I-35 AND POSEY ROAD INTERSECTION

JANUARY 2015 PUBLIC MEETING
SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

Hays County, Texas

CSJ: 0016-03-103
INTRODUCTION

This is a summary and analysis of the public open house meeting that was conducted for the I-35 and Posey Road Intersection on January 13, 2015. Hays County and The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) are considering modifications to the I-35 and Posey Road Intersection. Changes may include:

- I-35 and Posey Road Intersection – Removing the existing Posey Road Bridge and reconstructing I-35 over Posey Road.
- Six ramp reversals – Changing entrance ramps to exit ramps and exit ramps to entrance ramps. Locations include Centerpoint Road, Posey Road, and FM 1102 (York Creek Road).
- Modifications to the elevation of one ramp at Posey Road.
- Conversion of two-way frontage roads – At the start of construction, frontage roads would become one-way south of Posey Road for approximately two miles to York Creek Road (roads north of Posey Road are currently one-way).
- Addition of turn lanes on Posey Road.
- U-turn lanes on the frontage roads of I-35.
- A median-divided I-35.

PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The purpose of this proposed project is to enhance safety and mobility. Current high volumes of truck traffic are mixed in with passenger vehicles into a single narrow lane in each direction without shoulders and substandard bridge railings. The current 2-lane bridge design is not adequate for existing traffic counts or future forecasted population growth. The proposed intersection improvements will also provide a safer and more mobile connection between communities on the east and west sides of I-35. This is the last major intersection improvement needed on I-35 in Hays County.

PUBLIC MEETING DETAILS

Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2015
Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Location: First Baptist Church
325 W. McCarty Lane
San Marcos, Texas 78666

The public meeting was conducted in an open house format and no formal presentation was given. Attendees were able to come and go at their convenience to view exhibits and speak with project team members. A court reporter was in attendance to record any verbal comments attendees wished to make.
Published Notifications:
Meeting notices were placed in the following papers:

- **San Marcos Daily Record** on December 17, 2014, & January 4, 2015
- **El Mundo Newspaper** (Spanish) on December 18, 2014, & January 8, 2015

**Mailings:** Meeting notices were mailed to 44 property owners.

**Emails:** Meeting notices were emailed on December 17, 2014, to 114 people; January 6, 2015, to 126 people; and January 12, 2015, to 128 people.

The meeting notice was also included in the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce Monday Morning memo for four consecutive weeks from December 22, 2014 to January 12, 2015.

**Phone Outreach:** Project team members placed 12 outreach calls to inform groups and stakeholders of the meeting as well as ask them to share meeting notices.

**Signage:** The project team placed 15 signs in various locations along and near the project limits from January 6, 2015, to January 13, 2015, with meeting details.

**Online:** The meeting notice was published on the Hays County webpage on December 17, 2014.
ATTENDANCE

There were 67 people registered via the sign-in sheet, 13 of whom were members of the project team.

MEETING MATERIALS

A registration table was set up at the main entrance and as community members entered, they were asked to sign in and were provided with comment cards and a project fact sheet.

A rollout of the project schematic was displayed on the table. Additionally, a preliminary divert map and typical sections diagram were set up on easels.
SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

All comments were postmarked or received by January 26, 2015, and are included in this report. Two email reminders of the official comment period were sent to the project distribution list of 163 on January 19, 2015 and to 164 on January 23, 2015.

One verbal comment and 14 written comments were received. Below is a summary of topics addressed in the verbal and written comments. Some comments included more than one topic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Number of Comments</th>
<th>Summary of Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purpose and Need</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Support for overpass; support of Exit 199 southbound; support for improvements; support for one-way frontage roads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Businesses or Homes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Location of ramp limits access to future development sites; additional travel distance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Congestion and safety at ramps; general safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversion of Frontage Roads to One-Way</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Inconvenience of one-way frontage roads; additional travel distance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Concerns</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Santa's Ranch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location of NB Exit at Posey (Exit 200)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Move exit further south; current plan will increase congestion near malls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posey Pavement Conditions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Current pavement is rough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Inconvenience</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Length of construction; congestion during construction; detour location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signals</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Need for signals at Posey and I-35; question for improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverse Ramps</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Reverse on/off ramps at Posey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternate Intersection Design</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Use of innovative intersection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension of Central Texas Drive</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Extension of road needed for better connection to Posey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location of NB Exit Ramp at York Creek</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Move closer to Posey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York Creek Overpass</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>York Creek overpass needs improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location of SB Exit Ramp at Centerpoint</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Too close to existing driveways</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right-of-Way</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Accelerate purchase of needed right-of-way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hays County and the project team recommend moving forward with the I-35 and Posey Road intersection project as detailed in the schematics. This includes:

- **I-35 and Posey Road Intersection** – Removing the existing Posey Road Bridge and reconstructing I-35 over Posey Road. Adding frontage road turnarounds at the intersection.
- **Six ramp reversals** – Changing entrance ramps to exit ramps and exit ramps to entrance ramps. Locations include Centerpoint Road, Posey Road, and FM 1102 (York Creek Road).
- **Posey Road Improvements** - Providing 2 thru lanes and 1 left turn lane for each direction of traffic at the frontage road intersections.
- **Conversion of two-way frontage roads** – At the start of construction, frontage roads would become one-way south of Posey Road for approximately two miles to York Creek Road (roads north of Posey Road are currently one-way).