

METRO Solutions Phase 2 University Corridor - West

Edloe Crossover to Richmond

WHY

- Much higher chance of sufficient and expanding ridership
- Goes through heart of commercial areas - existing destinations
- Directly services Greenway Plaza - traffic alleviated
- Directly services Lakewood Church (30K each Sunday)
- Nearer Alabama and Westheimer ridership
- Most direct route to and from downtown from Galleria
- Will not have to re-cross 59 outside or on loop 610 en route
- Lesser number of homes affected than edging Boulevard Oaks
- Can expand commercially north and south on Richmond
- Opportunity for builders/developers to renovate, expand and add combined commercial and residential spaces
- No major power line issues

WHY NOT

- Temporary disruption of business during construction
- Political backlash - opposition more vocal and organized

Middle of freeway drop-down alternative

WHY NOT

- Equal or greater impediment to ridership than Westpark
- Would eliminate needed lanes or HOV lanes - 59 already jammed here
- Stairways dropped down from bridges are impractical
- Serious handicap access issue for drop downs from bridges
- No commercial interim destinations east of Kirby
- No destinations + rail stop in all residential area promotes crime
- Bypasses Richmond areas ripe for development/revitalization
- Farther away from Alabama and Westheimer ridership
- No opportunity for new development north or south
- Construction will require closure of large section of newly rebuilt 59
- Flooding exposure for significant rains
- No practical way to exit 59 near downtown
- "Stacking" trains prohibitively expensive
- 27' width needed for trains both ways - will consume 3 lanes

Westpark east of Kirby route

WHY NOT

- No Westpark ridership west or east of Kirby
- No significant existing commercial destinations along this route
- No opportunity for builders/developers to build or revitalize here
- Absence of restaurants, shops, destinations lead to crime promotion
- No opportunity for commercial expansion to north - freeway blocks
- No opportunity for commercial expansion to south - all \$\$ houses
- Existing houses bordering US 59 \$\$ and all deed restricted
- US 59 eastbound exits will back up with crossbucks 1 block away
- Kirby drainage project closes Kirby N-S 1 yr, exacerbates N-S traffic jams
- 5 2-lane bridges only way to cross N-S on 12 lane freeway - blocked
- Safety - large # kids crossing tracks to Poe Elementary 2X day
- BOCA neighborhood kids crossing tracks to use Chew Park (Dunlavy)
- Centerpoint easement insufficient width for rail
- Hi voltage Reliant Energy lines too close together
- Equal or greater number of houses directly affected than Afton Oaks
- Easement stops at Kirby going eastbound

