WELCOME

Oak Hill Parkway
Public Hearing

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 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

HEARING AGENDA

OAK HILL PARKWAY

YOUR COMMENTS ARE IMPORTANT TO US

OAK HILL
PARKWAY

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY

MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2018

OAK HILL PARKWAY

NON-TOLLED PROJECT

TECHNICAL PRESENTATION

Wade Strong, P.E.

RTG - Consultant Project Manager

PROJECT LOCATION

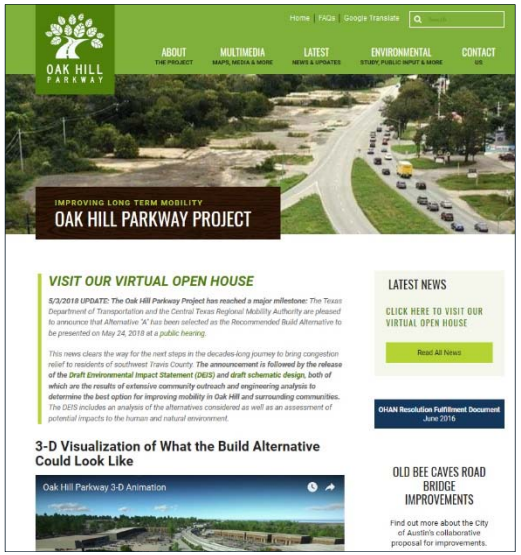
PROJECT INCLUDES:

- US 290 from MoPac to RM 1826 with transition area extending past Circle Drive
- Intersection of US 290 and SH 71
- SH 71 from US 290 to Silvermine Drive

PROJECT PURPOSE

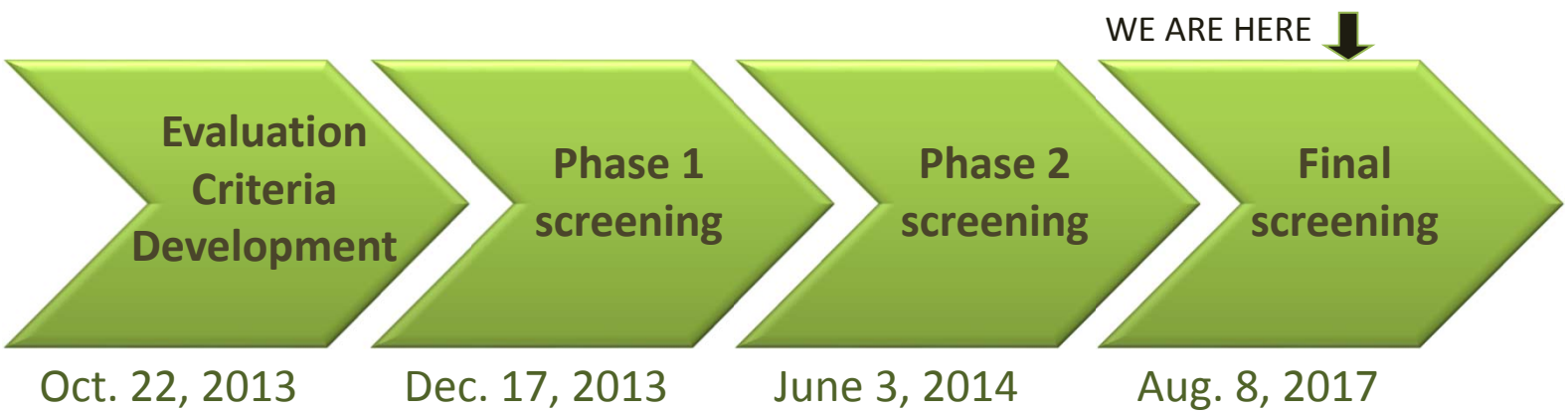
- Promote long-term congestion management
- Improve safety
- Improve emergency response
- Improve mobility and operational efficiency
- Increase multimodal travel options

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT OUTREACH



EVALUATION MATRIX

- **Phase 1 screening** – 9 new concepts plus the 2007 plan and the No-Build evaluated
- **Phase 2 screening** – 6 concepts plus the No-Build
- **Final screening** – 2 alternatives plus the No-Build



EVALUATION MATRIX

- Mobility
- Cost & Human Impacts
- Cultural Resources Impacts
- Natural Resources Impacts
- Does the Alternative meet the Purpose & Need?

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

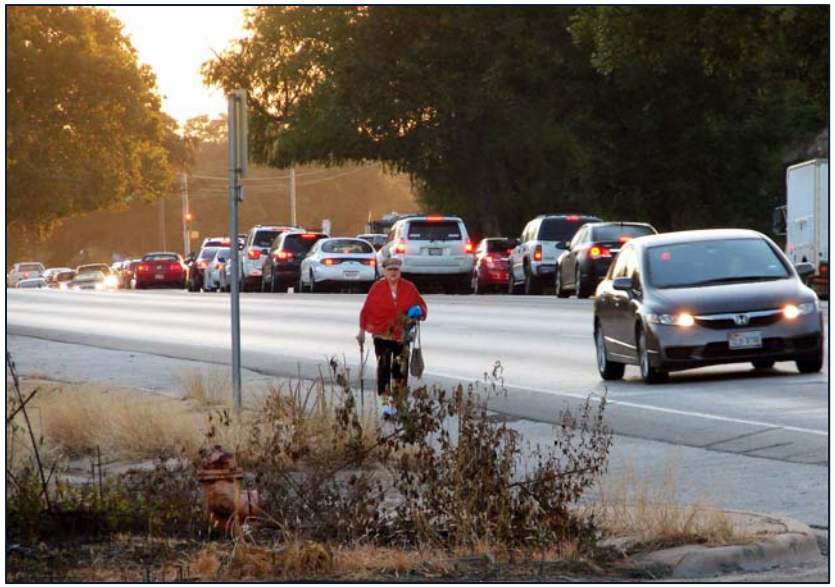
- Protect trees
- Williamson Creek
- Lower structures
- Local access
- Bike / ped access

ALTERNATIVE A

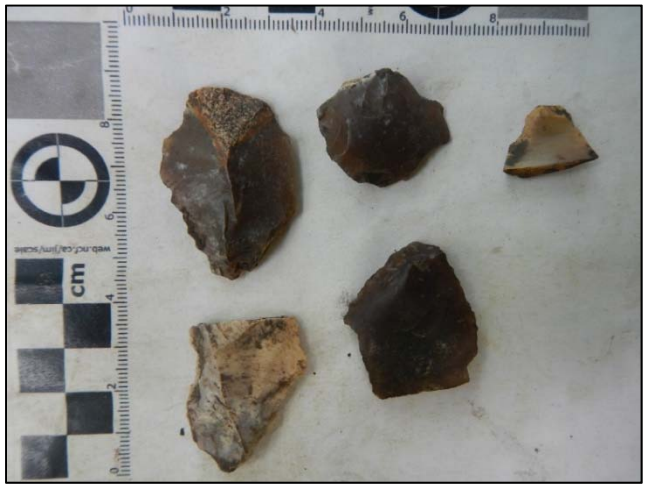
ALTERNATIVE C

WHAT IS THE NO-BUILD ALTERNATIVE?

The No-Build Alternative **<u>would not allow</u>** for any new travel lanes, bicycle/pedestrian paths, water quality features, and other elements of the proposed Oak Hill Parkway Project.

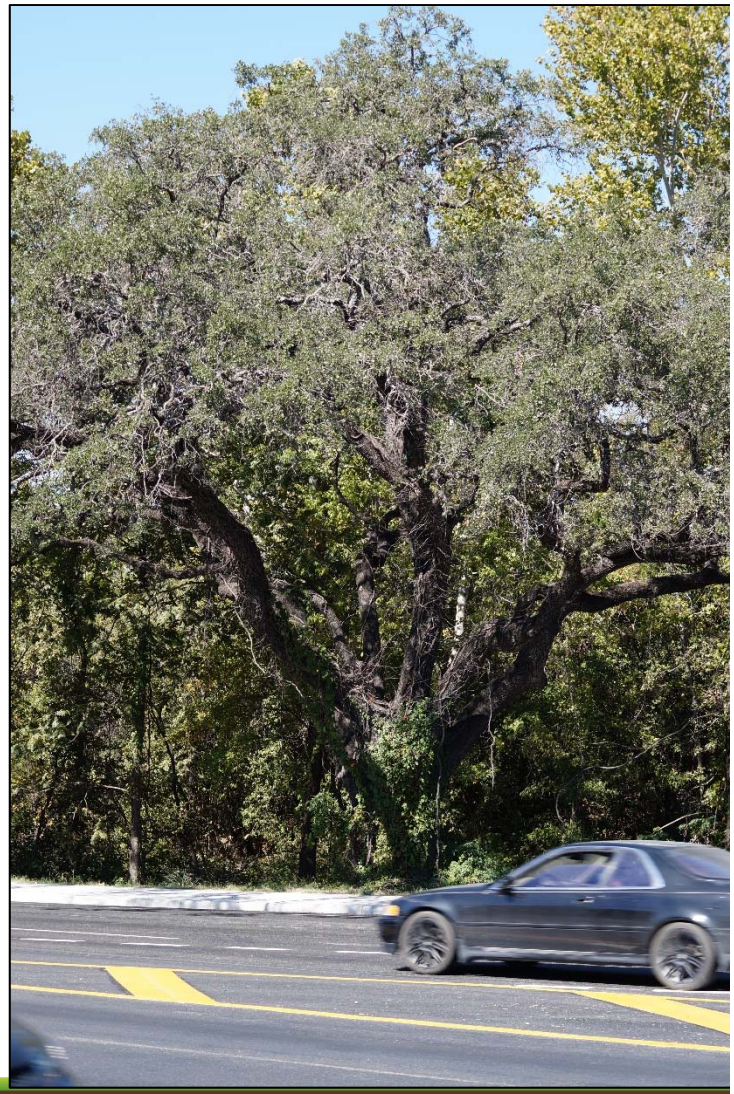


POTENTIAL IMPACTS



VEGETATION AND TREE IMPACTS

- Protect iconic trees:
  - Beckett Grove Tree
  - Grandmother Oak
  - Grandfather Oak
  - The Nieces
- Minimize native vegetation removal
- Landscaping enhancements



GEOLOGIC FEATURES

- Six karst features identified
- Water Pollution Abatement Plan will be developed for Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) approval
- Project water quality improvements should also improve waters entering Edwards Aquifer

FEDERALLY LISTED SPECIES

- Project area does not have suitable habitat for:
  - Golden-cheeked Warbler
  - Black-capped Vireo
  - Candidate freshwater mussel species
- Project lies in Karst Zones 3 and 4
  - Unlikely to contain listed karst invertebrates
- Project area has vegetation/soils to support bracted twistflower habitat

FEDERALLY LISTED SPECIES - SALAMANDERS

- Project team consulted with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on aquatic resources
- USFWS concurred project will not adversely affect any federally listed species including:
    - Barton Springs salamander
    - Austin blind salamander
- Project would follow TCEQ standards

CULTURAL RESOURCES-HISTORIC RESOURCES

- Eligible National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) resources in study area:
  - 50 historic-age resources on 38 parcels
  - Four properties/one historic district recommended for National Register of Historic Places listing
- Texas Historical Commission agreed no further work needed
- Project would not affect potential NRHP properties

TRAFFIC NOISE ANALYSIS

- 456 noise-sensitive receivers were analyzed, such as: single-family residence, hotel, apartment, park, church, funeral home, school, restaurant, YMCA, and mobile home community
- No-Build would still increase noise levels
- Alternative A impacts 128 of 456 receivers

TRAFFIC NOISE ANALYSIS

- Noise barriers would benefit 52 of 128 impacted receivers – resulting in possible sound walls at 4 locations along US 290:
  - Ridgeview subdivision
  - Vineyard Hills Apartments
  - Bell Quarry Hill Apartments
  - Holiday Mobile Home Park
- Noise workshop(s) would be held before construction to inform adjacent property owners and solicit votes
- Noise barriers for the remaining 76 impacted receivers did not meet the FHWA criteria for abatement

COMMUNITY IMPACTS & ACCESS CHANGES

- Mobility and travel times would improve
- Bicycle and pedestrian paths
- Access would change – 2-way would convert to 1-way frontage road system
- Alt A change in length of redirection is 7,200 feet
- No-Build Alt congestion and travel time would worsen, causing increased congestion on local streets

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE

Alternative A:

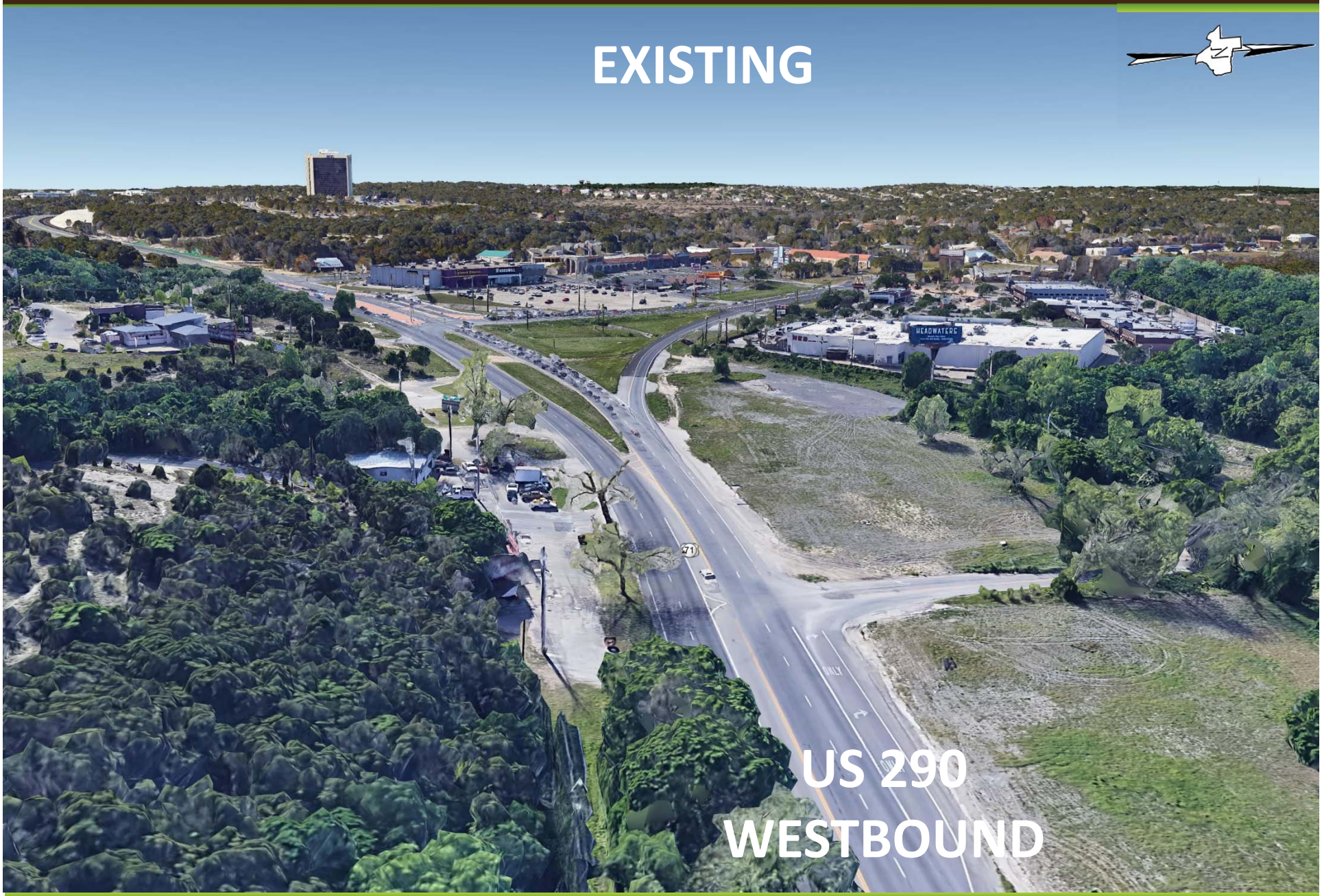
- ✓ **Fewer at-grade crossings** for the shared-use path - 4
- ✓ **Better access** – 5,520 feet
- ✓ **Reduced length of elevated structures** – 3,160 feet
- ✓ **Less impacts on water bodies** – 1.38 acres

EXISTING
BELTERRA
US 290 WESTBOUND

PROPOSED
William Cannon Dr
Frontage Rd
EXIT ONLY
US 290 WESTBOUND

EXISTING
WM CANNON DRIVE
US 290
EASTBOUND

PROPOSED
WM CANNON DR
US 290
EASTBOUND

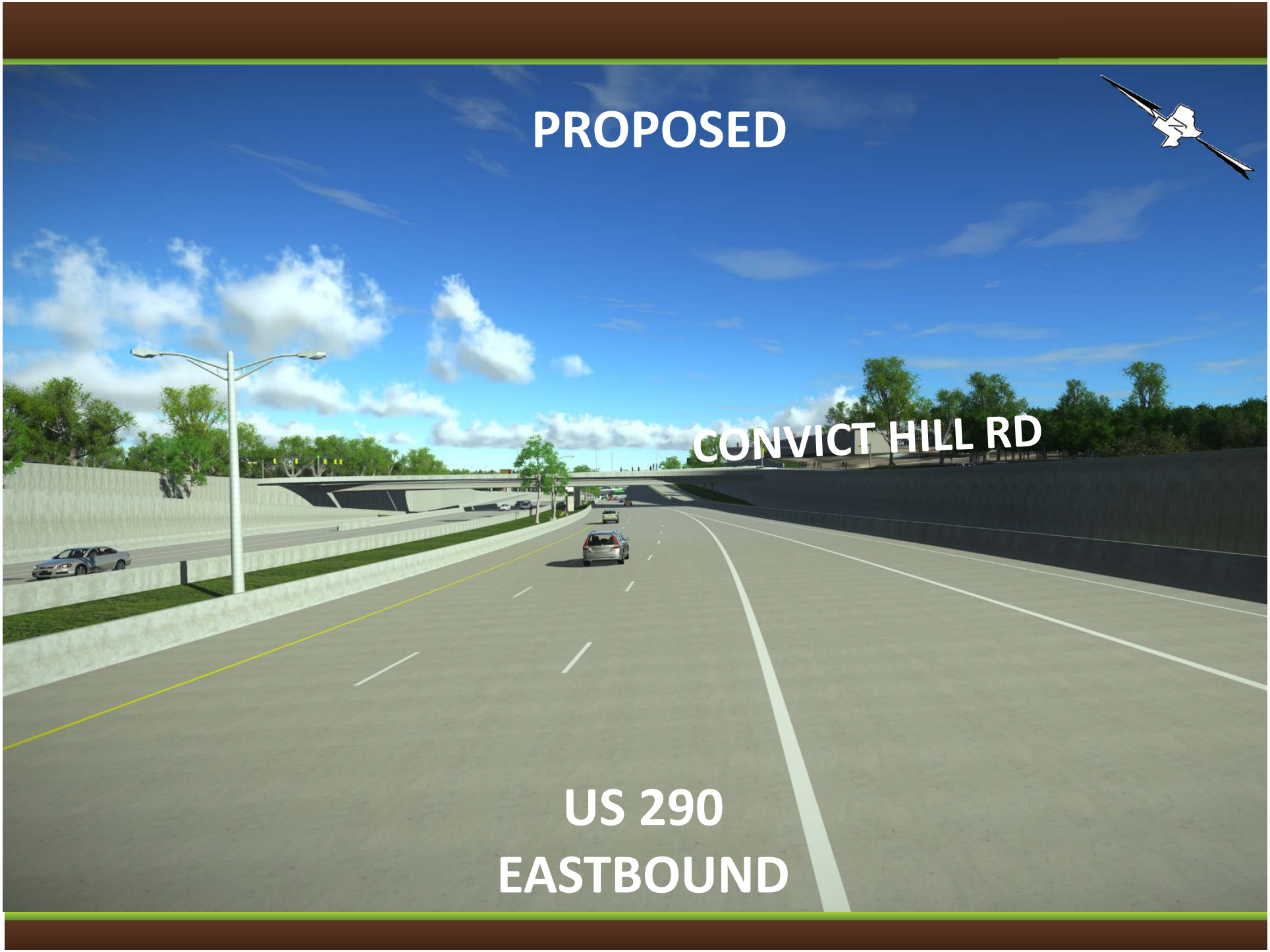

EXISTING
HEADWATERS
71
US 290
WESTBOUND

PROPOSED
US 290
WESTBOUND

EXISTING
SH 71
US 290
EASTBOUND

PROPOSED
William Cannon Dr
Old Fredericksburg Rd
US 290
EASTBOUND

EXISTING
CONVICT HILL RD
US 290
EASTBOUND


PROPOSED
CONVICT HILL RD
US 290
EASTBOUND

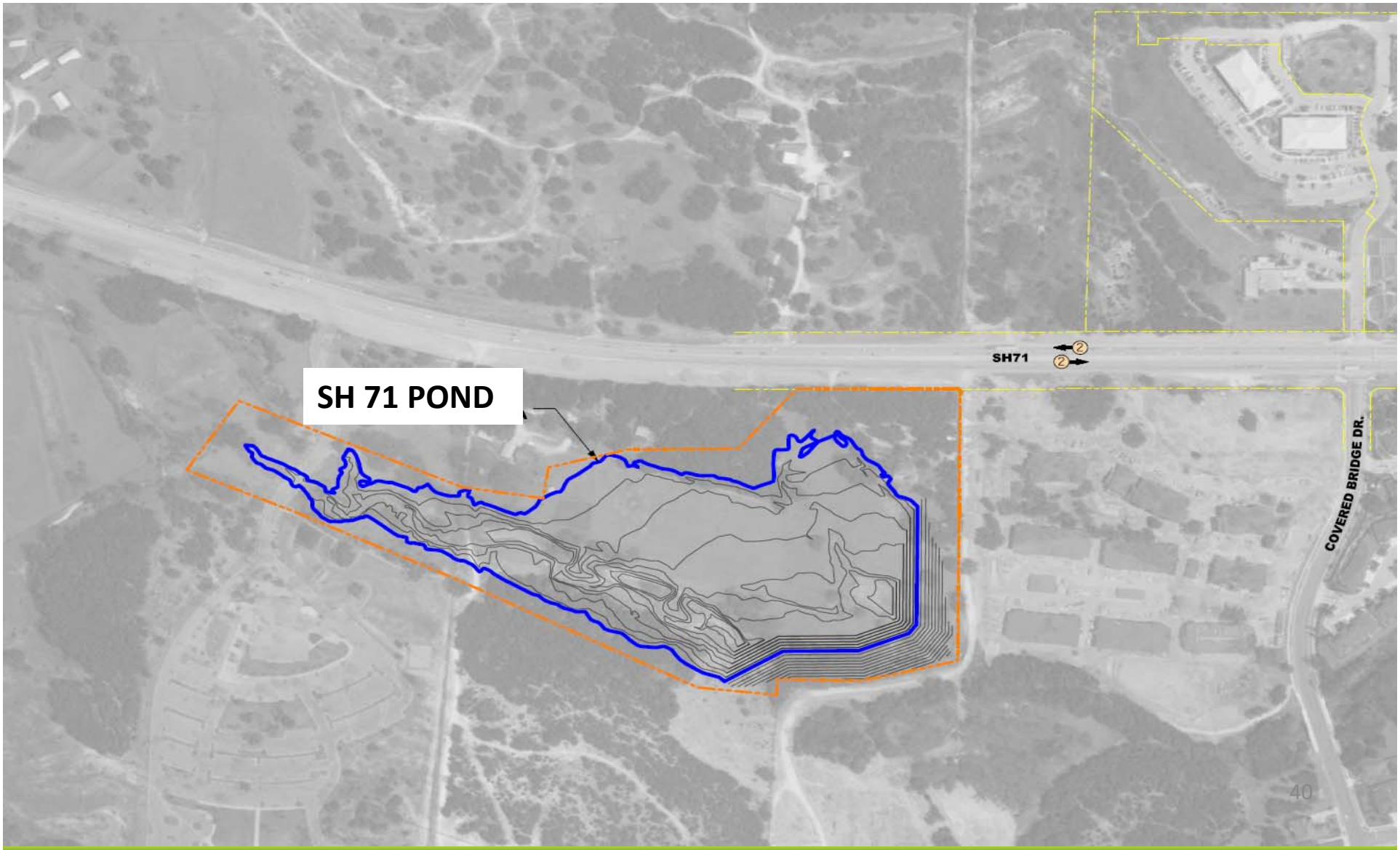
EXISTING
planet fitness
GOODWILL
SH 71
WESTBOUND

PROPOSED
SH 71
WESTBOUND

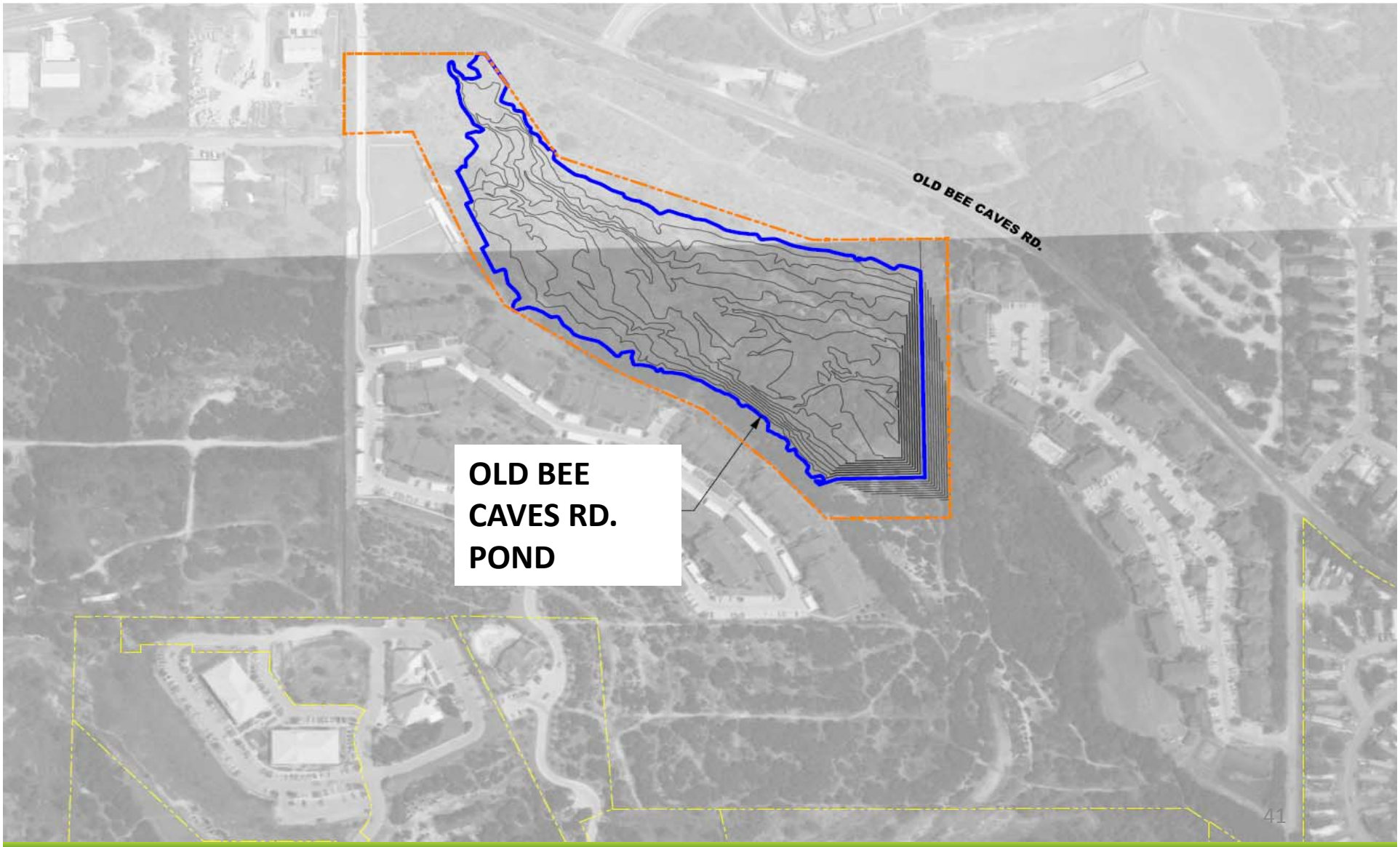
EXISTING
FOUR HANDS
HOME
SH 71
EASTBOUND

PROPOSED
SH 71
EASTBOUND

SH 71 @ COVERED BRIDGE DR.

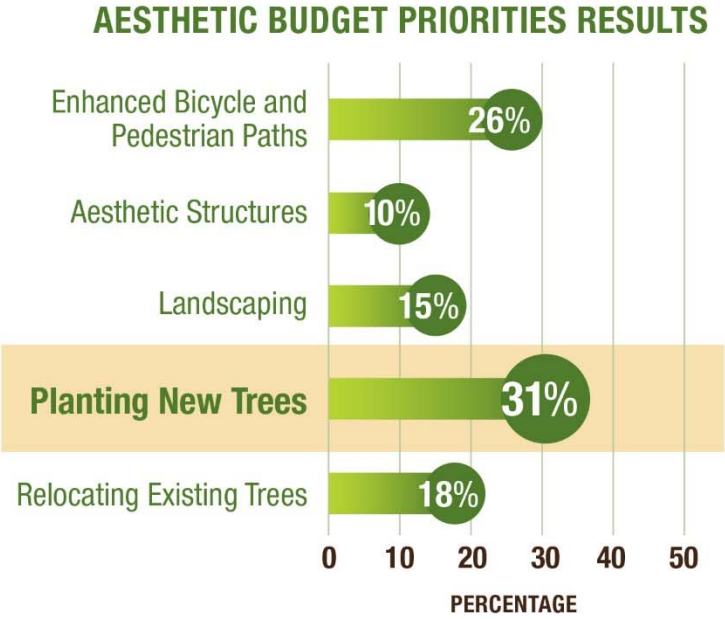


OLD BEE CAVES RD. OFFSITE DETENTION AREA



REPORTING BACK
Interactive Aesthetics Survey

We received great input from the June 2016 Interactive Aesthetics Survey and here are the results.



WHAT WE HEARD:

- Support for bicycle and pedestrian paths along the corridor
- Support for the preservation, planting, and relocation of trees in the corridor
- Support for a "natural" look in the project aesthetics and landscaping plan, including a mix of oaks and smaller flowering trees
- Support for an aesthetic style that reflects the history of the area
- Support for protecting Williamson Creek

AESTHETICS

Trees and landscaping:

- The schematic was prepared to minimize impacts on large trees
- Work with community on tree planting
- Low maintenance / native vegetation

RIGHT OF WAY

- Approximately 75 acres
- One residential property
- Four business properties
- TxDOT ROW personnel available for questions

YOUR COMMENTS ARE IMPORTANT TO US

BREAK

15 MINUTES

VERBAL COMMENTS

NEXT STEPS

- Comment period ends **June 18, 2018**
- TxDOT addresses all comments and prepares Final EIS
- Publishes the FEIS/issues Record of Decision in Fall 2018
- Depending on funding and the ROD, TxDOT construction begins, could be in multiple phases

NEXT STEPS

- Old Bee Caves Rd. bridge

THANK YOU