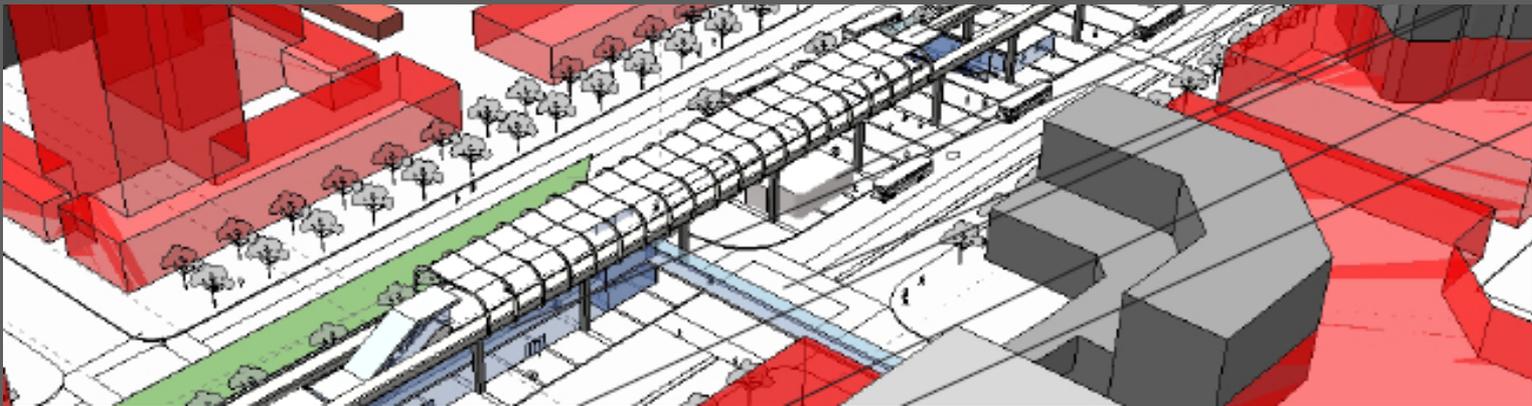


Cities Again Turning to Projects Next to Transit



McKinney, TX
DART
Richardson, TX
moderator

Rick Leisner, AICP
Jack Wierzenski, AICP
Sam Chavez, AICP
Clayton Comstock, AICP

Momentum is growing again for mixed-use development at rail stops in several North Texas communities and recent activity across the region offers further proof that transit-oriented development (TOD) plays a major role in revitalizing aging car-centric suburbs.

Learn how TOD planning and urban design concepts were incorporated into these projects, how proper land use planning can translate into increased transit ridership. Educational objectives will include an understanding of such planning concepts; benefits of mixed-use neighborhoods, “Complete Streets”, urban design amenities bringing added value to citizens and more -





Rick Leisner, AICP

Assistant Director of Development Services
City of McKinney

Rick has more than 25-years of experience working in the urban planning/land development professions. Rick started his career by working for some of the more recognized private planning & design firms including: Sasaki Associates, WRT and HOK Planning.

Recently, Rick joined the team at the City of McKinney after working for them as a consultant on several important assignments. He oversees development activities in the planning, engineering, building inspections and code enforcement departments. Rick has spent his entire career working with communities to implement plans & create standards for high-quality development.





Jack Wierzenski, AICP

Director – Economic Development & Planning
DART

Jack serves as the DART's primary point of contact to the development community and its thirteen (13) member cities with its 700 square-mile service area to facilitate and implement transit supportive development initiatives. Jack has served on the Rail-Volution (national transit supportive agency) Steering Committee since 1997 and is a member of the Dallas Real Estate Council and the Urban Land Institute.

Jack is a national leader in TOD planning and implementation, and regularly speaks at conferences across the country.





Sam Chavez, AICP
Assistant Director of Development Services
City of Richardson

Sam has more than 23-years of progressively responsible experience in the public planning sector. He started his public sector planning career as a planner for Palm Beach County, Florida in 1988 and currently oversees the activities of the planning division of Development Services.

Prior to joining the City of Richardson in 2009, Sam was the Community Development Director for the City of McKinney, Texas with oversight of Building Inspections, Code Enforcement and the Community Services Department and has held similar positions with the City of Carrollton and The Colony. Sam holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of North Texas, with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree from Texas Tech University.

