

# CITY OF BAY CITY



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August 18, 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, **with the exception of the turn lane between Ave G. and Ave. H. This specific turn lane is not desired by the downtown business owners and the City Council. The City would like to participate in further discussions with TxDOT regarding any changes in the downtown area.** 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](mailto:sburkhart@cityofbaycity.org).

Sincerely,

Shawna Burkhart, City Manager  
City of Bay City, Texas

cc: Robert K. Nelson, Mayor

Barry Calhoun, Director of Public Works

## Shawna Burkhart

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**From:** Ryan Simper <Ryan.Simper@txdot.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 28, 2020 2:56 PM  
**To:** Shawna Burkhart  
**Cc:** Barry Calhoun; Mayor's Office; Clayton Harris; Jeffrey Kalina  
**Subject:** Signal Upgrades in Bay City

Ms. Burkhart,

Per your letter of August 18, 2020, TxDOT will not pursue upgrades for the SH 35 signals at Ave. G and Ave. H. However, with Ave. G and Ave. H no longer in the plan, we are now considering upgrading the signals on SH 60 at 6<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Street (to maintain a total of five signal upgrades as part of our consultant contract). Similar to the upgrades along SH 35, we would want to maximize operational efficiency by adding left turn lanes. As such, the impacts along SH 60 at 6<sup>th</sup> Street would be virtually identical to the SH 35 locations. There would be quite a bit of lost parking to consider. For SH 60 at 8<sup>th</sup> Street, the loss of parking would not be as significant (three parallel spots in front of K-2's), but a portion of the decorative sidewalk (and likely the trees) would need to be removed in front of 9'ers.

TxDOT requests the City's consideration and confirmation to move forward with either or both of these signals. Should you have any questions or concerns, I would be happy to address them.

Thank you,  
Ryan S. Simper, PE  
Area Engineer – Wharton Area Office  
TxDOT – Yoakum District  
(979) 532-3143

