

Draft: Sample Template Letter for Dissemination to All Interested Parties

Submission Instructions:

The following template was developed by the City of Rollingwood in coordination with neighboring West Lake Hills and Eanes ISD for use by interested parties in submitting comments to CTRMA regarding the proposed MoPac South Expansion Project. Users are encouraged to edit and craft the message to meet their individual concerns.

Official comments must be submitted to CTRMA by **midnight on Tuesday, January 28, 2025**, to be included in the official record. Official comments can be submitted by:

- Email to mopacsouth@ctrma.org
- Submitting this [ONLINE FORM](#)
- Mail to:
Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority
ATTN: MoPac South
3300 N. IH-35
Suite 300 Austin, TX 78705

Date

Dear CTRMA Board Members,

My name is _____ and I **live at/work at/own/operate** _____ in the **Rollingwood/ Westlake** area. **I/ My business depend/s** on access to and exits from the MoPac general-purpose and express lanes. Thank you for your dedication to addressing the challenges associated with growth in the Austin Metro Area. However, the current design poses significant challenges for residents, employees, and business owners who rely on Bee Cave Road or Loop 360, making their daily experiences more difficult. I'm primarily concerned by the following:

1. By focusing solely on commuter traffic moving north and south, the proposed design worsens congestion for east/west users, undermines local mobility, and hinders access to businesses and services in the Rollingwood and Westlake area.
2. Communities that use either Bee Cave Rd. or Loop 360 will lose access to Northbound MoPac express lanes as the entrance near 15th Street will be eliminated, leading to dangerous gridlock on the Cesar Chavez loop around at Austin High.
3. The current access to Bee Cave Rd. from the Southbound MoPac express lanes will be eliminated.
4. The elevated bridge structure being proposed beginning at Bee Cave Rd. stands to introduce considerably elevated noise and light pollution in the area.
5. The northbound express lane exit to Cesar Chavez and the northbound general-purpose lane entrance to MoPac from Bee Cave Rd. overlap, forcing drivers to crisscross in a dangerous bottleneck.

Draft: Sample Template Letter for Dissemination to All Interested Parties

6. Exiting to Bee Cave Rd. from the Southbound general-purpose lanes requires drivers to crisscross with drivers entering the express lane, creating a dangerous bottleneck.
7. The current proposal does not include any improvements to the intersection of Bee Cave Rd. and MoPac. Any modifications to MoPac in this area should account for future improvements and the overall design of this critical intersection.
8. The schematics released for public comment during this period are unclear, difficult to interpret, and fail to effectively depict the proposed traffic flow.

To address these concerns, I recommend the following actions:

1. **Address East/West Traffic Impacts:** Incorporate comprehensive strategies to support east/west traffic mobility and connectivity within the project scope, ensuring residents and businesses are not disproportionately affected by increased congestion.
2. **Restore Critical Express Lane Access:** Maintain direct, safe access to and exits from the express lanes for Rollingwood and neighboring communities. Specifically, reinstate northbound access near Enfield Road and southbound access to Bee Cave Road to alleviate congestion and support regional traffic flow.
3. **Evaluate Alternatives to Elevated Lanes:** Reconsider elevated infrastructure near Barton Skyway and Bee Cave Road to minimize noise and light pollution. Prioritize design solutions that mitigate existing noise challenges.
4. **Redesign Hazardous Merging Areas:** Reconfigure the northbound express lane exit and general-purpose lane entrance near Bee Cave Road to eliminate the crisscross merging pattern. This will improve safety, reduce bottlenecks, and enhance traffic flow.
5. **Integrate Improvements at Bee Cave Road and MoPac Intersection:** Include design enhancements for the Bee Cave Road and MoPac intersection as part of the MoPac South project to ensure compatibility and seamless functionality between the highway and local roads.
6. **Provide Clear and Accessible Project Materials:** Enhance the clarity of schematics and other project materials to improve public understanding. Clearly highlight new design elements and proposed traffic patterns, ensuring they are accessible to a broad audience, including those unfamiliar with the project's technical details

Thank you again for your efforts to improve regional mobility. However, a thoughtful and inclusive approach is necessary to ensure that all communities benefit from these changes without facing disproportionate burdens. By addressing my concerns, CTRMA can deliver a project that truly serves the needs of the region. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

(Name)