
**CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021
3:30-5:00 PM—VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Interim Chairman – P&Z Comm. Jim Martin

John Pettit

City Council Rep.—Travis Crow

Ben Sorrell – Non-Voting Member

Barrett Criswell

Chad Gilpin, P.E., City Engineer

Sharon Hamilton

INVITED GUESTS:

Hays Co. - Precinct 4 Comm. Walt Smith, County Engineer Jerry Borcharding, P.E., Adam Leach, EIT

DSISD – Pam Swanks, Mike Garcia

TxDOT, Austin District, So. Area Office – Epigmenio Gonzales, P.E., Michelle Romage-Chambers, P.E., Reed Smith, P.E.

CAMPO – Doise Miers

HDR (City Traffic Engineering Consultant) – Rashed Islam, P.E., Leslie Pollack, P.E., Isabella Albino

AGENDA

1. TXDOT

- Project Updates

- a. Highway 290 Study Update

- Nothing new on this, still delayed. Should start up in about a year.

- b. RR 12 Expansion Project

- Looking at starting the paving on Monday the 8th of March (on the west side).

- New/Other Project(s) Update

2. Hays County

- Project Updates

- a. Hays County Transportation Plan Update

2nd round of public comment ended February 7th. They are working through the comments now. Walt has his first sit down with the consultant scheduled for the end of the week. They have started a Citizens Advisory Panel for southwestern loop (290 to 12). They will have a clear timeline from the panel after the meeting.

- New/Other Projects(s) Update

Trautwein final engineering for intersection will be done by end of March. This will go to bid in November. The project will include leveling all the way to Saratoga Hills. Crews are doing patchwork on Sawyer Ranch Road; they will move to Belterra after they are done there. They will be doing the striping after they do the patch work.

The County has started looking at Sawyer Ranch at Darden Hill for the traffic circle and have begun meeting with landowners about that. 150 and RR 12 plan to go to construction. The County has started work on that acquisition and hope to start work in September.

Hays County is going to go to bid for 2 low water crossings. The County should have all engineering done by the middle of April for all 290 safety improvements. Walt says road that have never failed before are now failing due to the 4-day freeze that happened. There are also busted pipes under roads all over the county.

3. HDR (Traffic Engineering Consultant)

- Update on Draft Transportation Master Plan

Leslie is going to present recommended changes to transportation plan and see what the committee thinks. We will get with the county and present our changes then go back to the county at the end of March. (Leslie presents a document)

Northwest Quadrant:

First is east/west connection between McGregor and 12. We are moving that because of the challenges to get through developed road and because of the preserve. The only way to get this to work is to tie in close to Fitzhugh as it loses value when it is that far north. The County Plan has McGregor lane as a 4 lane where we have a two lane so we are proposing to align with the county.

Northeast Quadrant:

The connection between Trautwein and 12 and Fitzhugh, there is a new preserve, so we are planning to relocate further north. It will require one more water crossing. We would still have 4 lane roadway connection though Double L from 12 to 290

Downtown

Slightly moving a road to the east.

Southeast Quadrant

We are keeping the roadway from Travis county to 150 as long as county keeps it. North/South Connection that aligns with east interceptor is staying as it matches county plan. Hays County acres and Lanier ranch road is not in county plan, but we are recommending keeping it for now as it is only a collector. Sunset Canyon was set to be upgraded, add shared use paths and widened, there was a lot of push back and is not providing critical route and county does not have it on their plan so it is recommended to be taken off. East west that provides alternate route to darden and 290.

The connection to Sawyer Ranch Road had environmental concerns, Leslie thinks its important if there is more development but recommends taking it out for now and reassessing in the future. Jim thinks that the schools going into that area will drive development and thinks that maybe 5 years from now we should add it to the plan but is okay with taking it off now. Travis feels we should keep it on because its harder to put things on and it can be taken off later. Ben Sorrell seconds that.

Darden Hill Road revised alignment, we will match the county.

Connection of 1826 all the way to 12. Driftwood is opposed to this connection; the county doesn't have it on their plan. Jim says its okay to take it off. Travis agrees with Jim. We are changing our distinction of Gaitlin Creek to match the county road. Leslie feels that we should keep Mt Gainor as a 4 lane road even if the County has it as 2 lane. We are going to keep it as a 4 lane.

Jim asks if the committee supports Leslie's Changes

Jim agrees, Travis agrees, John Agrees, Sherry Agrees, Chad Agrees

Next step is to present our changed plan to the County. This will come back to the transportation committee one last time before it goes to council

LOSA is moving ahead and TxDOT had a meeting regarding the signal for the school.

- Status of Traffic Impact Analysis Reviews/Task Orders:
 - a. Heritage Project
 - TIA is done, Chad and Leslie need to regroup on turn lane
 - b. Cannon—Ashton Woods Project

They have resubmitted TIA and review has started.

c. Anarene/Double L Project

Anarene initially submitted large TIA for whole project so they submitted a smaller TIA just for phase 1. It is under review.

d. Cynosure Ranch/Wild Ridge Project

Reviewed roadway analysis for development and sent comments back. They are working on full TIA now.

4. CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS

- Update on Transportation Alternative Grant Projects :

- a. Sportsplex Drive

- From the 2017 nomination, it is almost complete. They just need to fix the manholes

- b. Rob Shelton

- City will be working on a scope and fee with freise and nichols and it will be brought back to council.

- c. Potential Transportation Alternative Grant Projects

- Applications are due every 2 years. We are applying for 2021 grants. City staff came up with 2 projects. March 1st is the deadline for txdot to determine eligibility. The projects are Mercer Street (connecting mercer street and 12 with Rob shelton). The second idea is connecting sidewalks from founders ridge to the Elementary school. March 8th is the new deadline due to the weather.

5. New Business

Travis feels that even though developers are pushing us on density we need to hold our ground when it comes to what's on the plan and densities.

End of March is the Townhall for the Transportation Thoroughfare Plan.

Sharon is meeting with Ann Kitchens about project connect in Austin.

6. Adjourn 4:23