

Shawna Burkhart

From: Barry Calhoun
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 11:42 AM
To: Shawna Burkhart
Cc: Marissa Valentine
Subject: FW: SH 35 Signal Upgrades
Attachments: 2020-07-01 TxDOT Traffic Control Upgrades to SH35.docx

Shawna,

Attached is the letter TxDOT is requesting to support their proposed upgrades to traffic control along SH35. Please make any changes necessary. Ryan said the letter can be scanned and emailed to him. Thanks.

Barry Calhoun
Director of Public Works
City of Bay City
(979) 245-7236

From: Ryan Simper <Ryan.Simper@txdot.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2020 1:13 PM
To: Shawna Burkhart <sburkhart@cityofbaycity.org>
Cc: Barry Calhoun <bcalhoun@cityofbaycity.org>; Mayor's Office <Mayor@cityofbaycity.org>; Clayton Harris <Clayton.Harris@txdot.gov>
Subject: SH 35 Signal Upgrades

Ms. Burkhart,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us on Monday concerning potential future traffic signal upgrades in Bay City. As mentioned at the onset of the meeting, TxDOT is considering upgrading the traffic signals on SH 35 at the following intersections: SH 60, Ave G, Ave H, Ave L, and Cottonwood. These upgrades would improve intersection safety and would also address some of the City's stated priorities with respect to traffic congestion on SH 35 by adding dedicated left turn lanes/left turning movements at the SH 60, Ave G, and Ave H intersections. As discussed during the meeting, implementing left turn lanes will require additional pavement width, in turn requiring the elimination of the on-street angled and parallel parking and modifications to the existing curb extensions (bulb-outs) along this stretch of SH 35. Pedestrian signal elements would also be included with these upgrades; it is anticipated that additional right-of-way would be required (most likely in the form of corner clips) to make these accommodations.

Should this project move forward, exact right-of-way needs and other impacts would be determined during the design phase. TxDOT requests the City's acknowledgment and confirmation to move forward with this project. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,
Ryan S. Simper, PE
Area Engineer – Wharton Area Office
TxDOT – Yoakum District

(979) 532-3143

.....

A Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) message

#EndTheStreakTX

CITY OF BAY CITY



SHAWNA BURKHART
CITY MANAGER

ROBERT K. NELSON
MAYOR

CITY COUNCIL

JASON CHILDERS
MAYOR PRO TEM

ANNE MARIE ODEFEY
CITY ATTORNEY

JEANNA THOMPSON
CITY SECRETARY

BILL CORNMAN
BRENT MARCEAUX

JULIE ESTLINBAUM
BECCA SITZ

July 1, 2020

Ryan Simper, P.E.
Area Engineer, Yoakum District
Texas Department of Transportation
1512 FM 102
Wharton, TX 77488

RE: Traffic Control Upgrades to SH35 in Bay City

Dear Mr. Simper,

On our meeting held on June 22, 2020, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) introduced potential future traffic control upgrades in Bay City. These upgrades included upgrading traffic signals on SH35 at the intersections of SH 60, Ave G, Ave H, Ave L, and Cottonwood Ave and adding dedicated left turn lanes/left turning movements at the SH60, Ave G, and Ave H intersections.

To improve traffic congestion, intersection safety, and pedestrian safety, the City of Bay City acknowledges these proposed changes and wishes TxDOT to move forward with design of these much needed improvements along SH35. The City understands that additional right-of-way may need to be acquired and on-street parking may be affected by these upgrades. The City would be happy to work with TxDOT and any property owners during the design phase.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (979) 245-2137 or sburkhart@cityofbaycity.org.

Sincerely,

Shawna Burkhart, City Manager
City of Bay City, Texas

cc: Robert K. Nelson, Mayor
Barry Calhoun, Director of Public Works

Results of Transportation Mtg. on June 15, 2020	
ITEM	VOTES
Hwy 60 4 lane from Matagorda to Hwy 59	13
Wider shoulders on 2668 and FM 3057	13
Drainage in outside lanes on 35/60	10
Nile Valley Loop Around Bay City	10
Synchronize Traffic Lights (all on 35/60)	8
Overpass at Train tracks at 35 and 60	8
Training Crossing at 35 and 60	6
Bypass on 35 North of Bay City	5
Comprehensive Resurfacing Plan	4
Turn Lane at 35/60	4
Safety intervention at Nichols and Hammond Rd.	3
Parking on square	1
Road surfaces	
Rerouting from 60 to Golden	
Nichols & 7th St.	
Train Engine on 35 all night	



December 4, 2019

Paul Reitz, P.E.
District Engineer
403 Huck St
Yoakum, Texas 77995

Dear Mr. Reitz,

Bay City is a diverse community with many transportation needs. Within the Yoakum District, Bay City serves as a large city by population with residential population at seventeen thousand. We are excited about the approval of the Highway 35 project starting in 2020 and look forward to working with the department to continue to improve that roadway. As always, we appreciate our supportive relationship with your office and the State of Texas so that, together, we can meet the needs of our residents and businesses.

Bay City, and by default, Matagorda County, are experiencing constructive growth in the way of industry with the addition of Tenaris, a seamless pipe manufacturer that now employs over 700, and the investment in the Oxea Corporation expansion among other developments. Our industrial growth is forecasted to continue with this momentum of economic development in years to come due in part to our accessibility to transportation options. We are fortunate to have access to road, rail, aviation, and water infrastructure and appreciate the long-standing relationship we have maintaining these transportation options with your office as well as several other state and federal departments. In addition to our industrial growth, Bay City's community sectors are advancing by the additional of several retail, recreational, and tourism businesses. These developments are encouraged by both City and County official's ability to join and uniformly present a united front and positive business environment.

As we look to the future needs of Bay City residents and businesses, we have updated our priorities for state investment in transportation infrastructure. We have organized our priorities by emphasis area to aid in programming of future state resources towards the transportation needs in Bay City.

1. Completion of Nile Valley Road (Phase 1, 2, & 3)

- Though the project has laid dormant for several years, the City of Bay City and the Bay City Community Development Corporation, after public input, have recently made this project a financial priority. This project exemplifies a regional, public-private approach to further state and national economic development, safety, and disaster preparedness. This project will facilitate collaboration on local and state levels to optimize movement and reduce congestion of traffic within the transportation network of our city. This project fits within the Texas Transportation 2050 plan goals of optimizing movement, enhancing safety, and investing in people.

2. Safety Intervention at Nichols and Hammond Road

- The traffic at this intersection has seen an increase and has proven to be a prime location for accidents due to blind spots, tall grass, and speed limit. We look to TX DoT to recommend intervention strategies, including a traffic signal, at this intersection.

3. Traffic signal optimization on Highway 35

- It is unclear whether the light optimization changes that were made some years back are still in effect. We would like to identify any changes that would improve traffic flow through our city on Highway 35 and whether our light system needs to be updated to accommodate changes to its system.

4. Potential of a turning lane on Highways 35 and 60 intersection

- Reduction in traffic congestion at our most prominent intersection would align with TXDoT's 2050 priority for safety.

5. Landscape Improvement

- As a primary access point to Bay City; Highway 35 from Markham to Bay City needs landscaping improvements within the median. We are interested in learning more about options that would improve this area and what partnerships the City could enter in with TXDoT to increase the beautification of this main thoroughfare. Specifically, from the Bay City High School to FM 1468.

6. Status Updates

- We would like to receive an update and continue discussions on the following:
 - i. Safety of downtown parking; potential changes
 - ii. The repaving of Highway 35
 - iii. Highway 35 sidewalks
 - iv. The possibility of turn lanes on Highways 35 and 60

Bay City and Matagorda County officials, leaders, and stakeholders are united in presenting these priorities to the Texas Department of Transportation, Yoakum Office and look forward to our continued partnership in meeting the needs of Texas residents and businesses in Bay City. If you have any questions about our priorities, please contact us.

Thank you,

The Honorable Robert K. Nelson
Mayor, Bay City, Texas

The Honorable Nate McDonald
Matagorda County Judge

Jessica Russell
Executive Director of the Bay City Community
Development Corp.

Michael Ferdinand
Matagorda County Economic Development
Corp

Mitch Thames
Bay City Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture

CC:
Ryan Simper, P.E.
Clay Harris
Representative Dennis Bonnen
State Senator Lois Kolkhorst
Representative Michael Cloud
Senator John Cornyn
Senator Ted Cruz