



CENTRAL TEXAS
Regional Mobility Authority



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
May 24, 2013

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Public Provides Feedback on Preliminary Oak Hill Parkway Design Concepts at Open House *Opportunities for public involvement continue with virtual open house meetings*

(Austin, Texas) – On Thursday, May 23rd the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (Mobility Authority) hosted their second Oak Hill Parkway Study Open House at Clint Small Middle School. Open House attendees were able to review preliminary design concepts, learn more about the study process, speak with project team members and provide feedback. The environmental study was launched last fall to determine the best options for addressing traffic congestion and increasing long-term mobility along US 290 and SH 71 through Oak Hill.

“For more than 25 years, the Oak Hill community has been debating solutions to improve mobility, and they are now facing terrible traffic congestion and safety issues,” said Mario Espinoza, Deputy Executive Director of the Mobility Authority. “Understanding the community’s priorities in developing possible solutions will be critical to ensure these problems can be addressed. We consider the public to be an essential partner in the Oak Hill Parkway environmental study.”

The Mobility Authority, TxDOT and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute are also hosting a Virtual Open House on the project website at www.OakHillParkway.com. Participants can learn more about the project, watch videos, view preliminary design concepts and provide feedback. Project representatives will be available to answer questions in real time on May 24th from 11 am - 1 pm and May 28th from 6 pm - 8 pm.

Opportunities for public involvement began with an Envisioning Mobility Workshop in August 2012. The first open house was held in November 2012. Since then, several workgroup meetings have been held on topics including the environment, bike and pedestrian improvements, and project design. In the coming months, the project team will develop possible design alternatives and screening criteria to help evaluate the alternatives against the official purpose and need for the project. Additional workgroup meetings on specific issues and a third Open House meeting will take place this fall.

(more)

“We have heard from the public that they want a solution that not only provides mobility, but respects the environment and adds value to the Oak Hill community,” said James Williams, TxDOT Austin District Project Manager. “Our preliminary concepts were developed with those values in mind. Moving forward, we will combine the public feedback we receive with technical analyses to identify the best options for meeting the purpose and need of the project.”

Earlier this week, TxDOT began work on intersection improvements along US 290 that will provide an interim solution to congestion while the Oak Hill Parkway environmental study continues and until a long-term solution can be implemented. For more information about the intersection improvements, visit www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/austin/us290-intersections.html.

For more information about the Oak Hill Parkway environmental study, visit www.OakHillParkway.com.

About the Oak Hill Parkway Environmental Study

The Oak Hill Parkway environmental study was launched in October 2012 to determine the best options for addressing traffic congestion and increasing long-term mobility along US 290 through Oak Hill. It is a combined effort of TxDOT, the Mobility Authority, Capital Metro, the City of Austin and Travis County and is expected to take three to five years to complete. The study area extends from Loop 1 (MoPac) to west of RM 1826 along US 290W and between Silvermine Drive and US 290W along SH 71.

About the Mobility Authority

The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority is a local, independent government agency created to improve the regional transportation system. Our mission is to implement innovative solutions that reduce congestion and create transportation choices that enhance quality of life and economic vitality. The Mobility Authority is the state’s first Regional Mobility Authority, created in October 2002 to serve Travis and Williamson counties. The Mobility Authority operates the 183A toll road in Williamson County and is constructing the Manor Expressway east of Austin and the MoPac Improvement Project. For more information about the Mobility Authority, visit www.MobilityAuthority.com.

About the Texas Department of Transportation

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail, and public transportation across the state. TxDOT and its 11,000 employees are committed to working with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas by maintaining a safe system, addressing congestion, connecting Texas communities, and being a Best-in-Class state agency. Find out more at www.TxDOT.gov.

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