



# **Approval of an Agreement with the City of Dallas Regarding the Convention Center Project**

Board of Directors  
Development & Innovation Subcommittee

December 9, 2025

Caitlin Holland  
VP, Real Estate and Economic Development  
Development Department



# Today's Consideration

- Approval of a resolution authorizing the President & Chief Executive Officer or her designee to execute an agreement with the City of Dallas in substantially the form attached to the resolution as Exhibit 1, subject to legal review.

# History of Dallas Convention Center

- The current City of Dallas convention center was originally constructed in 1957 as the “Dallas Memorial Auditorium”, then expanded in 1973 and renamed the “Dallas Convention Center”.
- The convention center was subsequently expanded in 1984 and 2002 to add Exhibit Halls C, D, E, and F, connected to the Omni Dallas Hotel in 2011 via a skybridge, and renamed the “Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center Dallas” in 2013.
- In 1994, DART constructed the Convention Center Station under Hall F, which is served by DART’s Red and Blue light rail lines and also contains a bus layover space.
- Local Route 28, Local Route 106, Local Route 224, and Express Route 383 currently serve the Convention Center Station

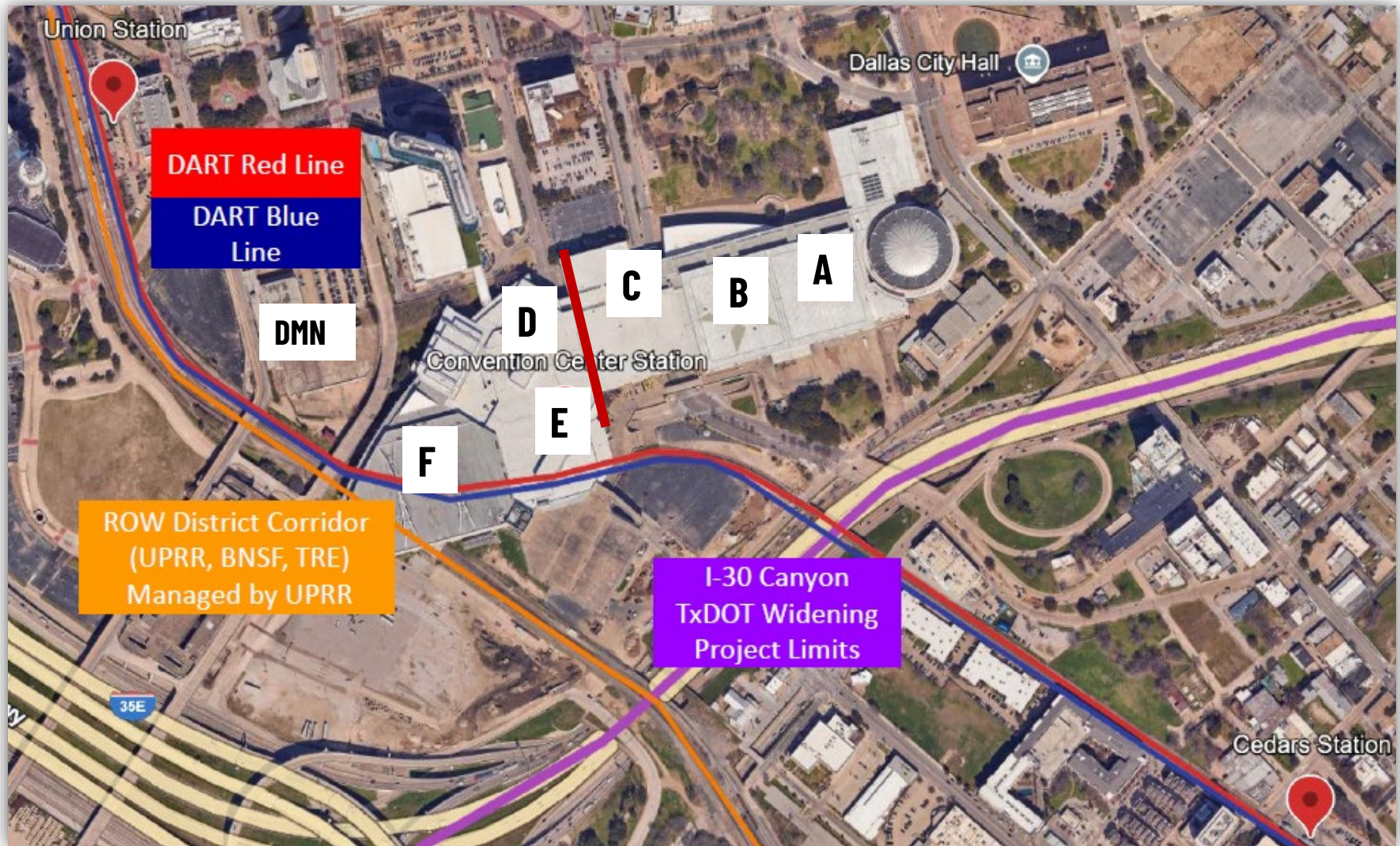
\*Rt. 383 will terminate in February 2026

# New Convention Center Project

- The City plans to demolish the existing convention center and construct a new convention center at approximately the same site.
- The City plans for the future convention center to include a mobility hub that provides a single point of access for all of DART's transit services.
- Project will require temporary closure of the Convention Center station, including the bus layover area.
- The City anticipates the portion of the Project that will impact DART's transit services to have a duration of approximately 4 years.
- DART staff, City staff, and City's consultants have collaborated for the past year to prepare for the demolition and construction activities and minimize the effects of the Project to DART customers.



# Project Overview



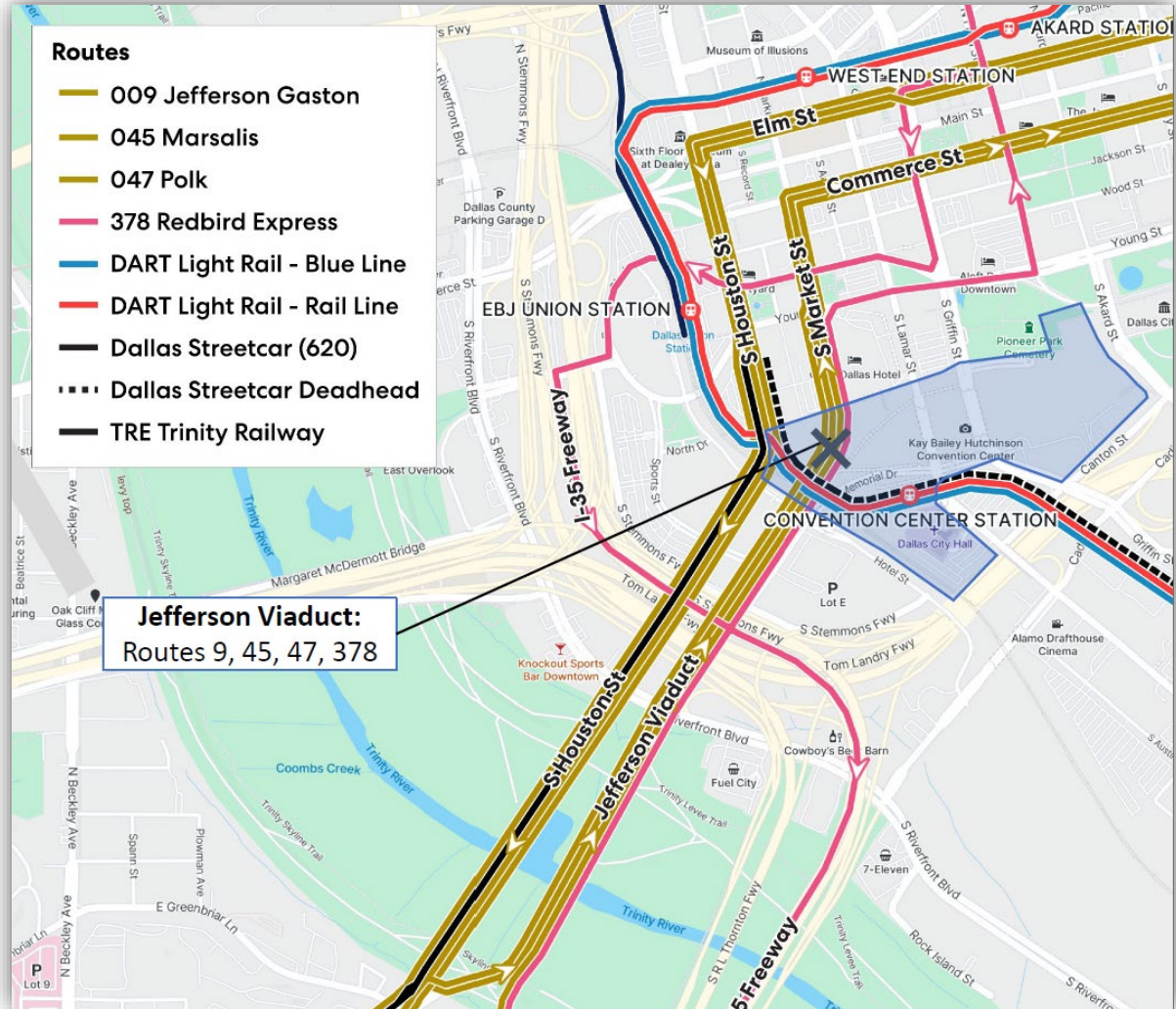
# Anticipated Project Schedule

- December 2025 - ILA Execution
- January 2026 - DART Station Closure
- February 2026 - Begin demolition on DART Property
- 2026 to 2029 - Construction
- End of 2029 - Project Completion



# Jefferson Viaduct Impact

- Close Market St./Jefferson Viaduct for reconstruction.
- Full traffic study and temporary conditions to be completed by HNTB (via City of Dallas contract).
- Anticipate making Houston Street 2-way





# Jefferson Viaduct Proposed Alternative

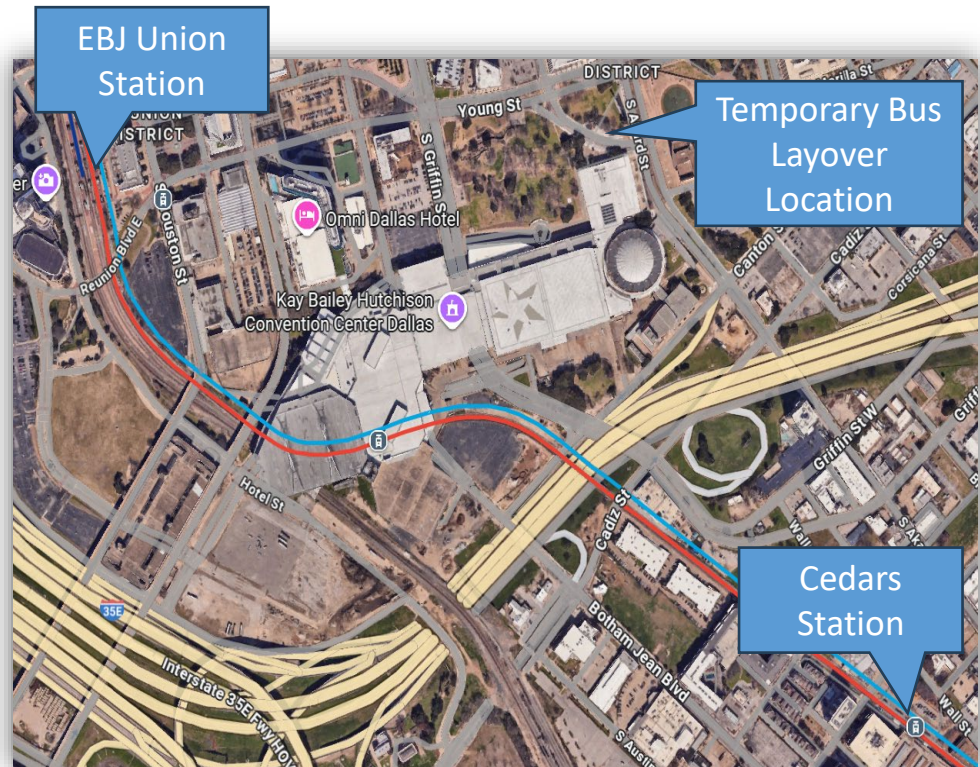
- Conceptual conversion of Houston to two-way w/ streetcar
- Minimizes bus impacts





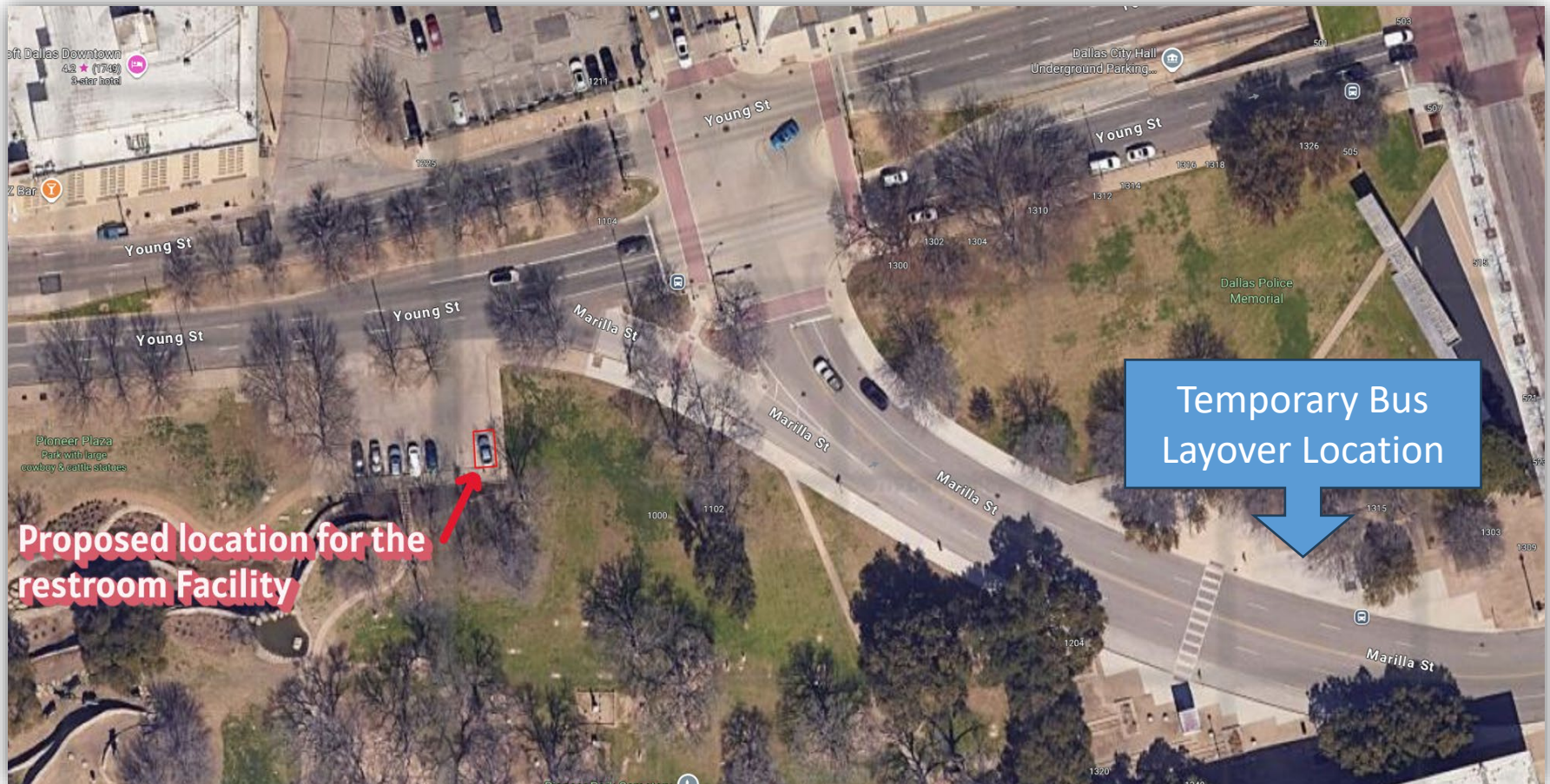
# Agreement Terms

- DART will grant a license to the City to work on our property.
- Each portion of the work will require a contractor's right-of-entry agreement (CROE) to be executed between DART and the City's contractor.
- DART will create a GoLink connection that provides service for trips originating at EBJ Union, Cedars, or the new bus layover location on Marilla Street and terminating at one of those 3 locations.



# Agreement Terms

- City will provide a substitute temporary bus layover location at Marilla Street for Routes 128 and 106.
- City will provide and maintain an access-controlled portable restroom at a City-owned parking lot at Marilla and Young Streets for DART operators.





# Agreement Terms

- Project costs incurred by DART will be at the City's cost (engineering review, construction oversight, relocation of facilities, GoLink connection, field support, etc.).
- COD has approved \$3M for the first 18 months of the project.
- Annual review of the reimbursement costs, GoLink service and other aspects of the project to make any necessary adjustments and ensure additional Council approvals for reimbursement funds are timely secured.
- Jointly prepare a vision for the future mobility hub at the new convention center.
- Jointly determine allocation of the design and construction work for the mobility hub.
- Jointly prepare/update a traffic control plan for the road closures that will occur for the KBHCC project, Jefferson Viaduct reconstruction, and TxDOT I-30 Canyon project.



# Communications Plan

## Objectives

- Provide clear, timely, and accessible information to riders about the closure.
- Maintain transparency with employees, board members, and stakeholders.
- Reinforce DART's commitment to safe, reliable, and customer-centered transit service.
- Ensure consistent messaging across all communication channels.

## Messaging Framework

- **Primary Message:** Due to construction at KBHCC, DART, in collaboration with the City of Dallas, will temporarily close its Convention Center station.
- **Tone:** Informative, transparent, and supportive of customer needs.
- **Key Points:**
  - Riders will be given advance notice and informed about alternative routes.
  - No closure date has been set yet, but early communication is essential.
  - DART remains committed to providing safe, reliable, and convenient service during this transition.

**Tactics** – timing for all tactics is variable based on City of Dallas construction timeline

- Press Release
- Social Media
- Internal Communications
- Web Design/Digital
- Wayfinding
- Community Outreach

## Timing

- Pre-communications began in Q1 FY26 with signage
- DART requires 2-weeks notice before station closure to alert riders and share alternate routes
- Communication continues through station closure to reopening.

# Next Steps

- *On Nov. 12, Dallas City Council authorized \$3M in reimbursements to DART and authorized the City Manager to negotiate and execute the agreement.*
- Execution of ILA with City of Dallas.
- Execution of Contractor's Right-of-Entry with Trinity Alliance for demolition.
- Communications to the public regarding station closure.
- Continue reviewing engineering plans and issuing Right-of-Entry agreements.
- Coordination with Dallas and TxDOT on road closures and OCS shut-downs.
- Pause on some ongoing capital projects at station (PIDS/TVMs).
- Coordination of final design concept & shared responsibilities for mobility hub.
- Scope station modernization scope based on combined vision.



City of Dallas



# Recommendation

- Approval of a resolution authorizing the President & Chief Executive Officer or her designee to execute an Agreement with the City of Dallas regarding the Convention Center Project in substantially the form attached to the resolution as Exhibit 1, subject to legal review.





[DART.org](http://DART.org)

# Appendix



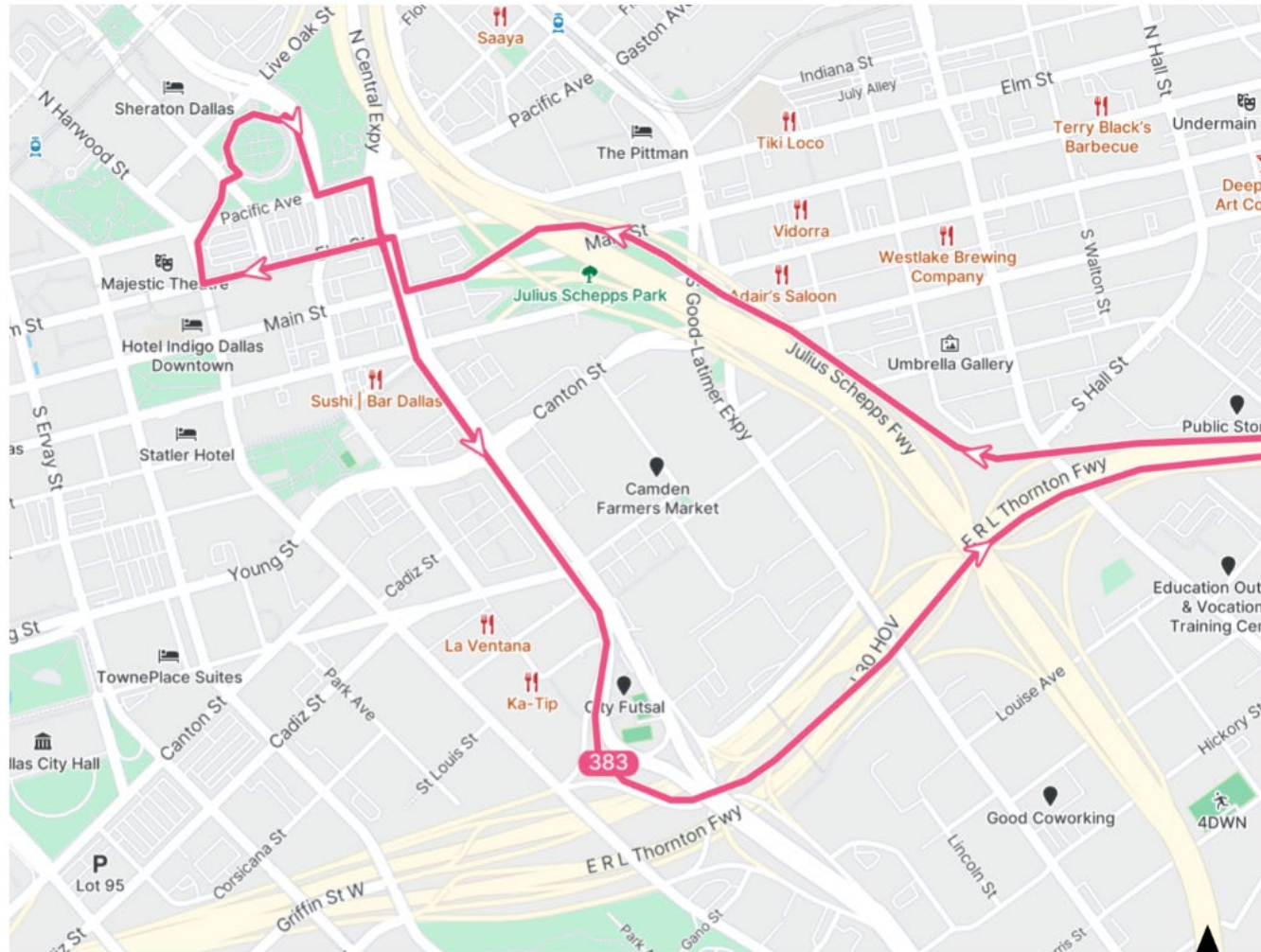
**Route 383, 224, 106, 28**





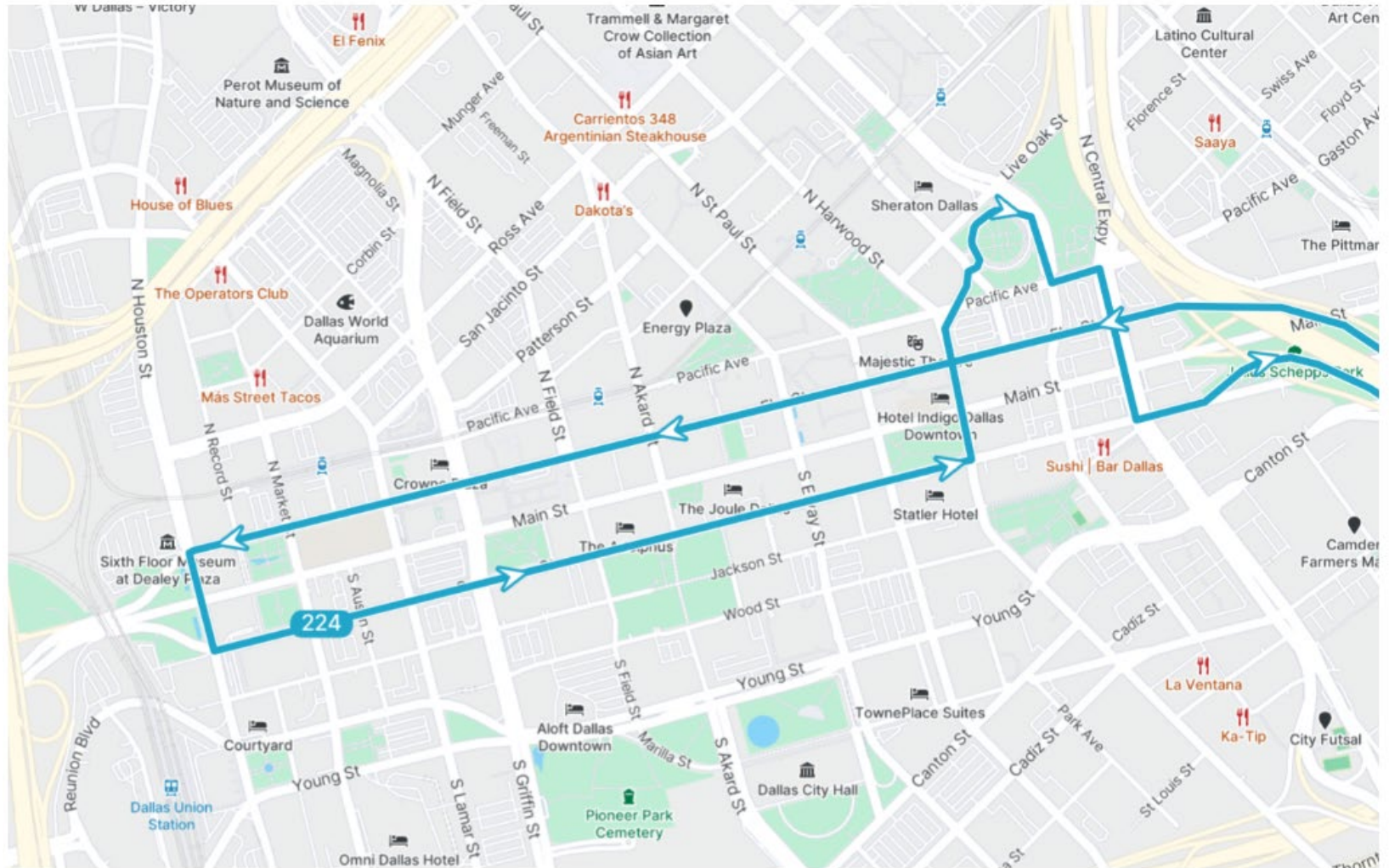
# Bus Re-Routes

383



# Bus Re-Routes

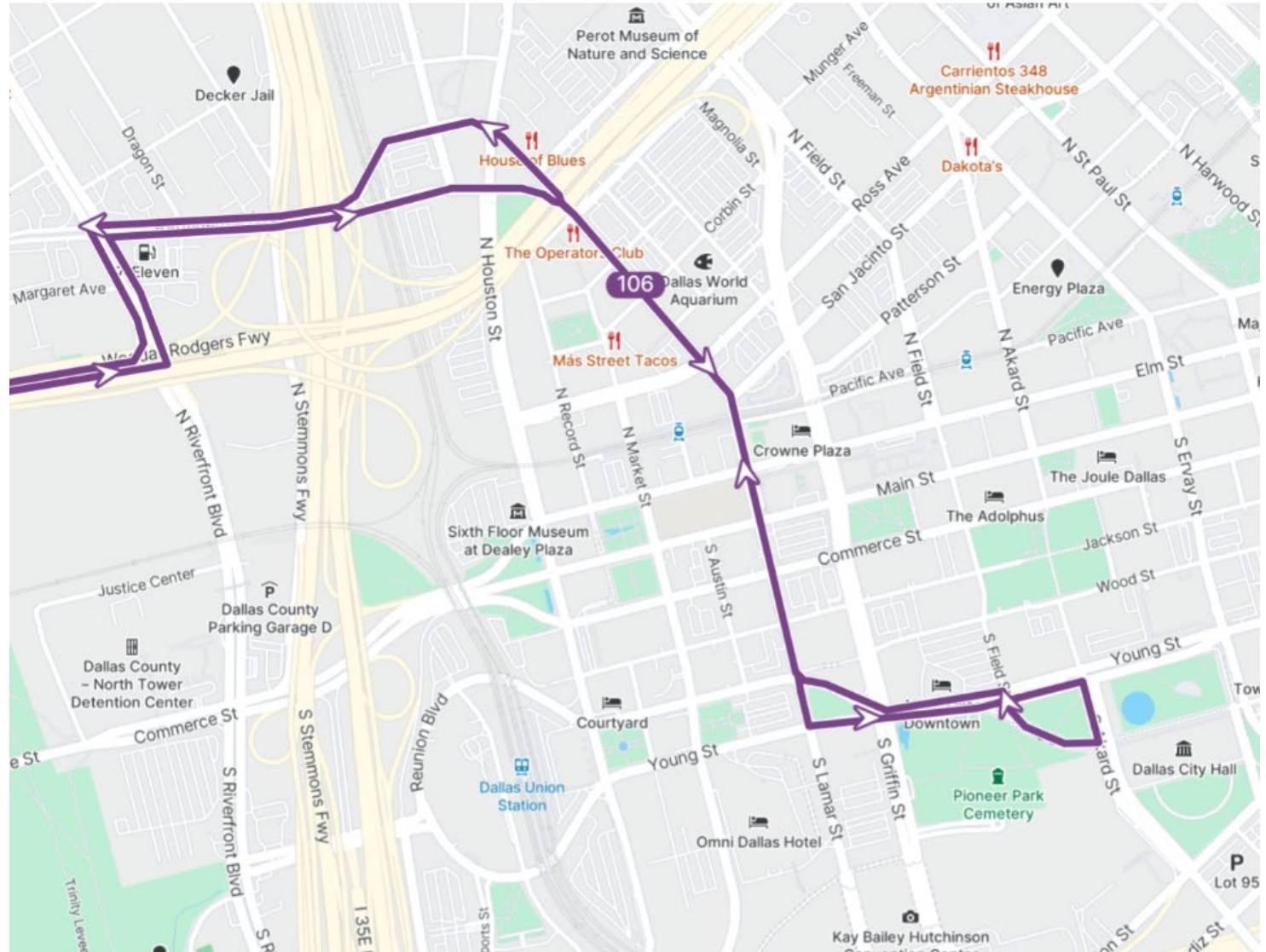
224





# Bus Re-Routes

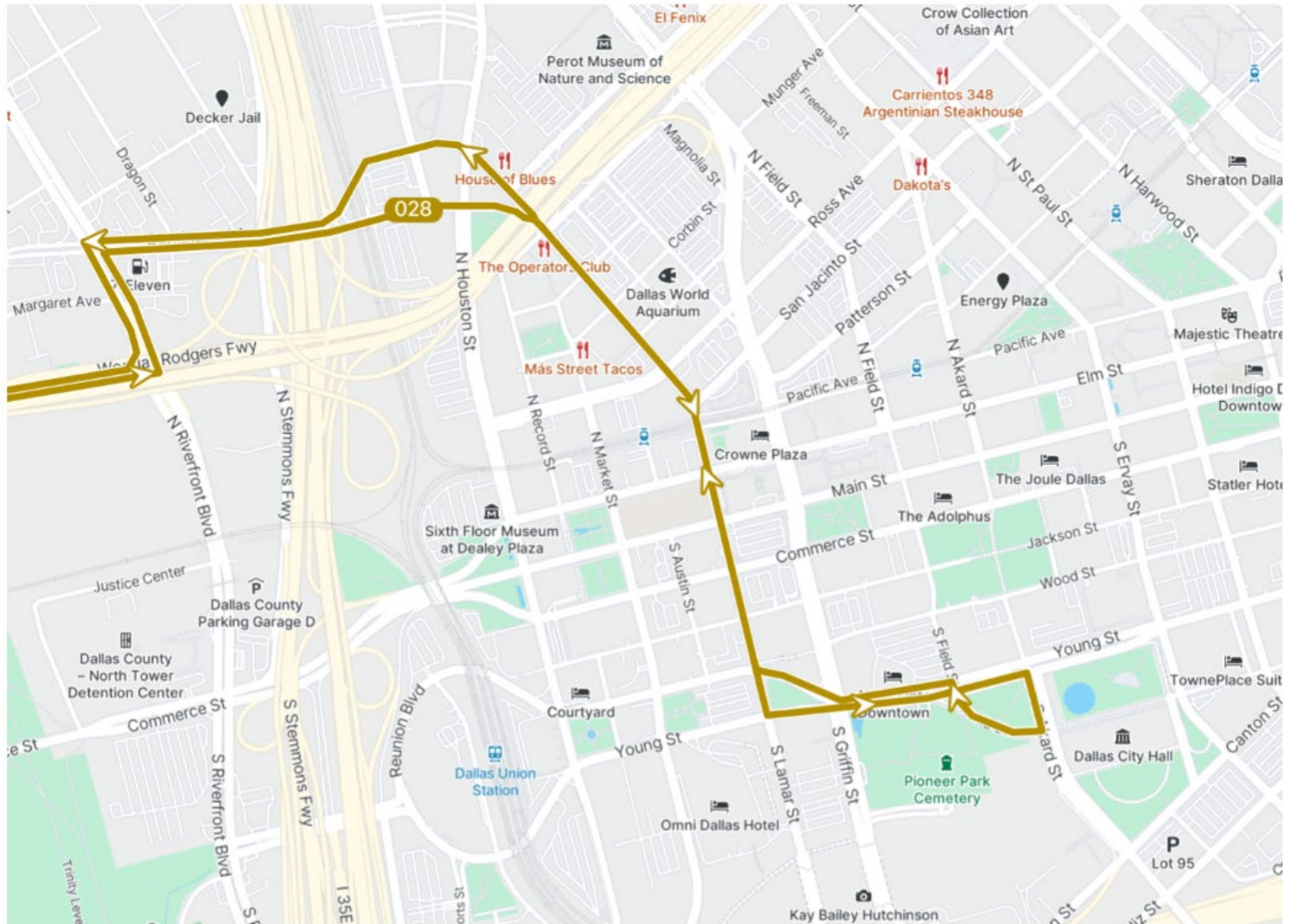
106





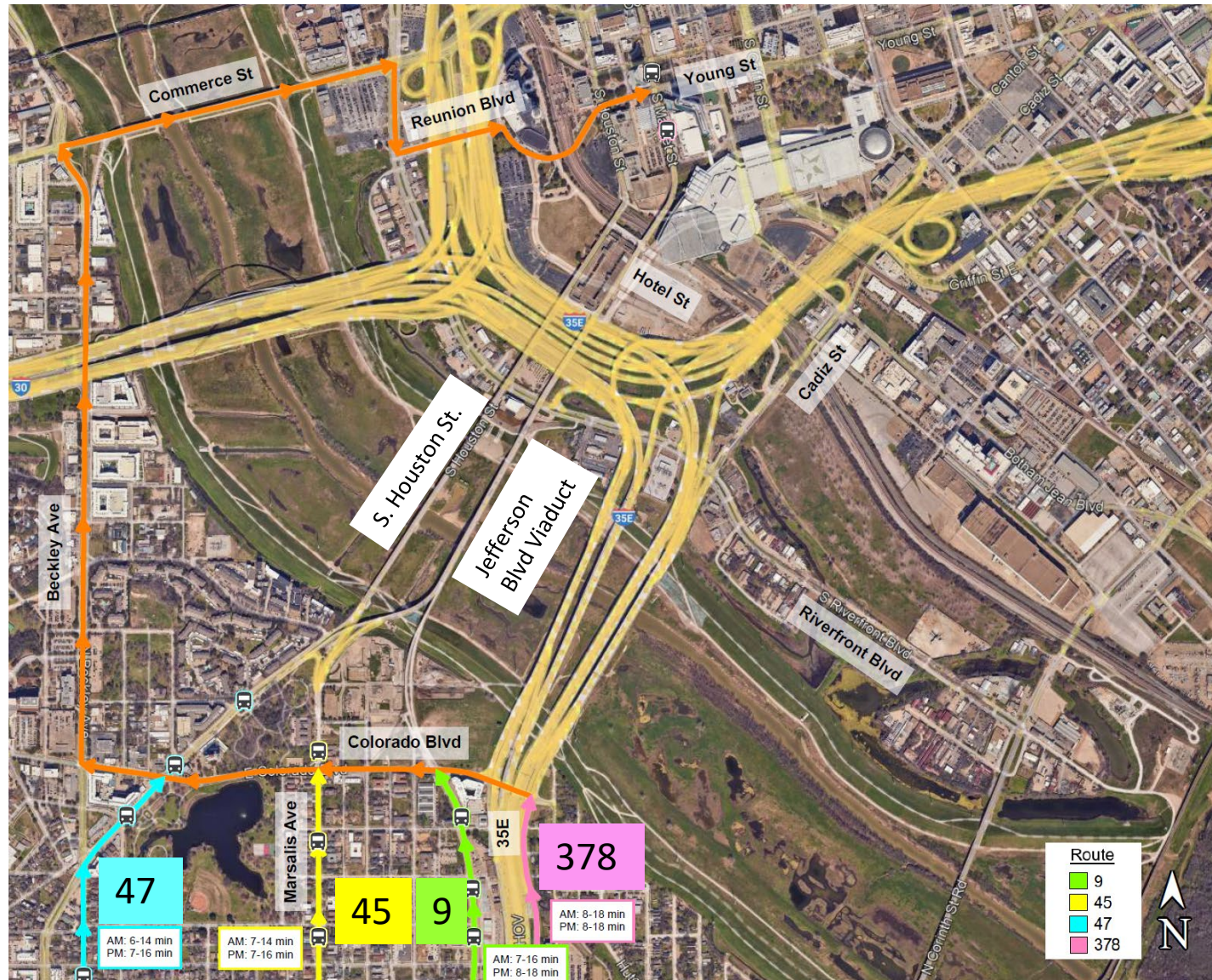
# Bus Re-Routes

028



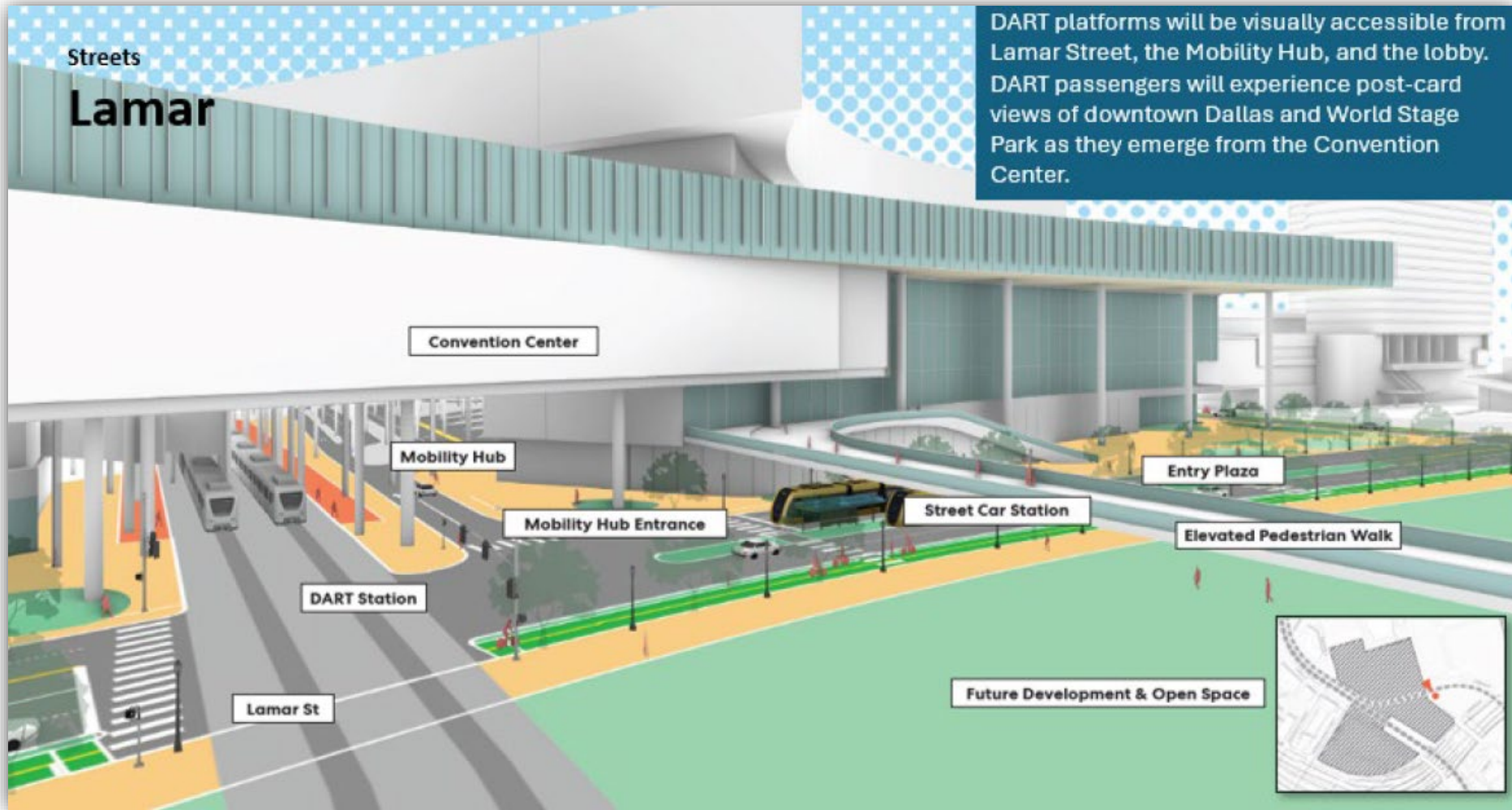


# Proposed Jefferson Viaduct Alternative 3

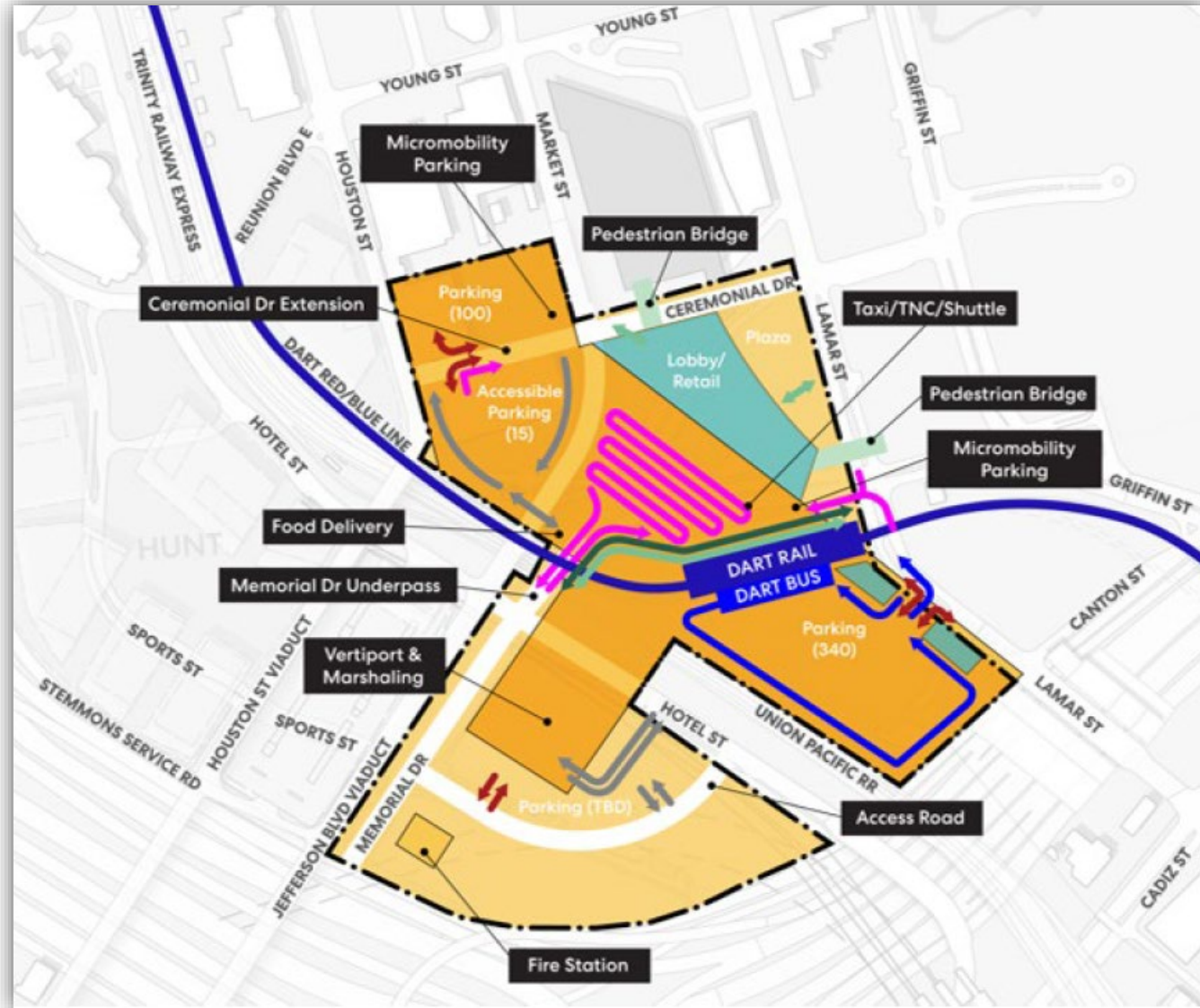




# Anticipated Future Condition



# Anticipated Future Condition





# Anticipated Future Condition





# Anticipated Future Condition





# Anticipated Future Condition





# Anticipated Future Condition





# Anticipated Future Condition







[DART.org](http://DART.org)