



I-20 East Texas Corridor Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 17, 2014, 10:00 a.m. and

Thursday, April 24, 2014, 10:00 a.m.

Conference Call

FINAL MEETING SUMMARY

Name	Organization
Members Present on April 17 Conference Call	
Heather Nick, Director	Tyler MPO
Judge Bill Stoudt (Chair)	Gregg County
Judge Bruce Wood	Kaufman County
Michael Miles (alternate for Gary C. Thomas)	DART
Michael Morris	NCTCOG
Mike Sims (alternate for Mayor Hal Richards)	City of Terrell
Members Present on April 24 Conference Call	
Carmen Gardner (alternate for Judge Joel Baker)	Smith County
Judge Hugh Taylor	Harrison County
Karen Owen	Longview MPO
Kevin Feldt (alternate for Michael Morris)	NCTCOG
Lauren Trimble (alternate for Judge Clay Jenkins)	Dallas County
Mayor John Monaco	City of Mesquite
Members Not Present on Conference Calls	
Celia Boswell	NETRMA
Judge Rhita Koches	Van Zandt County
Linda Ryan Thomas	NETRMA
Mark McDaniel	Tyler MPO
Martin Heines	City of Tyler
Mayor Darren Rozell	City of Forney
Mayor Dr. Carrie Gordon	City of Balch Springs
Mayor Ed Smith	City of Marshall
Mayor Harold Magill	City of Seagoville
Mayor Jay Dean	City of Longview
Mayor Richard Lawrence	City of Canton
Mayor Robert Nelson	City of Lindale

To view the complete meeting sign-in sheets, see Attachment 1.

Purpose:

The purpose of the two conference call meetings was to: 1) provide members with an update on public outreach for the I-20 East Texas Corridor Study progress; 2) recap public outreach activities members have been leading; 3) discuss the draft public outreach survey; and 4) plan for future meetings. An agenda was emailed out to all meeting participants prior to the conference calls, and is included in Attachment 2.

Welcome/Introductions:

Caroline Love and Roger Beall (TxDOT) welcomed attendees to the conference call and thanked members for participating. Members then announced their participation on the call.

Update on Public Outreach:

Caroline Love and Roger Beall (TxDOT) provided members with an update on public outreach activities that have been conducted so far, including a summary of comments received from the online comment form on the project website with data on what counties the comments had been coming from.

A synopsis was provided of the six activity reports received back from Balch Springs and Harrison County, tracking public outreach to approximately 200 people. In addition, information was provided on events the project team is aware have taken place but have not had activity reports returned, including presentations conducted by Smith and Gregg counties, Tyler and Longview MPOs and NETRMA.

Members were also notified that several members have added a link to their websites and shared information on the project on their social media pages. Questions were raised about the creation of a project-specific Twitter and Facebook account. TxDOT will be sharing information on their existing district pages rather than creating project-specific pages for the I-20 East Texas Corridor Study. A request was made for each of the TxDOT district Facebook and Twitter accounts to post a link to the online comment form and project website so members can retweet and share the information easily.

A member suggested arranging a meeting between Dallas and Kaufman counties as well as NCTCOG to discuss projects that are currently in the works along the I-20 corridor.

Member Update on Public Outreach:

Advisory committee members were asked to give a brief update on any activities that had not already been mentioned in the public outreach recap.

Heather Nick (Tyler MPO) mentioned that they have held several open houses related to their master transportation plan and have included information about the I-20 East Texas Corridor Study in those meetings. In addition, they held an open house on Tuesday, April 22 solely to discuss the I-20 East Texas Corridor Study in Smith County. The Tyler MPO has also held presentations for the Technical Advisory Committee and the local chamber of commerce.

Judge Stoudt (Gregg County) said that two front-page articles had run in Longview about the I-20 East Texas Corridor Study with information on reaching the project website. He foresees more comments to be received from Gregg County due to this publicity. Gregg County has also held a presentation for the local chamber of commerce.

Carmen Gardner (Smith County) mentioned that Judge Baker had conducted a presentation to the local chamber of commerce.

Karen Owen (Longview MPO) brought up that they have five upcoming presentations in their area.

Mayor Monaco (Mesquite) asked if discussions of passenger rail would be incorporated into this study, or whether it would focus mainly on highway improvements. Roger Beall mentioned that TxDOT's rail division would be providing an update on the AMTRAK study currently taking place looking onto

options along this corridor. The questions in the public survey could be tweaked to reflect inclusion of passenger rail.

Roger then mentioned that if the members need any additional materials or support for continued public outreach efforts to please ask the study team.

Draft Public Input Survey:

Susan Howard (TxDOT) opened the discussion of the newest public outreach tool by asking members to discuss the public input survey the study team had sent out.

Members mentioned the following comments:

- Inclusion of passenger rail wording
- Rewording of question 5, item G regarding evaluation of passenger service options
- Separation of “adjust speed limits to be higher and lower” into two questions

Susan asked for members to submit any additional comments to the survey by the close of business on April 25. The survey instrument would then be updated based on their suggestions and linked to the project website for use. She informed members that the survey would remain active until May 23 (extended to June 4) and would be sent out on the TxDOT district social media pages for the members to share as well.

May/June Advisory Committee Meeting:

Members were informed that the next Advisory Committee meeting would be held in Tyler, Texas at the Tyler Rose Garden. They were given the possible dates of May 27, June 2, 9, 10, 11 or 12. Caroline will be sending out an email and Doodle Poll to help gauge preferences on dates.

Judge Wood suggested not using May 27, as it is immediately following Memorial Day. Judge Jenkins is unavailable on June 10 or 12. Judge Baker is unavailable on the 10. The MPOs will be meeting in Corpus Christi the week of June 2. Judge Taylor mentioned that a meeting scheduled for June 9 would have to be scheduled later in the afternoon.

Late Summer Advisory Committee Meeting:

An announcement was made regarding the next meeting to be scheduled for late summer in either July or August. Members were asked to brainstorm a possible location that we have not used. A Doodle Poll will be sent out with possible dates for this meeting as well.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Action Items:

- Post link to comment form on TxDOT district social media pages
- Update public outreach survey
- Send poll for meeting dates

Attachments:

1. Meeting Agenda

Meeting Staff:

Marc Williams, Caroline Love, Roger Beall, Susan Howard, Lindsey Kimmitt, and Cary Karnstadt (TxDOT)
Michael Sexton, Nishant Kukadia, Nair Barrios, and Chris Lazaro (Jacobs)
Aimee Vance (K Strategies)

District Staff Present:

Steven Endres and Tony Hartzel (TxDOT Dallas District)
Deanne Simmons (TxDOT Atlanta District)
Glenn Green and Randy Hoffman (TxDOT Tyler District)

Attachment 1

Meeting Agenda

I-20 East Texas Corridor Advisory Committee Conference Call April 17 and 24, 2014

Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions

1. Update on Public Outreach
2. Members to provide an update on activities that they have conducted
3. Draft public input survey
4. May/June meeting date and location
5. Potential date for July/August meeting