Media Hits
  - 42 Social Media Posts
  - 108,000 Social Media Impressions
  - 34,000 New Website Visitors
Elected Official Engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>14 Houston City Council Members</th>
<th>10 Multi-City Mayors and City Administrators</th>
<th>Harris County Judge and 1 County Commissioner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 State Representatives</td>
<td>2 Multi-City Councils</td>
<td>2 Members of Congress</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Generally positive feedback
Some specific ideas:

- Invest in elevated rail wherever possible for safer and faster service
- More investment in light rail
- Light rail to Bush Intercontinental Airport (possible alternate routes)
- One light rail line to Hobby Airport
- Light rail to Hobby Airport should not travel on Broadway Street
- Reduce the number of stops on BRT and light rail lines for faster service
- Additional Community Connectors (Ft. Bend area, Hardy/Tidwell area, East End)
- Transit option to Memorial Park
- In lieu of BRT, Signature Bus routes on University and Gessner Corridors
- Continue General Mobility Program
- New and improved bus stops and shelters

Dialogue with elected officials ongoing
Phase 2 Public Engagement – A Snapshot
Phase 2 Public Engagement Comments

December 2018 through February 2019:
875 individuals commented
  396 from public meetings/ events
  469 from www.METRONext.org
  and from other media

1,600 comments
34,000 new website visitors
Phase 2 Public Engagement

Key Themes

- Moving Forward Plan, 67%
- Customer Experience, 15%
- Vision Plan/Regional Investments, 10%
- General comments and questions, 8%
Customer Experience
What we heard

- Improve first/last mile connections
- Ensure Universal Accessibility
- Reduce or enforce fares
- Install Wi-Fi
- Improve stop and station amenities
- Increase security
- Provide multi-lingual passenger information
Vision Plan/Regional Investments

What we heard

- Build more rail to suburban locations and beyond
- Invest in high-capacity transit service beyond the service area
- Build high-speed rail
- Locations
  - Pearland
  - Galveston
  - Others
General comments & questions

- Is the expense of LRT justified?
- Consider partnership opportunities in advance (including public-private partnerships)
- What is BOOST?
- Better naming to distinguish BRT vs. BOOST
- How will you prioritize?
- Consider free rides
Moving Forward Plan
What we heard
Moving Forward Plan
Regional Express Network

- Spring/Klein/Tomball: Park & Ride, Local service
- Expand system and connect non-CBD activity centers
- Improve speed and reliability via two-way HOV
- Extend span of service
- Improve midday and evening frequency
- Offer weekend service
Moving Forward Plan
High Capacity Transit – by mode
Moving Forward Plan
High Capacity Transit – by corridor

Compartments

- Hobby Airport
- IAH Airport
- University
- Inner Katy
- Westheimer
- US 90A/Sugar Land
- Gessner
- N Shepherd
- Courthouse
- Full Plan
- Other
Moving Forward Plan
High Capacity Transit – by corridor

- Hobby Airport
- IAH Airport
- University
- Inner Katy
- Westheimer

Legend:
- Oppose
- One Line or BRT
- Change
- Support
- More Investment
Moving Forward Plan
Service Enhancements

- Increase frequency
- Improve speed and reliability
- Extend span including late night
- Expand coverage in Northeast
- Provide local connections to Park & Rides
- Implement Community Connectors
Milestones

- March 2019: Snapshot of comments
- April 2019: Summary to Board
- May 2019: Revise draft plan & present to Board
- June 2019: Final public comment period
- July 2019: Board adoption of final plan