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KOP Rail Transit-oriented Communities Spring 2022 Open House – April 6, 2022 Meeting Summary

Through the Spring 2022 Open House Series, SEPTA is looking for feedback on station area opportunities, potential connections at and around the KOP Rail stations, including sidewalks and trails, and future land use.

The second meeting in the Spring 2022 Series was an in-person meeting held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Upper Merion Community Center. Approximately 50 people attended. There were 11 boards available for the public to review. (The informational display boards and meeting handouts are provided in this PDF.) Attendees were able to ask questions or provide comments to the project team members.



At this meeting, attendees were re-introduced to the transit-oriented communities study, which looks forward 15 to 20 years to identify how the communities around the stations should develop to meet the **community's** goals and maximize **KOP Rail's** benefits. The project team asked the public to comment on the opportunities and constraints at each of the five planned stations: Henderson Road, Allendale Road, Mall Boulevard, First & American, and First & Moore. The project team also gave the public the opportunity to comment on connectivity and land use surrounding the stations.

Henderson Road Station

Participants mentioned the importance of the connection to the Chester Valley Trail and need for bike share, bike parking, bike charging stations, and bike lockers at stations. In terms of amenities, participants mentioned a desire to have parking at the stations for commuters. Visibility, safety, and openness at the station is critical. Specific connectivity suggestions included: a pedestrian/bike connection from Saulin Blvd to Crooked Lane, a sidewalk on Henderson that extends to the PA Turnpike, bike connections to the station from Henderson and Saulin, and the ability to walk from Tyler Road to the station.

Allendale Road Station

The comments at this station focused on the heavy traffic in this area during the holiday shopping season (and associated police overtime), as well as perceived crime related to the mall. There was a desire for connectivity for cyclists and pedestrians to/from the neighborhood north of the Turnpike and east of Allendale Road. Representatives from some businesses expressed concern about construction and riders potentially parking in their parking lots. Several people expressed concerns about mitigating stormwater impacts on Crowe Creek.



Mall Boulevard Station

Participants expressed concern about whether there would be sidewalks for pedestrians near this station, especially the lack of a direct connection into the mall from this station. They also expressed support for bike rental and bike share, as well as room for bikes on the KOP Rail vehicles. Land use concerns at this station included questions about easements, whether there will be a burst of development, and what representatives from the Mall and Costco think about the project.

First & American Station

Participants commented that this station area is difficult for cyclists and expressed a desire for bike access on American Street.

First & Moore Station

The primary comments about this station area were the need for a walkable/bikeable connection from the end of the line to Valley Forge National Historical Park.

One participant commented that they feel SEPTA is underestimating how many people will use KOP Rail from Phoenixville and Royersford. There is a desire to improve the Moore-Irwin House, located on Moore Road, which served as quarters for General Muhlenberg during the 1777-78 encampment at Valley Forge.

General Feedback

In addition to station-area-specific feedback, several members of the public also asked general questions about the project, especially about safety/security, construction noise/delays/detours, transfers, parking, funding, the elevated guideway, noise, and property values. Some participants expressed support for the project, while others expressed concern about the project.

Opportunities for Additional Comments

If you were unable to attend the Open House, you can submit questions or comments through the project website comment form, by emailing <u>info@kingofprussiarail.com</u>, or by calling 1-888-281-1999. SEPTA will also accept letters and comment forms mailed to the following address:

SEPTA King of Prussia Rail Project c/o McCormick Taylor, Inc. ATTN: ELM 1818 Market Street, 16th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103

Thank you to all who attended the Open House. Stay up-to-date on KOP Rail's progress by visiting <u>www.kingofprussiarail.com</u> and by subscribing to the project eNewsletter.



 Project Costs & Funding: \$2 Billion Funding will come from: Various government sources Various government sources Public-private partnerships Innovative finance options SEPTA will seek up to 50% of the project's funding from the FTA's New Starts Program. KOP Rail will seek federal funding separate from other projects and not re-direct federal money from other transportation needs or potential projects. 	2026 2027 Future		Grant	Construction	Increases Benefits the Environment
	2025		Fall Funding Grant Fall 2024		Connects People More Reliably, Conveniently,
Similar to other new rail projects around the country for cost per mile	2024	Engineering	gineering & ling Request	Design and ion Procurement	
	2023	Eng	Entry into Engineering & Federal Funding Request Fall 2022	Final Design and Construction Procurement	Promotes and Strengthens
	2022	Project Development 30% Design to April 2022 nt		October 2021	opment,
	Project Timeline	Pre-Project Development	EIS/ROD January 2021 Entry into Project Development	Project Benefits Stimulates commercial development, jobs, and annual earnings	
	Proj 2020				Stin Jobs

www.kingofprussiarail.com –

SEPTA

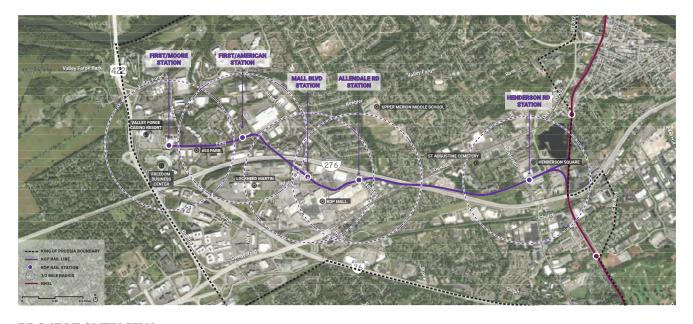
Access

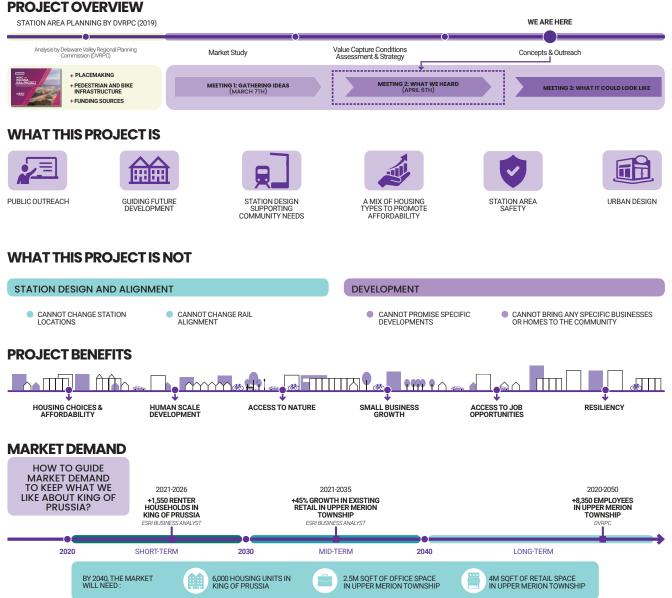
and Efficiently

Regional Growth









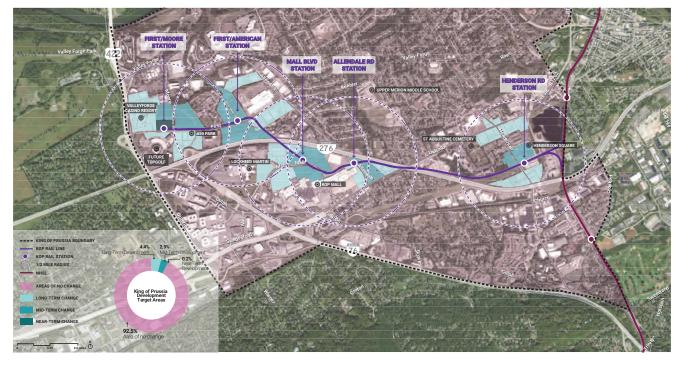






25 9					I	1 RESPOND TO HOUSING DEMAND	
MOBILITY	1 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	BUILDING TYPES		LAND USE	I	2 INTRODUCE MIXED-USE BUILDINGS	
Create an accessible,	2 EXISTING TRANSIT CONNECTIONS	Use a variety of building	1 INFILL STRATEGIES	Encourage	a mix of land uses	3 REVIEW PARKING REQUIREMENTS	
connected environment offering safe, multi-modal	3 NEW CONNECTIONS	types to promote human scale and walkability arou the station area.	UND 2 BUILDING SETBACKS AN ORIENTATION	ND to ensure pr and work op	oximity to retail portunities while he pedestrian	4 PLACEMAKING	
transportation options for residents and visitors alike.		the station area.	3 INTRODUCE NEW BUILD	ennancing t	he pedestrian around station areas.	5 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE	
	ACTIVE HARGE ORIANON		- I.				
BUILDING TYPES			•				
			and the second second				
MID-RISE BUILDING	TOWNHOMES OR STACKED FLATS	MAIN STREET COMMERCIAL LI	IGHT INDUSTRIAL / MAKER SPACE	INSTITUTIONAL / COMMUNITY	TOWER BUILDING	ENTERTAINMENT VENUE/ HOTEL	

DEVELOPMENT IN TARGETED AREAS



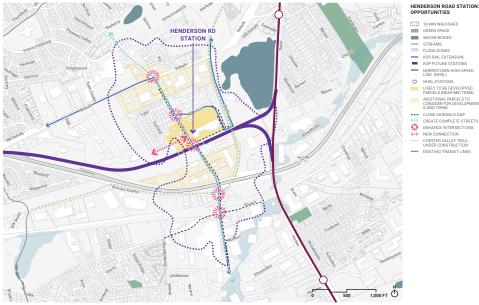
AREA OF NO CHANGE	NEAR-TERM (0-10 YEARS)	MID-TERM (10-20 YEARS)				LONG-TERM (+20 YEARS)			
		Residential 600-800 units	Retail 150,000-240,000 sqft	•	-	Residential 800-1,000 units	Retail 150,000-200,000 sqft	Office 100,000-150,000 sqft	Community 100,000-150,000 sqft
ALLENDALE RD STATION	NO NEAR-TERM DEVELOPMENT	Residential 200-300 units	Retail 100,000-150,000 sqft	Office 25,000-40,000 sqft	-	MARKET DEMAND			
MALL BLVD STATION	NO NEAR-TERM DEVELOPMENT	Residential 400-500 units	Retail 100,000-150,000 sqft	Office 30,000-50,000 sqft		MARKET DEMAND			
FIRST & AMERICAN STATION	NO NEAR-TERM DEVELOPMENT	Residential 400-500 units	Retail 80,000-100,000 sqft	Office 90,000-120,000 sqft	Light Industrial 300,000-400,000 sqft	MARKET DEMAND			
FIRST & MOORE STATION	Retail Office 50,000-70,000 sqft 150,000-250,000 sqft	Residential 900-1,200 units	Retail + Entertainment + Hospitality: 150,000-250,000 sqft	Office 250,000-350,000 sqft		Residential 900-1,200 units	Retail + Entertainment + Hospitality: 150,000-250,000 sqft	Office 250,000-350,000 sqft	.



HENDERSON RD STATION



OPPORTUNITIES



MOBILITY

Henderson Rd, Dekalb Pike, and Church Rd become active transportation arterials that provide access to the proposed station.

BUILT FORM

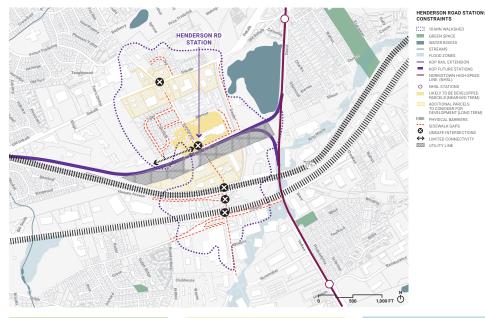
- Several multi-family buildings are within walking distance of the station.
- O Multi-family and 'missing middle' infill could help respond to market demand and maintain affordability.

WATER BODIES STREAMS FLOOD ZONES KOP RAIL EXTENSION KOP FUTURE STATIONS NORRISTOWN HIGH-SPEED LINE (NHSL) NHSL STATIONS NHOL STATIONS LIKELY TO BE DEVELOPPED PARCELS (NEAR-MID TERM) ADDITIONAL PARCELS TO CONSIDER FOR DEVELOPMEN (LONG TERM) (LONG TERM) --- CLOSE SIDEWALK GAP --- CREATE COMPLETE STREETS ENHANCE INTERSECTIONS --- NEW CONNECTION

DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER OPPORTUNITIES IN MIND AROUND THE HENDERSON RD STATION AREA?

DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER CONSTRAINTS IN MIND AROUND THE HENDERSON RD STATION AREA?

CONSTRAINTS



MOBILITY

- Sidewalk gaps, traffic volumes, and vehicle speeds negatively impact the walking experience.
- The PA Tumpike, the Conrail Morrisville Line and the PECO electric utility line divide the station area and restrict the street grid creating limited routes to choose from.
- ⊙ There are **many challenging intersections** due to missing crosswalks or long crossing distances.

BUILT FORM

- O Most **building typologies** within the station area **do not contribute to walkability.** Existing building setbacks do not support a transit-friendly environment.
- Large surface parking areas front on the
- station area's major active transportation arterials

LAND USE

LAND USE

 \oplus A $\ensuremath{\mathsf{mix}}$ of $\ensuremath{\mathsf{uses}}$ already exists in the station area. A number of underutilized and vacant parcels within walking distance of the proposed station.

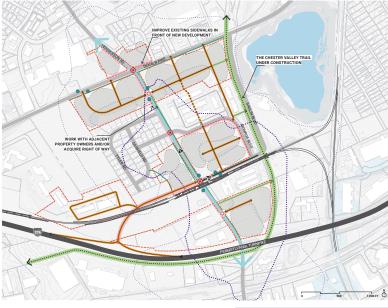
Retail mixed-use buildings in potential development parcels could enhance the pedestrian experience.

- O Parking requirements could lead to even more surface parking areas in a growing transit-oriented community.
- Single-use buildings are the current development pattern in the station area.





CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS







HENDERSON RD THE MAIN BOULEVARD

- Henderson Rd. : the priority access corridor
- Bring buildings to street edge to frame the road and enhance the pedestrian experience.
- In parcels not identified as areas of change, work with property owners to integrate active transportation infrastructure.
- Shared pathways on Henderson Rd.

SAULIN BLVD IMPROVEMENTS

Saulin Blvd. is the main access route to the Chester Valley Trail extension - Remove lane to add a bike lane to ensure bike access to the trail.

Improve public realm on the north side by adding a buffered pedestrian infrastructure in front of future development.

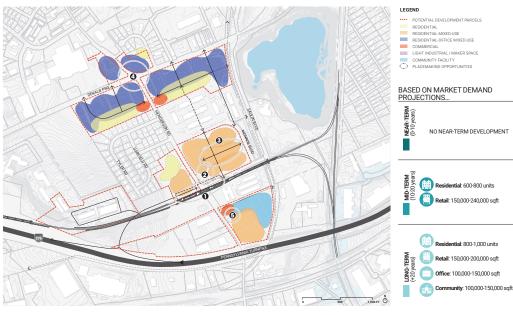
LEGEND

- POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PARCELS
 POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PARCELS
 PONENTIALAS TUBERES
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 DENSTURY ORANGE LANS
 ENSTURY ORANGE LANS
 POTENTIAL STEETIS
 OFOTENTIALISTERISON
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 SAURDO LOBERTI
 BRELANE

- RECOMMENDED BUS STOPS & CONNECTIONS
 INTERSECTION: TRAFFIC SIGNAL
 INTERSECTION: STOP SIGN
 SHEDISENON RD CROSS SECTION
 SAULIN BLVD CROSS SECTION

DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE HENDERSON RD STATION CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS?

LAND USE APPROACH



DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS

ABOUT THE HENDERSON RD STATION LAND USE APPROACH?

PLACEMAKING OPPORTUNITIES





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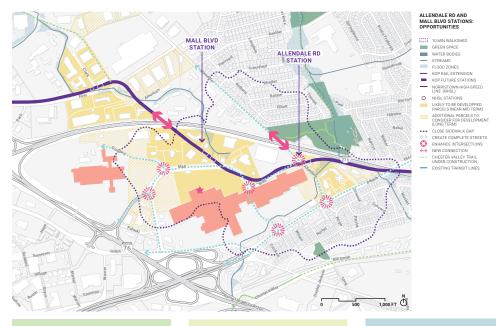


KOP MALL STATIONS ALLENDALE RD & MALL BLVD STATIONS



DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER OPPORTUNITIES IN MIND AROUND THE KOP MALL STATION AREA?

OPPORTUNITIES



MOBILITY

- (c) Mail Bird, Wills Bird, Allendale Rd, Goddard Bird, and Dekalb Pike become active transportation corridors, in which improvements will lead to better connectivity to stations, key employment and retail centers.
- The KOP Transit center, serving 6 SEPTA buses, is located in the KOP Mall.
- Crow Creek and Chester Valley trail extensions offer opportunities to connect stations to adjacent residential neighborhoods.

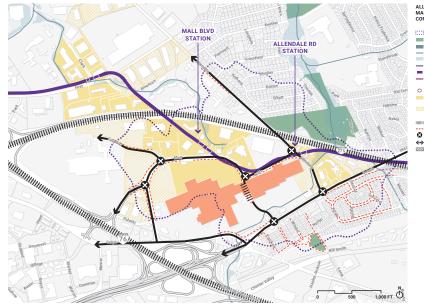
BUILT FORM

Several multi-family developments are within walking distance of stations, including Courtside Square, KOP Arms Apartments, Abrams Run Apartments, and Valley Forge Suites.

LAND USE

- O Allendale Rd. and Mall Blvd. stations serve the KOP mall, one of the largest malls in the US and the largest employer of King of Prussia.
- Lockheed Martin, a major employer in King of Prussia, is within walking distance.

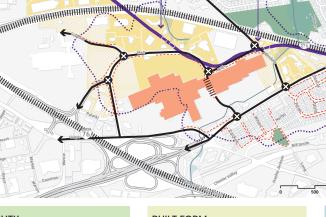
CONSTRAINTS



ALLENDALE RD AND MALL BLVD STATIONS: CONSTRAINTS

- 10 MIN WALKSHED
- 10 MIN WALKSHED GREEN SPACE WATER BODIES STREAMS FLOOD ZONES KOP RAIL EXTENSION KOP FUTURE STATIONS
- NORRISTOWN HIGH-SPEED LINE (NHSL) NHSL STATIONS
- NHSL STATIONS LIKELY TO BE DEVELOPPED PARCELS (WEAR-MID TERM) ADDITIONAL PARCELS TO CONSIDER FOR DEVELOPMENT (LONG TERM) PHYSICAL BARRIERS SIDEWALK GAPS UNSAFE INTERSECTIONS LIMITED CONNECTIVITY UTILITY LINE
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- ***•**>

DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER CONSTRAINTS IN MIND AROUND THE KOP MALL STATION AREA?



MOBILITY

- C Highway and interchanges are major physical
- O High-volume streets are uncomfortable for pedestrians and cyclists There are a significant number of **uncomfortable**
- intersection crossings due to long crossing distances, wait times, and crossing restrictions. Lack of bicycle facilities, narrow shoulders, high vehicular speeds, and high traffic volumes create an uncomfortable cycling environment.

BUILT FORM

- O Large footprint of KOP Mall and the nature of the street grid makes walking distances long.
- O Large parking lots prevent comfortable walking to and from stations, especially those around the KOP Mall.

LAND USE

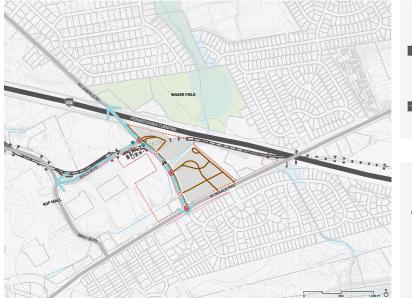
- Existing land uses generally do not include a mix of uses and are occupied by largely commercial spaces.
- O Residential land uses are located north of the PA Turnpike and south of the W Dekalb Pike, two major arterials, with few crossing possibilities.

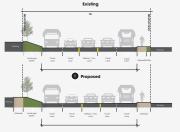


ALLENDALE RD STATION



CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS





Improve the public realm by adding a buffered pedestrian infrastructure.

ALLENDALE RD IMPROVEMENTS

In parcels not identified as areas of change, work with property owners to integral an active transportation infrastructure.

Allendale Rd. : the priority access corridor.

Existing 2

WILLS BLVD IMPROVEMENTS

- Wills Blvd. connects Allendale Road and Mall Blvd.
- Improve public realm on the south side by adding a buffered pedestrian sidewalk in front of future development.

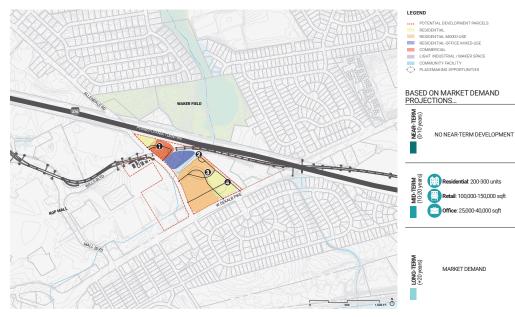
LEGEND

- LEGEND ... POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PARCELS ... S10 NIN WALKSHEDS PONNSYVARA TURPIKE DISTING STREETS DISTING PRIVATE LAKES INSTRING PARCHARACTORY POTENTIAL STREETS CHESTER VALLEY TRALL D'TRASION SDEVAL(NEW NAD/CR DIVIANCED) MARCED USE PATH BIELELKE

RECOMMENDED BUS STOPS & CONNECTIONS
 INTERSECTION: TRAFFIC SIGNAL
 INTERSECTION: STOP SIGN
 ALLENDALER O-CROSS SECTION
 WILLS BLVD-CROSS SECTION

DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE ALLENDALE RD STATION CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS?

LAND USE APPROACH



DO YOU HAVE ANY **COMMENTS** ABOUT THE ALLENDALE RD STATION **LAND USE** APPROACH?

PLACEMAKING OPPORTUNITIES

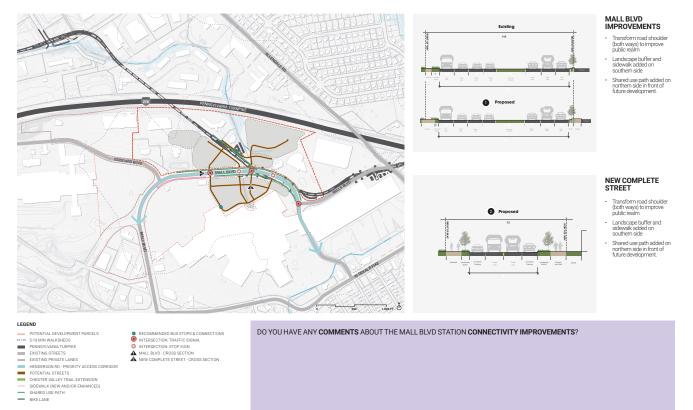




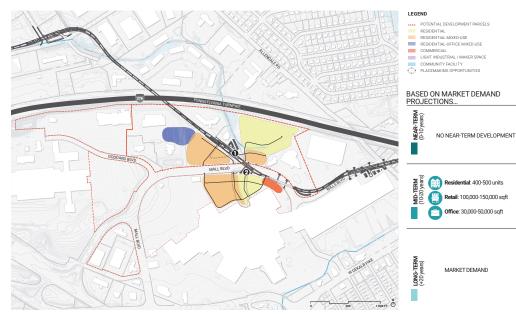
MALL BLVD STATION



CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS



LAND USE APPROACH



DO YOU HAVE ANY **COMMENTS** ABOUT THE MALL BLVD STATION **LAND USE** APPROACH?

PLACEMAKING OPPORTUNITIES



STATION, VANCOUVER, CANAD

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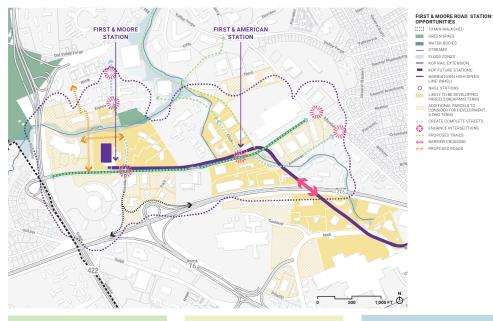


FIRST AVENUE STATIONS FIRST & AMERICAN AND FIRST & MOORE STATIONS



DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER OPPORTUNITIES IN MIND AROUND THE FIRST AVENUE STATION AREA?

OPPORTUNITIES



MOBILITY

1-mile First Avenue Linear Park with its multi-use park links Moore Rd to Allendale Rd. On N. Gulph Road could potentially act as a link to the Valley Forge National Historic Park.

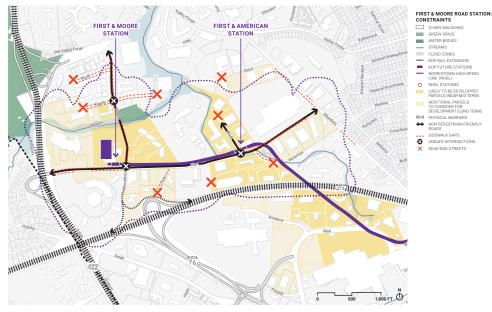
BUILT FORM

Or Repositioning of existing development and increased opportunities for new development within the the station area.

LAND USE

- Over Park KOP is a major employment center.
- ✤ Diversity of land use is reflected in office, warehouse/distribution, new apartment complexes, and attractions.
- O Valley Forge National Historic Park and the Moore-Irwin property offer significant open space within close proximity to the station

CONSTRAINTS



- DEAD-END STREETS

DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER CONSTRAINTS IN MIND AROUND THE FIRST AVENUE STATION AREA?

MOBILITY

- Converging highways create significant physical barriers to active mobility.
- Connectivy is limited by discontinuous sidewalks, dead-end streets, and limited crossinas.
- O Many illegal crossings of First Ave occur as a result of this limited connectivity.
- O Topographic change makes pedestrian connectivity difficult in certain locations.

BUILT FORM

- O Variety of large-scale warehouse, distribution and light manufacturing building types compose the area built form.
- Existing building type and massing do not provide welcoming or intuitive pedestrian access.

LAND USE

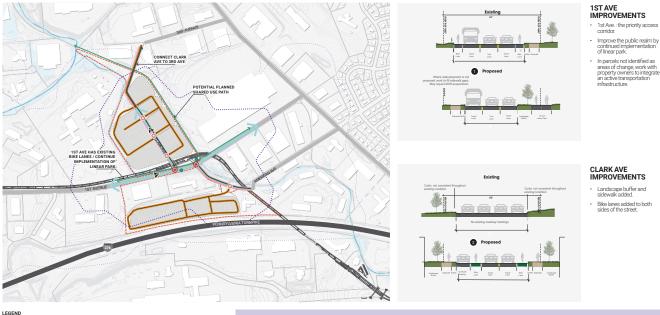
- Existing low-density, commercial and industrial land-use mix does not help with walkability.
- C Lack of a residential component to foster the area a community.



FIRST & AMERICAN STATION



CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS



POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PARCELS
 5-10 MIN WALKSHEDS
 PENNSYLVANIA TURPIKE
 EXISTING STREETS
 EXISTING PRIVATE LANES
 IST AVE & CLARK AVE- PRIORITY ACCESS
 CORRIDORS

- CORRIDORS

 POTENTIAL STREETS

 PROPOSED PRIVATE LANES

 SIDEWALK (NEW AND/OR ENHANCED)

 SHARED USE PATH

 BIKE LANE

LAND USE APPROACH

RECOMMENDED BUS STOPS & CONNECTIONS
 INTERSECTION: TRAFFIC SIGNAL
 INTERSECTION: TRAFFIC SIGNAL
 INTERSECTION: STOP SIGN
 A STAVE-CROSS SECTION
 A CLARK AVENUE - CROSS SECTION

LEGEND POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PARCELS RESIDENTIAL RESIDENTIAL MIKED-USE COMMENCIAL LIGHT INDUSTRIAL / MAKER SPACE COMMUNITY FACILITY PLACEMAKING OPPORTUNITIES

DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE FIRST & AMERICAN STATION CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS?

BASED ON MARKET DEMAND





Residential: 400-500 units

Retail+Entertainment: 80,000-100,000 sqft TERM Dyears) **G Office**: 90,000-120,000 sqft Light Industrial: 300,000-400,000 sqft

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MARKET DEMAND







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500

DO YOU HAVE ANY **COMMENTS** ABOUT THE FIRST & AMERICAN STATION **LAND USE** APPROACH?

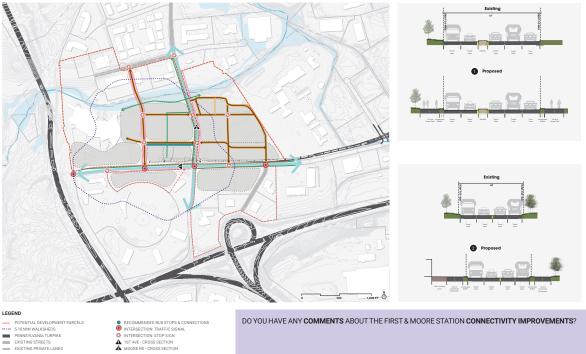




1ST AVE IMPROVEMENTS 1st Ave. : the priority access corridor. Improve the public realm by continued implementation of linear park.

In parcels not identified as areas of change, work with property owners to integrate an active transportation infrastructure.

CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS



- MOORE RD IMPROVEMENTS
- Moore Rd.: the priority access corridor.
- Adjacent to new development, reconstruct streetscape with sidewalk buffer and new shared use path connection.

- POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PARCELS
 5-10 MIN WALKSHEDS
 PPNNSYUXANIA TURPIKE
 EXISTING STREETS
 EXISTING STREETS
 EXISTING PRIVATE LANES
 IST AVE & MOORE AVE- PRIORITY ACCESS
 CORRIDORS

- CORRIDORS

 POTENTIAL STREETS

 PROPOSED PRIVATE LANES

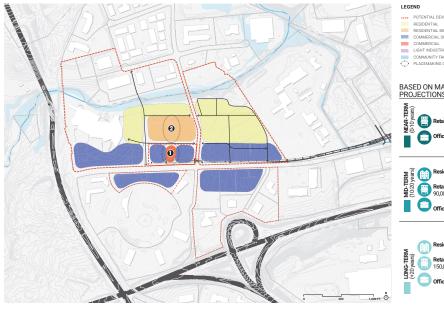
 SIDEWALK (NEW AND/OR ENHANCED)

 SHARED USE PATH

 BIKE LANE



LAND USE APPROACH



- POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PARCELS
 RESIDENTIAL
 RESIDENTIAL MIXED-USE
 COMMERCIAL OFFICE MIXED-USE
 COMMERCIAL OFFICE MIXED-USE
 COMMERCIAL OFFICE MIXED-USE
 COMMERCIAL OFFICE MIXED VISITIAL
 INDUSTRIAL/MAKER SPACE
 COMMUNITY FACILITY
 PLACEMAKING OPPORTUNITIES

BASED ON MARKET DEMAND PROJECTIONS...

Retail: 50,000-70,000 sqft Office: 150,000-250,000 sqft-

Residential: 900-1,200 units

Office: 250,000-350,000 sqft

Residential: 80-110 units











DO YOU HAVE ANY **COMMENTS** ABOUT THE FIRST & MOORE STATION **LAND USE** APPROACH?

PROJECT BENEFITS



King of Prussia (KOP) Rail will extend the existing Norristown High Speed Line (NHSL) into KOP, providing a one-seat ride from KOP to any station along the NHSL and a two-seat ride to Philadelphia.

KOP Rail furthers SEPTA's mission of delivering safe, reliable, sustainable, and accessible public transit services. contributing to the region's economic vitality, sustainability, and enhanced quality of life.



Why KOP RAIL

Promotes and Strengthens Regional Growth

KOP Rail links Center City, University City and King of Prussia – the region's three largest employment centers. More connections and greater flexibility attract businesses and homebuyers to the region; property values are projected to increase by \$2.5 billion and commercial real estate values by \$260 million.

Increases Equity and Access

With fully accessible stations and cars, KOP Rail addresses the growing mobility needs of seniors and people with disabilities. It also provides improved access to employment opportunities throughout the region, allowing for earnings to be invested back into communities.

Connects People More Reliably, Conveniently, and Efficiently

Suburban riders can access Philadelphia for medical centers, shopping, and cultural institutions without the hassle and expense of parking and a reduced commute from an average 70-minute drive to a 40-minute KOP Rail trip. Current bus commuters to King of Prussia have substantially increased reliability - rail is 99% on time versus 65% for busses due to traffic.

黹 Benefits the Environment

KOP Rail targets an annual reduction of up to 18,000,000 vehicle miles traveled. Public transit lowers emissions substantially - a single commuter who switches to public transit can reduce household carbon emissions by 10%.

