

SOUTHEASTLINE

FALL/WINTER 2010



Pam Farinas, KIPP Principal, KIPP students and Mike Martinez, METRO



Questions? Concerns?

Call or stop by your corridor office. We're here for you.

Southeast Line Community Outreach Office

5330 Griggs, Suite A104, 713.343.4350

Donna Lane, Stakeholder Affairs Representative

Donna.Lane@ridemetro.org



Follow our construction updates on Twitter at twitter.com/MetroRailSE

SCHOOL SAFETY

A message to children and parents: play it safe around construction

As your children head off to school, make them aware that construction crews may be working on the new METRO Rail expansion project in your neighborhood. METRO places our highest priority on the safety of your children, but we need parents and teachers to help get the word out.

Instilling a few basic precautions ahead of time is important. We encourage you to point out construction activities to your children and teach them to:

- Be aware of the construction zones in your area.
- Look for and obey all warning signs while walking or riding bikes near construction.
- Keep far away from construction equipment and machinery, and stay OUT of all marked construction zones.

For more safety tips and information on construction zones in your area, please go to www.gometrorail.org.

GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY OUTREACH OFFICE



To help keep your community informed and involved during the light rail project, METRO has an outreach office located in your area. Here, you will find Donna Lane, ready to answer questions and offer assistance. A four-year METRO veteran, Donna comes from a long line of "train people." Her grandfather worked on the Pennsylvania Railroad, while Donna grew up riding the train in her native Philadelphia—something she is looking forward to doing more of, right here in Houston.

You may catch Donna in her office, or you may run into her at your next civic club meeting. Either way, get to know her. She is here to listen to your concerns and help make the light rail expansion project a positive experience for the entire community.

HERE'S WHAT'S COMING:

THREE-MONTH LOOK-AHEAD

- Utility relocation work will continue through the end of the year in 7 out of 12 Southeast Line segments.

Completions as of October 20:

- Building demolition – 95%
- Public utilities (water, sanitary sewer, storm water) – 27%
- Private utilities (electric, gas, communications) – 27%



GOMETRORAIL.org NEW BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Interested in trying a new area restaurant? Want to find a car mechanic in the neighborhood? Ready to take the plunge and start planning your dream wedding? You're in luck. Thanks to a brand-new feature on the METRORail web site, it's a breeze to find local businesses offering whatever you're looking for.

And, because a lot of these area businesses are being affected by construction along the new rail lines, they're counting on support from the community more than ever. So help them out. Show them you appreciate them for hanging in there in the name of progress for all of us.

Check it out at **gometrorail.org**. Just click the *Businesses Along the Lines* link and dig in. You might be surprised to see what you've been missing, right in your neighborhood.



BUSINESS PROFILE:

FRED'S BARBER & STYLE

Keeping the community looking good and on the right track

Fred Jefferson has been giving haircuts and good old-fashioned straight-razor shaves for more than 17 years. In business for himself for five years, his employee, Charles Oliver, also happens to be the man who gave Fred his first job as a barber.

"Charles changed my life," says Jefferson. "Without him, I may not be here."

At Fred's, you'll get the kind of old-school barbering that borders on a lost art. But beyond cuts and shaves, Fred is well known for mentoring local at-risk youth and rewarding good grades with free haircuts, as evidenced by the report cards he keeps pinned to his wall.

Located at 3505 Bremond on the new Southeast Line, Fred is excited about the possibilities light rail may bring.

"There's nothing wrong with progress. The road to success is always under construction," Jefferson states. "I think it will bring me business."

So the next time you need a trim, or feel like treating yourself to a relaxing, professional shave, drop in and pay Fred and Charles a visit. You are guaranteed a warm welcome and a nice hot towel.



When asked what makes Fred's Barber & Style different from other barbershops, he smiled and simply answered, "Fred."

METRO'S NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO GEORGE GREANIAS



The NEW METRO is pleased to announce that George Greanias has been named METRO's permanent President and Chief Executive Officer. METRO's Chairman

Gilbert Garcia put it best noting, "When I first came to this board I really thought we needed to do a search. But you know what? We have the best guy right here, the best person."

George Greanias brings a wealth of experience in management and finance after having served on Houston's City Council, then as City Controller and most recently as a partner at CLG, a leading behavioral management firm. He has already been hard at work—first as part of Mayor Annise Parker's transition team on METRO and until now Acting President. "It's been a very challenging three to four months, but I was extremely honored to serve. It was an honor to start working with the staff at this organization, and to realize what talent there is at METRO and commitment to the mission of this organization," said METRO's new top executive.

One of George's first acts was passing his first budget as head of the NEW METRO. The recent FTA decision regarding METRO's rail car procurement was taken into account as the agency developed its budget. The NEW METRO is committed to working closely with its federal partners to move the project forward. Key goals for Fiscal Year 2011 included no fare increases, a continued commitment to transit services and to pace rail construction to available funds. The METRO Rail Expansion (MRE) program's new \$143 million budget is a 68% reduction from the \$458 million first proposed for the fiscal year. METRO is still on track to receive \$300 million in Fiscal Year 10 and Fiscal Year 11 federal appropriations, \$50 million in engineering and design funds and potentially \$64 million in stimulus funding.

So what does this mean for the coming year in neighborhoods with rail projects? In brief, for Fiscal Year 11 expect to see the following work:

- **East End Line:** Work will be limited to AT&T east of the Hughes rail road crossing, all utilities west of the RR crossing and paving for three segments. This is dependent on funds being identified. Work advancing the Safety and Inspections facility will stop.
- **North and Southeast Lines:** Construction will continue on utilities at the current pace but only on limited critical utilities after January 1. If additional funding is identified by January, utilities work can continue at the current pace. Street paving could also commence before the new calendar year.

While this schedule is slower in pace than the previous year, Greanias points out, that the sooner new funds are identified and full production resumed, the quicker any delays can be mitigated.

Belt tightening of the sort Greanias is being required to do is tough, and he knows his actions will be carefully examined. "I have no problem at all about being carefully scrutinized, guided, counseled, criticized from time to time—that's all part of the package," said Greanias referring to oversight by the volunteer board.

Greanias' excitement about his new role was summed up in his comments to the board upon being named to METRO's top office, "The fact that you are giving me the opportunity to help on that task, and to work with the people on the staff and the people on this board, and with the community and all the various stakeholder groups, well, I mean for somebody who loves this city the way I do and who is going to spend the rest of his life here, you cannot have given me a greater gift. Thank you very, very much."

METRORail is designed to keep Houstonians moving. The Arts in Transit program is designed to stop them in their tracks.

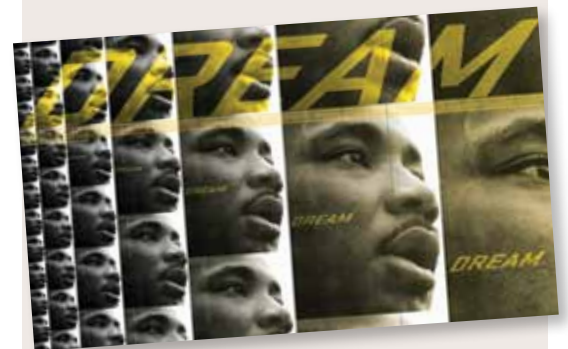
As a celebration of the cultural and artistic diversity of the vibrant communities along the new rail lines, the Arts in Transit project enlisted 22 local artists, community residents and art experts to transform individual transit stations into artistic showcases.

ARTS IN TRANSIT

Along the Southeast Line, be on the lookout for work by:

Carroll Parrott Blue/Sharon Johnston (The Dawn Project) and Johnston Marklee

Thanks to this artistic collaboration, travelers along the Southeast Line will soon be able to embark on a rich historical journey as they ride the rails. The team's work will honor the lasting and powerful contributions of African-Americans through an historical timeline stretching from one transit station to the next. Once complete, the story will unfold across the MacGregor Park, Leeland, Elgin, Cleburne, East University and Palm Center Stations.



OFF THE RAILS

When light rail expansion is complete, Houstonians will be connected like never before. As a result, our city may actually seem a little smaller as some of the unique neighborhood attractions scattered around town become a short train ride away. Here's a look at a few of the extraordinary gems Houston has to offer that will soon be located just off the rails.

A LO LARGO DE LAS VÍAS

Cuando la nueva expansión del tren ligero esté terminada, los habitantes de la ciudad estarán conectados como nunca antes en su historia. Como resultado, nuestra ciudad tal vez parezca más pequeña, ya que algunos atractivos únicos que se encuentran dispersos en los vecindarios estarán más cerca, gracias al tren ligero. A continuación ofrecemos una lista de algunas de las joyas extraordinarias que Houston tiene que pronto se encontrarán a pocos pasos de las vías.



os habitantes
istoria. Como
que algunos
darios estarán
un panorama
para ofrecer y



NORTH LINE/LÍNEA DEL NORTE

Canino Produce Company 2520 Airline Dr., www.caninoproduce.com

Canino Produce Company offers more than 22,000 square feet of some of the most amazing produce you've ever seen, smelled or tasted. Fresh-minded Houstonians flock to Canino for a wide variety of Texas produce alongside tasty delicacies from all over the world. To complete your open-air market experience, visit some of the other produce companies or one of the many colorfully arranged individual stalls sharing the same location.

Canino Produce Company 2520 Airline Dr., www.caninoproduce.com

Canino Produce Company ofrece más de 22,000 pies cuadrados de algunos de los productos más sorprendentes que haya visto, percibido o gustado. Los auténticos houstonianos acuden a Canino para adquirir una amplia variedad de productos de Texas, así como sabrosas delicias de todos el mundo. Para redondear su experiencia de comprar en un mercado al aire libre, visite algunas de las otras compañías de productos o uno de los puestos coloridos que se encuentran en este espacio.

EXISTING LINE
MAIN STREET LINE
EXISTING STATIONS

NEW LINES
NORTH LINE
EAST END LINE
SOUTHEAST LINE
UNIVERSITY LINE
UPTOWN LINE
STATION
TRANSFER STATION

10



EAST END LINE/LÍNEA DEL EAST END

The Orange Show 2402 Munger Street, www.orangeshow.org

The Orange Show is one of Houston's most offbeat and jaw-dropping attractions. Constructed by visionary artist Jeff McKissack between 1956 and 1980, this temple of human ingenuity was built entirely with found objects and recycled materials collected over the years. Thirty years after his death, his creation stands as a national folk-art icon and a true Houston original.

The Orange Show 2402 Munger Street, www.orangeshow.org

El Orange Show es uno de los atractivos más espectaculares y fuera de serie de Houston. Construido por el artista visionario Jeff McKissack entre 1956 y 1980, este templo al ingenio humano se construyó en su totalidad con objetos encontrados y materiales reciclados que se reunieron en el transcurso de los años. Treinta años después de su muerte, la creación de Jeff McKissack se levanta como un icono nacional de arte popular original y con el sello de Houston.

SAR CHAVEZ
MAGNOLIA
TRANSIT CENTER

OR PARK
45
PALM CENTER



SOUTHEAST LINE/LÍNEA DEL SURESTE

TSU's Ocean of Soul www.tsu.edu

The Ocean of Soul—Texas Southern University's world-renowned marching band—is famous for high-stepping precision drills, powerful music and eye-popping dance and flag routines. They've won international competitions, been featured in *Texas Monthly* and even wowed the crowds at Super Bowl XXXVIII. This is a homegrown spectacle you have to experience first-hand to fully appreciate.

TSU's Ocean of Soul www.tsu.edu

The Ocean of Soul—la banda de la Universidad Texas Southern que goza de fama internacional—es conocida por su precisión al marchar, su música poderosa y sus rutinas de danza y banderas que resultan asombrosas. Ha ganado competencias internacionales y aparecido en *Texas Monthly* e incluso ante los públicos del Super Bowl XXXVIII. Este es un espectáculo nacido en la ciudad que debe presenciar para poder apreciarlo en plenitud.