Agenda

• SDEIS Public Review
• Environmental Process Overview
• Project Highlights
• Comments to Stenographer
SDEIS Public Review
Public Hearing Schedule

Monday, April 24, 2017
Crowne Plaza Englewood Hotel
401 S. Van Brunt Street, Englewood, NJ
3:00 to 5:00 PM (*presentation at 3:30 PM*) &
7:00 to 9:00 PM (*presentation at 7:30 PM*)
Public Hearing Format

- Open House for Informal Review of Displays
  - Discussions Are Not Part of the Official SDEIS Record
- Project Overview Presentation
- Verbal Comments to Stenographer
  - 2-3 Minutes
- Written Comments May Be Submitted
Hearing Accommodations

• Spanish and Korean Translators Available
• Accommodations for Hearing & Mobility Impaired
• Other Special Accommodations Upon Request
Important Dates

• Northern Branch Corridor SDEIS Released on March 17, 2017
• Notice of Availability (NOA) in Federal Register on March 24, 2017
• Comments on the SDEIS Must be Received by May 23, 2017
SDEIS Available for Review

- **Project Area Libraries**
  - North Bergen, Fairview, Ridgefield, Palisades Park, Leonia, Englewood, Tenafly, Cresskill, Demarest, Closter, Norwood

- **Municipal Clerks’ Offices**
  - North Bergen, Fairview, Ridgefield, Palisades Park, Leonia, Englewood, Tenafly, Cresskill, Demarest, Closter, Norwood, Northvale

- [http://northernbranchcorridor.com](http://northernbranchcorridor.com)
To Provide Comments on the SDEIS

• Written Comments May Be Either:
  1) Submitted Today in the Comment Box Located at the Front of the Room
  2) Sent to NJ TRANSIT by May 23, 2017:
     Linda A. Mosch, P.E.
     Project Director
     NJ TRANSIT
     One Penn Plaza East
     Newark, NJ 07105
     info@northernbranchcorridor.com

• Verbal Comments Can Be Given to the Stenographer Either:
  1) Privately at Any Time During the Hearing
  2) Publicly After the Presentation
Environmental Process Overview
Northern Branch Corridor SDEIS

- Prepared by FTA & NJ TRANSIT
- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)
  - Requires Evaluation & Public Disclosure of Potential Impacts for All Federal Actions
- SDEIS Complies with Guidelines of
  - NEPA
  - Section 106
  - Section 4(f)
  - Other Federal & State Requirements
EIS Process

• Draft EIS
  – DEIS Released Dec. 13, 2011
  – 1,200+ Comments Received

• Supplemental Draft EIS
  – Preferred Alternative Revised Based on Comments & Meetings with Municipalities
  – Impacts Evaluated
  – Public Review & Comment

• Final EIS
  – Address Comments on **DEIS & SDEIS**
  – Agency/Public Review of FEIS

• ROD Completes NEPA Process
Section 106 Process

- Requires Evaluation & Public Disclosure of Potential Impacts for on Historic & Archaeological Resources
  - Evaluation in SDEIS
Section 4(f) Process

- Section 4(f) US Department of Transportation Act of 1966
- Federally-funded Projects May Not Use Land From Public Park, Recreation Area, Wildlife Refuge, or Historic Site
  - Unless No Alternative & Project Will Minimize Harm
- Requires Coordination with Public & Agencies
- Section 4(f) Evaluation Chapter of the SDEIS
DEIS Comments

• DEIS Examined 2 Alternatives
  – Light Rail to Tenafly (Preferred Alternative)
  – Light Rail to Englewood Route 4

• Many Comments Expressed Support

• Residents & Community Leaders in Tenafly Strongly Opposed to Extension into Tenafly

• City of Englewood & Englewood Hospital Strongly Supportive
  – Recommended Terminating at Englewood Hospital
SDEIS Purpose

• SDEIS Prepared to Document Project Changes in Response to DEIS Comments
  – Environmental Impacts as a Result of Changes Analyzed in SDEIS
  – Circulated for Public Comment
• New Preferred Alternative Terminating at Englewood Hospital
SDEIS Changes

• West Side Avenue
  – Freight Railroads Requested Light Rail Moved from CSX North Bergen Rail Yard
  – Alignment Changed
    • Viaduct over Rail Yard
    • Along West Side of West Side Ave.
    • Viaduct over NYS&W & CSX Tracks
    • Onto Northern Branch Running Track
  – North Bergen VBF Eliminated
SDEIS Changes

- Leonia Station
  - Relocation of Station & Parking Deck
    - South of Fort Lee Road
    - Within Overpeck County Park
    - Site of an Abandoned Basketball Court & Comfort Building
SDEIS Changes

- Englewood Route 4 Station & VBF
  - Co-Locate Station Parking Deck & VBF
  - Parking Deck 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 3\textsuperscript{rd} & 4\textsuperscript{th} Stories Above VBF
SDEIS Changes

- Englewood Town Center Station
  - 2 Tracks through Town Center Area
  - Reconfigured Surface Parking Area Between Rail ROW & North Dean Street
  - Station Platform Relocated Between Palisade & Demarest Avenue
SDEIS Changes

• Englewood Hospital & Medical Center Station
  – Use of Existing Parking Garage at Hospital
  – Pedestrian Overpass Connecting Station with Parking Garage over Dean Street
SDEIS Changes

• Ridership & Operations
  – SDEIS Service Hours Extended: 5:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.
    • DEIS Service Hours: 5:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
  – Ridership Model Revised
    • New Service Hours
    • Updated US Census Data
Project Highlights
SDEIS Alternatives

- No Build Alternative
- SDEIS Preferred Alternative
  - 10-Mile Extension of Hudson Bergen Light Rail
  - Tonnelle Avenue in North Bergen to Englewood Hospital
Vehicles & Operations

• Light Rail Vehicles
  – Flexible, Small, Light Weight
  – 2-3 Car Trains
  – Powered by Electricity
• Direct Service to Hudson River Waterfront
  – Transfers to Manhattan via Ferry or PATH
• Operation from 5:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.
• Frequency
  – 10 Minutes to Hoboken Terminal/Ferry (Peak)
  – 20 Minutes to Jersey City (Peak)
  – 30 Minutes to Hoboken & Jersey City (Off-Peak)
Infrastructure Requirements

• Rehabilitation of 2-Track Rail ROW
• 7 Stations
• Power Infrastructure
  – Overhead Catenary
  – Electrical Substations
• 2 Viaducts over Freight Tracks
• Closure of Undergrade Xing at 83rd St.
• New Crossing at 85th St. to West Side Ave.
• Vehicle Base Facility at Englewood Route 4
Freight

- Light Rail Service Would Change Freight Operations
  - Between North Bergen & Northvale
- FRA Does Not Permit LRT to Operate Mixed with Freight Rail
- Freight Would Operate During Overnight Hours
  - 1:30 a.m. to 4:30 a.m.
## Stations & Parking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Parking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>91st Street</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridgefield</td>
<td>269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palisades Park</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leonia</td>
<td>583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Englewood Rt. 4</td>
<td>945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Englewood Town Center</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Englewood Hospital</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,739</strong></td>
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</table>
## Travel Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>From Englewood Hospital</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Weehawken Ferry</td>
<td>21 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Hoboken Terminal</td>
<td>33 Minutes</td>
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</table>
## Ridership Forecast

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ridership</th>
<th>Daily Ridership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Daily Passengers</td>
<td>12,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Daily Trips</td>
<td>24,740</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SDEIS Contents

• Project Background & Purpose and Need
• Revised Preferred Alternative
• Changes to the Social, Economic, and Environmental Impacts & Mitigation
• Public Outreach
Please Submit Your Written Comments or Give Verbal Comments to the Stenographer

Visit Our Website to Review the SDEIS:
http://northernbranchcorridor.com