



## Sounding Off: Irving-Coppell readers tell us if they will take the DART train to D/FW Airport



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### DART plans to open its new station at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport on Aug. 18. Will you use DART to get to the airport?

**John Mullen, Irving:** Finally, an alternative to \$20-per-day terminal parking at D/FW or the \$75-plus round trip Super Shuttle. The arrival of DART's Orange Line at DFW Airport will provide cost-conscious travelers like me with environmentally friendly public transportation to get to and from the Airport for \$20 or less. Living in the Las Colinas and being 65-plus, I have used DART several times in the last year to get to and from D/FW for \$5 round-trip. While it now requires transfer to a bus since the Orange Line ends at Belt Line Station, there will soon be non-stop service all the way. With the ability to soon ride DART rail to Terminal A, I doubt if my gas-guzzling auto will ever spend another night at D/FW.

**Sharon Phares, Irving:** Finally, the much-dangled carrot is about to be obtained! I have used public transportation to get to and from the airports all over the world. It's not that difficult and so convenient. Why this has taken so long to accomplish here is beyond my comprehension. Visitors are used to it in their cities; they will be delighted the next time they travel here. What's next, high speed transit to other cities? I hope I live long enough to see this happen as well. Please hurry, I'm growing older faster than a bullet train.

**Sharon Baugh, Irving:** Since I live in South Irving, just a few miles from the south entrance of the airport, driving to a DART station in North Irving wouldn't really be convenient. Catching the TRE from the West Irving station to the Centre Port station to catch a flight could be a possibility, but not very efficient, time wise. That said, I'm glad that DART and the TRE have expanded their routes to allow access to D/FW from both Dallas and Fort Worth. I encourage the expansion of all uses of mass transit within the metro area.

**Bob Rowland, Irving:** Not if I can help it.

**Sharon Barbosa-Crain, Irving:** Yes. Having just returned from Washington, D.C., with its seamless intra-city transportation system and its suburban train system, I am reminded how far we have to go. But, every step we take is one more advancement. I use DART regularly from the South Irving Station and already use the Orange Line from Las Colinas. Thank you John Danish, Norma Stanton, Dan Matkin and Bob Power, who represented Irving with such vigor, and Rick Stopfer, who now stands for us on the DART Board.

**Lee Swann, Irving:** Since I live about 10 minutes from the Belt Line DART Orange Line Station, I will probably use the DART to access the airport. We currently use "The Spot" for airport parking and transportation to and from D/FW, but even with an airline discount, it gets expensive to park for any extended time. My only concern about leaving my car in the DART parking for any extended time would be, how secure is the parking going to be? Will it be patrolled regularly?

**Emma Petty, Irving:** I seldom fly, and when I do, my husband takes me five miles to the airport. I do think this will be utilized by Dallas and Fort Worth residents.

**Tony Koste, Valley Ranch:** To the airport? Probably not. I'd have to leave home much earlier than if someone were to drive me. But after arriving at D/FW, I would definitely use the Orange Line to get from the airport to a DART stop closer to Valley Ranch, making it easier for helpful neighborhood friends to pick me up and bring me home. It would be really nice if DART would institute a direct bus route from Valley Ranch to at least one of the two Las Colinas Urban Center DART stops.

**Mike Voirin, Irving:** On long trips, I'm usually just dropped off at the airport, but I think it is essential for DART to allow you to ride to the airport. On short trips, I'll be happy to use DART. If they can connect it to Love Field, it would be even better for folks changing airports for regional travel.

**Doug Griffith, Irving:** Yes, DART service to and from D/FW is long overdue. The metro area can now achieve truly world-class status.

**Butch Murden, Irving:** The rail station may be great depending on access to luggage check-in and the various airlines. I will definitely check it out. I live pretty close and can usually get dropped off, but this may make it easier to select flight times when not worried about unconvincing others.

**Wes Pyfer, Irving:** Probably not.