



Public Hearing Comments

FM 2304: from Ravenscroft Dr to FM 1626

June 28, 2018

Austin District

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been carried out by TxDOT pursuant to Chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code, Section 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 17, 2014, executed between the FHWA and TxDOT.

How do I use this file?

Click on the bookmark ribbon to the left of the comment. This will bring up a list of people sorted by first and last name who commented on the proposed project. To see their comment, click on their name.



FM 2304 (Manchaca Road) Public Hearing

June 28, 2018

Manchaca Elementary School
12120 Manchaca Road
Austin, Texas 78748

COMMENT FORM

(optional contact information)

Name: Adeliza Ramirez

Address: _____

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): Check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

- I am employed by TxDOT
- I do business with TxDOT
- I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

Comments:

This project is desperately needed.
There are several proposed developments along FM 2304
that will only bring more congestion. Relief is needed
ASAP.

Comments may be submitted at this open house, mailed to Jesse Bullard, P.E., TxDOT Austin District, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426, submitted by email to Jesse.Bullard@txdot.gov or by visiting TxDOT website at www.txdot.gov and entering "Manchaca Road" in the search area. Please submit comments by July 13, 2018.

This form may be used to provide written comments on this project. Any questions placed on this form will not be considered an open records request and will not be treated as such. If you wish to submit an open records request, please do so separately.

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FM 2304 (Manchaca Road) Public Hearing

June 28, 2018

Manchaca Elementary School
12120 Manchaca Road
Austin, Texas 78748

COMMENT FORM

(optional contact information)

Name: GLEN JORDAN

Address: PO Box 91942

AUSTIN TX 78709

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): Check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

- I am employed by TxDOT
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Comments:

I attended the previous presentation here and wish to say:

Traffic coming south from slaughter ride in the outside lane and when approaching Ravenscroft they jump over into the inside lane causing near wrecks at Ravenscroft because they find themselves in the right turn lane that goes to the right onto Ravenscroft. This is dangerous and causes traffic waiting in line in the inside lane to continue down Manchaca Road south of Ravenscroft. Put signs up to warn traffic to expect the outside lane to turn right.

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FM 2304 (Manchaca Road) Public Hearing

June 28, 2018
Menchaca Elementary School
12120 Manchaca Road
Austin, Texas 78748

COMMENT FORM

(optional contact information)

Name: GLORIS Cartwright Martinez

Address: 11705 Manchaca Rd, Austin TX 78748
806-445-9214

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): Check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

- I am employed by TxDOT
I do business with TxDOT
I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

6-28-18

Comments:

Dear Chris Bishop

I reside at 11705 Manchaca Rd, Austin, TX 78748. I understand that you will "Not" be taking any more of my property. However I have grand concerns. When my property was purchased there were only fields all around us. During my ownership the city has taken a good bit of frontage. This has caused the widening of the road (Manchaca Rd) has caused flooding on my property when it rains. Because you have shorten my property thru acquisition I need to keep usage of both gate access. I am asking you grand father my access I have today for my proper use of entering into & exiting my property.

See back of page

Can we talk please?

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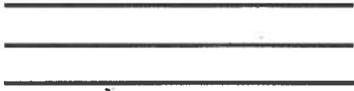
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Also, please, please design a way for the rain not to flood my property. This is causing foundation issues on both

Also, I do not have city utilities. I need
to have access, ^{outside my apt.} for the propane truck to park
outside my property to fill both homes.

Fold here



Stamp

TxDOT Austin District
P.O. Box 15426
Austin, Texas 78761-5426
Attn: Jesse Bullard, P.E.

Fold here

1/2 pt

From: [Shelly Eason](#)
To: [Shelly Eason](#)
Subject: RE: Comments on FM2304 widening (Ravenscroft to FM1626)
Date: Thursday, July 05, 2018 3:07:54 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Leslie Bush
Sent: Thursday, July 05, 2018 2:29 PM
To: Jesse Bullard
Subject: Comments on FM2304 widening (Ravenscroft to FM1626)

Mr. Bullard,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed widening of Manchaca Road in southern Travis County from Ravenscroft to FM1626. I travel part of this road nearly every day as I commute, usually by bicycle, between Shady Hollow and Twin Creeks.

I'm looking forward to the proposed improvements. The additional capacity is much needed, and the sidewalks and bicycle lanes will contribute to safer travel for everyone. That said, I'm concerned about making safe left turns from Manchaca Road (FM2304) onto other roads. This is a problem even on the current road, and I don't see that the improvements address that particular problem. The most dangerous part of the turning process is leaving the bicycle lane, crossing the car lane, and then moving into the left turn lane. Even with only one car lane to cross and at current traffic volumes, it can be difficult to find a gap in traffic. (Keep in mind that the bicycle is going 12 mph while the cars are going 50 mph!) Crossing two lanes of traffic will be correspondingly more difficult and dangerous.

One solution proposed by TxDOT personnel is for bicyclers to proceed through the intersection where they'd like to turn left, dismount, push the request button for the pedestrian light, wait for the light to turn, use the pedestrian cross-walk, then re-mount and re-enter traffic on the cross street. Although legal, that solution is cumbersome, requiring at least one and probably two additional light cycles for the bicyclist to negotiate the intersection. It's also potentially dangerous for the bicyclist, as motorists will not necessarily expect bicyclists to leave the crosswalk or sidewalk and join them in traffic on the new roadway. In addition, I have heard more than once from angry motorists that bicyclists should not alternate between vehicular and pedestrian infrastructure. If switching back and forth is truly TxDOT's plan for bicyclists, we need more education for motorists and pedestrians, so they know to always look out for bicycles.*

Another complication is that the intersection at Frate Barker, where I turn left from FM2304 each evening, is a T and does not have a crosswalk on the east side. May a bicycle proceed straight northbound through that intersection on a red light (provided there are no pedestrians in the east crosswalk), since no traffic would be in the bicycle lane? That would provide access to the north crosswalk and allow a bicyclist to avoid one of the additional light cycles. The situation is similar at FM1626 and Twin Creeks Rd. Alternatively, bicyclists could turn left from the FM2304 bike lane (on a left turn arrow only) in parallel with the vehicular traffic turning left. A similar solution was implemented for cars only at the intersection on northbound South Lamar between Teacher Heaven and The Park. (I don't think the cross-street there has a name; it's just two parking lots.) At that intersection, cars turn left in parallel from two non-adjacent lanes. Possibly, this could work for parallel cars and bicycles on FM2304.

Whatever solution is chosen, the most important thing is to have clear directions on the roadway, in signal lights, and on actual signs so that bicyclists and motorists alike know where bicyclists ought to be and when to expect them in or across vehicular traffic.

Sincerely,
Leslie Bush

*I'm personally opposed to having bicyclists over age 12 on sidewalks or even "shared use paths".

1 please head over to the registration table and do that.
2 They have some of them over there. Turn them in there.
3 They'll bring them up to us, and we'll go from there.

4 If you do not wish to stand and speak
5 tonight, you can also use any other card or paper to
6 write down comments. Written comments will be placed in
7 the white box at the comment table. They can also be
8 mailed or faxed to our study team. And mailing address
9 and fax number are located on the comment form.

10 I'm going to call out names of people who
11 signed up to speak. And in order to ensure everybody
12 has an opportunity and following traditional public
13 hearing rules, speaking time's limited to three minutes.
14 After that you'll of course be asked to seat, and the
15 next speaker will make their comments, and there is no
16 time sharing.

17 We also ask that you come to the
18 microphone, face me and the court reporter when you
19 speak so your comments can be accurately recorded.
20 We're going to take the speakers in the order that they
21 signed up. And the first speaker is Mark Fisher.

22 MARK FISHER: My name's Mark Fisher. I
23 live just literally right across the street from the
24 school. I've expressed my concerns to your staff that
25 I'm very concerned about the traffic that will be

1 exiting out of this parking lot in the mornings and the
2 afternoons. I've watched people almost get hit. And
3 right now they're only having to cross two lanes of
4 traffic. Now they're going to be dodging, you know,
5 three to four lanes plus a bike lane.

6 Something needs to be done with this
7 intersection down here. Besides the people that are
8 going to be going south on Manchaca and north on
9 Manchaca, I -- I've been having a lot of problems with
10 cut-through traffic to avoid 1626, including Austin
11 Independent school buses cutting through. So I urge
12 somebody to do something, either -- as much I hate
13 traffic lights, we need to figure out some way to make
14 this safe.

15 Obviously the Austin School District
16 doesn't feel like that there's a problem because they're
17 still exiting from the intersection. And from what I
18 understand is everyone will have to go to that
19 intersection to get through.

20 My other concern is I lived through the
21 last construction project where there was all kinds of
22 problems. I hope this time they can minimize and get a
23 contractor that is well versed and can finish this
24 project on time, because I know it was very devastating
25 to a lot of the businesses on this road with all the

1 construction.

2 And -- and also, I am also concerned
3 about if the construction's going to be done at night or
4 just during the day, because obviously I live real close
5 to the street. Thank you.

6 CHRIS BISHOP: Summer Kaylor.

7 SUMMER KAYLOR: Good evening. I have two
8 concerns that I would like to have considered prior to
9 construction to acknowledge safety and prevent
10 accidents. I lived in this area for 13 years, including
11 during the last construction.

12 The two biggest issues I see are both on
13 Manchaca. One, southbound traveling down the lanes,
14 especially in the evening, reducing to the lanes at
15 Ravenscroft where the left lane turns left into the
16 Ravenscroft subdivision, the center lane continues
17 straight down Manchaca, and the right lane takes a right
18 into the Hillcrest subdivision.

19 As that lane divides, cars fly down that
20 far right-hand side lane and do not turn into Hillcrest
21 as expected. They jump into the center lane at the
22 intersection at the light, and this has created many,
23 many accidents. I would love to see some cones or some
24 kind of divider put up so that they cannot do this prior
25 to construction. There's been several accidents already



FM 2304 (Manchaca Road) Public Hearing

June 28, 2018

Manchaca Elementary School
12120 Manchaca Road
Austin, Texas 78748

**COMMENT
FORM**

(optional contact information)

Name: Mary Jaramillo

Address: 11403 Susie St. 78748

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): Check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

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Comments:

will street lights be put for
us to walk in the evening

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Manchaca Elementary School
12120 Manchaca Road
Austin, Texas 78748

COMMENT FORM

(optional contact information)

Name: Robert Amoroso

Address: 12117 Manchaca Rd.

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Comments:

I spoke to Jesse Bullard about this previously, and submitted drawings. I'm submitting this feedback now to make sure it's officially considered. This comment is in regards to the very SOUTH end of Manchaca Rd. where it meets FM 1626.

Making left turns out of my business can be risky. And now that you are building two lanes of oncoming northbound traffic, it will be dangerous. This concern is unique to my business, because I am just a few hundred feet from the intersection where this northbound traffic originates. I propose keeping the northbound side of the road restricted to ONE lane (via markings, not physically) at least until it passes my active driveway and before the first road.

This is 100% safety-related.

Please refer to drawings I have submitted to Jesse Bullard.

Thank you!

- Robert Amoroso 917-676-3571

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1 construction.

2 And -- and also, I am also concerned
3 about if the construction's going to be done at night or
4 just during the day, because obviously I live real close
5 to the street. Thank you.

6 CHRIS BISHOP: Summer Kaylor.

7 SUMMER KAYLOR: Good evening. I have two
8 concerns that I would like to have considered prior to
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10 accidents. I lived in this area for 13 years, including
11 during the last construction.

12 The two biggest issues I see are both on
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14 especially in the evening, reducing to the lanes at
15 Ravenscroft where the left lane turns left into the
16 Ravenscroft subdivision, the center lane continues
17 straight down Manchaca, and the right lane takes a right
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19 As that lane divides, cars fly down that
20 far right-hand side lane and do not turn into Hillcrest
21 as expected. They jump into the center lane at the
22 intersection at the light, and this has created many,
23 many accidents. I would love to see some cones or some
24 kind of divider put up so that they cannot do this prior
25 to construction. There's been several accidents already

1 this year.

2 My other concern is especially in the
3 morning. For residents leaving the Morningside
4 subdivision, when they are trying to leave the main
5 entrance and turn left going southbound on Manchaca
6 towards this elementary school, people are flying
7 anywhere from 1626 to, you know, the veterinary clinic
8 all the way down the center lane all the way to Frate
9 Barker to bypass all the cars in the far right lane that
10 are waiting at the light.

11 They're flying down that center lane with
12 no intention to turn except at the Frate Barker light,
13 and this creates a huge danger for residents trying to
14 leave the Morningside subdivision turning left because
15 they cannot see people flying down that center lane.
16 And if they come out and someone pins them, it's going
17 to be a very tragic accident. Those are my two
18 concerns. Please consider. Thank you.

19 CHRIS BISHOP: Ms. Kaylor was the last
20 speaker who had signed up for tonight. Reminder, all
21 comments that we receive tonight as well as those
22 received by July 13th, 2018, will be summarized,
23 analyzed, and responded to in a report.

24 The comments and responses will be
25 available to the public on the project website at