

Conceptual Engineering for Commuter Rail within the Eureka Subdivision Corridor

November 22, 2010





Project Funding

Funding for this project was made possible by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Texas Department of Transportation and the Gulf Coast Rail District.



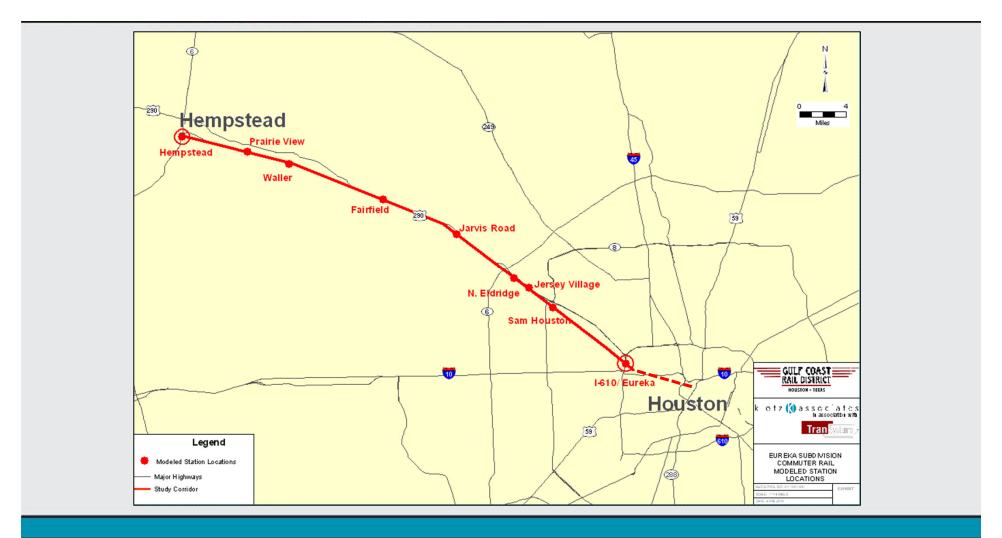


Project Overview

- Synthesize Previous Studies
- Corridor Model Update
- Current Train Operations Impacts
- Commuter Rail Implementation Requirements
 - Rail Facilities
 - Ancillary Facilities
 - Operations and Connectivity











Modeling Parameters

- Average Operating Speed 45mph
- Distance Based Fares \$6.00 max.
- Headways (20 Min Peak Hour / 30 Min Off-Peak)
- Wait Times Peak 4 min / Off-Peak 6 min
- Sufficient Train & Passenger Capacity Available
- METRO Solutions Phase II Fully Implemented
- Park & Ride Service Discontinued outside Beltway 8
- No other changes to LRT and connecting bus routes





Modeling Comparison

Assumption	METRO	HGAC Commuter Rail Connectivity Study	GCRD Eureka Commuter Rail Study
Number of Stations	4	8	10
Headways (Peak/Off Peak)	15/30	20/30	20/30
Speed (MPH/Avg)	59	45-50	45
Travel Time (minutes)	38*	84***	69***
Forecast (2019)	YR-2015		
Hempstead to Downtown	11,000-12,000*	N/A	N/A
Hempstead to IH 610	2,700-3,000**	N/A	2,640
Forecast (2035)	YR-2030		
Hempstead to Downtown	21,000-22,000*	6,904	18,816
Hempstead to IH 610	4,500-5,000**	N/A	6,353
* - Grand Parkway to Downtown ** - Grand Parkway to I	H610 *** - Hempstead to Downtown		







Commuter Rail Operations

- Train Sets
- Train Schedule
- Inter-City Passenger Rail

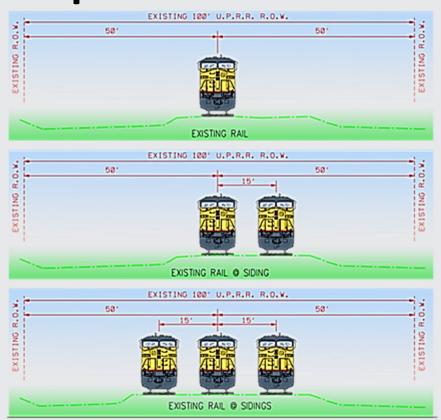






Freight Rail Operations

- Existing Operations
- Existing Facilities







Terminal Facilities

Northwest Mall

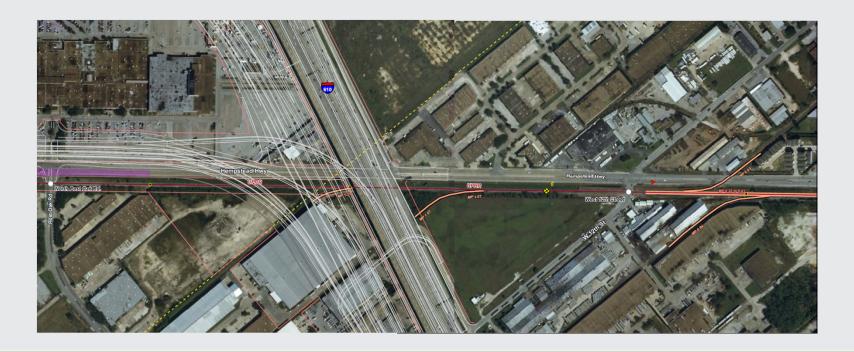






Terminal Facilities

• US 290 & IH 610







Terminal Facilities

• Interim Station







Interim Terminal Bus Needs (Peak)

- Downtown 8
- Texas Medical Center (TMC) 5
- Greenway Plaza 3
- Galleria / Uptown 2
- Total Peak Hour Busses 18





Feasible?

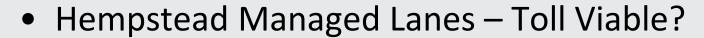
- Yes
- UPRR a Partner at the Table
- Track in Good Condition
- Willing Station Host Communities
- Ridership Validated
- CBD Access Needed





Status of the Corridor

- US 290 LOS Projections
- 2035 RTP Update –
 \$ 80B in projects dropped
- TxDOT Funding Uncertain
- US 290 Improvements Slowed



Non-Attainment / Air Quality Issues



