Houston-Dallas High Speed Rail

Summary

Texas Central Partners, LLC will be providing an update of the status of the Houston-Dallas High Speed Rail Project, which is now in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) stage. Known as "The Texas Bullet Train", it is designed to travel up to 240 miles per hour between Houston and Dallas with a 90-minute travel time. Departures are expected every thirty minutes and there will be an intermediate stop in College Station.

Currently, the DEIS is the stage of final review prior to the FRA preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will assess the feasibility of the project to move forward.

The public comment/public hearing portion of the DEIS was conducted between November 2017 and March 2018. Ten public meetings (one for each affected county) were held in January and February 2018, including meetings in Harris County on January 29 and Waller County on February 6. Responses to urban and a large array of rural area concerns were discussed.

H-GAC sent a letter of support in which it is noted that the High-Speed Rail Project was *consistent* with the goals of the 2040 RTP. The attached letter was provided in support of this project as part of the DEIS process.

Next steps will include the Dallas to Houston High Speed Rail Project incorporating public comments and finalizing its analysis. FRA will review the DEIS and prepare a Final EIS with a Record of Decision.

Action Requested

For information only



HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

March 9, 2018

Federal Railroad Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: Public Comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Dallas to Houston High Speed Rail

The High-Speed Rail DEIS is consistent with the goals of Houston-Galveston Area Council's (H-GAC) 2040 Regional Transportation Plan's (RTP).

H-GAC looks forward to working with Dallas-Houston High Speed Rail in continuing to develop effective regional cooperation in the Houston-Galveston MPO should the project move forward.

Sincerely,

Alan C. Clark MPO Director

AC/ar