A public meeting for the Burleson TOD Study took place at Burleson City Hall on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. A total of 36 people attended the meeting.

Following a presentation, the following questions were asked or comments were made. Responses to questions also are provided.

Comment: There are no enclosed area for people to get out of the wind and rain on Concept Plans B and C. It would be more desirable to have sidescreens or something in addition the canopies.

Q: What is the timeframe for building the station and opening service?
R: It is difficult to pinpoint a specific date at this time. There are several things that must happen, including determining sufficient ridership on the line, identifying a source of funding to bring transit service to Burleson, and developing relationships with transit partners. Bus service could be expected to begin sometime in the next five to 10 years, while rail service could begin in 5-7 years once a funding source has been found.

Comment (Mayor of Burleson): Bringing rail service to Burleson is part of a larger discussion about bringing rail service to the western half of the North Texas Region. The time has come to look at a subregional system when cities pool resources to bring services such as transit and rail to their area. A regional solution has consistently been rejected by the Texas Legislature, which is forcing issues to the local level. He noted creating a TIF or TIRZ could provide money that could be invested in transit service. Concept A includes potential revenue generating elements, which is attractive. The mayor stated that he supports Concept A. He further noted the other concepts are more expensive, and Concept A allows the phasing in of development.

Q: What kinds of purposes could the space under the station platform in Concept A be used?
R: This plan envisions the space would be used for offices, or perhaps conferencing facilities, or other space that could generate revenue.

Q: How much space is there?
A: Specifics would need to be determined when engineering and design work is done on the station and rail line.

Q: Would Concept A allow for future expansion of development?
R: All of the concepts allow for future development expansion.

Q: Is this the only rail station location being considered in Burleson?
R: Yes, this is the only location where a rail station would be built in Burleson.

Q: How far out will this affect residential areas – will the homes on Hulen be impacted?
R: It is not anticipated that residences would be impacted any more than they would be impacted by changing development patterns if no rail service were planned. The market and changing demographics are driving development in Burleson. It is anticipated this area would develop over time
regardless. This study is to help plan for that and put some things in place that would allow more desirable development. The mayor also noted the city has no plans to invoke eminent domain or take any properties for any of its transit activities.

Comment: Appreciate the way you’re looking to the future and planning for it.

Comment: Transportation will be extremely important in our future. Concept A seems to be the best of all of the station design options.

Self-addressed comment forms also were available for people to write down their comments. No written comment forms were received.