

CENTRO PLAZA

FAQ

What is the proposed Centro Plaza project?

The Centro Plaza project is an effort to build a transfer facility located on the near West Side that will increase mobility, promote transit-oriented development, stimulate economic development, promote pedestrian and bike-friendly neighborhoods, and enhance access to the City's Central Business District. It will divert more than half the local bus traffic away from the center of downtown, while improving the ease and efficiency of bus transfers.

What types of buses will be using Centro Plaza?

Phase I of the project is currently serving as a transfer facility for VIA Primo, which takes people to and from the Medical Center and serves as a downtown circulator as well. The facility will serve as a point of intersection between several existing bus routes, a suburban Express route and the Primo bus service.

Phase II, when complete, will be used by hybrid and fuel-efficient buses traveling throughout VIA's 1,226 square mile service area.

The facility is poised to be a hub for mass transit growth by serving various modes of public transportation and later for inter-city bus service, commuter rail and high-speed rail services.



What does Phase I of the project include?

Phase I of the project included renovation of the historic International & Great Northern Depot into a transit center which facilitates a critical mass of bus activity and will offer an opportunity for patrons to transfer from one route to another, with improved amenities relative to their present-day experience.

The transit center provides indoor customer service, ticket purchasing, bus passes, identifications, bus information, trip planning, restrooms, an indoor waiting area, vending machines, parking and on-site security 24 hours a day. The multimodal center will also provide parking for approximately 120 vehicles.

What are the operating hours for Customer Service?

Customer Service hours are as follows: Monday through Friday, 8am-1pm and 2:30pm to 5:00pm.

What does Phase II of the project include?

Phase II is a proposed 2.1-acre extension of Phase I that adds a transit plaza to the project and will create a more pedestrian-friendly environment. The current plans include a canopy, air-conditioned waiting areas, ticket vending, real-time bus arrival information and an area for food vendors and bicycle racks. It will also be the transfer point for different modes of transit service, such as local bus service, future inter-city bus service, like Greyhound, and commuter and high-speed rail. Completion for this Phase II of the project is expected in fall of 2015.

When will the project be complete?

Phase I is already complete and operational. Construction of Phase II of the project is slated to begin summer of 2014 and the project is scheduled to be open in the fall of 2015.



Thank you for taking an interest in the Centro Plaza project. We've developed a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to help inform you about this important project. You can learn more by going to our website at VIAsmartmove.com or by calling us at (210) 299-5929.

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FAQ

Who will the project serve?

Phase I of the project is already serving passengers of the new Primo bus service from the downtown area to the Medical Center. Once the second phase of the project is complete, people will be able to use the transit station to get to various parts of the community throughout VIA's 1,226 square mile service area. They will also be able to enjoy the various amenities offered at the transit plaza, which will become a hub for activity in a pedestrian and bike-friendly environment.

How will the project benefit me and/or the city?

More than 16,000 transit trips are made daily to San Antonio's Central Business District, but the city lacks a centralized downtown location where riders can transfer to other transit services. This facility will reduce the number of pedestrians who must wait at crowded downtown bus stops. It will also enable buses to wait in the transit center on layovers, reducing bus operating expenses and alleviating congestion downtown. Other benefits include:

- It is a catalyst for economic revitalization in the area.
- Commuters should save considerably on gas and parking fees.
- It provides more travel options to get to and from the Central Business District.
- It facilitate transfers on several transit services, including Primo, Express and Regular Bus service, and possible future commuter rail and inter-city bus service.
- The concentration of transit services at this location will also improve accessibility to the UTSA Downtown Campus and the University Hospital expansion, while creating new area foot traffic and encouraging mixed-use development opportunities.
- People will enjoy enhanced quality of life and greater accessibility to amenities where they live, work and play.
- Potential future services will include taxi, short-term parking, bike share car share, and kiss & ride.

How will the Project be funded?

VIA received a \$15 million TIGER grant from the Department of Transportation/Federal Transit Administration to build Phase II of the project.

What are the Long Range Comprehensive Transportation Plan?

The Long Range Comprehensive Transportation Plan (LRCTP) is the product of an extensive two-year public involvement effort to develop a comprehensive 25-year plan to improve public transit services in our community. It addresses a variety of mobility needs and provides multimodal solutions for future transportation. The High Capacity Transit Program consists of six projects that are a byproduct of the LRCTP that have been identified for development and construction in the short term. This transit center project is one of the six projects.

What is Transit-Oriented Development?

Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) is compact development, located within a comfortable walk to transit, which provides for integrated, mixed-use projects (retail, office, institutional and/or residential uses) and fully maximizes the connection to a transit facility. Typically, TODs are designed to encourage ridership and foster convenient, affordable lifestyles where housing, jobs, restaurants and entertainment are in close proximity.

How can I get involved?

You can sign up to be notified about updates, upcoming meetings and events. You can also learn about the project by calling (210) 299-5929 or by visiting our website at VIASmartMove.com. Most importantly, you can provide us with your input.



#VIASmartMove



Stay informed, get involved and make a difference.

VIASmartMove.com
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