



# SH 121/183 Corridor

## Project Status

*A quarterly update for the Plainview Drive residents*

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ENGINEERING

**September 2007**

Welcome to the third quarterly update to keep you better informed of the ongoing project development process for SH 121/183 Airport Freeway. The next issue will be in approximately three months.

## STAGES OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is set up on a checks and balances system. In that, the district offices of which you may be familiar with (i.e. Fort Worth District Office) do initial reviews of preliminary work generated either in-house by TxDOT personnel or through the hiring of consultant teams. Once the district offices are satisfied with the product, it is then sent to the TxDOT Division Offices in Austin. The division offices will review and request revisions, as needed. Once all the reviews and revisions are made the product is then sent to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for their concurrence. FHWA review is done so that when the funding mechanism is initiated for the proposed project, it has met any requirement both at the state and federal level so there would be no last minute bumps in the road to progression. All of these items are considered preliminary engineering and must be completed before a proposed project can proceed to the next step of project development. The following is a stair step of project development and where TxDOT is in the process with regards to the SH 121/183 Corridor from Interstate 820 to SH 161.

### Stage One: Preliminary Engineering

**Environmental document preparation** — the final draft was received August 20, 2007. The Fort Worth District, as well as the Austin Division have reviewed the document. It is currently undergoing legal sufficiency review by the Attorney General's Office.

**Schematic development** — the final draft was received in August 2007 and is under review by the Fort Worth District Office. Revisions were made to the schematic with regards to toll enforcement, HOV declaration zones, emergency access issues to the managed lanes and travel demand/capacity of the proposed facility as it relates to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Mobility 2030.

**We Are Here**

**Public involvement** — this is underway and TxDOT has had several meetings both in public and small groups, the latest being in May 2006. In addition, TxDOT has met with the local officials along the corridor to establish access locations for the managed and general purpose lanes.

Public meetings are informal gatherings for the exchange of information both for those that may be impacted as well as for those that need to understand the impacts being made. A minimum requirement to afford an opportunity for a public hearing or

conduct a public hearing is required for this project. *A public hearing is a formal public involvement event and is done after the environmental document and schematic have been through all TxDOT and FHWA review. NOTE: The hearing date cannot be set until concurrence is received from TxDOT and FHWA for both the environmental document and schematic.*

The hearing is where the preferred alternative is presented to the public based on all previous public involvement and agency coordination concurrence has been received, considered and/or included. This event is concluded with a written summary and analysis of all comments/statements received that are reviewed by TxDOT and FHWA. Final concurrence is expected to be received approximately three months after the public hearing. Once this concurrence is received, the next stage of project development begins.

## **Stage Two: Detailed Plan Preparation and Right of Way**

**Detailed plan preparation of the preferred alternative**

**Right of way acquisition and relocation and utility relocation**

**Establishing funding mechanisms to fund the cost of construction**

During this stage of project development, the designers may work with the local entities and others in developing aesthetic treatment on retaining walls, noise barriers (if warranted), color schemes and textures, and landscape plantings. In addition, TxDOT in cooperation with the local entities would develop a traffic control plan that minimizes impacts to the local residents, provides a safe and efficient facility during construction for the traveling public and expedites the reconstruction of the facility.

## **Stage Three: Construction**

**Funding for the project is secured**

**Detailed plans are completed**

**All right of way and utilities are clear — property is purchased and utilities are relocated**

For more information on the SH 121/183 Corridor, you may contact TxDOT Project Manager John Tillinghast, P.E. at 817-370-6594 or via e-mail at [jtilly@dot.state.tx.us](mailto:jtilly@dot.state.tx.us).