



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

Through: Mike Land, City Manager

From: Traci E. Leach, Deputy City Manager

Date: December 8, 2020

Reference: DART Rail Update

2040: Innovative Transportation Networks

Introduction:

This agenda item is an administrative requirement related to Dallas Area Rapid Transit's (DART) right to exercise eminent domain (ED) for the Silver Line project. While the City has no official role regarding the acquisition process for the rail line, DART is unique in that their enabling legislation requires DART to have its ED Resolution approved by the governmental entity where the property resides before DART can begin the ED process. It has long been DART's process to obtain the governmental approval of its resolution as soon as possible after DART's approval and before written offers are made to property owners.

Staff anticipates that there will be at least one more of these resolutions brought to the Council in next few months to allow DART to initiate the negotiation and acquisition process. The resolution before the Council this evening covers eleven parcels that the DART Board approved in August and September 2020.

Background:

The Silver Line will connect the DFW Airport to the cities of Dallas, Carrollton, Addison, Richardson and Plano. Along that route, only the City of Coppell is not a member of DART. In 2017, we saw the advancement of the Silver Line regional rail service from its potential construction and activation well beyond the year 2030 in the regional mobility plan, to actual approval, funding and scheduling for revenue service at the end of calendar year 2022.

The Silver Line alignment extends the rail line off the existing DART right-of-way just west of Moore Road, where it deviates south into City of Dallas and Cypress Waters. The rail line heads back north and joins the existing rail right-of-way just to the east of Southwestern Boulevard. DART is coordinating all acquisition activities for property that is required for the new rail right-of-way.

Legal: The City Attorney has reviewed and approved as to form.

Fiscal Impact: None.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of this resolution.