

DATE: January 18, 2012

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council

FROM: DART Representative Loretta Ellerbe

RE: DART Update

Bus route 210 changes are proposals only. Ridership on that route have already decreased and based on their best estimate DART expects ridership will decrease more when the Northwest Park/Ride is opened. More public hearings are scheduled and it will be late March before DART Board makes a final decision. I have been told that taking the 210 to Frankfort adds 6 minutes to the trip. I have suggested that they look at not having every bus on Route 210 go to Frankfort for a pickup.

Changes to our Paratransit service provider; hopefully in place by Oct. 1, 2012.

Ridership is down somewhat, but that is most likely caused by unemployment. On an average day now DART has:

90,000 boardings on the light rail  
140,000 on the bus (510 routes)  
8,000 on the TRE.

### **Northwest Plano Park and Ride Update**

- The Northwest Plano Park & Ride is located in the Legacy area of Plano between Communications Parkway and the access road for the Dallas North Toll Road.
- The Park & Ride facility will include 550 parking spaces and a small bus plaza including shelters, bike parking, "next bus" displays, and TVM machines. (seven bus routes)
- The facility, which is fully funded by RTR (tollroad) funds,
- The project was designed in 2011 and the construction contract was awarded by the DART Board late 2011.
- Construction is fully underway and the following tasks have been completed:
  - Permits have been obtained by the contractor from the City of Plano.
  - DART construction managers and inspectors as well as the contractor are onsite.
  - Utilities have been relocated.
  - Water and sanitary lines have been completed to the site.
  - Grading of the parking lot, bus bay area, and access roads has been completed.
  - The next steps will include "lime stabilization" of the parking lot, bus bay area, and access roads.
  - Following stabilization, the contractor will begin concrete form work and prepare the site for wiring, fiber, water lines.
  - All longer lead time supplies, like lighting and electrical equipment have been ordered.
  - DART's contractor is coordinating fully with the City of Plano's contractor who is extending Communication Parkway to the south.
- Substantial completion of facility is projected to be early June.
- The facility will be open to the public with new bus service on Monday, July 30, 2012.

## **Paid Parking Demonstration Project in Plano and Carrollton**

- The DART Board approved a non-resident paid parking demonstration at Parker Road and N. Carrollton-Frankford Stations in 2010.
- The parking fees approved by the DART Board following public hearing are as follows:
  - DART Service Area residents with a "resident sticker" will have free daily parking.
  - Daily non-resident parking is \$2.00.
  - Monthly non-resident parking is \$40.
  - Reserved Monthly parking \$30 for DART residents and \$60 for non-residents.
  - Non Resident Special Event Parking will be \$4.00 per day (Free for residents)
  - Non Resident Long Term Parking will be \$5.00 per 24 hour period (Free for residents)
- Platinum Parking was awarded the contract to implement paid parking including registration of residents for fee parking.
- The marketing and communication program will be in place by January 30, 2012.
- On-site registration of DART residents will begin in March at both Parker Rd and N. Carrollton-Frankford Stations
  - Residents will have to provide two forms of documentation of residency and will be issued a Resident Sticker for their vehicle.
- Paid Parking will begin on Monday, April 2, 2012.
- Platinum will install signage at entrances and exits of the parking lots in March.
- All parking spaces will be numbered. Non Residents will be able to pay at electronic parking machines or purchase a monthly hanging tag.
- The DART Board will make a final decision to expand the paid parking demonstration to N. W. Plano Park & Ride on January 24, 2012.
- If approved by the DART Board, the non-resident paid parking demonstration will be expanded at N. W. Plano Park & Ride on July 30, 2012.

## **Proposed 2012 Service Changes Impacting Plano**

- *Proposed Bus Service Changes for July 30, 2012 Impacting Plano*
  - **183 - (Revision)** extend hourly midday service from Addison Transit Center to new Northwest Plano Park & Ride at Tennyson Park & Communications.
  - **208 (New)** - would operate bidirectional express rush hour service between new Northwest Plano Park & Ride and Downtown Dallas.
  - **210 - (Revision) modify schedule to six morning trips and six afternoon trips serving Jack Hatchell Park & Ride ; add stop along Frankford between Preston and the Dallas North Tollway.**
  - **346 (New)** - Legacy area shuttle would operate from new Northwest Plano Park & Ride to Granite Park area; service would be 7 a.m.- 7 p.m. weekdays, 30 min. rush hours, 60 min. midday.
  - **347 - (Revision)** extend route from Presbyterian Hospital of Plano to new Northwest Plano Park and Ride.
  - **348 (New)** - Legacy area shuttle would operate from the new Northwest Plano Park & Ride to Legacy employers including Ericsson, Bank of America, Frito-Lay, Pizza Hut and JCPenney; service would be weekday, 15 min. rush hours, 60 min. middays.
  - **451 - (Revision)** extend route from Jack Hatchell Transit Center to new Northwest Plano Park and Ride, primarily along Park Blvd., Preston Road and Tennyson Parkway; non-rush hour frequency would change to 60 min.

- **452 - (Revision)** modify route to operate between Parker Road Station and new Northwest Plano Park and Ride, discontinue Sunday service; discontinued portions would be served by New Routes **346** and **348**, plus an extension of Route **451**.
- *Proposed Light Rail Changes impacting Plano*
  - Orange Line Service to Irving Convention Center will begin.
    - All peak hour Orange trips will also service Parker Road Station on the Red Line corridor. This will increase the hours of service in Plano with 7.5 minute frequency.
- *Proposed Changes on December 3, 2012*
  - Some Plano bus lower volume routes may begin much smaller "smart" buses. They will be low floor, and CNG powered, and approximately 26 feet in length instead of 40 ft.
  - Orange Line will be extended to Belt Line Station in Irving
  - DART will initiate Route 500 serving DFW Airport from Belt Line Station.
  - Blue Line Extension to Rowlett
- *Public Hearing Process for Services Change Proposals*
  - January 10, 2012 -- 6:30 pm at Plano Municipal Building --- (20+ person attended this meeting)
  - January 24, 2012-- 6:30 pm at DART Board Meeting
  - Final DART Board decision on any changes will occur in late March 2012.