



Downtown Natomas Airport

Green Line to the Airport

Connecting Our Community to the World

Green Line Urban Design Charrette Purpose:

*To create a common vision of how to best integrate
the Green Line to the Airport into the Natomas communities.
The charrette results should provide
preliminary conceptual station designs and track details.*

Key Messages

RT is embarking on an urban design charrette process to develop a common vision of how to best integrate the Green Line into the Natomas communities.

The Green Line is RT's light rail extension connecting Downtown Sacramento to the Sacramento International Airport with stops throughout the South and North Natomas communities. The first phase, from Downtown to the River District (Richards Boulevard), broke ground in October 2009.

Regional Transit will be following the National Charrette Institute's format for a charrette process, which is described as "a multi-day, collaborative planning event that harnesses the talents and energies of all affected parties to create and support a feasible plan that represents transformative community change." The charrette studio will allow participants the opportunity to review plans as they are being developed.

Discussions with community stakeholders will include conceptual station designs, vehicle styles and track design, as well as station locations.

With the help of the community, RT wants to develop urban designs that will integrate the Green Line into the Natomas neighborhoods, not just build another transportation project.

Public engagement activities leading up to the springtime charrette will include an open house in January, site tours, educational presentations and an art event. Natomas neighbors are encouraged to get involved. Watch for more information on the RT Web site at www.sacrt.com.

Results from the charrette will allow RT to develop project costs and ridership projections to apply for the federal New Starts rating in the summer of 2010. Receiving a New Starts rating will mean RT may obtain matching federal funding for the construction of the Green Line, if RT is also able to find local matching funding sources for both construction and operations. With New Starts approval, RT can start engineering the Green Line in the Fall/Winter of 2011.

Participants in the charrette will help develop station identities customized to each neighborhood.

The Green Line will create transit nodes for the corridor that will include key destinations as well as opportunities for concentrations of residential and employment development.

Why move forward on the Green Line now?

- RT has committed to providing light rail to Natomas (dedication of right of way, developer fees, planning activities)
- Green Line is #1 ranking project by the Sacramento Region and is a high priority in RT's TransitAction Plan
- North Natomas population has almost quadrupled since 2003 and needs mobility options to combat congestion
- Affordability – the longer it takes to build, the higher the cost goes up
- RT would be remiss to forgo the window of opportunity available to get federal matching funds now