



PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT

April 10, 2014

GREENS ROAD

from Aldine-Westfield Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard

CSJ: 0912-71-739 and 0912-72-158

**US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CITY OF HOUSTON**

MAY 2014

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CITY OF HOUSTON

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PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY REPORT
GREENS ROAD
CSJ: 0912-71-739 and 0912-72-158

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Houston and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) propose to widen Greens Road, in Houston, Harris County, Texas, from Aldine-Westfield Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard, a distance of 1.6 miles. Greens Road is currently a 2-lane undivided roadway within these limits and to the east. West of the project limits, Greens Road is a 4-lane divided roadway with a raised median. The proposed project would continue Greens Road eastward as a 4-lane divided roadway with a raised median. The proposed project would drain to an underground storm water drainage system. A proposed 2.5-acre detention basin at the east end of Peyton Road at Hoods Bayou would also be part of the project.

The project is proposed to be built with 80% federal funds and 20% local funds. An Environmental Assessment supporting a Finding of No Significant Impact was prepared for the project in March 2013 and deemed satisfactory for further processing by the Federal Highway Administration on September 23, 2013.

The public hearing was held on Thursday, April 10, 2014, at 6:30 pm at Calvert Elementary School, 1925 Marvell Street, Houston, Texas 77032. Notice of the public hearing was advertised in the *Houston Chronicle* (in English) on March 9 and 30, 2014, and in *La Voz* (in Spanish) on March 9 and 30, 2014. Copies of the advertisements, and affidavits of publication, are presented in Appendix A. In addition, notice letters were sent to all adjacent property owners (Appendix B) and elected officials with jurisdiction in the project corridor (Appendix C).

On the day of the public hearing, eleven signs were placed along nearby roads to guide drivers to Calvert Elementary School. At the school, signs were posted on doors to show attendees to the cafeteria, where the project exhibits were displayed and where the hearing took place.

An informal open house meeting was held in the back of the cafeteria before the hearing, starting at 5:30 pm. Attendees signed in at a table at the entrance to the foyer (see Appendix D) and obtained a comment sheet and (if they wished to make an oral comment) a speaker registration card from project staff that spoke English and Spanish. Boards describing the project, its environmental impact and proposed schedule (reproduced in Appendix E) and schematic drawings of the proposed project were displayed at the back of the cafeteria. Project team members from the City of Houston, TxDOT Houston District and North Harris Area Office, and consultants were available to answer questions in either English or Spanish at the display area. About 12 citizens attended the open house before the public hearing.

At 6:30 pm, John Kuo, P.E., the Assistant Director for Public Works at the City of Houston Public Works & Engineering Department, convened the public hearing at the front of the cafeteria. There were 16 citizens present for the public hearing presentation and comment session. Mr. Kuo's presentation was accompanied by a slide show (Appendix F), and he called on Patrick Carrigan, P.E., the project's design engineer with AECOM, and Bruce F. Leon, Ph.D., the lead environmental consultant with Quadrant Consultants, to present the project design and environmental impacts, respectively. After the presentation was over, Mr. Kuo requested public comments. One person made oral comments. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm, after which

some attendees, the presenters and other project team members returned to the back of the cafeteria to continue the informal open house meeting. All attendees had left the meeting by 7:15 pm.

Sufficient notice and advertisement was provided in advance of the public hearing to the affected population, in both English and Spanish. The public hearing was held at a convenient location to the affected population and at a convenient date and time. Ample parking was available at the public hearing location, as was local bus service. The hearing officer afforded several opportunities for those who wished to make oral comments to do so, and attendees were reminded several times that they could also submit comments in writing or by email until April 25, 2014, which is more than 10 days after the hearing. Thus, the public hearing gave every citizen who wished to do so an opportunity to understand and comment on the proposed project. TxDOT has certified that the hearing took place and met the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Appendix G).

A verbatim transcript of the hearing proceedings is presented in Appendix H.

Pictures of Calvert Elementary School Cafeteria:

Outside the School



Public Hearing Area at Front



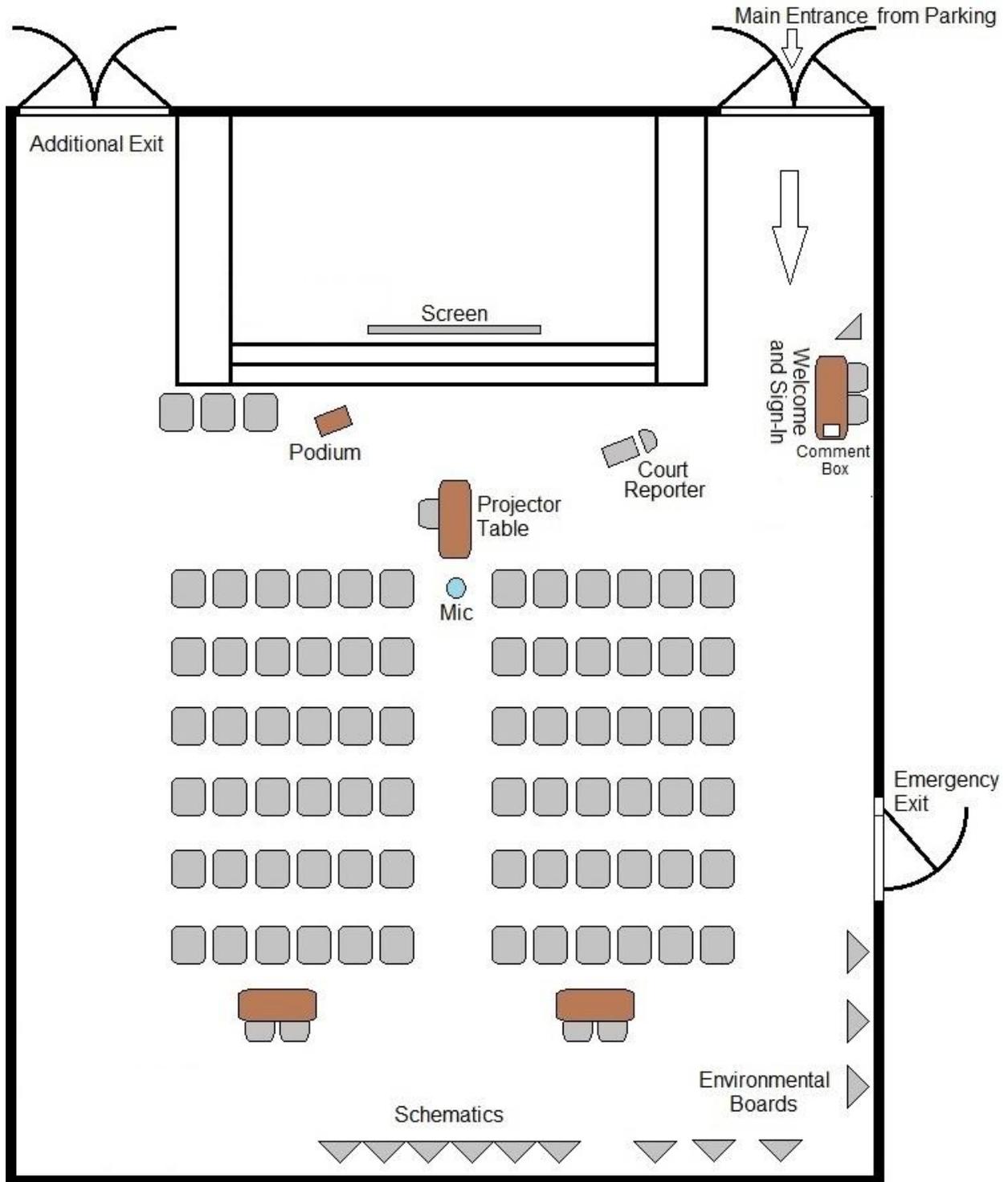
Open House Area at Back



Citizen Making an Oral Comment



Floor Plan for the Public Hearing:



COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING AND AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING

Four comments from three commenters were received by April 25, 2014: one oral comment was offered at the public hearing and followed up with one emailed comment after the hearing by the same commenter. In addition, one written comment was submitted during the public hearing and one mailed comment was also received.

All three commenters support the proposed project, but two commenters also expressed concerns. One commenter is concerned about tractor-trailer access to his industrial facility. The other commenter, representing the Houston Airport System, is concerned about transferring the land for the proposed detention basin site from the Houston Airport System to the Houston Public Works & Engineering Department.

The next section presents each of the comments presented at the hearing or received by TxDOT by April 25, 2014, and responds to each of them.

ORAL COMMENTS PRESENTED AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

Comment 1, Oral Comment by Steven P. McKinley

MR. MCKINLEY: We are also going to fill out the sheet and send it in, but we're just concerned how this is going to affect our business that I've worked all my life for, people turning in. I do have a shop that customers come in; big trucks come in. My trucks -- I have 31 EZ Tags, so that ought to tell you that we're going in and out all day.

Yes, Greens Road's going to be great. It's going to be great for everybody to have a nice road. That's not what we're -- what I'm speaking about. I'm speaking about turning into my business and coming out, how that's going to affect the way that I have it set up with my gates and my operation and how that's going to affect me.

And that's about all that I have to say. I'm Steve McKinley, the owner of Stripes & Stops at 2323 Greens Road. Thank you.

Response:

During construction, the commenters' driveway onto Greens Road would be closed briefly and rebuilt by the City of Houston in its current location. Truck traffic would continue to use the existing entrance to the property.

However, left turns onto or from Greens Road to this property would be blocked by the proposed raised median. A median cut to accommodate left turns directly into or out of the commenter's property would be 180 feet from the intersection of Greens Road and Green Mountain Drive, which is too close to allow for safe driving conditions. (The City of Houston's Standard 10.06-06 requires that thoroughfares have a minimum distance between median openings of 350 feet.) Therefore, a median cut to allow direct left turns into or out of the commenter's property would not meet the City of Houston's standard for safe roadway design and is not part of the proposed project. However, access to and from the commenter's property would continue on westbound Greens Road.

WRITTEN COMMENTS PRESENTED AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

Comment 2, Written Comment by Keith Goodwin, Chief of Capital Planning, Houston Airport System

(Optional) Name: *Keith B. Goodwin* Address: *16930 JFK Blvd Houston Tx 77032*
Comments/Comentarios: *281-233-1722*

I am an employee of the City of Houston Airport System, (HAS)

The property that is sited for a detention pond on Peyton is the property of the Houston Airport System. Under the FAA rules governing the disposal of land acquired under the FAA noise program, HAS must sell the property at fair market value. Under the City of Houston rules, there must be notices for opening bidding if the property is not used internally.

One issue with the pond

- 1.) Is the 5 acre parcel going to be purchase for the pond?*
- 2.) If the project is only going to buy 2.5 acres then HAS recommends the detention pond be move to the southside of the parcel; leaving the north portion of the parcel with street access to Peyton Rd*

Transcription: I am an employee of the City of Hous[ton] Airport System (HAS). The property that is sited for a detention pond on Peyton is the property of the Houston Airport System. Under the FAA rules governing the disposal of land acquired under the FAA noise program, HAS must sell the property at fair market value. Under the City of Houston rules, there must be notices for opening bidding if the property is not used internally.

One issue with the pond: 1) is the 5-acre parcel going to be purchase[d] for the pond? 2) if the project is only going to buy 2.5 acres then HAS recommends the detention pond be moved to the south side of the parcel, leaving the north portion of the parcel with street access to Peyton Road.

Response:

Houston Public Works & Engineering Department (PWE) would appraise the Houston Airport System's (HAS) property on Peyton Road and reimburse HAS for it, in compliance with FAA requirements. This is what PWE requires other departments to do when they need to use City-owned Utility Services real estate for other purposes. PWE will coordinate with HAS staff to ensure full compliance with FAA regulations.

During detailed design of the project, the detention basin site would be planned so that street access will be provided to the rest of the site. No part of the site would be blocked from access to Peyton Road.

COMMENTS RECEIVED BEFORE AND AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING

Comment 3, Mailed Comment by North Houston Association



April 2, 2014

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Darrin Willer, PE
HNTB

Director of Project Development
TxDOT Houston District
P. O. Box 1386
Houston, TX 77251

Re: Comments on Greens Road Project

On behalf of its members, the North Houston Association identifies, advocates, and supports projects and initiatives which advance the business environment and improve the quality of life in north Harris and south Montgomery counties. The Association was founded in 1982 by 26 firms who believed that collectively they could influence both the quantity and quality of development in north Harris and south Montgomery counties to benefit the entire community. The Association works closely with government agencies and other organizations to achieve specific goals which directly affect the quality of life in an established service area. This service area is characterized by the following boundaries: FM 525 (Aldine Bender Road) on the south, Lake Houston on the east, City of Conroe on the north, and U.S. 290 on the west.

The Association's 2013 Strategic Mobility Plan (SMP), a project of our Transportation Committee, is a tool for advocacy of projects needed within our region. The SMP includes the Greens Road project and advocates for the road widening and extension all the way to US 59. The project should be a 4-lane divided roadway with raised median and curbs and gutters, in keeping with the Hardy Toll Road to Aldine Westfield roadway section. Following are the Association's comments for this project:

The pavement condition is currently unacceptable for traffic safety, is very narrow, has no shoulder and has open ditches on each side. We support the widening and other improvements to this roadway.

The widened roadway can serve as a viable option to Bush Intercontinental Airport, offering greater access to the airport.

Regards,

Alex Sutton, Chair

Jon Lindsay, President

16825 Northchase Drive, Suite 160, Houston, Texas 77060
Phone: 281-875-0660, Fax: 281-875-0663
www.north-houston.com

Response:

Comment noted.

Comment 4, Mailed Comment by Steven P. McKinley

2a) Do you live or own property adjacent to Greens Road between Aldine-Westfield Road and JFK Blvd? Yes No
 2b) Do you live or own property near Greens Road? Yes No
 3) Are you supportive of this proposed project? Yes No Undecided: Please explain: _____

4a) Are you employed by TxDOT? Yes No 4b) Do you do business with TxDOT? Yes No
 4c) Do you have a financial interest in this project? Yes No (per Texas Transportation Code §201.811(a)(5))

(Optional) Name: Stripes & Stops Company, Inc. Address: 2323 Greens Road, Houston, TX 77032
 Comments/Comentarios: _____

Please see attached letter with drawing

BY THE ENGINEER.

Remove sign & pole.
 Remove 110 of CURB & Rip RAP
 JEFFREY ALLEN VOLK
 12840
 LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
 Jeffrey A. Volk, PE
 1/6/14
 REVISIONS
 3/5/14

LEGEND:

- B MULTIPOLYMER PAV MKK (W) 6" (SLD)
- C MULTIPOLYMER PAV MKK (W) 8" (SLD)
- D MULTIPOLYMER PAV MKK (W) 12" (SLD)
- E MULTIPOLYMER PAV MKK (W) 24" (SLD)
- F MULTIPOLYMER PAV MKK (T) 6" (SLD)
- G MULTIPOLYMER PAV MKK (T) 24" (SLD)
- H PREFAB PAV MKK TY C (W) (ARROW)
- I PREFAB PAV MKK TY C (W) (OBL ARROW)
- J PREFAB PAV MKK TY C (W) (RR KING)
- K PREFAB PAV MKK TY C (W) (HORN)
- L PREFAB PAV MKK TY C (W) (36" YLD TR)
- M REFL PAV MKK TY II - C - R
- N REFL PAV MKK TY II - A - A
- O MULTIPOLYMER PAV MKK (T) 6" (BRK)
- P MULTIPOLYMER PAV MKK (W) 6" (DOT)
- Q REFL PAV MKK TY II (T) 12" (SLD)
- R PREFAB PAV MKK TY C (W) (TPL ARROW)
- S MULTIPOLYMER PAV MKK (SLK) 6" (BRK)
- T REFL PAV MKK TY I - C
- U ELEM EXT PAV MKK & MKKS
- V PROPOSED SMALL SIGN
- W EXISTING SIGN TO REMAIN
- X OBJECT MARKER

SCALE: 1" = 100'-0"

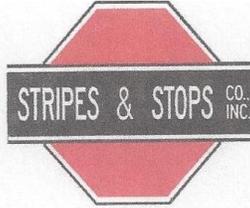
STATE OF TEXAS
 BRINK A. JONES
 95732
 LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
 3/17/2010

CP&Y
 TYPE FIRM #1741
 ©2010
 Texas Department of Transportation

SIGNING AND PAVEMENT MARKING LAYOUT
 (FM 2218)
 (STA 102+00 TO STA 110+86)
 SHEET 5 OF 7
 PROJECT NO. 2093
 SHEET NO. 472

DATE	DESIGNED	CHECKED
TEXAS	HOU	FORT BEND
CONTROL	SECTION	JOB
2093	01	009, ETC FM 2218, ETC

2323 Greens Road
Houston, TX 77032



(281) 821-3307 Office
(281) 821-5680 Fax

April 25, 2014

Texas Department of Transportation
7600 Washington Avenue
Houston, Texas 77007

Attn: Mr. Pat Henry, P.E.

Re: Greens Road Widening Comments from 04/10/2014

Dear Mr. Henry:

I am sending this letter to memorialize my issues with the proposed Greens Road Widening project for which I attended the public hearing on April 10, 2014. Please forward this information to any decision making person or entity involved so they can receive notice of our issues with this project.

Stripes & Stops Company, Inc. is a small business, with a retail store, employing approximately 35 employees in Houston, Harris County. I have built the company from the ground up. We initially purchased $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre for our building and parking area in 2001. At that time we hired an architect to position our building and parking area to meet all requirements of the City of Houston building code and the ADA. As such, we utilized every square inch of our property in order to meet these requirements. At the entrance of our property, we have an electronic gate that uses a code access box that our employees use to open and close the gate before and after work hours. Our driveway extends into the easement that will be lost if the Greens Road widening proceeds as outlined at the meeting. If Stripes & Stops loses the use of the easement, we will have to reconfigure our entrance fence, gate, and gate access box attributing to a loss of half of the parking spaces. This would cost a considerable sum of money and would probably put the company in a perilous financial condition. More importantly, losing the use of the easement, will cause a safety issue with trucks entering and exiting the property because of the loss of turning radius for entering or exiting the property. Stripes & Stops has a fleet of 28 large trucks along with the customers' and vendors' 18 wheelers that are entering and exiting the property on a daily basis. If the use of the easement is taken away, then there will not be enough room for trucks to safely enter or exit the property which will create a potentially dangerous situation for our employees and the travelling public.

It is my understanding that the project is still in the developmental stages and the completed design and drawings are not known, so it is very difficult to say how big of an impact (financially and physically) it will have on my business. However, please take our issues and other small businesses like ours under consideration when determining the design and impact aspects of this project.

It is also my understanding from one of the gentlemen representing the City of Houston at the public hearing that typically the City of Houston performs a study of wildlife, wetlands, and/or an impact study is performed prior to deciding on this type of project. I am obviously concerned about the impact of this project on my company, but I also am concerned about the impact of the other small businesses in the area and the public in general.

Attached is a copy of a TxDOT approved drawing where curbing was removed and pavement markings were installed to allow for the entrance into the commercial property.

If you have any questions or comments or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to call.

STRIPES & STOPS COMPANY, INC.


Steven P. McKinley
President

Attachment

Response:

The commenter refers to losing an easement that connects with his driveway onto Greens Road. The City of Houston does not plan to acquire any right-of-way from this commenter's property. The City would rebuild the driveway in its current location and the commenter would not have to relocate his gate.

The Environmental Assessment considers the potential impact of the project on the natural environment and the social and economic conditions of residents and businesses in the roadway corridor. This Environmental Assessment was made available to the public at least 30 days before the Public Hearing and is currently available at the City of Houston Public Works & Engineering Department and the TxDOT Houston District offices.

The drawing provided by the commenter is a sketch of another roadway project (FM 2218 in Fort Bend County), where the plans were revised from a 2010 design with a channelizing curb next to a left-turn lane to a 2014 retrofit that would remove the curb and replace it with a yellow stripe. The commenter appears to be suggesting that the City of Houston could use a similar design at his property. However, the situation at Greens Road is not the same as for FM 2218. The FM 2218 design is a channelizing curb only a few feet wide, while the Greens Road design at that point is a 28-foot-wide median, not related to any intersection. Furthermore, FM 2218 is not in Houston and its design does not follow City of Houston design standards. The distance from the commenter's driveway to the next median opening at Green Mountain Drive is 180 feet, which is too close to allow for safe driving conditions. (The City of Houston's Standard 10.06-06 requires that thoroughfares have a minimum distance between median openings of 350 feet.) Therefore, the median cut proposed by the commenter would not meet the City of Houston standard for safe roadway design and is not part of the proposed project.

RECOMMENDATION

The project was received positively from the commenters that came to the Public Hearing. Two concerns were expressed about the project:

- Access by trucks to an adjacent property; and
- Inter-departmental transfer of property from the Houston Airport System to the Public Works & Engineering Department for use as a detention basin.

These comments have been addressed as follows:

- The adjacent property requiring truck access would retain its driveway and gate in its existing location. An additional median opening was considered to allow left-turn movements into and out of this property. However, a median opening for this property would reduce safety and violate City of Houston design standards due to its proximity to a roadway intersection, and therefore is not part of the proposed project.
- The Houston Airport System would be compensated at fair market value for the property for the detention basin, according to Federal Aviation Administration requirements. Access would be provided in final design for the parts of the parcel lying south of the detention basin.

In all, two commenters support building the proposed project and none opposes it.

Based on the comments received during and following the public hearing, it is recommended that federal funding for the proposed widening of Greens Road from Aldine-Westfield Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard be authorized.

APPENDIX A
NOTICES FOR PUBLIC HEARING ADVERTISED IN LOCAL
NEWSPAPERS

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS:

COUNTY OF HARRIS:

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared, the Newspaper Representative at the HOUSTON CHRONICLE, a daily newspaper published in Harris County, Texas and generally circulated in the Counties of: HARRIS, TRINTY, WALKER, GRIMES, POLK, SAN JACINTO, WASHINGTON, MONTGOMERY, LIBERTY, AUSTIN, WALLER, CHAMBERS, COLORADO, BRAZORIA, FORT BEND, GALVESTON, WHARTON, JACKSON, and MATAGORDA and that the publication, of which the annexed herein, or attached to, is a true and correct copy, was published to-wit:

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NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this the 10th Day of March A.D. 2014



Veronica M Tyrone

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Notice of Public Hearing

Greens Road: from
Aldine-Westfield Road
to John F. Kennedy
Boulevard

The City of Houston and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Houston District, will conduct a public hearing on the proposed widening of Greens Road from Aldine-Westfield Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard, in Houston, Harris County, Texas. The hearing will be conducted on **Thursday, April 10, 2014, beginning at 5:30 pm in the Cafeteria of Calvert Elementary School, 1925 Marvell Drive, Houston, Texas 77032.** The purpose of the hearing is to discuss the social, economic and environmental effects of the proposed project and receive comments from the public. The hearing will begin with an open house from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Project staff will answer questions on the proposed project during the open house. The formal public hearing will begin promptly at 6:30 pm, followed by a public comment period.

The City of Houston proposes to widen Greens Road to a 4-lane divided roadway with a raised median and curbs and gutters. The project would require additional right-of-way, but no home or business would be displaced. The project would reduce traffic congestion and improve traffic safety.

The Environmental Assessment, project exhibits, maps and design drawings will be available for review at the hearing. This information is available by appointment for review and copying at the TxDOT Houston District Office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007, the TxDOT North Harris Area Office, 16803 Eastex Freeway, Humble, Texas 77396, and the City of Houston Public Works & Engineering Department (Thomas Chiang, P.E.), 611 Walker, Houston, Texas 77002. These offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, excluding state holidays.

All interested people are invited to attend this hearing. Persons interested in attending the hearing that have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the District Public Information Officer at (713) 802-5072 at least two working days before the hearing. The public hearing will be conducted in English. Requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least two working days before the public hearing. The City of Houston will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Oral and written comments about this project may be presented at the hearing. Written statements may also be submitted to the TxDOT Houston District office at 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, or mailed to the Director of Project Development, TxDOT Houston District, P.O. Box 1386, Houston Texas 77251 or

Director of Project Development, TxDOT Houston District, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251, or emailed to *hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov*. Comments must be post-marked or emailed by April 25, 2014 to be included in the public hearing record.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS:

COUNTY OF HARRIS:

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared, the Newspaper Representative at the HOUSTON CHRONICLE, a daily newspaper published in Harris County, Texas and generally circulated in the Counties of: HARRIS, TRINTY, WALKER, GRIMES, POLK, SAN JACINTO, WASHINGTON, MONTGOMERY, LIBERTY, AUSTIN, WALLER, CHAMBERS, COLORADO, BRAZORIA, FORT BEND, GALVESTON, WHARTON, JACKSON, and MATAGORDA and that the publication, of which the annexed herein, or attached to, is a true and correct copy, was published to-wit:

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Edward Silva

 NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this the 31st Day of March A.D. 2014



Veronica M Tyrone

 Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Notice of Public Hearing

Greens Road; from
Aldine-Westfield Road
to John F. Kennedy
Boulevard

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Oral and written comments about this project may be presented at the hearing. Written statements may also be submitted to the TxDOT Houston District office at 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, or mailed to the Director of Project Development, TxDOT Houston District, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251 or

Director of Project Development, TxDOT Houston District, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251, or emailed to *hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov*. Comments must be post-marked or emailed by April 25, 2014 to be included in the public hearing record.

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STATE OF TEXAS:

COUNTY OF HARRIS:

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NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this the 10th Day of March A.D. 2014



Veronica M Tyrone

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

**Aviso de Audiencia
Pública
Greens Road: desde
Aldine-Westfield Road
hasta John F. Kennedy
Blvd.**

La Ciudad de Houston y el Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT), Distrito de Houston, llevará a cabo una audiencia pública sobre la ampliación propuesta de Greens Road desde Aldine-Westfield Road a John F. Kennedy Boulevard, en Houston, Condado de Harris, Texas. La audiencia se llevará a cabo el **Jueves, 10 de abril de 2014, comenzando a las 5:30 pm en la cafetería de la Escuela Primaria Calvert, 1925 Marvell Drive, Houston, Texas 77032.** El propósito de la audiencia es discutir los efectos sociales, económicos y ambientales del proyecto propuesto y recibir comentarios del público. La audiencia comenzará con un foro abierto de 5:30 a 6:30 pm. Personal del proyecto responderán las preguntas sobre el proyecto propuesto durante el foro abierto. La audiencia pública formal comenzará puntualmente a las 6:30 pm, seguido por un período de comentarios público.

La Ciudad de Houston propone ampliar la avenida Greens Road a una carretera dividida de 4-carriles con una mediana elevada y bordillos y cunetas. El proyecto requeriría derecho de vía adicional, pero no habrá desplazamientos de residencias y negocios. El proyecto reduciría la congestión de tráfico y mejorará la seguridad del tráfico.

La Evaluación Ambiental, exposiciones del proyecto, mapas y planos de diseño estarán disponibles para su revisión en la audiencia. Esta información está disponible por cita para revisión y copia en la oficina de TxDOT, Distrito de Houston, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007, en TxDOT, Oficina de Harris Area Norte, 16803 Eastex Freeway, Humble, Texas 77396, y la Ciudad de Houston, Departamento de Obras Públicas e Ingeniería (Thomas Chiang, P.E.), 611 Walker, Houston, Texas 77002. Las oficinas estarán abiertas de lunes a viernes de 8:00 am a 5:00 pm, excepto los días festivos estatales.

Todas las personas interesadas están invitadas a asistir esta audiencia. Si usted tiene una necesidad de comunicación especial o necesidades de alojamiento, se le recomienda ponerse en contacto con el District Public Information Officer al (713) 802-5072 por lo menos dos días hábiles antes de la audiencia. La audiencia pública se llevará a cabo en inglés. Las solicitudes de intérpretes de lenguaje y otras necesidades de comunicación especial se deben hacer por lo menos dos días hábiles antes de la audiencia pública. La Ciudad de Houston hará todos los esfuerzos razonables para acomodar estas necesidades.

Los comentarios orales y escritos sobre este

estas necesidades.

Los comentarios orales y escritos sobre este proyecto se pueden presentar en la audiencia. Los comentarios escritos también pueden ser entregados a la oficina de TxDOT Houston District Office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007, o por correo al Director of Project Development, TxDOT Houston District, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251, o por correo electrónico a hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov. Los comentarios deben ser enviados con el sello postal o por correo electrónico antes del 25 de abril de 2014 para ser incluido en el registro público de la audiencia pública.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS:

COUNTY OF HARRIS:

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared, the Newspaper Representative at the HOUSTON CHRONICLE, a daily newspaper published in Harris County, Texas and generally circulated in the Counties of: HARRIS, TRINTY, WALKER, GRIMES, POLK, SAN JACINTO, WASHINGTON, MONTGOMERY, LIBERTY, AUSTIN, WALLER, CHAMBERS, COLORADO, BRAZORIA, FORT BEND, GALVESTON, WHARTON, JACKSON, and MATAGORDA and that the publication, of which the annexed herein, or attached to, is a true and correct copy, was published to-wit:

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Edward Silva

NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this the 31st Day of March A.D. 2014



Veronica M Tyrone

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

**Aviso de Audiencia
Pública
Greens Road: desde
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Los comentarios orales y escritos sobre este

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APPENDIX B NOTICES FOR PUBLIC HEARING MAILED TO ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS

Letters were mailed to the following adjacent property addresses:

<i>Property Address</i>	<i>Property Owner</i>
2200 Block of Greens Road	Houston Airport System (contact: Keith Goodwin)
2201 Greens Road	Meritocratic, Inc.
2315 Greens Road	Gach LLC
2323 Greens Road	Stripes & Stops Company
2400 Block of Greens Road	Stella Pon
2418 Greens Road	IDV-RRH Greens G, LP
2419 Greens Road	Steve P. McKinley
2421 Greens Road	Isham Interests Ltd.
2438 Greens Road	HOU IND I, LLC/Zurich Alternative Asset Management, LLC
2446 Greens Road	Penhaligon Properties, L.L.C.
2500 Block of Greens Road	Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County
2500 Block of Greens Road	Tristate Advantage Capital Corporation
2507 Greens Road	El Aguila Multi-Service, Inc.
2642 Greens Road	Sunshine Trust 1
2646 Greens Road	Kermit Leistikow
2746 Greens Road	Terry & Shirley Simpson
3010 Greens Road	GSL Partners Sub Seven, LP
3100 Greens Road	UGP Greens Road, LLC
3200 Greens Road	MSDH Ventures, LLC
3300 Greens Road	CenterPoint Energy
3434 Greens Road	Command Real Estate, LLC
2442 Greens Road & 2522 Peyton Road	CCI-B Greens Road C, LP
2602 & 2610 Greens Road	GR Business, Inc.
2928 & 3340 Greens Road	AMB Institutional Alliance Fund III, LP
2201, 2221 & 2322 Greens Road	Union Inc.
15900 Block of John F. Kennedy Blvd.	Donald Ward Ltd.
15931 John F. Kennedy Blvd.	Landmark Industries Energy, LLC
2700 & 2738 Greens Road, 15900 & 15925 Morales Road	Aeroterm Greensmor, LP
N/A	Greens Road Property Owners Association



7322 Southwest Freeway, Suite 470
Houston, Texas 77074
Phone 713-779-2990
Fax 713-779-3727
Email qci@qconsultants.com
Web www.qconsultants.com

March 10, 2014

«FirstName» «LastName» «Suffix»
«Company»
«Address1»
«Address2»
«City», «State» «Zip»

Property Address: «PropertyAddress»

Subject: Invitation to Public Hearing on Greens Road Widening Project

Dear «Title»«LastName»:

You are invited to attend a public hearing on the proposed widening of Greens Road from Aldine-Westfield Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard. The purpose of the hearing is to discuss the social, economic and environmental effects of the proposed project and receive comments from the public. The City of Houston and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Houston District, will conduct the hearing on:

Thursday, April 10, 2014
Calvert Elementary School
1925 Marvell Drive
Houston, Texas 77032
5:30 pm – Open House
6:30 pm – Public Hearing

The City of Houston proposes to widen Greens Road to a 4-lane divided roadway with a raised median and curbs and gutters. The project would require additional right-of-way, but no home or business would be displaced. The project would reduce traffic congestion and improve traffic safety.

The Environmental Assessment, project exhibits, maps and design drawings will be available for review at the hearing. This information is available by appointment for review and copying at the TxDOT Houston District Office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007, the TxDOT North Harris Area Office, 16803 Eastex Freeway, Humble, Texas 77396, and the City of Houston Public Works & Engineering Department (Thomas Chiang, P.E.), 611 Walker, Houston, Texas 77002. These offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, excluding state holidays.

The City of Houston invites you to attend this hearing. If you have special communication or accommodation needs, you are encouraged to contact the District Public Information Officer at (713) 802-5072 at least two working days before the hearing. The public hearing will be conducted in English. Requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least two working days before the public hearing. The City of Houston will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Oral and written comments about this project may be presented at the hearing. Written statements may also be submitted to the TxDOT Houston District office at 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, or mailed to the Director of Project Development, TxDOT Houston District, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251, or emailed to [hou-piwebmail@txdot.gov](mailto:houston-piwebmail@txdot.gov). Comments must be postmarked or emailed by **April 25, 2014** to be included in the public hearing record.

Sincerely,

Bruce F. Leon, Ph.D.
Manager, Environmental Planning



7322 Southwest Freeway, Suite 470
Houston, Texas 77074
Phone 713-779-2990
Fax 713-779-3727
Email qci@qconsultants.com
Web www.qconsultants.com

10, de Marzo de 2014

«FirstName» «LastName» «Suffix»
«Company»
«Address1»
«Address2»
«City», «State» «Zip»

Dirección de propiedad: «PropertyAddress»

Asunto: Invitación a Audiencia Pública sobre el proyecto de ampliación de Greens Road

Estimado «TitleSp»«LastName»:

Lo invitamos a asistir a una audiencia pública sobre la ampliación propuesta de Greens Road desde Aldine-Westfield Road a John F. Kennedy Boulevard. El propósito de la audiencia es discutir los efectos sociales, económicos y ambientales del proyecto propuesto y recibir comentarios del público. La Ciudad de Houston y el Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT), Distrito de Houston, llevará a cabo la audiencia pública el:

Jueves, 10 de Abril de 2014
Escuela Primaria Calvert
1925 Marvell Drive
Houston, Texas 77032
5:30 pm – Foro Libre
6:30 pm – Audiencia Pública

La Ciudad de Houston propone ampliar Greens Road a una carretera dividida de 4-carriles con una mediana elevada y aceras y cunetas. El proyecto requeriría derecho de vía adicional, pero no habrá desplazamientos de residencias y negocios. El proyecto reduciría la congestión de tráfico y mejorará la seguridad del tráfico.

La Evaluación Ambiental, exposiciones del proyecto, mapas y planos de diseño estarán disponibles para su revisión en la audiencia. Esta información estará disponible por cita para revisión y copia en la oficina de TxDOT, Distrito de Houston, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007, en TxDOT, Oficina de Harris Área Norte, 16803 Eastex Freeway, Humble, Texas 77396, y la Ciudad de Houston, Departamento de Obras Públicas e Ingeniería (Thomas Chiang, P.E.), 611 Walker, Houston, Texas 77002. Las oficinas estarán abiertas de lunes a viernes de 8:00 am a 5:00 pm, excepto los días festivos estatales.

La Ciudad de Houston le invita a asistir a esta audiencia. Si usted tiene una necesidad de comunicación especial o necesidades de alojamiento, se le recomienda ponerse en contacto con el District Public Information Officer al (713) 802-5072 por lo menos dos días hábiles antes de la audiencia. La audiencia pública se llevará a cabo en inglés. Las solicitudes de intérpretes de lenguaje y otras necesidades de comunicación especial se deben hacer por lo menos dos días hábiles antes de la audiencia pública. La Ciudad de Houston hará todos los esfuerzos razonables para acomodar estas necesidades.

Los comentarios orales y escritos sobre este proyecto se pueden presentar en la audiencia. Los comentarios escritos también pueden ser entregados a la oficina de TxDOT, Distrito de Houston, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007, o por correo al Director of Project Development, TxDOT Houston District, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251, o por correo electrónico a [hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov](mailto:houston-piowebmail@txdot.gov). Los comentarios deben ser enviados con el sello postal o por correo electrónico antes del **25 de Abril de 2014** para ser incluido en el registro de audiencia pública.

Sinceramente,

Bruce F. Leon, Ph.D.
Gerente de Planificación Ambiental

APPENDIX C

NOTICES FOR PUBLIC HEARING MAILED TO ELECTED OFFICIALS

Letters were mailed to the following elected officials:

<i>Elected Official</i>	<i>Title</i>
John Cornyn	U.S. Senator
Ted Cruz	U.S. Senator
John Whitmire	Texas State Senator, District 15
Senfronia Thompson	Texas State Representative, District 141
Ed Emmett	Harris County Judge
R. Jack Cagle	Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 4
Annise Parker	Houston Mayor
Jerry Davis	Houston Council Member, District B
Stephen Costello	Houston Council Member At Large Position 1
Andrew C. Burks, Jr.	Houston Council Member At Large Position 2
Melissa Noriega	Houston Council Member At Large Position 3
C.O. Bradford	Houston Council Member At Large Position 4
Jack Christie	Houston Council Member At Large Position 5

March 3, 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL «Certified»

«Title» «FirstName» «LastName»
«Position»
«Addr1 »
«City», «ST» «Zip»

Harris County
Greens Road: from Aldine-Westfield Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Control 0912-71-739

Dear «Salutation» «LastName»:

Attached is a notice for the upcoming public hearing for the Greens Road improvement project, from Aldine-Westfield Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard, in Houston, Harris County, Texas. This public hearing is being held to present the proposed design and to seek comments from local officials and citizens. You, or your representative, are cordially invited to attend. See attached meeting location map.

Thursday, April 10, 2014
Calvert Elementary School
1925 Marvell Drive
Houston, Texas 77032

5:30 pm – Open House
6:30 pm – Public Hearing

We are available to meet with you before the public hearing to review the proposed project and answer any questions that you may have. If you have any questions in the interim, please contact Pat Henry, P.E., at (713) 802-5241.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Alford, P.E.
District Engineer
Houston District

Attachment
cc: Pat Henry, P.E.

APPENDIX D
PUBLIC HEARING SIGN-IN SHEET

Please Sign In

Greens Road Widening

from Aldine-Westfield Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard

CSJ 0912-72-158

Public Hearing – Calvert Elementary School

April 10, 2014

Name	Address	City, State, Zip
1 Beecroft Shih	AIRPORT	
2 Deborah Dedrick	Calvert Elementary	
3 Gayle R. Hood	Stripes & Stops Co. Inc. 2323 Greens Road	Houston, TX 77032
4 Steven P. McKinley	Stripes & Stops Co. Inc. 2323 Greens Road	Houston, TX 77032
5 Keith B. Goodwin	airport 16930 JFK Blvd	Houston TX 77032
6 STELLA POIN	9830 Moonberry	71042 77032
7 John Walsh	3100 Greens Rd	Houston TX 77032
8 John Anguish	300 Greens Rd	Houston TX 77032
9 YOUSSEF ELZEIN	HAS	//
10 Stacye Donaldson	2700 Greens Road (property)	
11 Stacye Donaldson	19115 Lee Road #226	Humble TX 77338
12 Alison Valles	20 Habel	Houston TX 770
13 Nicole Mahanay	3710 Wintergreen Dr.	Humble, TX 77396
14 W T Johnson	14277 Overbrook	H 77072
15 Jay Long	P. 4510 Choco Rio Rd	Liverpool, TX 77577
16 Gabriela Almaraz	421 West Republic Ave	Baytown TX 77520
17		
18		

APPENDIX E
PUBLIC HEARING DISPLAY BOARDS

Welcome to the Greens Road Widening Public Hearing

from Aldine-Westfield Road
to John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Calvert Elementary School
April 10, 2014



Need for and Purpose of the Project



Need

- ❖ The 2-lane roadway carries 14,650 vehicles per day, which will increase to 36,450 vehicles per day in 2029
- ❖ Congestion is expected to reach Level of Service E (very congested) in 2029
- ❖ The accident rate is 600 accidents per 100 million vehicle miles - three times the Houston average (204)
- ❖ No sidewalks for pedestrian safety

Purpose

- ❖ Meet future traffic demand
- ❖ Reduce traffic congestion
- ❖ Improve safety for vehicles and pedestrians

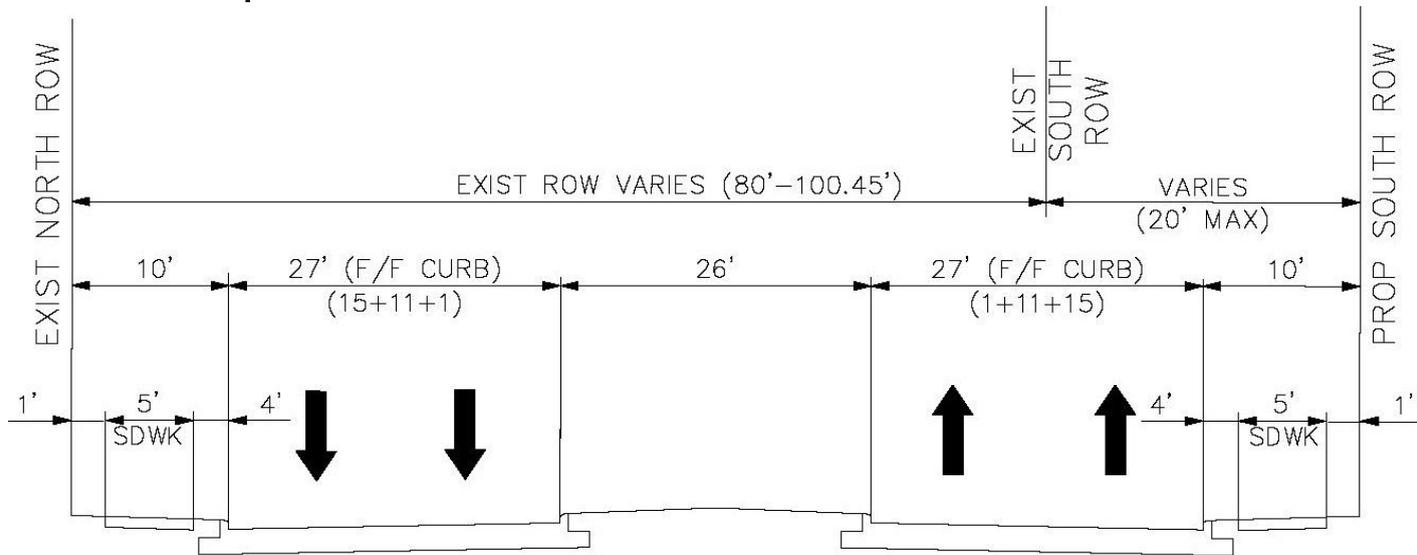
The Project Corridor

- ❖ From Aldine-Westfield Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard
- ❖ Along south boundary of Bush Intercontinental Airport
- ❖ Crosses Hoods Bayou and Old Hoods Bayou
- ❖ Project corridor is 1.6 miles long
- ❖ Existing right-of-way is 80 feet wide; proposed is 100 feet
- ❖ Proposed detention basin (2½ acres) at Peyton Road



Proposed Roadway Cross-Section

- ❖ Four traffic lanes in 100-foot wide right-of-way
- ❖ 26-foot wide raised median and 5-foot wide sidewalks
- ❖ Curb and gutter drainage
- ❖ Additional right-of-way (up to 20 feet wide) proposed to be acquired from the south side of Greens Road



Environmental Constraints

- ❖ Two stream crossings: Hoods Bayou and Old Hoods Bayou
- ❖ Scattered forested areas, mostly on west side of corridor
- ❖ Several potential hazardous materials sites; none are likely to have contaminated right-of-way
- ❖ Few noise receivers, including a restaurant/bar and a hotel



Environmental Findings



- ❖ Loss of 0.4 acre of forested area and 4.6 acres of grassland
- ❖ Impact to 0.03 acre of Old Hoods Bayou channel due to longer culverts at road crossing
- ❖ No effect on wetlands or endangered species
- ❖ No effect on 100-year floodplain
- ❖ Noise level would increase by 1 dBA at a restaurant/bar; a noise wall barrier would not be effective and is not proposed for this project
- ❖ No change to community cohesion

Project Schedule

All dates are approximate and subject to change.

- ❖ Public Hearing on April 10, 2014
- ❖ Request for project decision by Federal Highway Administration in mid-2014
- ❖ Public Hearing Summary Report available in mid-2014
- ❖ If approved, construction would begin in 2015
- ❖ Construction would take about 2 years

APPENDIX F
PUBLIC HEARING SLIDE PRESENTATION



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

GREENS ROAD WIDENING PUBLIC HEARING

from Aldine-Westfield Road
to John F. Kennedy Boulevard
April 10, 2014



CITY OF HOUSTON

Public Hearing Agenda

- 5:30 – 6:30 pm:
 - Registration and Exhibit Viewing
- 6:30 pm:
 - Public Hearing Presentation and Public Comment Session
- After Public Comment session:
 - Exhibit Viewing



Published Hearing Notices

- **Houston Chronicle (in English)**
 - Sunday, March 9, 2014
 - Sunday, March 30, 2014
- **La Voz (in Spanish)**
 - Sunday, March 9, 2014
 - Sunday, March 30, 2014

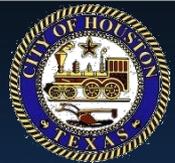




TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Greens Road Public Hearing



CITY OF HOUSTON

Project Information

- Information is available for review at:
- TxDOT Houston District Office
 - 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston 77007
 - (713) 802-5000
- TxDOT North Harris Area Office
 - 16803 Eastex Freeway, Humble 77396
 - (218) 319-6400
- City of Houston Public Works & Engineering Department
 - 611 Walker Street, Houston 77002
 - Thomas Chiang, P.E., (832) 395-2227



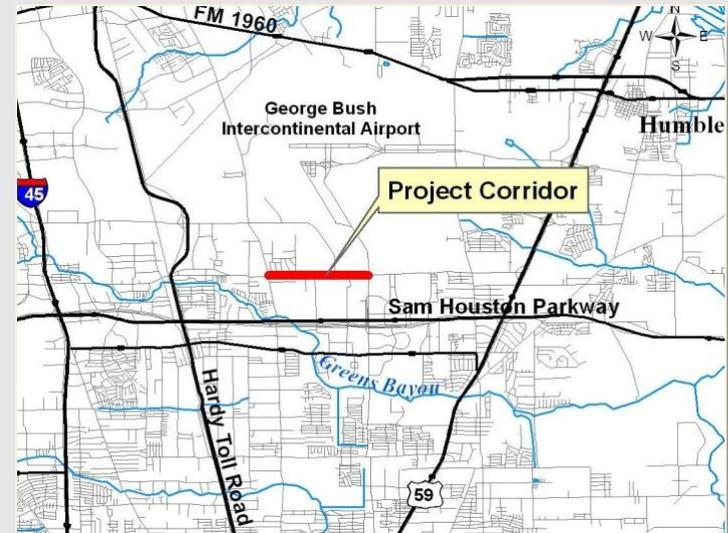
Need for and Purpose of the Project

- Need:

- Traffic demand to increase from 14,650 vehicles per day in 2009 to 36,450 by 2029
- Congestion will worsen by 2029
- High accident rate, 3 times Houston average
- No sidewalks

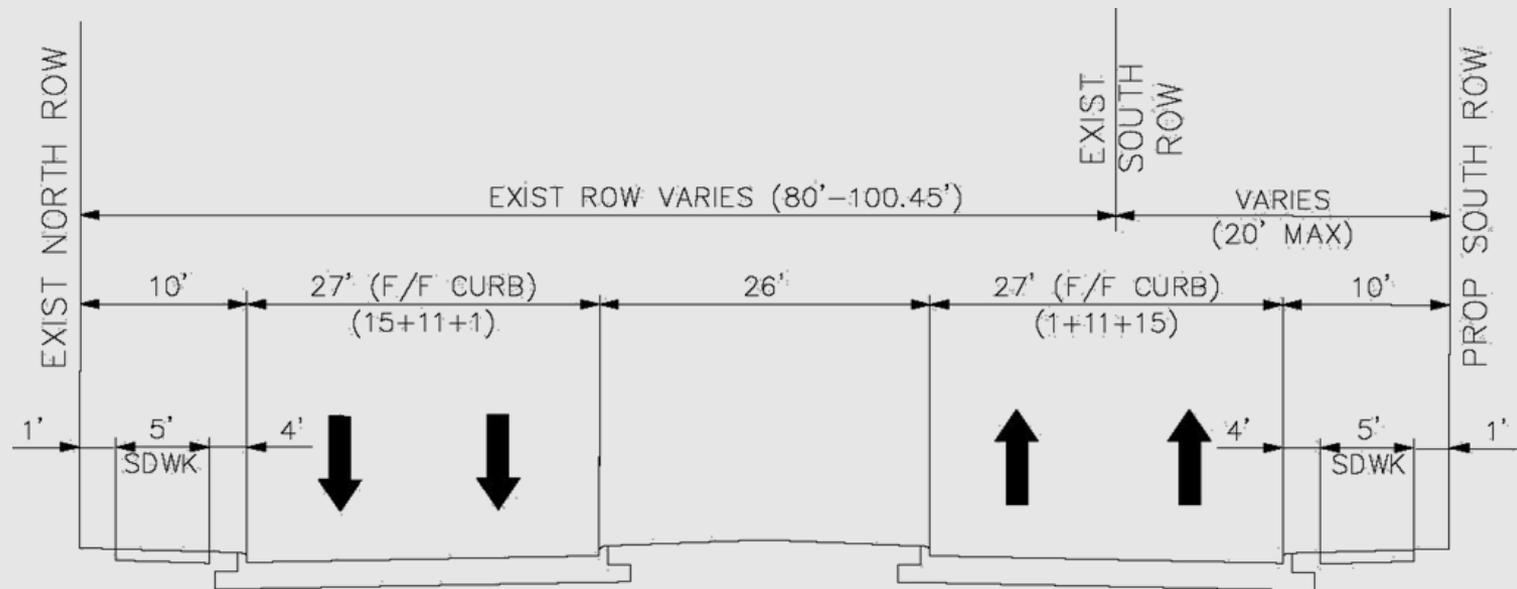
- Purpose:

- Reduce congestion
- Improve traffic safety
- Improve pedestrian safety



Proposed Roadway Design

- Four lanes, two in each direction
- 26-foot wide raised median
- 100-foot wide proposed right-of-way
- Storm sewer system with curb & gutter
- Detention basin south of Greens Road



Project Schedule and Cost

- Construction cost is estimated at \$18.6 million
- Request for project decision from Federal Highway Administration in mid-2014
- If approved, construction may begin in 2015
- Construction would take about two years



Environmental Assessment

- Alternative actions, including No Build
- Environment affected by proposed action
- Consequences of proposed action on the environment
- Public involvement
- Recommendation of preferred alternative



Alternatives Considered

- Alternative A: No Build
- Alternatives B and C: Widen to 4 lanes in 120-foot wide right-of-way (not acceptable)
- Alternative D: Widen to 4 lanes in 100-foot wide right-of-way; acquire land from north and south sides equally
- Alternative E (preferred): Widen to 4 lanes in 100-foot wide right-of-way, acquire land from south side only



Environmental Studies

- Water quality
- Floodplains
- Plants
- Wildlife
- Endangered species
- Wetlands
- Air quality
- Noise
- Archaeology
- Historical resources
- Hazardous materials
- Community cohesion
- Environmental justice
- Visual impacts
- Indirect impacts
- Cumulative impacts



Natural Resources

- Plant Communities: 0.4 acre of forest and 4.6 acres of grassland affected
- Floodplains: No impact
- Wetlands: No impact
- Waters: About 0.03 acre of Old Hoods Bayou affected
- Air Quality: Project complies with State Implementation Plan



Socio-Economic Resources

- Displacements: None
- Community cohesion: Not affected
- Land use: Vacant land along Greens Road is likely to develop as commercial and industrial land
- Noise: A restaurant/bar would receive noise levels 1 dB above the federal criterion
 - A noise barrier wall would not be effective and is not proposed for this project



Next Steps

- Comment period ends April 25, 2014
- Public Hearing Summary Report available in mid-2014 at:
 - TxDOT Houston District Office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston; (713) 802-5000
 - TxDOT North Harris Area Office, 16803 Eastex Freeway, Humble; (281) 319-6400
 - City of Houston Public Works & Engineering Department, 611 Walker Street, Houston 77002; (832) 395-2227 (Thomas Chiang, P.E.)
 - TxDOT Web Site, www.txdot.gov
- Project decision to be requested from FHWA in mid-2014
- If approved, construction may begin in 2015





TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Greens Road Public Hearing



CITY OF HOUSTON

Public Hearing Oral Comments

- Submit Speaker Registration Card
- Use microphone and face court reporter
- State your name and (if applicable) the organization you represent
- Please only comment on matters relevant to the Greens Road project
- Oral comments limited to 3 minutes
- Unused time may not be given to another speaker





TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SPEAKER'S MINUTES
REMAINING: **3:00**

Greens Road Public Hearing



CITY OF HOUSTON

Written Comments

- Tonight: Place in Comment Box
- By mail: Use Comment Form
 - Mail to Director of Project Development, TxDOT Houston District, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251
 - Postmark by **April 25, 2014**
- By e-mail:
 - Send to Hou-PIOwebmail@txdot.gov
 - Email by **April 25, 2014**



APPENDIX G
TXDOT CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC HEARING

Project Number: _____

County: **Harris**

CSJ: **0912-71-739 and 0912-72-158**

Highway name and project limits: **Greens Road from Aldine-Westfield Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard**

This is to certify that:

- A public hearing has been held, covering the project location and design.
- Consideration has been given to the economic, social and environmental effects of the project's location and design.
- The statutory provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 have been considered in determining the economic, social and environmental effects.
- The project's consistency with the goals and objectives of such urban planning as has been promulgated by the community has been considered.

District Engineer

Date

APPENDIX H
PUBLIC HEARING TRANSCRIPT

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CITY OF HOUSTON

Public Hearing
Greens Road from Aldine-Westfield Road
to John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Harris County, Texas

April 10, 2014

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BE IT REMEMBERED that the above-entitled cause came on to be heard on April 10, 2014, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at Calvert Elementary School Cafeteria, 1925 Marvell Drive, Houston, Texas 77032, for the purpose of discussing the social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed project and receiving comments from the public, and was reported by Melodie I. Thompson, Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, whereupon the following proceedings were had.

A P P E A R A N C E S

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PRESENTERS:

Mr. John Kuo
Assistant Director of Public Works
City of Houston

Mr. Pat Carrigan
Project Design Manager, Greens Road Project
AECOM Technical Services, Inc.

Bruce Leon, Ph.D.
Senior Manager, Environmental Planning
Quadrant Consultants, Inc.

MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC MAKING COMMENTS:

Mr. Steven P. McKinley
President
Stripes & Stops Company, Inc.

REPORTED BY:

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MR. KUO: Good evening. My name is John
3 Kuo. I am the Assistant Director of Public Works for
4 City of Houston Public Works. Welcome to this Public
5 Hearing at Calvert Elementary School for the proposed
6 widening of Greens Road. The project limits are from
7 Aldine-Westfield Road on the west and to John F. Kennedy
8 Boulevard on the east. The project is in Harris County,
9 Texas.

10 Today is April 10th, 2014, and right now
11 the time is 6:34, according to my watch. At this time
12 please turn off and silence your cell phones and pagers
13 and keep them silent during the hearing.

14 The purpose of this Public Hearing is to
15 present the proposed project design and the results of
16 the environmental studies for the proposed widening of
17 Greens Road and gather any comments you may have
18 regarding these plans. This Public Hearing is being
19 recorded by the court reporter for the public record.

20 You may have noticed the sign-in table as
21 you walked into the cafeteria this evening. If you have
22 not already done so, please sign in before you leave
23 tonight. The sign-in sheets allow us to record
24 tonight's participation and give you the opportunity to
25 be added to the project mailing list.

1 Also available at the sign-in table at
2 tonight's hearing are comment forms for your written
3 comments. For those who wish to make an oral comment
4 during the formal public comment session tonight,
5 speaker registration cards are also available at the
6 sign-in table. The comment session will follow
7 tonight's presentation. We will not answer questions
8 during the presentation or comment session, but we will
9 be available to answer your questions following the
10 comment session.

11 Please feel free to view the exhibits on
12 display at the back of the cafeteria. The exhibits will
13 be available after all public comments are heard.

14 Notices of the Public Hearing were
15 advertised in the Houston Chronicle in English and
16 La Voz in Spanish. In addition, notice -- notices were
17 mailed to adjacent property owners and elected
18 officials.

19 At this point I would like to recognize
20 the elected officials who attended tonight's hearing. I
21 don't think I have any person who signed in, so if you
22 are an elected official, please stand up and introduce
23 yourselves so we can recognize you. Anyone? Anyone
24 planning to run in the future maybe? Okay. All right.

25 Project information, including the

1 schematic layout showing the project location and
2 design, and the Environmental Assessment are available
3 for viewing in the back of the cafeteria and are on file
4 and available for public review at TxDOT's Houston
5 District Office at 7600 Washington Avenue in Houston, at
6 TxDOT's North Harris Area Office at 16803 Eastex Freeway
7 in Humble, and at the City of Houston's Public Works &
8 Engineering Department at 611 Walker Street in downtown
9 Houston.

10 Participating with me tonight in the
11 presentation are Pat Carrigan -- Mr. Pat Carrigan with
12 AECOM for project design and Dr. Bruce Leon of Quadrant
13 Consultants for environmental studies.

14 I will -- I'm now going to pass the
15 presentation over to Mr. Carrigan to discuss the project
16 details. Thank you.

17 MR. CARRIGAN: Thank you, Mr. Kuo. My
18 name is Patrick Carrigan. I am the project design
19 manager for the Greens Road project.

20 Greens Road carried 14,650 vehicles per
21 day in 2009, which is a large amount of traffic for a
22 two-lane undivided roadway. As traffic volumes grow to
23 an estimated 36,450 vehicles per day in 2029, congestion
24 is expected to worsen.

25 Furthermore, between 1999 and 2001, there

1 were 128 vehicle accidents on Greens Road. This is
2 three times the average accident rate in Houston and
3 four times the average accident rate in Texas. In
4 addition, Greens Road has no sidewalks, resulting in an
5 unsafe condition for pedestrians.

6 The purpose of the proposed project is to
7 reduce congestion and improve traffic and pedestrian
8 safety on Greens Road. To meet the expected traffic --
9 future traffic demand and reduce congestion, the City of
10 Houston proposes to widen Greens Road to four lanes. To
11 improve traffic safety, the design of Greens Road would
12 be improved to meet current TxDOT safety standards. The
13 improved design would also improve pedestrian safety by
14 adding sidewalks to Greens Road.

15 The proposed widening of Greens Road
16 would replace 1.6 miles of existing two-lane undivided
17 roadway with a four-lane divided roadway within a
18 right-of-way widened from 80 to 100 feet wide. The
19 proposed widening would match the existing section of
20 Greens Road to the west of the proposed roadway.

21 Drainage would be provided by curbs and
22 gutters and to an underground storm sewer system and a
23 new two-and-a-half-acre detention basin would be built
24 south of Greens Road at the east end of Peyton Road at
25 Hoods Bayou. This project is a component of the City of

1 Houston's Major Thoroughfare Plan.

2 Based on the schematic design presented
3 this evening, the construction cost estimate for the
4 project is \$18.6 million. TxDOT plans to request a
5 project decision from the Federal Highway Administration
6 in mid 2014. If approved, construction may begin in
7 2015. Construction would take about two years to
8 complete.

9 This concludes the presentation on
10 project information and schematic design. At this time
11 I would like to introduce Bruce Leon, who will describe
12 environmental studies.

13 DR. LEON: Thank you, Mr. Carrigan. My
14 name is Bruce Leon, and I am the environmental
15 consultant for the proposed Greens Road widening
16 project.

17 An Environmental Assessment has been
18 prepared and approved as satisfactory for further
19 processing by the Federal Highway Administration. The
20 Environmental Assessment includes a statement of the
21 need for and purpose of the project; consideration of
22 alternative actions, including No Build, to accomplish
23 the project's purpose; examination of the affected
24 environment; assessment of the environmental
25 consequences of the proposed action; a public

1 involvement program; and recommendation of the preferred
2 alternative.

3 Copies of the Environmental Assessment
4 are available for your review this evening in the back
5 of the cafeteria.

6 We considered five alternative actions
7 for the proposed project. Two were found unacceptable.
8 Three were found to be reasonable and were evaluated in
9 detail.

10 The No Build alternative means that
11 Greens Road would not be widened from Aldine-Westfield
12 Road to John F. Kennedy Boulevard. The No Build
13 alternative would leave the existing two-lane roadway in
14 place, and it would not meet the need for or purpose of
15 the project.

16 All action alternatives include the
17 two-and-a-half-acre detention basin at the east end of
18 Peyton Road that Mr. Carrigan just mentioned.

19 Alternatives B and C would widen Greens
20 Road to a four-lane roadway within an expanded 120-foot
21 wide right-of-way. Alternative B would acquire land
22 from the north and south sides equally, and
23 Alternative C would take land from the south side west
24 of Hoods Bayou and from the north side east of Hoods
25 Bayou. Both alternatives would require extensive

1 modifications to a ditch and a detention basin in Bush
2 Intercontinental Airport, at an unreasonable cost.
3 These alternatives were found to be not acceptable and
4 were not considered further.

5 Alternative D would widen Greens Road to
6 a four-lane roadway within a widened 100-foot wide
7 right-of-way. Additional land would be acquired on the
8 north and south sides equally. This alternative would
9 also encroach on the drainage ditch and detention basin
10 in Bush Intercontinental Airport but not as much as
11 Alternatives B and C. It would meet the need for and
12 purpose of the project, and it would not have
13 significant environmental impacts.

14 Alternative E is the preferred
15 alternative. It would widen Greens Road to a four-lane
16 roadway within an expanded 100-foot wide right-of-way,
17 with additional land acquired on the south side. This
18 alternative is preferred because it would meet the need
19 for and purpose of the project, it would not affect Bush
20 Intercontinental Airport, and it would not have
21 significant environmental effects.

22 For this project, we considered 16
23 categories of potential environmental effects, which are
24 listed on this slide. We examined the potential direct
25 environmental effects of the project, the potential

1 indirect effects of other projects spurred by this
2 project, and the cumulative impact of all projects in
3 the area.

4 We found that the project would not have
5 a significant impact on natural resources. The project
6 would require clearing 4/10ths of an acre of oak forest
7 and 4.6 acres of grassland. After construction, unpaved
8 parts of the right-of-way would be replanted with native
9 vegetation.

10 The project corridor crosses Hoods Bayou
11 and Old Hoods Bayou. The new roadway would cross Hoods
12 Bayou with a new bridge and Old Hoods Bayou with longer
13 culverts in the stream channel to accommodate the wider
14 roadway. This would affect 3/100ths of an acre of Old
15 Hoods Bayou. The project would result in no change to
16 flood levels or flood frequency.

17 The project would not affect wetlands or
18 endangered or threatened species. Impacts to air
19 quality have been considered. The project complies with
20 the State Implementation Plan to bring the Houston area
21 into compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection
22 Agency's air quality standards.

23 The project would not displace homes or
24 businesses. It would not divide neighborhoods nor
25 restrict access to public services nor affect community

1 cohesion. It would require additional right-of-way on
2 the south side of Greens Road. A representative of the
3 City of Houston's Real Estate Department is here tonight
4 and will be available to speak with property owners
5 after the Public Hearing.

6 Noise impacts were forecast by using the
7 Federal Highway Administration's Traffic Noise Model to
8 estimate future noise levels at businesses and other
9 sensitive receivers near Greens Road. The only receiver
10 to receive noise levels above the federal criterion
11 would be a restaurant and bar, which would exceed the
12 criterion by 1 decibel. A noise barrier wall was
13 considered but found to be infeasible because it would
14 not reduce noise levels effectively at this receiver.
15 Therefore, a noise barrier wall is not proposed for this
16 project.

17 Following this Public Hearing, a Public
18 Hearing Summary Report will be prepared to respond to
19 the oral and written comments received at tonight's
20 hearing and during the public comment period, which ends
21 on April 25th, 2014. The Summary Report as well as any
22 changes to the proposed project as a result of these
23 comments will be submitted to the Federal Highway
24 Administration for review. A project decision from the
25 Federal Highway Administration will be requested in mid

1 2014.

2 The Public Hearing Summary Report will be
3 available in mid 2014 at the TxDOT Houston District
4 Office, the TxDOT North Harris Area Office, the City of
5 Houston Public Works & Engineering Office, and on the
6 TxDOT website. The public will be notified about the
7 availability of this document in the same publications
8 in which this hearing was advertised.

9 Thank you for your attention. Now I will
10 turn the hearing back over to Mr. Kuo.

11 MR. KUO: Thank you, Dr. Leon. Now we
12 will begin the formal public comment session. The
13 purpose of this comment session, once again, is to
14 receive your comments that are relevant to the project.
15 Written and oral comments will be considered equally.
16 If you wish to submit a written comment, please fill out
17 a comment form available at the sign-in table to your
18 left.

19 You may drop off your comment from
20 tonight in the comment box, if you don't want to speak,
21 you know, in front of the public session, also at the
22 same place when you're leaving this room, or email your
23 comments to TxDOT by April 25th, 2014. That's the
24 important date. TxDOT's mailing address and email
25 address are provided on the comment form. All written

1 comments must be postmarked or emailed by April 25th to
2 be added to the public record.

3 Oral comments presented tonight are
4 limited to three minutes. We will not respond to
5 questions during this session. Representatives of the
6 City of Houston, TxDOT, and the consultant team will be
7 available to answer your questions in the exhibit area
8 at the back of the cafeteria following the comment
9 session.

10 Only registered speakers will be called.
11 If you would like to speak for the record tonight and
12 have not completed a speaker registration card, please
13 raise your hand. Our staff will come around and bring
14 you the comment registration card.

15 Does anyone wish to speak? Do we have
16 any registered speakers? We do. Okay. Great. Okay.
17 I'll give you a few minutes to think about if you still
18 want to register to speak, and the lady over here, she
19 can give you the card.

20 Okay. Now I would like to recognize
21 Steven -- Mr. Steven McKinley.

22 MR. MCKINLEY: McKinley.

23 MR. KUO: McKinley.

24 MR. MCKINLEY: Yes, sir. And we are
25 going to fill out a --

1 MR. KUO: Mr. McKinley, would you mind to
2 come to the podium so I can pass you the mic. Okay.
3 Right there. It's easier with the mic.

4 MR. MCKINLEY: We are also going to fill
5 out the sheet and send it in, but we're just concerned
6 how this is going to affect our business that I've
7 worked all my life for, people turning in. I do have a
8 shop that customers come in; big trucks come in. My
9 trucks -- I have 31 EZ Tags, so that ought to tell you
10 that we're going in and out all day.

11 Yes, Greens Road's going to be great.
12 It's going to be great for everybody to have a nice
13 road. That's not what we're -- what I'm speaking about.
14 I'm speaking about turning into my business and coming
15 out, how that's going to affect the way that I have it
16 set up with my gates and my operation and how that's
17 going to affect me.

18 And that's about all that I have to say.
19 I'm Steve McKinley, the owner of Stripes & Stops at
20 2323 Greens Road. Thank you.

21 MR. KUO: Thank you, Mr. McKinley. Do we
22 have any other person who would like to speak?

23 Okay. If there is no additional
24 person -- people who attended this public session who
25 would like to speak orally, the comment session will

1 adjourn. Okay. And the -- sorry. I lost my script
2 here. I don't want to go to the last page that quickly.

3 Thank you for your comment. If you would
4 like to submit a written comment, you can write it on
5 the comment form available at the sign-in table and
6 place it in the box marked "Comments" on the sign-in
7 table as you leave to my left, or you may send your
8 comments by mail or email to TxDOT, as I said before, by
9 April 25th, 2014, at the address shown on the screen and
10 on the comment form.

11 Project staff will be available after the
12 hearing to discuss the project with you in the display
13 area at the back of the cafeteria.

14 And now since there are no more speakers
15 registered to make a public comment, we will close the
16 comment session of the Public Hearing. It is 6:50 p.m.,
17 and the hearing is adjourned. Thank you for your
18 participation.

19 (Off the record at 6:50 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF TEXAS :

2 COUNTY OF HARRIS :

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4 I, Melodie I. Thompson, a Certified
5 Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and for the
6 State of Texas, do hereby certify that at the time and
7 place stated in the caption hereto, a Public Hearing was
8 held;

9 That the interested parties who made
10 comments at the Public Hearing personally appeared
11 before me;

12 That the proceedings of the Public
13 Hearing were taken in machine shorthand by me and later
14 reduced to typewriting under my direction, and the
15 foregoing constitutes a true and correct transcript of
16 said proceedings.

17 Given under my hand and seal of office
18 this the 14th day of April, 2014.

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21


Melodie I. Thompson
Melodie I. Thompson
CSR No. 7039, Expires 12/31/2015

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