

### What's Next?

Upcoming activities include:

- SEPTA is currently working on the Draft EIS which is scheduled to be released at the end of 2016. SEPTA will continue to meet and coordinate with agencies, stakeholders and the public throughout the year.
- The Draft EIS will be circulated for public review and comment later this year, with a Public Hearing to be held in early 2017.
- In 2017, SEPTA will begin development of the Final EIS.

### Stay Informed

There are many ways for the public to stay informed about the King of Prussia Rail Project.

- The project website ([www.kingofprussiarail.com](http://www.kingofprussiarail.com)) provides up-to-date news and information, and the opportunity to submit comments.
- Project documents, presentation, and display materials for all public meetings are available on the website.
- You may also sign-up for the project email list to receive information about upcoming events and project updates.

We value your opinions on how SEPTA's public outreach/public participation process can be improved. Please feel free to share your ideas with SEPTA!

*Visit the project website for the latest project news, learn more about the project development process and review the Recommended LPA.*

### Contact Us | Got a question? Need more information?

Email Us: [info@kingofprussiarail.com](mailto:info@kingofprussiarail.com) | Visit Us: [www.kingofprussiarail.com](http://www.kingofprussiarail.com) | Follow Us: [www.twitter.com/KOPRail](https://twitter.com/KOPRail)



# King of Prussia Rail Project

An Extension of the Norristown High Speed Line  
 Spring 2016 | Newsletter



## HELP SHAPE FUTURE TRANSIT IN KOP - ATTEND THE PUBLIC MEETINGS!

### Why We Need Your Input

In March 2016, SEPTA will hold a series of Public Meetings for the King of Prussia Rail Project.

Participants will have an opportunity to review the five Build Alternatives including a Recommended Locally Preferred Alternative (Recommended LPA) and comment on potential benefits and impacts. During the meetings, attendees will be asked to comment on the following:

- Your opinions on the Build Alternatives and Recommended LPA
- Your opinions on the King of Prussia Rail study in general

Comments and concerns received during the public meetings and public information sessions will help SEPTA further consider the merits of the Recommended LPA and the other Build Alternatives. Once this process is complete, SEPTA will prepare and circulate the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS), which is scheduled for public circulation in late 2016/early 2017.

### When and Where Can I Attend a Meeting?

Meetings will be held at different locations in the study area in order to accommodate individual schedules and travel needs. Please plan to participate at a time and location that is convenient for you.

	Meeting 1	Meeting 2	Meeting 3
<b>Date:</b>	Mon., March 7	Wed., March 9	Tues., March 15
<b>Open House:</b>	4 – 8 p.m.	4 – 8 p.m.	2 – 8 p.m.
<b>Presentation:</b>	6 p.m.	6 p.m.	3 p.m. and 6 p.m.
<b>Location:</b>	Radisson Hotel Valley Forge  Grand Ballroom 1160 First Avenue King of Prussia, PA	Norristown Municipal Building  235 E Airy Street Norristown, PA	DoubleTree Hotel Valley Forge  Jefferson Ballroom 301 W DeKalb Pike King of Prussia, PA

*If you cannot attend one of the meetings, you are encouraged to participate in the process by submitting the enclosed questionnaire, or by submitting responses to these questions via the King of Prussia Rail website.*

Public Information Sessions will be held at key locations along the Norristown High Speed Rail Line (NHSL), at the King of Prussia Mall, and at other points of interest. Visit the project website for more information on times and locations of the Public Information Sessions.

### Getting There

**The Radisson Hotel, DoubleTree Hotel, and Norristown Municipal Building are accessible by both automobile and transit.**

- Radisson Hotel Valley Forge – Transit riders can access the meeting from the 1st Avenue & Freedom Business Center bus stop via Bus 99 or Bus 125.
- DoubleTree Hotel Valley Forge – Transit riders can access the meeting from the DeKalb Pike & King Circle bus stop via Bus 99 or Bus 124.
- Norristown Municipal Building – Transit riders can access the meeting from the Norristown Transportation Center via Market-Frankford Line to Norristown High Speed Line or the Manayunk/Norristown regional rail line.



**Project Update**

SEPTA is evaluating a proposed extension of the Norristown High Speed Line (NHSL) to destinations in King of Prussia and Upper Merion Township. The NHSL currently provides service between the 69th Street Transportation Center and Norristown Transportation Center, serving the Main Line area in Delaware and Montgomery counties, and connecting to Center City Philadelphia by way of the Market-Frankford line. While SEPTA's transit system is expansive, a rail connection to King of Prussia is missing.

In order to satisfy National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, SEPTA and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) are preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS). The Draft EIS will examine alternative alignments, ridership, economic development, and environmental and community impacts within the study area.

*Purpose and Need*

The project's Purpose and Need is an important element of the Draft EIS and plays an instrumental role in the development of alternatives, as well as the refinement and ultimate selection of the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA).

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a faster, more reliable public transit service that:

- Offers improved transit connections to the King of Prussia/Valley Forge area from communities along the existing Norristown High Speed Line, Norristown and Philadelphia;
- Improves connectivity between major destinations within the King of Prussia/Valley Forge area;
- Better serves existing transit riders; and
- Accommodates new transit patrons.

**Tier 3 Alternatives Screening & Draft EIS**

Starting in early 2013, SEPTA evaluated several alternatives using a three-tiered screening process. Each tier evaluates the alternatives equally using specific criteria, such as constructability, ridership potential, and order of magnitude capital costs. Throughout the process, there were multiple opportunities for the public to review the current range of alternatives under consideration and provide feedback.

The third and final phase of tiered alternatives screening has been completed. Of the 30 "Long List" alternatives SEPTA first presented in 2013, a Recommended Locally Preferred Alternative (Recommended LPA) has been identified.

**Schedule Changes**

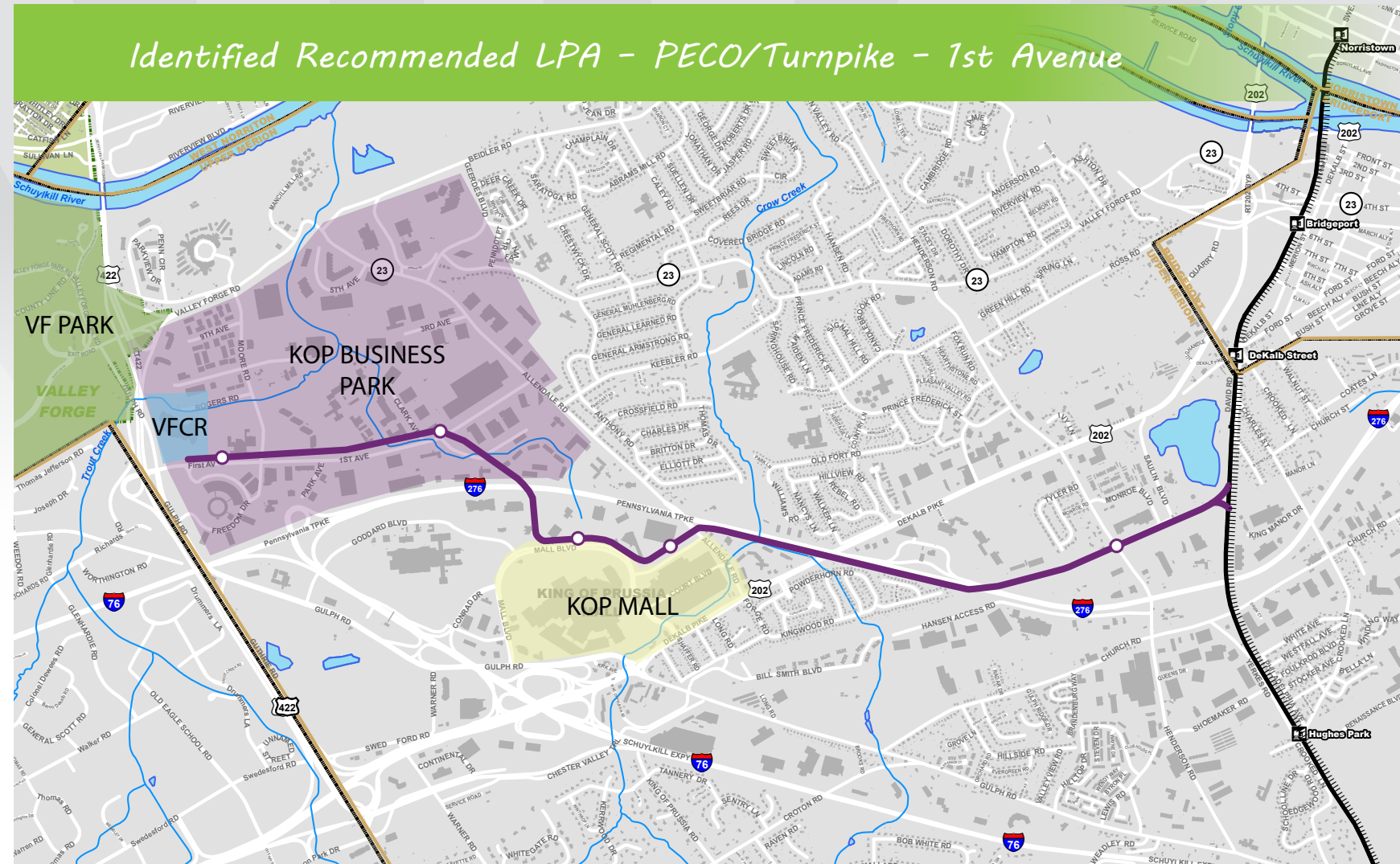
SEPTA initially considered identifying the Recommended LPA following the circulation of the Draft EIS. However, in an effort to provide the public an opportunity to review and comment on the Recommended LPA earlier in the process, the dates for the release and circulation of the Draft EIS were pushed back to late 2016/early 2017 in order to hold an additional round of Public Meetings in March 2016. This round of public meetings will provide an opportunity for public comment on the Recommended LPA as well as the other Build Alternatives prior to SEPTA completing the Draft EIS document. An updated KOP Rail Project schedule and timeline has been posted on the project website to reflect this change. In late 2016/early 2017, a public hearing and comment period will also occur during the release of the Draft EIS.

**Features List**

The KOP Rail Project is expected to:

- Provide better access to King of Prussia, Norristown, and Center City Philadelphia.
- Improve connections between major destinations in King of Prussia.
- Provide a faster, more reliable public transit alternative to auto and bus.
- Reduce auto vehicle miles traveled.
- Create opportunities for development and redevelopment.
- Provide an energy-efficient, environmentally-friendly alternative to auto travel.
- Support pedestrian walkability and bicycle amenities with additional sidewalks and connections to local trails.

*Identified Recommended LPA - PECO/Turnpike - 1st Avenue*



*How will KOP be different than other local rail lines? What might it look like? Come out to the March meetings to learn the details.*



Rendering looking east as KOP Rail runs down 1st Avenue at the intersection of Moore Road, passing the King of Prussia business park.



Rendering of the KOP Rail line passing by the King of Prussia Mall on Mall Boulevard.