

JANUARY 2026

Austin Light Rail Phase 1 Project Austin, Texas

Final Environmental Impact Statement/ Record of Decision and Final Section 4(f) Evaluation

Prepared by:

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration
and
Austin Transit Partnership

In cooperation with:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Texas Department of Transportation
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Pursuant to:

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. § 4321 *et seq.*), Federal Transit Law (49 U.S.C. Chapter 53), related statutes (23 U.S.C. § 139 and 49 U.S.C. § 303), and regulations (23 CFR Part 771 and 23 CFR Part 774)

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Abstract

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Austin Transit Partnership (ATP) prepared this combined Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)/Record of Decision (ROD) and Final Section 4(f) Evaluation for the Austin Light Rail Phase 1 Project (Project). FTA is the federal lead agency, and ATP is the local Project sponsor and joint lead agency.

The Project is a proposed 9.8-mile light rail transit branched line, including 15 stations, from points north, south, and east of Downtown Austin, as well as an operations and maintenance facility, maintenance of way shops, and associated light rail equipment storage functions. The FEIS/ROD has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act, Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and related requirements.

Per 23 United States Code § 139(n)(2), FTA developed this single document that consists of an FEIS and ROD. Therefore, there is no wait or review period with this action. The FEIS/ROD evaluates two alternatives: a No Build Alternative and the Preferred Alternative. The Preferred Alternative (the Project) includes five of the six Design Options analyzed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The FEIS/ROD evaluates the potential effects of the two alternatives on communities and the environment and identifies the measures that ATP would implement to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the adverse effects of the Project. In addition, the FEIS/ROD addresses agency and public comments received on the DEIS.