

Dallas to Houston High-Speed Rail Environmental Impact Statement

Public Hearings

January 29-February 6, 2018



Purpose of Public Hearing

- Update the public on FRA's role in the project and the progress made to date
- Obtain public input on the DEIS for the FRA to consider in developing the Final EIS



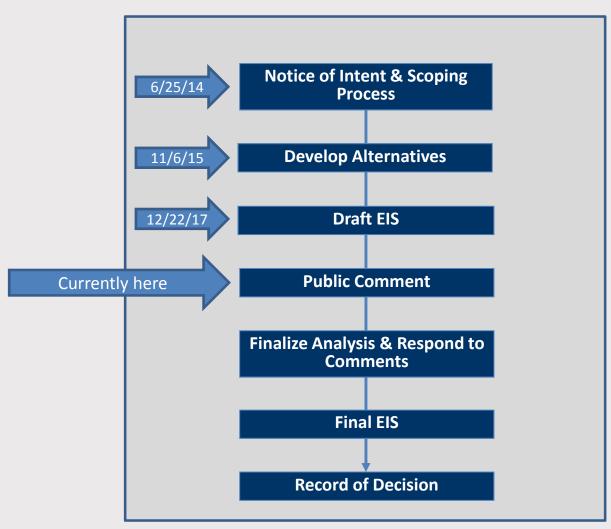


FRA's Role in the Project

- Complete all necessary environmental work and issue a record of decision (NEPA)
- Issuance of specific rule(s) by FRA's Office of Safety.



Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process



Overview of Section 106 Process

Section 106 requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of an undertaking on historic properties, which are archaeological and historic sites included in the National Register of Historic Places or meet the criteria for inclusion.

Initiate Section 106 Process

FRA invited consulting parties to participate.

Identify Historic Properties

FRA defined the area of potential effect.
FRA identified historic properties within the area of potential effect.

Assess Adverse Effects

FRA assessed potential adverse effects on historic properties based on criteria found in the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations.

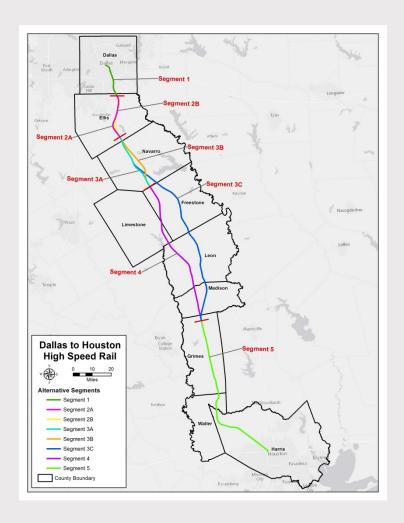
Resolve Adverse Effects

FRA will consult with the Texas Historical Commission and other consulting parties.
FRA will develop a Programmatic Agreement to outline measures to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects.



Build Alternatives

- FRA evaluated six Build Alternatives (A-F) and a No Build
- Each Build Alternative is divided into segments (1, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4 and 5) to illustrate the differences between the Build Alternatives



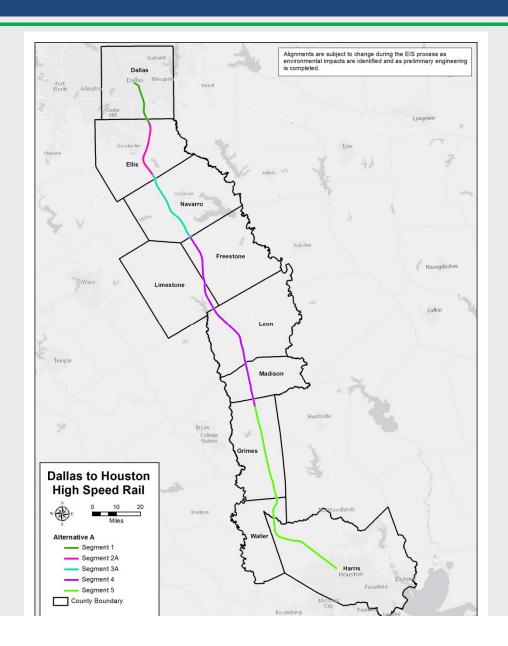


FRA Preferred Alternative

- FRA recommends Build Alternative A as the Preferred
- Build Alternative A contains segments 1, 2A,
 3A, 4 and 5
- Does not include a preferred station option in Harris County
- FRA will continue to analyze all of the Build Alternatives in the FEIS



FRA Preferred Alternative





How to Comment on the DEIS

- Public Comment Period began on December 22, 2017
 - Submit a comment today
 - Email a comment (<u>DallasHoustonHSR@urs.com</u>)
 - Submit a comment on the FRA project website (https://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P0700)
 - Mail a comment to:
 - Kevin Wright, Environmental Protection Specialist, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE MS-20, Washington, D.C. 20590
- Public Comment Period extended until March 9, 2018



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PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION



Public Comment Session

- Each speaker granted three (3:00) minutes
- State your first and last name for the record
- Comments will be documented
- No response will be provided today
- Responses will be provided as part of the FEIS



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THANK YOU

