



Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project Next Steps

- **November 2014 – Public Open Houses**
 - Preliminary results of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) will be shared
 - Information that will be included in the DEIS will also be presented
 - Staff will explain how to provide comments on the material presented in the DEIS

- **Late Spring 2015 – Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)**
 - The DEIS will disclose all potential partial and full property displacements, relocations, and acquisitions, as well as proposed temporary and permanent easements
 - Notice of Availability of the DEIS is published in the *Federal Register*
 - The DEIS is circulated for public review (written comments accepted by email, fax, U.S. mail)
 - Public review and comment period is open for 45 days from the publication of the Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*
 - A public hearing will be held in the corridor during the 45 day period (verbal comments will only be accepted during the public hearing)

- **Early Spring 2016 – Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) / Record of Decision (ROD)**
 - The FEIS will address substantive comments received during the DEIS public comment period
 - A Record of Decision (ROD) will be issued by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
 - ROD will state the FTA's final decision, discuss measures to minimize and avoid impacts, and disclose the project's mitigation commitments

- **Spring/Summer 2016 – Real Estate Phase**
 - Property evaluations, appraisals, negotiations, and relocations or acquisitions begin after the ROD is issued by the FTA
 - Federal laws and regulations dictate the process for the real estate phase
 - The *Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970* (42 United States Code Chapter 61) provides for uniform and equitable treatment of persons displaced from their homes, businesses, or farms by federal and federally-assisted programs and establishes uniform and equitable land acquisition policies; federal regulations implementing the Uniform Act (49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 24) establish the process that must be followed

For more information about the environmental review process (including the Draft EIS, Final EIS, ROD), including an explanation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), how it is implemented, and how to better participate in the assessment of environmental impacts, please review the Council on Environmental Quality Executive Office of the President – *A Citizen's Guide to the NEPA – Having Your Voice Heard* (December 2007).

https://ceq.doe.gov/nepa/Citizens_Guide_Dec07.pdf