



**Austin Transit  
Partnership**

# Draft Environmental Impact Statement Public Engagement Summary

From January 10 – March 11, 2025

July 2025

## Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Purpose of this Report.....                      | 1  |
| Austin Light Rail Phase 1 Project Overview ..... | 2  |
| Engagement Process .....                         | 4  |
| Public Hearing Open House Meetings.....          | 7  |
| Community Briefings and Engagement.....          | 9  |
| DEIS Information Access Points .....             | 11 |
| Meeting Notifications.....                       | 11 |
| At-Stop Outreach .....                           | 13 |
| Comments Received .....                          | 15 |
| Design Options Comment Summary.....              | 16 |
| Sample Comment Forms .....                       | 18 |

## Tables

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Table 1. Outreach Event Details.....          | 10 |
| Table 2. Print and Online Advertisements..... | 12 |
| Table 3. Radio Advertisements.....            | 12 |
| Table 4. At-Stop Outreach Details .....       | 14 |
| Table 5. Comment Forms Received .....         | 15 |

## Figures

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Figure 1. Project Location Map .....                  | 3 |
| Figure 2. DEIS Engagement by the Numbers .....        | 4 |
| Figure 3. Map of Outreach and Engagement Events ..... | 6 |
| Figure 4. Public Hearing Open House Meetings .....    | 8 |

## Purpose of this Report

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Austin Transit Partnership (ATP) are preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Austin Light Rail Phase 1 Project, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This collaborative effort designates FTA as the lead federal agency and ATP as the local project sponsor, working together to secure federal funding through FTA's Capital Investment Grant New Starts program — a process that mandates NEPA compliance.

In January 2025, FTA and ATP published a Draft EIS (DEIS) that comprehensively evaluated potential environmental impacts across all alternatives and identified mitigation strategies to address anticipated concerns.

A 60-day public review and comment period on the DEIS was conducted from January 10 through March 11, 2025. The purpose of this report is to document the activities during this period, which included multiple avenues for community participation such as:

- **Community and public hearing meetings** hosted by ATP.
- **Board and Commission briefings** to inform local governmental bodies.
- **Tabling and at-stop outreach** at community destinations along the alignment.
- **Digital accessibility** through the online publication of the complete DEIS and availability of online comment forms.
- **Physical copies of the DEIS for public review** at multiple library and community center locations throughout the project area.

The comments received during this period are included in and responded to in the Final EIS (see Appendix L).

## Austin Light Rail Phase 1 Project Overview

In November 2020, Austin voters approved a referendum (“Prop A”) to provide a dedicated revenue stream to fund investments in Project Connect — a program of transit improvements that includes Austin Light Rail. ATP is the independent Local Government Corporation responsible for the overall implementation of the Project Connect program and the day-to-day implementation, planning, financing, execution, and oversight of Austin Light Rail.

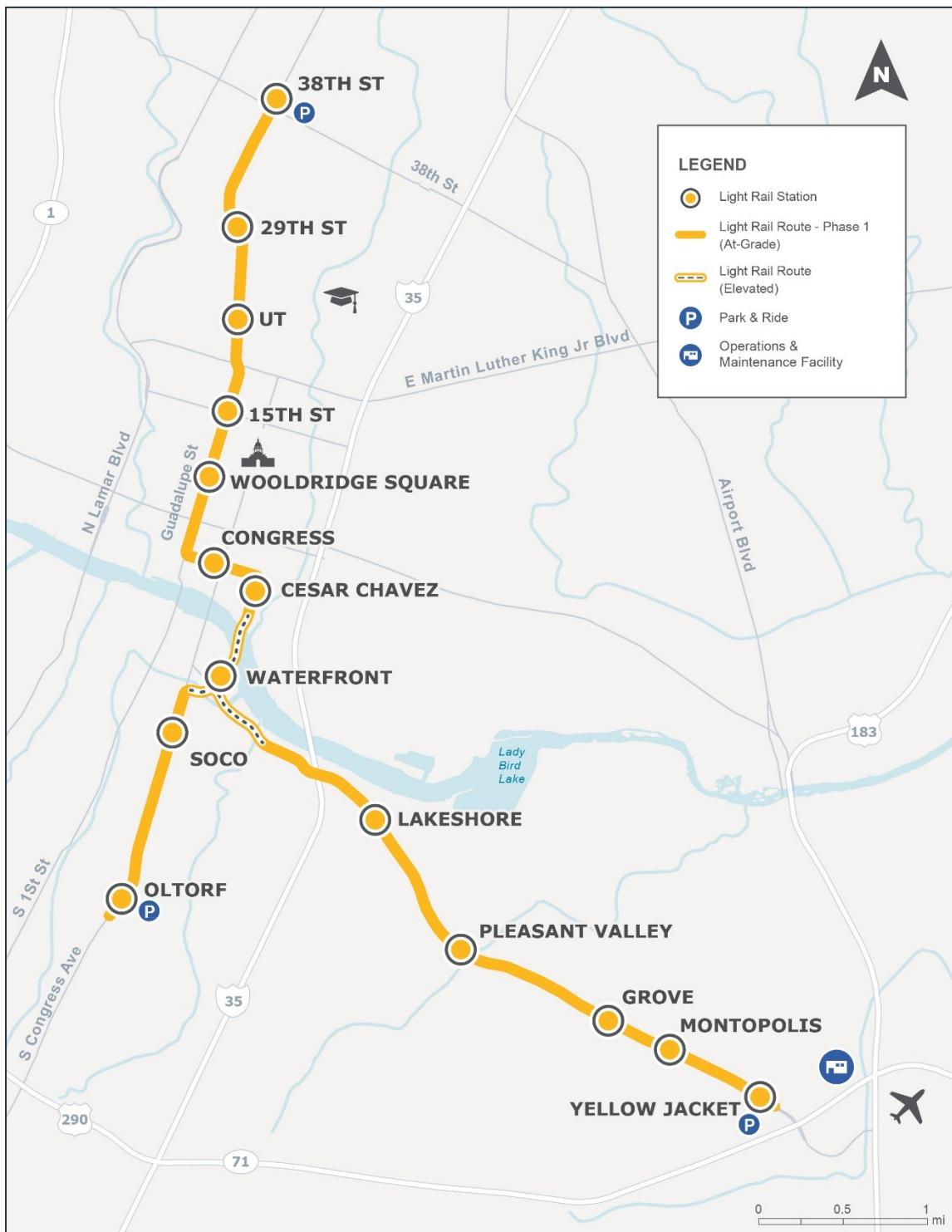
ATP, City of Austin, and CapMetro adopted the *Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan* in June 2023. The *Implementation Plan* recommended the first phase of light rail to be implemented as on-street light rail from 38th Street on Guadalupe Street to Oltorf Street on South Congress Avenue, and to Yellow Jacket Lane on East Riverside Drive, crossing Lady Bird Lake at Trinity Street, as shown in **Figure 1**.

The Austin Light Rail Phase 1 Project is a proposed 9.8-mile light rail line, that includes 15 stations from points north, south, and east of downtown Austin. The project also includes an operations and maintenance facility, maintenance of way shop, and associated light rail transit equipment storage functions.

Light rail is an electric train system used in metropolitan areas. It is part of the overall transit network, connecting the community to key destinations where they live, work, and play to improve mobility, connectivity, and affordability. Light rail will also support future transit network expansion, so it will continue to serve Austinites as the city grows. With the *Implementation Plan* in place, ATP is working to advance the project for federal grant funding and environmental clearance.

A vital component of the project involves continuous engagement with the community to gather feedback on the proposed design, routes, and potential impacts. This process verifies that the project aligns with the needs and wants of Austin residents and partners.

Figure 1. Project Location Map



## Engagement Process

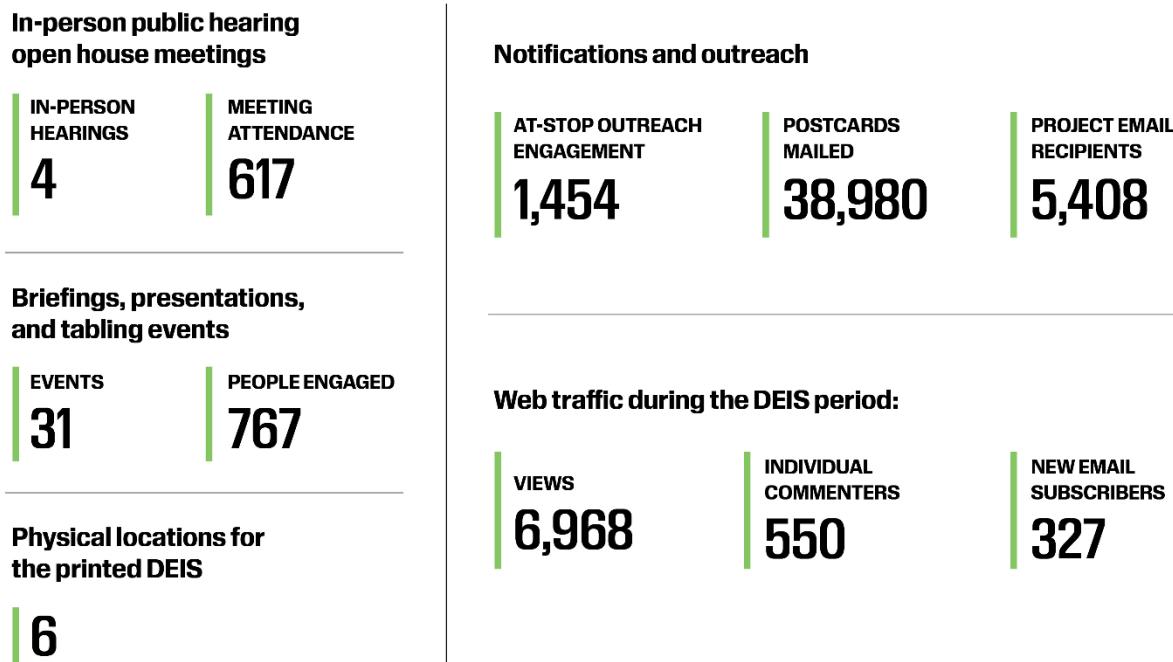
The alternatives development and analysis process for Austin Light Rail Phase 1 encompassed extensive community planning and engagement, as well as comprehensive planning and data-driven analysis. Throughout the public engagement process — from early feedback prior to the 2020 vote to scoping in 2024 to the DEIS engagement in 2025 — light rail has been identified as the most appropriate mode of transportation for Austin. Ongoing community input has helped shape the project's direction and confirms that it reflects the values and priorities of the people it serves.

The *Federal Register* notice published on January 10, 2025, launched the official 60-day public review and comment period for the DEIS, which concluded on March 11, 2025.

Each engagement opportunity provided the Austin community with a chance to ask questions about the draft findings, provide comments, and review conceptual design drawings included in the DEIS. An overview of the DEIS outreach and engagement activities can be found in **Figure 2**.

**Figure 2. DEIS Engagement by the Numbers**

### Methods of Engagement



During this period, primary engagement activities for the DEIS included:

#### Information Access

- Full DEIS document availability online for 24/7 public access.
- Physical copies placed at six strategically located community sites near the project corridor.
- Digital and print materials provided in English and Spanish.
- Digital materials were 508 compliant, with access to multiple web-based language translations.

#### Outreach and Notification

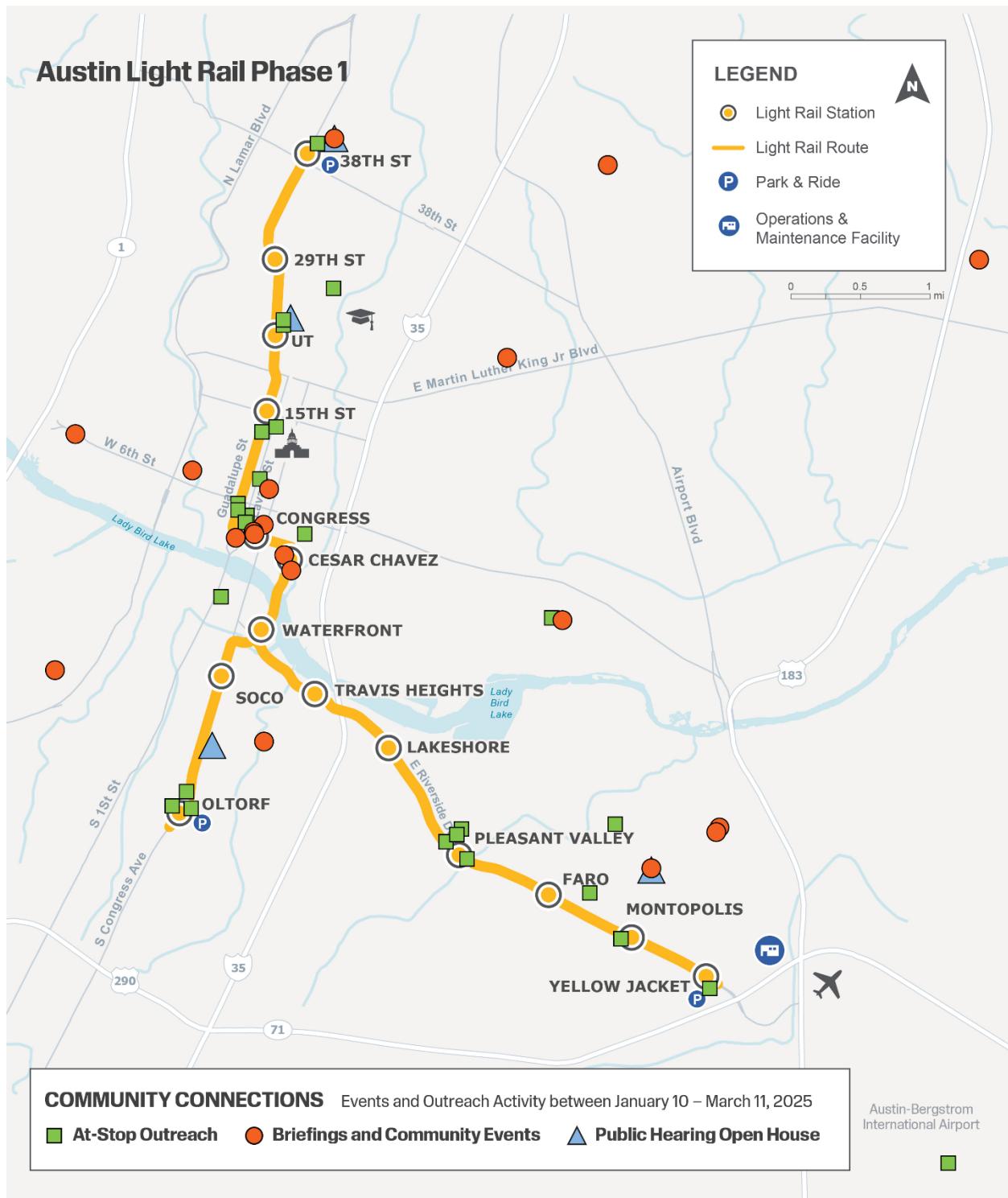
- Targeted newspaper and digital advertising campaigns.
- Regular email updates to subscriber lists.
- Active social media engagement and notifications.
- Postcard mailer to all addresses within about a half-mile of the Project corridor.
- Multi-language materials to ensure broad community access.

#### Direct Community Engagement

- Four in-person public hearing open house meetings across the project area.
- Interactive sessions allowing residents to review conceptual designs and ask technical questions.
- Structured opportunities for formal comment submission, including written comment forms, verbal testimony to court reporters, and online comment forms.
- Briefings and updates to City Boards and Commissions.
- Presentations and meetings with stakeholder organizations.

The DEIS Engagement map (**Figure 3**) shows the locations of outreach activity during the 60-day public review and comment period.

Figure 3. Map of Outreach and Engagement Events



## Public Hearing Open House Meetings

ATP hosted four in-person public hearings during the public review and comment period. These open house meetings provided opportunities for community members to provide oral or written comments on the DEIS. Public hearing materials included full copies of the DEIS, project maps, roll plots, design options, and environmental considerations. **Figure 4** summarizes the engagement at the ATP-hosted events.

Feedback was requested by way of two comment forms addressing design options and the environmental analysis. **Sample Comment Forms** are included for reference at the end of this document. These materials were also available online at [Draft Environmental Impact Statement – Public Feedback](#).

ATP promoted the meetings through multiple channels, including the project website, email notifications, social media, news releases, project briefings, newspaper advertisements and radio spots (**Table 2** and **Table 3**).

Figure 4. Public Hearing Open House Meetings

## Total Engagement at ATP-Hosted Events



\*Includes individual court reporter testimonies

## Engagement by Meeting Location

### Lively Middle School



Jan. 16, 2025 | 4:30p.m. - 7:30p.m.  
201 E. Mary St., Austin, TX 78704

### Baker Center



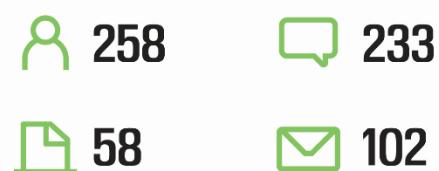
Jan. 22, 2025 | 4:30p.m. - 7:30p.m.  
3908 Avenue B, Suite 105, Austin, TX 78751

### Montopolis Recreation and Community Center



Jan. 25, 2025 | 2:30p.m. - 5:30p.m.  
1200 Montopolis Dr., Austin, TX 78741

### University of Texas Quadrangle Room



Jan. 28, 2025 | 1:00p.m. - 4:00p.m.  
2308 Whitis Ave., Austin, TX 78712

### Attendance

The public hearing open house meetings drew 617 attendees in total. Of these participants, 287 signed up to receive ongoing updates from ATP through email and newsletter distributions.

## Community Briefings and Engagement

In addition to the public meetings, ATP prioritized meeting community members where they are — engaging with 767 individuals outside of ATP-hosted events during the DEIS comment period through tabling events, community presentations, and Board and Commission briefings. ATP conducted briefings with community organizations, individuals, agencies, and elected officials to:

- Share information about the DEIS and design option recommendations.
- Solicit feedback and inform how to submit official comments.
- Keep community partners informed about project developments.
- Build and maintain meaningful relationships with stakeholders.

Multiple channels were used to ensure broad accessibility to project briefings including:

- Email notifications.
- Phone outreach.
- Partner meeting presentations.
- Project website announcements.

This variety of communication methods ensured that community members and partners had multiple opportunities to request briefings and stay informed about the project.

During the DEIS public review period, ATP engaged with:

- 322 individuals at Board and Commission meetings.
- 445 individuals at community presentations and tabling events.

ATP has maintained consistent engagement with relevant City of Austin Boards and Commissions at key milestones since the project's initiation. **Table 1** provides a comprehensive list of briefings and events held during the DEIS public review and comment period.

**Table 1. Outreach Event Details**

| DATE      | EVENT  | EVENT TYPE           | LOCATION   | ZONE  | FORMAT    |
|-----------|--|----------------------|--|-------|-----------|
| 1/10/2025 | Lakeside Resident Council  | Presentation         | 85 Trinity Street                                  | 78701 | In person |
| 1/15/2025 | LGBTQ Chamber  | Presentation         | 314 Congress Avenue                                | 78701 | In person |
| 1/15/2025 | Real Estate Council of Austin Board                                | Presentation         | 1703 W 5th Street, Suite 850                       | 78703 | In person |
| 1/21/2025 | Austin Area Research Organization Transportation Committee         | Presentation         | Virtual  | 78701 | Virtual   |
| 1/21/2025 | Bicycle Advisory Council   | Boards & Commissions | Virtual  | 78701 | Virtual   |
| 1/24/2025 | Pickup Decker Launch   | Tabling              | East Communities YMCA, 5315 Ed Bluestein Boulevard | 78723 | In person |
| 1/27/2025 | Zilker Neighborhood Association                                    | Presentation         | 1801 Kinney Avenue                                 | 78704 | In person |
| 2/3/2025  | Pedestrian Advisory Committee                                      | Boards & Commissions | 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive, PDC - Room 1401/1402  | 78752 | In person |
| 2/4/2025  | Downtown Austin Alliance   | Tabling              | 304 E Cesar Chavez Street                          | 78701 | In person |
| 2/4/2025  | Urban Transportation Commission                                    | Boards & Commissions | 4815 Mueller Boulevard                             | 78723 | In person |
| 2/5/2025  | Environmental Commission   | Boards & Commissions | 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive, PDC - Room 1405       | 78752 | In person |
| 2/5/2025  | CapMetro Access Advisory Committee                                 | Boards & Commissions | Virtual  | 78702 | Virtual   |
| 2/12/2025 | CapMetro Customer Satisfaction Advisory Committee                  | Boards & Commissions | Virtual  | 78702 | Virtual   |
| 2/13/2025 | Principal Coffee Allison Elementary                                | Presentation         | 515 Vargas Road                                    | 78741 | In person |
| 2/13/2025 | Community Advisory Committee                                       | Boards & Commissions | ATP Office - 203 Colorado Street                   | 78701 | In person |
| 2/18/2025 | South River City Citizens Neighborhood Association                 | Presentation         | Virtual  | 78704 | Virtual   |
| 2/19/2025 | Lakeside Office Hours  | Presentation         | 85 Trinity Street                                  | 78701 | In person |
| 2/19/2025 | Downtown Commission  | Boards & Commissions | City Hall - 301 W 2nd Street, Chambers Room 1001   | 78701 | In person |
| 2/20/2025 | City of Austin Mobility Committee                                  | Boards & Commissions | City Hall -301 W 2nd Street, Chambers Room 1001    | 78701 | In person |
| 2/24/2025 | CapMetro Board Meeting   | Boards & Commissions | 2910 E. 5th Street                                 | 78702 | In person |
| 2/24/2025 | Parks and Recreation Board   | Boards & Commissions | City Hall -301 W 2nd Street, Chambers Room 1001    | 78701 | In person |
| 2/24/2025 | Montopolis Neighborhood Association, Montopolis Community Alliance | Presentation         | Montopolis Rec Center - 1200 Montopolis Drive      | 78741 | In person |

| DATE      | EVENT   | EVENT TYPE           | LOCATION  | ZONE  | FORMAT    |
|-----------|---|----------------------|---|-------|-----------|
| 2/26/2025 | Joint Sustainability Commission   | Boards & Commissions | City Hall -301 W 2nd Street, Chambers Room 1001 | 78701 | In person |
| 2/27/2025 | Urban Land Institute – Transit Oriented Development Local Membership Committee  | Presentation         | 828 W 6th Street                                | 78703 | In person |
| 2/27/2025 | Allison Elementary School - Campus Advisory Council                             | Presentation         | 515 Vargas Road                                 | 78741 | In person |
| 3/1/2025  | Vietnamese American Community of Austin Texas                                   | Presentation         | 16912 N Interstate Hwy 35                       | 78728 | In person |
| 3/3/2025  | Rogers-Washington Holy Cross Historic District Neighborhood Association Meeting | Presentation         | Virtual   | 78759 | Virtual   |
| 3/4/2025  | Urban Transportation Commission   | Boards & Commissions | City Hall - 301 W 2nd Street, Room 1101         | 78701 | In person |
| 3/6/2025  | Community Advisory Committee  | Boards & Commissions | ATP Office - 203 Colorado Street                | 78701 | In person |
| 3/6/2025  | Lakeside Office Hours   | Presentation         | 85 Trinity Street                               | 78701 | In person |
| 3/6/2025  | 4101 Guadalupe Community Meeting  | Presentation         | Baker Center - 3908 Avenue B                    | 78751 | In person |

### DEIS Information Access Points

The full DEIS document was made available online for 24/7 public access at <https://austinlightrail.org/austinlightrailinput>. The site received 6,968 views during the public comment period.

Physical copies of the DEIS were placed at six different locations within proximity to the project, including:

1. **Austin Central Library:** 710 W. Cesar Chavez Street, Austin, TX 78701
2. **Austin Transit Partnership:** 203 Colorado Street, Austin, TX 78701
3. **Carver Library:** 1161 Angelina Street, Austin, TX 78702
4. **Montopolis Recreational Center:** 1200 Montopolis Drive, Austin, TX 78741
5. **Ruiz Library:** 1600 Grove Boulevard, Austin, TX 78741
6. **Twin Oaks Library:** 1800 S. 5th Street, Austin, TX 78704

### Meeting Notifications

ATP conducted comprehensive outreach to inform the public about the DEIS public hearing open house meetings through multiple channels.

#### Direct Notification

- Postcard mailing to approximately 38,980 homes, apartments, and businesses within one-half mile of the project area and along 45 existing transit routes.
- Email notifications to 5,735 email addresses.

## Digital and Media Outreach

- Print and online advertising (publications listed in **Table 2**).
- News releases to local media.
- Project website notifications.
- Social media campaigns on multiple platforms.
- Radio advertisements on seven local stations (stations listed in **Table 3**).

## Community Engagement

- Flyer distribution at libraries, community gathering places, and bus stops.
- Coordination with partner agencies to amplify project messaging.

**Table 2. Print and Online Advertisements**

| PUBLICATION               | ADVERTISEMENT                                 | PUBLICATION/RUN DATES                |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Austin American Statesman | Legal notice and print display ad             | January 13, 2025                     |
| Austin Business Journal   | Print and digital display ads                 | December 13, 2024 – January 13, 2025 |
| Austin Chronicle          | Print and digital display ads                 | January 10 – 31, 2025                |
| Austin Monitor            | Digital display ads                           | January 10 – February 21, 2025       |
| Austin South Asian        | Print display ad                              | January 1, 2025                      |
| Community Impact          | Print display ads in four local area editions | December 28, 2024                    |
| The Daily Texan           | Print display ad                              | January 24, 2025                     |
| El Mundo                  | Legal notice and print display ad             | January 16, 2025                     |
| The Villager              | Print display ad                              | January 10, 2025                     |

**Table 3. Radio Advertisements**

| RADIO STATION   | ADVERTISEMENT   | RUN DATES                      |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Austin Community Radio, Inc.</b><br>• KAZI 88.7  | Digital display ads and more than 100 broadcast radio spots | January 31 – February 27, 2025 |
| <b>Waterloo Media</b><br>• Vibe 93.3<br>• BOB FM 103.5<br>• ESPN 102.7<br>• Latino 97.1 (Spanish)<br>• La Z 107.1 (Spanish)<br>• 101X 101.5 | 180 broadcast radio spots across six local radio stations   | January 10 – February 16, 2025 |

## At-Stop Outreach

To engage existing transit riders throughout the DEIS comment period, ATP conducted comprehensive at-stop outreach at locations near the alignment. Teams spoke to community members at 33 transit stations, conducting 40 total outreach events at stops with the highest ridership volumes. **Table 4** lists the at-stop outreach events held during the DEIS engagement period.

During these events, project teams distributed informational materials and encouraged riders to submit feedback through PublicInput via QR code access. Outreach activities were scheduled during peak travel periods to maximize rider engagement:

- Morning shift: 6 – 9:30 a.m.
- Midday shift: 12:30 – 4 p.m.
- Evening shift: 2:30 – 6 p.m.

## Outreach Objectives

The at-stop outreach served multiple key purposes:

- **Information sharing:** Educating the existing transit community about the DEIS and available design options.
- **Accessibility:** Making riders aware of DEIS availability for review at physical locations near the project and on ATP's website.
- **Project updates:** Providing the transit community with current project developments.
- **Relationship building:** Continuing to foster meaningful engagement with stakeholders.
- **Feedback facilitation:** Distributing flyers, answering questions, and informing the community about comment submission methods.

## Results

Over the two-week outreach period from February 4-15, 2025, ATP teams successfully engaged with 1,454 transit riders with the latest information about the Austin Light Rail project.

**Table 4. At-Stop Outreach Details**

| DATE      | TIME         | EVENT TYPE       | LOCATION  | ZONE  | FORMAT    |
|-----------|--------------|------------------|---|-------|-----------|
| 2/4/2025  | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Republic Square (SB*)                               | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/4/2025  | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Lavaca/4th  | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/4/2025  | 12:30-4 p.m. | At-Stop Outreach | ACC Riverside @ Grove                               | 78741 | In Person |
| 2/4/2025  | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Vic Mathias/ Auditorium Shores (SB)                 | 78704 | In Person |
| 2/5/2025  | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Austin History Center (NB**)                        | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/5/2025  | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | 1717 Pleasant Valley/Riverside                      | 78741 | In Person |
| 2/5/2025  | 12:30-4 p.m. | At-Stop Outreach | Downtown Station - Rail                             | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/5/2025  | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Norwood Transit Center                              | 78752 | In Person |
| 2/6/2025  | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Crestview Station Stop                              | 78752 | In Person |
| 2/6/2025  | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | North Lamar Transit Center                          | 78758 | In Person |
| 2/6/2025  | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | 1971 Pleasant Valley/Riverside                      | 78741 | In Person |
| 2/6/2025  | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | 2231 Guadalupe/West Mall UT                         | 78705 | In Person |
| 2/7/2025  | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Westgate Transit Center                             | 78704 | In Person |
| 2/7/2025  | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | 501 Pleasant Valley/5th                             | 78702 | In Person |
| 2/7/2025  | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Oltorf/Congress                                     | 78704 | In Person |
| 2/7/2025  | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Oltorf Station (NB)                                 | 78704 | In Person |
| 2/10/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Oltorf Station (SB)                                 | 78704 | In Person |
| 2/10/2025 | 12:30-4 p.m. | At-Stop Outreach | Capitol Station (SB)                                | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/10/2025 | 12:30-4 p.m. | At-Stop Outreach | Capitol Station (NB)                                | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/11/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | 5th/Guadalupe                                       | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/11/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | 7308 Riverside/Coriander                            | 78741 | In Person |
| 2/11/2025 | 12:30-4 p.m. | At-Stop Outreach | Ruiz Library  | 78741 | In Person |
| 2/11/2025 | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Republic Square (NB)                                | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/11/2025 | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Republic Square (SB)                                | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/12/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Downtown Station - Rail                             | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/12/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | 1820 Pleasant Valley (HEB)                          | 78741 | In Person |
| 2/12/2025 | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, Lower Level | 78719 | In Person |
| 2/12/2025 | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Triangle Station                                    | 78751 | In Person |
| 2/13/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Hyde Park Station (SB)                              | 78751 | In Person |
| 2/13/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Dean Keaton/Speedway                                | 78712 | In Person |
| 2/13/2025 | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Republic Square (NB)                                | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/13/2025 | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Republic Square (SB)                                | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/14/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Capitol Station (SB)                                | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/14/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | 6306 Riverside/ Montopolis                          | 78741 | In Person |
| 2/14/2025 | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | 4522 Riverside/ Wickersham                          | 78741 | In Person |
| 2/14/2025 | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Oltorf Station (SB)                                 | 78704 | In Person |
| 2/15/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Guadalupe & 4th                                     | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/15/2025 | 6-9:30 a.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | Republic Square (NB)                                | 78701 | In Person |
| 2/15/2025 | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | UT West Mall (SB)                                   | 78705 | In Person |
| 2/15/2025 | 2:30-6 p.m.  | At-Stop Outreach | UT West Mall (NB)                                   | 78705 | In Person |

\* Southbound station

\*\* Northbound station

## Comments Received

During the public review and comment period, ATP received feedback via comment forms submitted during public meetings or other events, online comment forms (i.e. PublicInput, a web-based comment portal), letters, email and voicemails. In addition to written comment forms, ATP provided court reporters at the public hearings to record oral testimony.

ATP distributed two comment forms to solicit comments, a general comment form for the DEIS and a comment form to specifically address design options. **Sample**

**Comment Forms** are provided for reference at the end of this document. In total, ATP received 867 completed comment forms as well as 32 individual oral testimonies recorded by court reporters. The number of comment forms received throughout the DEIS engagement period are shown in **Table 5**.

**Table 5. Comment Forms Received**

| COMMENT FORM SUBMITTAL LOCATION              | # OF FORMS RECEIVED |
|--|---------------------|
| In-person public hearing open house meetings | 165                 |
| Outreach and/or tabling event                | 47                  |
| PublicInput (online)                         | 655                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                 | <b>867</b>          |

The comment forms, emails, oral testimonies, voicemails and agency letters received often included multiple, distinct comments. The number of comments identified within all submittal options are included in the Final EIS (see Appendix L).

## Design Options Comment Summary

The DEIS evaluated Phase 1 of the light rail project adopted in June 2023, which included recommendations for a build alternative and six design options. A summary of the information received on the design options comment forms is included below.

During the comment period, ATP collected community input about the design options through a design options survey included on the comment form. The survey contained seven questions: six questions requesting feedback on each individual design option, plus one request for general comments. Each question included an open-ended comment box for additional feedback.

The results below show the number of respondents who agreed (yes) or disagreed (no) with each design option recommendation, as well as those that provided additional feedback and general comments about the project.



Yes:  
947



No:  
346



Additional feedback: 775

The breakdown for each of the design options is shown below.



### DESIGN OPTION 1:

Wooldridge Square Station – Recommend adding a center platform station near Wooldridge Square on Guadalupe Street between 9th Street and 11th Street.



186



39



106



### DESIGN OPTION 2:

Cesar Chavez Station – Recommend retaining the original Cesar Chavez Station location.



140



57



89



### DESIGN OPTION 3:

Lady Bird Lake Bridge Extension – Recommend extending the bridge and elevating Waterfront Station.



173



110



140



### DESIGN OPTION 4:

Refine Stations on East Riverside – Recommend stations at Grove Boulevard and Montopolis Drive.



147



29



73



### DESIGN OPTION 5:

Omit Travis Heights Station.



126



81



102



### DESIGN OPTION 6:

Center-Running Bike/Pedestrian/Shade Tree Facilities on East Riverside – Recommend incorporating the center-running bike/pedestrian/shade tree facilities next to light rail along East Riverside Drive between Lakeshore Station and Yellow Jacket Station.



175



30



95

## Sample Comment Forms

### General Comment Form (English)

## Ready to comment? We're listening.

Austin Transit Partnership is collecting comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Phase 1 of Austin Light Rail. Please share your comment below or go to <https://austinlightrail.org/austinlightrailinput> to submit a comment online.

Please let us know the topic that your comment relates to [select all that apply]:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality   | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety and Security                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soils and Geologic Resources  | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Zoning                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources   | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Acquisitions and Displacements    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Threatened and Endangered Species/Wildlife and Habitat (includes Trees) | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy and Electromagnetic Fields                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Socioeconomics                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Materials   | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise and Vibration   | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic and Archaeological Resources      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Justice   | <input type="checkbox"/> Parkland/Chapter 26, Section 4(f) and 6(f) |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhoods and Community Resources      |

Do you have a comment or question about what was studied?

Do you have a comment or question about the results of the study?

Do you have a comment or question about ATP's mitigation recommendation(s) to reduce potential impacts?



## General Comment Form (Spanish)

# ¿Listo para comentar? Estamos atentos.

Austin Transit Partnership está recopilando comentarios sobre el Borrador de la Declaración de Impacto Medioambiental de la Fase 1 del Tren ligero de Austin. Tenga la amabilidad de compartir su comentario a continuación, o visite <https://austinlightrail.org/austinlightrailinput> para enviar un comentario en línea.

Por favor, indique el tema con el que se relaciona su comentario [seleccione todas las opciones que correspondan]:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Calidad del aire   | <input type="checkbox"/> Seguridad y protección                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suelos y recursos geológicos   | <input type="checkbox"/> Uso del suelo y zonificación                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recursos hídricos  | <input type="checkbox"/> Adquisición de propiedades y reubicaciones forzosas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Especies, vida silvestre y hábitats amenazados y en peligro de extinción (incluidos los árboles) | <input type="checkbox"/> Transporte  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campos energéticos y electromagnéticos   | <input type="checkbox"/> Economía social                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Materiales peligrosos  | <input type="checkbox"/> Servicios públicos                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ruido y vibraciones  | <input type="checkbox"/> Recursos históricos y arqueológicos                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Justicia medioambiental  | <input type="checkbox"/> Parques/Capítulo 26, secciones 4(f) y 6(f)          |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Vecindarios y recursos comunitarios                 |

¿Tiene algún comentario o pregunta sobre el tema del estudio?

¿Tiene algún comentario o pregunta sobre los resultados del estudio?

¿Tiene algún comentario o pregunta sobre las recomendaciones de mitigación de ATP para reducir posibles impactos medioambientales?



## Design Option Comment Form - Front (English)

### Recommended Design Option Survey

Please share your comment below or go to <https://austinlightrail.org/austinlightrailinput> to submit a comment online.

#### Adding a Station Near Wooldridge Square

Do you agree with the recommendation?  YES  NO

Please explain:

#### Keeping original Cesar Chavez Station location

Do you agree with the recommendation?  YES  NO

Please explain:

#### Extending Bridge and Elevating Waterfront Station

Do you agree with the recommendation?  YES  NO

Please explain:

continued on back.



## Design Option Comment Form - Back (English)

Retain Montopolis Station and Move Faro Station Closer to Grove Street

Do you agree with the recommendation?  YES  NO

Please explain:

Omitting Station at Travis Heights

Do you agree with the recommendation?  YES  NO

Please explain:

Incorporate Center-Running Bike/Pedestrian Facilities and Shade on East Riverside

Do you agree with the recommendation?  YES  NO

Please explain:

General Comment

Is there anything else you want to share with ATP?



## Design Option Comment Form - Front (Spanish)

# Preguntas de la encuesta sobre las opciones de diseño recomendadas

Comparta su comentario a continuación o visite <https://austinlightrail.org/austinlightrailinput> para enviar su comentario en línea.

Agregar una estación cerca de Wooldridge Square

¿Está usted de acuerdo con la recomendación?  Sí  No

Por favor, explique su respuesta:

Conservar la ubicación original de la estación César Chávez

¿Está usted de acuerdo con la recomendación?  Sí  No

Por favor, explique su respuesta:

Omitir la estación en Travis Heights

¿Está usted de acuerdo con la recomendación?  Sí  No

Por favor, explique su respuesta:

Continúa al otro lado de ésta página



## Design Option Comment Form - Back (Spanish)

Extender el puente y elevar la estación Waterfront

¿Está usted de acuerdo con la recomendación?  Sí  No

Por favor, explique su respuesta:

Incorporar instalaciones para bicicletas/peatones que pasen por el centro y sombra en East Riverside

¿Está usted de acuerdo con la recomendación?  Sí  No

Por favor, explique su respuesta:

Mantener la estación Montopolis y mover la estación Faro más cerca de Grove Street

¿Está usted de acuerdo con la recomendación?  Sí  No

Por favor, explique su respuesta:

Comentario general

¿Hay algo más que desee compartir con ATP?

