



Common Questions & Answers about the MOW Facility

- **What is the primary purpose of the proposed Maintenance of Way (MOW) facility?**
It will be a centrally located facility that supports the maintenance of METRORail vehicles — to provide reliable service for our customers on the busy METRORail Red Line. Presently the Rail Operation Center is located seven miles south of the METRORail hub in downtown Houston. With its end-of-the-line location, it is not centrally located. This new central location for the MOW will improve METRORail's operations.
- **What benefits will there be to the community surrounding the proposed Maintenance of Way (MOW) facility?**
A meeting room inside of the MOW facility will be available for reservation and use by the community. The MOW will also be a camera-monitored facility with METRO police patrol for increased safety and security.
- **What will the proposed MOW facility look like and how will it integrate into the neighborhood?**
The proposed MOW facility will be aesthetically designed to blend into the existing neighborhood. The facility is proposed to be a two-story building that will not obstruct the view of the Downtown Houston skyline. In addition, sidewalks will be installed with the reconstruction of portions of Brooks and Keene Streets. METRO is adhering to a federally mandated environmental clearance process to ensure that the facility will have no substantial impacts on-site or to the surrounding community.
- **Will the project enhance the safety and security of the area?**
The facility will be camera monitored and will be a part of the METRO Police Department's patrols. These features will improve the safety and security of the surrounding neighborhood.
- **Will the project affect vehicular traffic or access to Downtown or on North Main Street?**
This proposed MOW project would relocate a traffic signal from Brooks Street to Trentham Place/Burnett Street along North Main Street, which will help to mitigate the minimal traffic impacts from the MOW. This will also facilitate providing a traffic signal for the frequent unprotected turns that currently take place to and from Burnett Street.
- **Will the project affect air quality or increase noise and vibration to the surrounding community?**
Most activities will occur in spaces enclosed within the building. The equipment laydown yard will only be used for storage, with minimal noise-generating activity. No substantial impacts to air quality are anticipated.
- **Will the project affect flooding in the area?**
There will be an on-site storm water detention for the MOW facility. Also, portions of Brooks Street and Keene Street will be reconstructed and the drainage will be improved along those streets.
- **Will this facility impact access to White Oak Bayou?**
This facility will not impact the White Oak Bayou trail or access to the trail system.