

August 23, 2017

Mr. Gary C. Thomas, President/Executive Director
Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)
1700 Pacific Avenue
Dallas, TX 75201

Re: Underwriting DART's Critical Mobility Approach

Dear Mr. Thomas:

GDPC recognizes the dramatic benefits DART brings to its service area and the North Texas region that include not only providing mobility, but empowering sustainable economic development, fostering emerging connectivity options, supporting improved air quality and reducing congestion. A series of meetings, briefings and City Council and DART Board votes are scheduled in coming weeks. This is a critical juncture for DART and presents a timely opportunity for the GDPC to clearly articulate our support for DART and its expansion plans, and to make those known to the public.

The GDPC supports a comprehensive approach to transit that includes a foundation of

- a critical high-capacity service in the central core of Dallas (D2), and
- an improved bus system network with more frequent and numerous stops, and
- a robust regional commuter rail connection to DFW Airport (Cotton Belt).

Should a prioritization of funding require that each element advance independently, we believe the resulting solution should be to prioritize the option having the most beneficial impact on the population DART serves in a manner that contributes to the efficiency, long-term sustainability and resilience of the City of Dallas and surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Carmen Garcia
President