

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE August 5, 2016

TO The Honorable Members of the Transportation and Trinity River Project Committee:  
Lee M. Kleinman (Chair), Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Erik Wilson (Vice-Chair), Sandy Greyson,  
Mayor Pro Tem Monica R. Alonzo, Adam Medrano, and Casey Thomas II

SUBJECT Dallas To Houston High Speed Rail Project

On August 24, 2016 City Council will consider a Cooperation Agreement between the City of Dallas and Texas Central Holdings, LLC (Texas Central). Texas Central plans to design, construct and operate a private high-speed passenger rail line between the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area and the Houston Metropolitan Area. The purpose of this agreement is to facilitate expedited review of this major private infrastructure project through the necessary federal, state and local review processes, without any presumption of support by the City of Dallas at this stage. A draft of the Cooperation Agreement will be provided to the Council next week.

The Cooperation Agreement will provide a funding mechanism to enable Texas Central to cover the costs incurred by the City for expedited review and to provide external expertise to assist the City with creating an urban design and economic development vision for the area around the proposed Downtown Dallas high speed rail station. It will commit Texas Central to participate in City-hosted community awareness meetings regarding the proposed high speed rail project. It will also provide for the City and Texas Central to work towards defining a master agreement or additional agreements to be brought to City Council for consideration in the future, in order to address more detailed aspects of planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed high speed rail within the City of Dallas.

On August 24, 2016, City Council will also consider two additional related actions needed to enable expedited review of the high speed rail project through the Section 408 permit application process by which permission will be sought for the high speed rail project to be constructed and operated within the Trinity River Floodway. Funding for these two actions will be provided by Texas Central through the Cooperation Agreement:

1. A memorandum of agreement with the Department of the Army for expedited Section 408 review by the United States Army Corps of Engineers

2. A contract with HNTB Corporation to provide specialized consultant expertise to the City related to the Section 408 review process.

If you need to discuss this in more detail please contact me at (214) 670-1611, or Peer Chacko at (214) 670-3972.

Sincerely,



Alan E. Sims  
Chief of Neighborhood Plus

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager  
Christopher D. Bowers, Interim City Attorney  
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor  
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary  
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge  
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager

Eric D. Campbell, Assistant City Manager  
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager  
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer  
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer  
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council