

PUBLIC HEARING COMMENT AND RESPONSE REPORT

Federal Highway Administration/TxDOT Austin District/Hays County

RM 150: from IH 35 northbound frontage road to CR 204

CSJ: 0805-01-017

Project Number: PTF

Hays County

SUMMARY OF ORAL COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Sylvia Boasi, Administrative Assistant to Hays County Commissioner Ingalsby stated that Commissioner Ingalsby encourages comments on the proposed project.

Response: Comment noted.

Ove Rajmussen commented on the congestion at the intersection of Old Highway 80 [81] and Center Street [RM 150] and the need for improvements.

Response: The intersection would be converted from a four-way stop to a two-way stop as a part of the project on IH 35 that extends from FM 1626 to Yarrington Road. Traffic would be required to stop on Old Highway 81 before turning onto RM 150; therefore, the congestion on RM 150 (Center Street) would be reduced because the traffic would not be required to stop at a stop sign. A traffic signal was considered at this intersection; however, it is precluded because it would be too close to the railroad.

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Summary of Written Comments and Responses

Senator Jeff Wentworth, District 25 expressed support that the planned project would reduce congestion, enhance safety, and expand economic opportunity. He also indicated it would improve quality of life.

Response: Comment noted.

State Representative Jason Isaac, District 45 expressed support that the planned project would reduce congestion, enhance safety, and expand economic opportunity. He also indicated it would improve quality of life.

Response: Comment noted.

Lanny S. Lambert, City Manager, City of Kyle indicated on behalf of the city that inclusion of the proposed project in CAMPO's plan and program support the need for the proposed improvements. He expressed support from the city that the planned project would reduce congestion, enhance safety, and expand economic opportunity.

Response: Comment noted.

Gerald Hill, Executive Director of Seton Hays Foundation expressed support that the planned project improves safety and reduces congestion.

Response: Comment noted.

Chief Glen Whitaker, Kyle Fire Department expressed support on behalf of the Kyle Fire Department that indicates the planned project would improve safety and reduce congestion. He further commented on the construction scheduling and suggested that RM 150 realignment be completed before the frontage roads of IH 35 are converted to one-way operation to maintain travel times when accessing RM 150 East.

Response: Support noted. It is estimated that travel times would be reduced overall when congestion is reduced by the proposed project. The proposed construction schedule would result in the continuous facility on RM 150 being completed prior to the IH 35 improvements to maintain travel times when accessing RM 150 East.

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Chief Jeff Barnett, Kyle Police Department expressed support on behalf of the police department that the planned project would improve safety and reduce congestion.

Response: Comment noted.

Fire Marshal Mark Chambers, Hays County Fire Marshal's Office expressed support on behalf of the Fire Marshal's Office that the planned project would improve safety and reduce congestion.

Response: Comment noted.

Constable James H. Kohler, Justice Precinct 2 expressed support that the planned project would improve safety and reduce congestion.

Response: Comment noted.

Tom Partin, Executive Director of San Marcos-Hays County EMS, Inc. expressed support on behalf of the emergency management services that the planned project would improve safety and reduce congestion.

Response: Comment noted.

Superintendent Jeremy Lyon, Hays Consolidated Independent School District expressed support on behalf of the school district that the planned project would improve safety and reduce congestion.

Response: Comment noted

Rick Sheldon, owner of Rick Sheldon Real Estate indicated that as a real estate developer who has partnered with Hays County and the City of Kyle, he supports and endorses the planned project objective to reduce congestion, expand economic opportunity and improve safety as populations grow in Hays County. He opined that roadways like the proposed project support improve quality of life.

Response: Comment noted.

Michael Weaver, Principal of Prime Strategies provided copies of resolutions from Hays County Commissioners Court signed by Hays County Judge Bert Cobb, M.D., Commissioner Debbie Gonzales Ingalsbe, Precinct 1, Commissioner Mark Jones, Precinct 2, Commissioner Will Conley, Precinct 3, and Commissioner Ray Whisenant, Precinct 4. This resolution supports the proposed improvements. He also attached copies of support letters

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previously received by TxDOT and summarized above.

Response: Comment noted.

Cathy Howell commented in support of the project improving safety and reducing congestion.

Response: Comment noted

Jeff Barton expressed his support for the proposed project.

Response: Comment noted

Letty Chapa commented on the need to extend the project limits to SH 21.

Response: Currently, extending the roadway improvements to State Highway 21 is not included in the scope of the proposed project but will be considered for future development.

Sugey Rivera on behalf of the Piscis Restaurant indicated that the proposed project would expand economic opportunity and they are in favor of the project.

Response: Comment noted