



Public Hearing Comments

RM 2222 and RM 620 Bypass Project Austin District

RM 620 to Bonaventure Drive and Steiner
Ranch Boulevard to RM 2222 CSJs:
2100-01-060 and 0683-02-065 Travis
County, Texas
Public Hearing Date: October 26, 2017

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.

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1 feel like this has been a great collaborative effort
2 with TxDOT and the County and the City and the
3 neighborhoods in the community to -- to try and ease the
4 congestion burden at this intersection. So we're
5 excited to see the progress that's being made. We're
6 interested to hear your comments. I know there are some
7 concerns here, and I'm -- I'm hoping that those are
8 going to be addressed. But I really just appreciate
9 everybody coming out and -- and having democracy in
10 action right here.

11 If anyone needs to contact my office, I
12 will be available. I've got cards as well. You can go
13 to the Travis County website and all of our e-mails are
14 online there. That's probably the easiest way to do it.
15 The spelling of my name is a little unusual. But if you
16 go to the Travis County website, you can get all of our
17 contact information there.

18 Thank y'all so much.

19 MR. BISHOP: Robert Abbott. And here
20 after, please face forward, because it really does help
21 the court reporter to ensure that they get your comments
22 accurately.

23 MR. ABBOTT: Good evening. My name is
24 Robert Abbott, fire chief of Travis County Esd 6, Lake
25 Travis Fire Rescue. We're here, I say myself appointed

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1 by the district commissioners of the district -- in
2 support of this project.

3 Over time we've had obviously the Steiner
4 Ranch fires that created evacuation issues. We are
5 working on evacuation routes. And I know tonight's
6 meeting is specifically about this project, and I want
7 to focus on the safety implications that this will
8 help -- help within the Four Points area going from
9 Comanche down to Four Points and then down 2222.

10 At any given time we could have an accident
11 at any of these major intersections. If you think about
12 the implications that has on response times, just one
13 accident can delay our response to another emergency by
14 10 to 15 minutes. Now, there are times when we have
15 multiple accidents going on at Four Points, 2222, River
16 Place, Comanche Trail on a busy day. A lot of us have
17 all been impacted by that.

18 So we stand behind this project. And we're
19 also going to make sure that everybody understands we're
20 a resource. If anybody has any information or any --
21 any information they want from us relating to our
22 responses in the area as it relates to emergency
23 response and thinks that this road -- this project
24 wouldn't help us with.

25 So thank you very much.



RM 2222 and RM 620
 Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
 Public Hearing
 Vandegrift High School
 9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: KARIM AZOUCIACH
 Address: 8225 N. FM 620
 (optional) AUSTIN TX 78726

(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:

* The posted speed along FM 620 is 60 mph. proper lane width with a narrow shoulder 5'-6' is of concern. cyclist use the existing shoulder frequently, will it be possible to provide buff to protect cyclists

* at intersection of steiner ranch & FM 620 Traffic existing steiner ranch have free flow Right U-Turn movement, it could increase traffic back up at intersectio 620 & 2222.

Comments may be submitted at this hearing, mailed to Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist, Texas Department of Transportation, Austin District, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426, or faxed to (512) 832-7157 (Attn: Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist) by Nov. 10, 2017.

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1 that scenario going around? Even though you're easing
2 one congested point, but you may inadvertently create
3 another going through a neighborhood, two neighborhoods
4 that never had that kind of incident.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. BISHOP: Erick Benz.

7 MR. BENZ: Good evening. I'm Erick Benz.
8 I've worked over here at the Three Amasca (phonetic)
9 Center. I live in the Canyon Creek neighborhood. My
10 son plays soccer in the Steiner Ranch area and I'm a
11 frequent traveller by car, foot and bike in the area
12 impacted by the proposed changes. I'm also a
13 transportation cyclist; means I ride my bike to work
14 every day.

15 I have a few things I'd like to offer in
16 this discussion. One is, we're seeing incremental
17 improvements, but the infrastructure in the area is
18 totally lacking and not safe for walking and biking.
19 This needs to change. For instance, getting here to the
20 schools on McNeil Boulevard are totally in accessible in
21 walking and biking for the students who attend these
22 schools. There is no safe route to school and this
23 needs to change. Walking and biking are both healthy
24 alternatives that need to be made accessible to the
25 students for both health and safety reasons.

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1 I'd also like to point out that we're in
2 the process of increasing affordable housing in the
3 area. Many of the people who live there need to be able
4 to walk or bike in order to work -- get to work or to
5 school. The infrastructure needs to take into account
6 the needs of all the people who live here. We don't
7 want to see more people in the middle of 620 trying to
8 cross, right, which is what we're seeing now because of
9 the lack of infrastructure.

10 Specifically on FM 620, with this project,
11 between Steiner Ranch Road and 2222, the current
12 proposal is to reduce the width of the shoulder from 8
13 feet to 5 feet. Please consider increasing the shoulder
14 to 8 feet, which is where it's at today. We need this
15 for motorist safety. Crashes and breakdowns happen.
16 Five feet is not enough, and -- to accommodate a motor
17 vehicle and creates a vehicle safety hazard. Also
18 consider the mobile road users who ride their bikes for
19 transportation, like me, need more space. Five feet is
20 not enough. We've seen this before on the Bee Caves
21 Road with disastrous results. Let's not make the same
22 mistake again.

23 My final point is I'd like to see a
24 dialogue change such that we prioritize safety over
25 rushing to the next bottleneck. The motor vehicle

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1 speeds we're seeing on FM 620 and by extension the roads
2 people use to get on and off 620, that's McNeil, River
3 Place, Steiner Ranch, they're not safe. First, FM 620
4 is not a freeway. There are -- is uncontrolled access
5 being made on both sides of the roadway. This leads to
6 side impact collisions at high speeds, rollovers and
7 head-on collisions.

8 The road design we have on FM 620 does not
9 support safe motor vehicle travel speeds at more than 35
10 miles an hour. The road is just not designed for it.
11 If we eliminate the bottlenecks and roundabouts, and set
12 a signal light so there are reduced speeds, we could
13 have less death and injury and times that are reasonable
14 and appropriate.

15 Thank you for listening. Hope we can work
16 together to make a safer and more livable community.

17 MR. BISHOP: Aaron Sher.

18 MR. SHER: Hello. I'm Aaron Sher. I own
19 Action Marine on 2222. So I'm a business that will be
20 affected by this whole thing. And I'm kind of -- just
21 kind of shook up about how you even address this because
22 some of the biggest problems on 2222 aren't even being
23 addressed.

24 If you look, constantly, the accidents are
25 in front of Target. That's the only place you're

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OCT 31 2017

DISTRICT 14 - MAIL ROOM
AUSTIN, TX

Public Hearing and Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment – RM 2222 and RM 620 Bypass Project

Where:

Vandergrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive
Austin, TX 78750 ([Map](#))

When:

Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Open House 5:30 p.m.
Public Hearing 6:30 p.m.

Purpose:

TxDOT is conducting a public hearing to present project information and gather public input on proposed improvements to RM 2222 and RM 620.

October 27, 2017

To : TxDOT Austin District Office
RM 2222/RM 620 PH Comment
P.O. Box 15426
Austin, Texas 78761

From: Erick E. Benz
11116 Miramar Drive
Austin, TX 78726

Subject: Please include my comments and recommendations in the public record.

Hello, I am Erick Benz, I work at 3M Austin Center and live in the Canyon Creek neighborhood.

My son plays soccer in the Steiner Ranch area and I am frequently travelling by car, foot and by bike in the areas that will be impacted by the proposed changes. I am also a transportation cyclist meaning I ride my bicycle to work every day.

I have a couple of things I would like to offer in this discussion. One is that while we are seeing incremental improvements, the infrastructure in this area is totally lacking and not safe for walking and/or biking. This needs to change. For example, the schools on McNeil boulevard are totally inaccessible for walking and biking to the student who attend those schools. This are no safe route to

school and this needs to change. Walking and biking are both healthy alternatives that we need to make accessible to these students for both health and safety reasons.

The new infrastructure needs to be safe for walking and biking.

I would also like to point out that we are in the process of increasing the amount of affordable housing in the area. Many of the people who will live there needs to be able to walk or bike to get to their work or to school. The infrastructure needs to take into account and accommodate the needs of all the people who live here.

Also in the current proposal for the 620 bypass at 2222 the width of the shoulders would be reduced from 8' to 5'. We need to maintain the 8' shoulders in this area. For motorists, breakdowns and collisions are going to happen. 5' is not wide enough for a motor vehicle and a stopped car will create a safety hazard. Also for transportation cyclists like myself we need the 8' shoulder for safety. The speed of motor vehicle traffic; distracted. Impaired, and aggressive driving we see on FM620 means that 5' is not a sufficient buffer for the conditions now or when the project is completed.

In addition, please note that the right-hand turn opportunities need to be striped for bicycle through traffic with yield to bicycle signage like the right turns near Steiner Ranch Road, Rock Harbor Drive, and Concordia on FM620. We need motorists to slow, show restraint and yield to bicycle traffic moving at less than the speed of motor vehicle traffic when they continue forward and don't turn right. The left lanes are not a viable option for bicycle through traffic and we need to maintain the ability for bicycle traffic to flow along FM 620. At the hearing, last night at Vandergrift I was told that it is in the thinking of the design that these types of bicycle accommodations are to be include however, the detail plan has not been prepared. I was told there is a specific phase of the project where this will happen. I am offering to participate by providing user input during this phase of the project. In addition, before being finalized I would like to see the bypass proposal be reviewed in detail with the City of Austin Bicycle Advisory Council and representative of Bike Austin.

My final point is I would like to see the dialogue change such that we prioritize safety over rushing to the next bottleneck. The motor vehicle speeds we are seeing on 620 and by extension the roads people use to get on or off 620; McNeil, River Place Boulevard, Steiner Ranch Road, are not safe. First FM620 is not a freeway. There are left turn being made across two lanes of traffic sometimes every couple of hundred feet. There is uncontrolled access being made from both sides of the roadway. This leads to side impact collision at high speed, roll overs and head on collisions. The road design we have on 620 does not support safe motor vehicle travel at speeds of more than 35 mph. The road is just not designed for it. If we eliminated the bottlenecks with roundabouts instead of signal lights and reduced the speeds we could have less death and injury and travel times that are reasonable and appropriate.

Thank you for listening and I hope we can work together to make a healthier, safer and more livable community possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eider E. B." followed by a long horizontal stroke.

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1 What we ask is that since the water flow
2 will be diverted by the bypass, is that it be a raised
3 bypass, not a -- not an elevated bypass, but a raised
4 bed bypass and have the water catchment on the uphill
5 side of that, and then have a vegetated catchment strip
6 on the BCP side of it.

7 It would be wonderful if we could have some
8 sound abatement for the avian species and -- and the
9 BCP, and that could be something as simple as a row of
10 trees.

11 The other thing I've been asked to mention
12 this evening is to ask that you have variable
13 directional lanes. In other words, have four lanes
14 coming off of 620 going to 2222 in the mornings, and
15 then switch those lanes as needed and not give a cut, a
16 driveway cut onto the property, what I consider uphill
17 from the road. I certainly sympathize with everyone
18 that has to deal with the traffic out here and I hope
19 we're able to find a solution to that that will also
20 protect our environment.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. BISHOP: Glenn Borkland.

23 MR. BORKLAND: Well, my name is Glenn
24 Borkland and I've been in the body shop business from --
25 since 1970 or so, and I've got Heritage Body and Frame.

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1 We just bought this place that they're after about --
2 within a year ago.

3 What I want to talk about is that I've been
4 in Austin since 1942, and I can tell you we've got more
5 people coming here all the time than we've ever had, and
6 just doing what y'all want to do is not going to fix the
7 problem. We need to have an overpass so people can get
8 on over and not have to stop and do all that stuff. And
9 if they could build roads to get on and get off and --
10 it would be better. And I think they also need to do
11 that at Anderson Mill, because that's another bad place
12 trying to get around and get a way through.

13 I live out on the lake and -- Lake Travis,
14 and I drive in every day, and I see what a nightmare it
15 is, and it's just -- I have -- I go the long way
16 sometimes through Volente, come up Bullock, and then
17 I'll come on up and, you know, go on up by the Oasis,
18 and that way I don't have to go through all that
19 nightmare of sitting there forever and still you can't
20 get through.

21 And we're getting so many more people here
22 every day, if we don't -- if we don't -- if we just try
23 to fix it for what it is, that's not going to do the job
24 we need to do. So anyhow, I just wanted to tell you
25 what I think about it, and I don't think it's going to

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1 work, and I -- I think it's a nightmare.

2 MR. BISHOP: Brian Thompto.

3 MR. THOMPTO: Hi. My name is Brian
4 Thompto. I'm chairman of the Steiner Ranch Neighborhood
5 Association representing neighborhoods and the HOAs
6 between Lake Travis and Lake Austin, and I'd like to
7 offer very strong support for this project.

8 As the previous gentleman mentioned, today
9 we're in a situation where, you know, thousands of
10 motorists are dealing with stifled traffic on 620 and
11 2222. Our students, our parents, the folks that live
12 out here have to commute through that intersection. Of
13 course, through the topology, 620 and 2222, that
14 intersection, those arteries are just critical, and
15 they're bursting at the seams. I can easily sit there
16 for 30 minutes just to get from Steiner Ranch to 2222 in
17 the morning. I can sit up to another 10 minutes just to
18 get to 2222 depending on the day, and it's absolutely --
19 these improvements are absolutely needed to address this
20 issue.

21 I point out that, of course, this project
22 will not work without its corresponding project which
23 will widen 2222 and also widen the intersection at River
24 Place Boulevard and 2222. So obviously these two go
25 hand in hand. And we are really looking forward to the

512-832-7157



RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

Attn:
Shelly Eason
Environmental
Specialist

COMMENT FORM

Name: Tanya Busch
Address: 3900 Far View Dr
(optional)

(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
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Comments:

ELEVATED PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK OVER 2222 AT RIVER PLACE BLVD

To address the concerns of **safety and traffic congestion**, add an **elevated pedestrian crosswalk** that incorporates a ramp for bikes across 2222 at River Place Blvd and a wide sidewalk from that intersection to the McNeil turnoff.

Here are the benefits:

1. Alleviate TPD's at McNeil and 2222 - turning into and out of McNeil.

Residents need a way to walk or bike to the middle and high schools like they can to River Place Elementary on the other side of 2222. A lot of people are fighting vehicle traffic around those schools that would rather not and biking is an extremely attractive alternative.

2. Increased safety for runners who traverse 2222.

It is only a matter of time before another crosswalk death occurs as with former River Place resident, Scott Burke, a father of 3 and an athlete, who died a few years ago during an early morning jog. It is an **EXTREMELY DANGEROUS** place to cross. I have recently witnessed several near misses involving other runners that could have ended in a repeat tragedy.

3. Reduction in local vehicle traffic to local businesses due to residents using an elevated crosswalk to bike or walk to conveniences during peak hours.

Walkers are very common all over the River Place neighborhood almost any time of the day. Those same people could easily ride their bikes or walk to local businesses for an equivalent amount of exercise, but it is too dangerous right now. If given a safe passage, it will get them out of their cars and reduce vehicle congestion.

In conclusion, I feel the benefit of an elevated pedestrian and bicycle crosswalk at River Place Blvd and 2222 far outweighs the cost in terms of traffic reduction and citizen safety.

Comments may be submitted at this hearing, mailed to Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist, Texas Department of Transportation, Austin District, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426, or faxed to (512) 832-7157 (Attn: Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist) by Nov. 10, 2017.

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1 additional safety for students by increasing access for
2 those students and first responders on an every-day
3 basis as well as in the case of an emergency.

4 MS. CAITLIN HENRY: We ask that you please
5 move forward with this project as soon as possible.

6 MS. HENRY: Thank you for your time and
7 kind consideration.

8 MS. JOSEPH: Thank you for your time and
9 kind consideration.

10 MS. CAITLIN HENRY: Thank you for your time
11 and kind consideration.

12 MR. BISHOP: Debbie Pegary.

13 MS. PEGARY: I don't have any comments
14 right now.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. BISHOP: Naren Chilukuri.

17 MR. CHILUKURI: Yes, sir. Thank you, my
18 name is Naren Chilukuri. I'm going to take this out. I
19 live in Steiner Ranch since 2004.

20 I'm going to give you a small story. I
21 went around entire Steiner -- entire Austin looking for
22 homes, and I finally settled down in Steiner because I
23 love it. I do, too. I love it to the extent that I
24 used to say, still say I'm going to have my tombstone in
25 Steiner, because I love Steiner.

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1 Having said that, I'm going to start with a
2 couple of small stories, a very simple story. You-all
3 know I love it, what I said now. But also I am going to
4 go to work, and I talk to people. And one day I was
5 sitting in a meeting, "Hey, where do you live?" "We
6 live in Round Rock, we live Lakeview, XYZ." "I live in
7 Steiner." "Wow, I feel sorry from you." That's the
8 reaction I just have from my coworkers, because I
9 live -- I work in Round Rock, almost 18 miles, and it
10 takes an hour up, an hour down in peak traffic.

11 Another story, it's a real story but it
12 chills also. So you live close to Marble Falls. To
13 think Steiner Ranch is so far it takes so long that it
14 seems like it's close to Marble Falls.

15 Third thing is, I know friends. I've tried
16 to ask them to come and move close to Steiner Ranch, and
17 even family from New Jersey and East Coast. They heard
18 about Steiner Ranch, the thing -- traffic sucks. So
19 they don't want to live because even though it's family
20 friendly, great place to live, beautiful topography, but
21 they don't want to buy houses there.

22 So you can see we need to go ahead with
23 this. You know that I'm going to support this project.
24 Any project that's going to alleviate traffic,
25 absolutely hands down.

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1 To put some math behind this, it's going to
2 save -- if you were to say it's going to save 50 percent
3 of the commute time because of the project, it's going
4 to save almost \$1,100 in gas for me alone. Thousands of
5 people. So millions of dollars per year. For
6 30 years -- assume I live for 30 years. You're going to
7 save multi-millions of dollars in 30 years.

8 So I do support, strongly support. Please
9 help retain our property values, help save lives and
10 pollution, absolutely, and obviously give me my
11 two weeks back per year, because it saves 250 hours.
12 That's my vacation time with my family.

13 Thank you very much.

14 MR. BISHOP: Scott Crosby.

15 MR. CROSBY: Hi. My name is Scott Crosby.
16 I'm the president of the River Place HOA. I was sent
17 here tonight with a list of questions from our board
18 that -- based on the focus of this meeting tonight which
19 really was the bypass and 620, and our focus is more on
20 the area from River Place Boulevard west. Couldn't get
21 answers to those questions. So I've talked with Bruce
22 Byron; he's going to take those questions and give me
23 answers to them, and I will post those questions to the
24 River Place homeowners on Next Door and also put them on
25 our website before we make any formal comment.

Items for TXDOT Consideration on RM222/620 Improvements
November 14, 2017

- Assess potential benefits of detention and/or other drainage improvements at:
 - Bullick Hollow intersection and RM2222 section where project is planning drainage improvements with discharge on or near Water Treatment Plant No. 4.
 - For new and existing pavement on 2222 east of 620 for areas that drain to Bull Creek.
- Do City regulations apply to portions of project on City ROW?
- Water quality basin (sed/fil) with stilling basin and level spreader at RM2222 drainage near Ribelin tributary headwaters where erosion is anticipated to continue and be exacerbated by road. Consider treatment of existing pavement and potential cost participation of CoA if benefits show priority. WPD sent TXDOT the site plan sheets and photographs of the structure built at the Concordia University campus in order to share design information for a stormwater control structure that is working effectively.
- The City isn't aware that the long term function and water quality benefits of PFC have been analyzed, and we're not aware of TxDoT long term maintenance and replacement program for PFC, we'd like to discuss how this system will maintain stated performance levels over time.
- City may be able to cost share and/or provide technical expertise for water quality and detention improvements that serve a large enough area and provide downstream benefits.
- WPD recommends excavation of the sinkhole feature, identified as feature F-18, and several other features in the Karst and Hydrogeological and Biological Technical Report (June 2017), located in the ROW of the bypass in order to determine the full extent of the features. The feature has been identified as a Critical Environmental Feature under City of Austin ordinances and has a designated buffer area per the existing site plan (High Pointe Village, SPC-2007-0466C).
 - To protect the possible cave and its recharge function, we encourage TXDOT to evaluate a design of roadway that would be slightly elevated to maintain natural surface water flow paths to the cave and recharge area.
- Inclusion of an "Environmental Compliance Plan" and 3rd party environmental compliance manager similar to CTRMA's on SH45SW, which was somewhat based on the City's Water Treatment Plant No. 4 Environmental Commissioning Plan, to minimize risk of environmental problems during construction. The City would be happy to share our expertise in developing a plan for this project.

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2 save -- if you were to say it's going to save 50 percent
3 of the commute time because of the project, it's going
4 to save almost \$1,100 in gas for me alone. Thousands of
5 people. So millions of dollars per year. For
6 30 years -- assume I live for 30 years. You're going to
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8 So I do support, strongly support. Please
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12 That's my vacation time with my family.

13 Thank you very much.

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15 MR. CROSBY: Hi. My name is Scott Crosby.
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20 the area from River Place Boulevard west. Couldn't get
21 answers to those questions. So I've talked with Bruce
22 Byron; he's going to take those questions and give me
23 answers to them, and I will post those questions to the
24 River Place homeowners on Next Door and also put them on
25 our website before we make any formal comment.

River Place Home Owners Association

1. Can you explain why the reduction in lanes at the top of Tumbleweed Hill is not going cause more backup on 2222?
2. It is not clear from the information I have received how the concurrent left turns from RP Blvd to 2222 will occur. Will there continue to be two left turn lanes in both directions? If so how far west are the lanes out of River Place going to shift?
3. Is the far most left turn lane from the south side of RP Blvd going to be lengthened?
4. The RP Community has invested a great deal of money in the irrigation, plantings, pond and monuments at the front of RP. How are these going to be impacted by this project and who will pay for restoration?
5. What will happen to the Traffic signal timing at RP Blvd?

10/27/17

This memo was given to me by
Scot Crosby of the Riverplace HOA.
He asked that it accompany his remarks
for the record on the RM 620/2222 bypass.

Bruce Byron
Public Engagement Officer

Scot Crosby



RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

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DISTRICT 14 - MAIL ROOM
AUSTIN, TX

COMMENT FORM

Name: Darren Durrill
Address: 409 Down River Cove
(optional) ATX 78792

(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:

I am for the improvements proposed. The congestion at this interchange is both dangerous and bad for the environment (idling cars and stop and go traffic).
Very well thought out —
let's do it!

Comments may be submitted at this hearing, mailed to Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist, Texas Department of Transportation, Austin District, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426, or faxed to (512) 832-7157 (Attn: Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist) by Nov. 10, 2017.

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Anne and Raymond Ellison

1033 Horseback Hollow, Austin, TX 78732-2110

(Steiner Ranch)

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DISTRICT 14 - MAIL ROOM
AUSTIN, TX

Dear Sirs,

We agree with Mr. Glenn Borkland, of Heritage Motors, that two more lights in the 620/2222 area mean more interruption to the already congested flow of traffic.

Please look at the following ideas. First, to enable the left turn across 2222, near Heritage Motors, two solutions occur to us.

- One is an overpass.
- Two is a combination of lowering 2222 going towards the main intersection and having a less steep overpass. Would it be possible to even bar "tall" vehicles (moving vans, delivery vehicles, et al.) from the by-pass so the "lowering" and the "overpass" are even less abrupt/steep?

Second, an over-pass to cross 620 west of the main intersection should be relatively easy since there seems to be right of way available.

Third, the 620 to 2222 (east bound) route does not need overpasses; the proposed plan works fine.

We are not traffic engineers and we appreciate that grades, geology, and regulations have to be considered. And we understand the problem of securing enough right of way for the by-pass. However, two more traffic signals will negate a lot of the gain from this project. A solution that does not include traffic lights is far more desirable.

Respectfully yours,

Anne and Raymond Ellison



RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: ROBERT ESKER
Address: 12316 PALMSADES PKWY
(optional) AUSTIN, TX 78762

(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:

AS I UNDERSTAND IT THE PLAN ELIMINATES A CENTER TURN LANE ON 620 BETWEEN STEINER RANCH BLVD & THE PROPOSED BYPASS. THIS WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF PLACING TWO OPPOSITE LANES OF HIGH SPEED TRAFFIC IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO EACH OTHER. THIS SECTION OF 620 IS ROUTINELY THE SITE OF COLLISIONS CAUSED BY OPPOSITE TRAFFIC SWERVING OR SLIDING BEYOND THEIR LANE (PARTICULARLY AROUND THE PORTION OF THE ROAD THAT BENDS MORE AGGRESSIVELY). THE ELIMINATION OF A FULL LANE'S BUFFER AGAINST TRAFFIC WITHOUT PLACING A BARRIER SEPARATING TRAFFIC WILL CREATE AN INCREASED RISK OF SERIOUS COLLISION. PLEASE CONSIDER MODIFICATION ACCORDINGLY.

Comments may be submitted at this hearing, mailed to Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist, Texas Department of Transportation, Austin District, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426, or faxed to (512) 832-7157 (Attn: Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist) by Nov. 10, 2017.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Bob Eyer
Address: 5045 China Garden DR
(optional) Austin, TX 78730

(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:

- ① New signal light at 620 South and new bypass will cause back up to 2222/620 4 points at peak time. I think most traffic is going 620 South to LAKEWAY (Have you done traffic counts at going to LAKEWAY?)
- ② Median placement on 2222 will effect business between rive place entrance and 620 and possible danger of accidents, cars trying to enter or leave business
- ③ Bypass could move more traffic if you had ~~in~~ AM - bypass - ~~2~~ 2 lanes only ahead east (in the afternoon - two lanes only heading west)
- ④ Reduce Speed on 620 and 2222.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Sylvia Fariar
Address: 13333 Bright Sky OvLK
(optional) AUSTIN, TX 78732

(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:

620 + 2222 traffic problems are awful!!!
We were late to the meeting b/c of the traffic.
Property values are impacted in Steiner due to
the impossible traffic delays.
And then Accidents! But Kids + people lives
are not as important as the spider.
Unreal!!!
We need this project NOW!!!
Stop all these studies & do something
for the community.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Jannine Farnum
Address: Steiner
(optional) _____

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

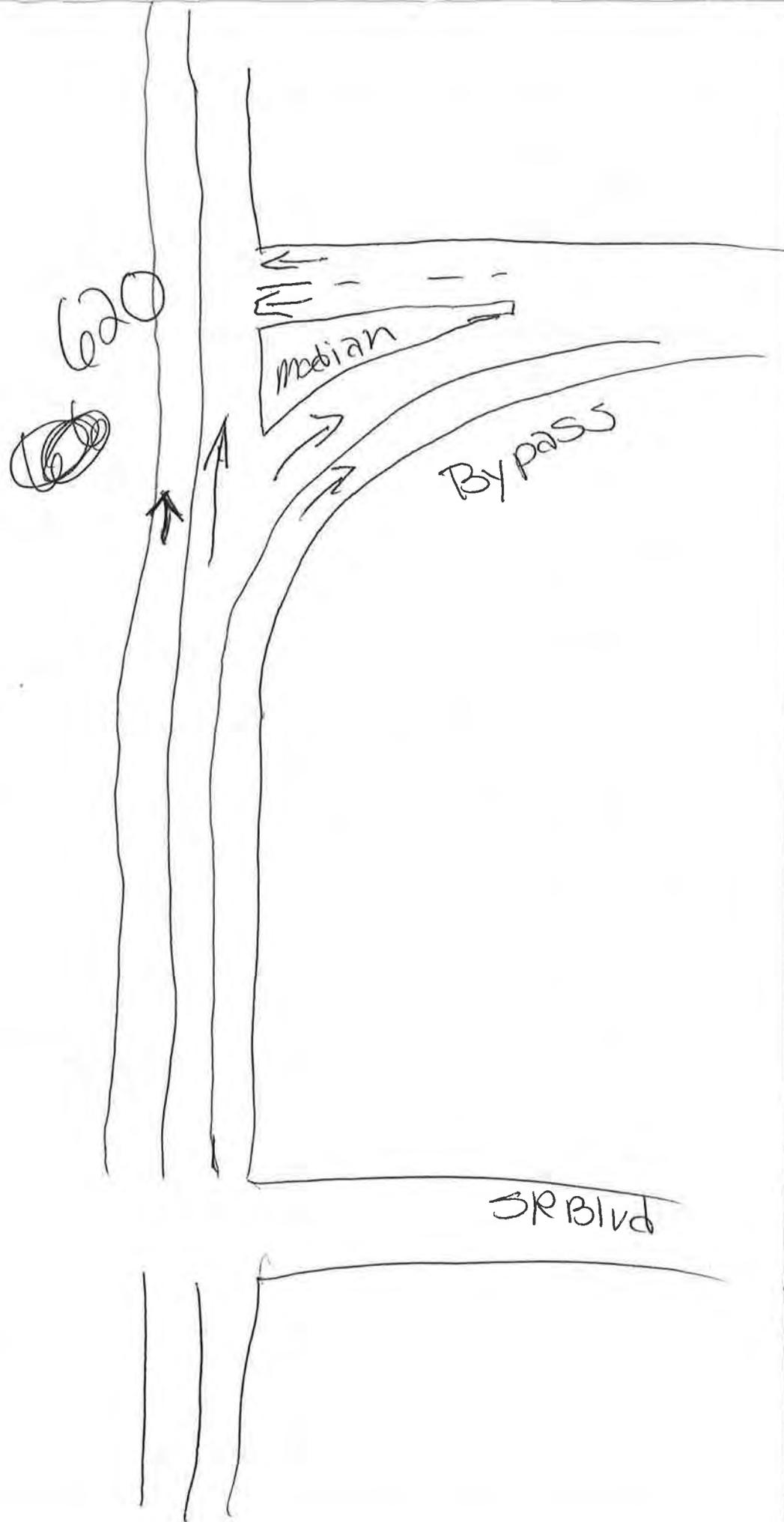
- I am employed by TxDOT
- I do business with TxDOT
- I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

Comments:

my concern, which I have shared via email to Txdot in the past. I still feel the new light @ SR Blvd + 620 that feeds to new lane that goes to Bypass will become gridlocked due to majority of Steiner using this new light to exit + lock out anyone from entering the new lane that goes to bypass. my suggestion would be to make dual right lanes into bypass the "center" lane would have option to go straight or take Bypass. See back of this sheet. I don't feel there is a need for a ~~light~~ ^{left turn} headed South on 620 to Bypass.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
 Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
 Vandegrift High School
 9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Robert Farnum
 Address: 13029 Titus Ct
 (optional) Austin TX 78732

(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: lane

Bike ~~lane~~ striping for 620 Northbound at
the intersections of Steiner Ranch Blvd/620 and
the New Bypass/620 is extremely important for
the safety of all the many cyclist that travel
daily on 620.

I am concerned about the current proposed bike
striping at Steiner Ranch Blvd/620 North bound as
it shows the bike lane striping between the 2 Northbound
lanes and the new Bypass right hand lane without an
exit on the opposite side of the intersection. Bikers
could get caught between the 2 Northbound
lane and the lane for cars turning right off of
Steiner Ranch Blvd.

Bike Austin will be informed of the lack of a clear bike
stripe plan.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name:

MARK FARRAR

Address:
(optional)

13333 BRIGHT SKY WLL
AUSTIN TX 78732

(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
- N/A

Comments:

THIS PROJECT IS SORELY NEEDED. THE DELAYS AT 2222 AND 620 ARE MAKING OUR AREA ALMOST INHABITABLE. THE TRAVEL TIME TO AND FROM VANDERGRIFT H.S. ARE A MAJOR QUALITY OF LIFE PROBLEM FOR OUR TEENAGERS. PLEASE GET THIS STARTED ASAP!

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TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 Travis County Commissioner Bridgett Shea who came in
2 here during the break. And Commissioner, in the back,
3 thank you for coming tonight.

4 Again, all comments that we receive are
5 going to be part of the record. Our first speaker
6 tonight is going to be Austin City Council member Jimmy
7 Flannigan, District 6.

8 MR. FLANNIGAN: Thank you. It's a little
9 awkward to have to face front. So I get to cheat, but
10 nobody else gets to cheat but me. My name is Jimmy
11 Flannigan. I am the city council member for the City of
12 Austin for this part of town, for District 6. I'm very
13 excited to see this project moving forward, and the
14 City's contribution to this project, seven and a half
15 million dollars that was included in our 2016 mobility
16 bonds. So for your friends and neighbors that are City
17 of Austin property taxpayers, please thank them because
18 their votes are enabling this project to move forward.

19 I think there are other issues that this --
20 this part of town is facing. So my office in
21 partnership with the West Austin Chamber of Commerce is
22 also forming the Four Points Task Force. We're going to
23 look at other traffic issues, but not just traffic
24 issues. We're going to look at recreation facilities
25 and other types of issues that I'm hearing from the

TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 community, so we can have a robust and complete voice
2 for this part of town for what's -- for the decisions
3 that are being made in downtown Austin.

4 So if you want to -- I'm going to stick
5 around if you want to come talk to me. You can also
6 check out my website for the district, atxd6.org,
7 atxd6.org, and you can find out more about what we're up
8 to and the hour -- the hours for my field office on
9 Anderson Mill Road which we have staffed with volunteers
10 five days a week. So I'll stick around. But I'm
11 excited to see this project, and I know many of you are,
12 too.

13 MR. BISHOP: All right. Thank you.
14 Bridgett Shea.

15 MS. SHEA: Hi, and thanks everyone for
16 being here. We have been working since I got elected in
17 2015 to try and make sure that there's funding for this
18 project, and we are pretty certain now, thanks probably
19 to the -- the voters for the City of Austin who approved
20 the -- the road bonds. The City match is there, and
21 we've been working with the County. But I -- I've now
22 confirmed that either through CAMPO or through TxDOT or
23 both, the rest of the funding is there for this project
24 so it's -- it's taken a while.

25 We appreciate everybody's patience. But I

TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 MR. BISHOP: Elaina Fowler.

2 MS. FOWLER: Hello. I'm Elaina Fowler. I
3 am a resident of the City Park neighborhood. And I'm
4 glad that the collaborate effort is going on for this
5 particular project and that is actually helping to deal
6 with some of the congestion in the area.

7 My concerns are for -- I know there is a --
8 I was talking to the gentleman back there. There's a
9 part of the project that precedes this project for the
10 three lanes up to the -- the new bypass area before that
11 can actually be built, I believe, and my concern is that
12 particular point. It's because when you get off of 360,
13 you hit Jester, which is that light, and then the next
14 light there is Bell Mountain. Well, my concern is that
15 when you hit off of there and you hit that light, I
16 think when they hit that with the three lanes that are
17 widened, I don't know if that's really going to ease the
18 congestion to the point where people won't take a
19 shortcut through City Park Road, around through River
20 Place and just end up with a backlog through a
21 neighborhood that's never had that kind of density
22 traffic and then also intersect into your new part
23 coming out, also causing us not to have an exit should
24 we have an emergency.

25 So I was wondering, have you-all looked at

TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 that scenario going around? Even though you're easing
2 one congested point, but you may inadvertently create
3 another going through a neighborhood, two neighborhoods
4 that never had that kind of incident.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. BISHOP: Erick Benz.

7 MR. BENZ: Good evening. I'm Erick Benz.
8 I've worked over here at the Three Amasca (phonetic)
9 Center. I live in the Canyon Creek neighborhood. My
10 son plays soccer in the Steiner Ranch area and I'm a
11 frequent traveller by car, foot and bike in the area
12 impacted by the proposed changes. I'm also a
13 transportation cyclist; means I ride my bike to work
14 every day.

15 I have a few things I'd like to offer in
16 this discussion. One is, we're seeing incremental
17 improvements, but the infrastructure in the area is
18 totally lacking and not safe for walking and biking.
19 This needs to change. For instance, getting here to the
20 schools on McNeil Boulevard are totally in accessible in
21 walking and biking for the students who attend these
22 schools. There is no safe route to school and this
23 needs to change. Walking and biking are both healthy
24 alternatives that need to be made accessible to the
25 students for both health and safety reasons.



RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Paul Gerdes
Address: _____
(optional) _____

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

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

Comments:

Congestion on 620 Northbound would markedly improve with the addition of a merge/turn lane for those exiting toward 2222, indeed going back only to just north of Steiner Ranch Blvd may not be far enough. While a bypass would be nice it may not really be necessary only adding time and expense ~~money~~ to the project. I would rather see a turn/merge lane all the way up to the 620/2222 intersection.

Congestion on 2222 would improve markedly with thru travel lanes + median-restricted turn lanes. On the east bound stopping at Sit Del Rio is a mistake, the lane needs to continue to the McNeill traffic signal or traffic will bottleneck at that point. I see no merit in the ~~east~~^{west} bound thru travel lane as traffic already backs up at Sit Del Rio, it is only adding fuel to that fire. ~~None~~ Ultimately here, another dedicated merge/~~merge~~ turn lane extending from McNeill all the way to 620 would be a better course of action.

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TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 MR. BISHOP: Jeremy Linton.

2 MR. LINTON: Hello. I'm a driver on 2222,
3 like I suspect a lot of other people here are, and I
4 think it's wonderful that we're talking about this
5 problem, but, frankly, at the end of the day I don't
6 think a bypass road is really going to help the
7 solution. I think it's just going to move the problem
8 somewhere else.

9 You know, like the initial turn lane we
10 talked about many years ago by the Walgreen's, the
11 intention was to have a merge lane, an extra lane there,
12 but as soon as, you know, people started fighting that,
13 you know, what you end up with, a stop light. So I
14 think that the priorities need to be focused on actually
15 solving the problem instead of moving them around.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. BISHOP: Gloria Gonzales.

18 MS. GONZALES: Hello. I'm Gloria Gonzalez.
19 I'm a parent of Leander ISD students. And while I
20 appreciate the City looking into this area and
21 addressing traffic in that intersection, I think what
22 has to be done first is address the traffic getting into
23 our school.

24 While this road is being built, there's
25 going to be a lot of -- while this construction is

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1 occurring, there's going to be road closures, there's
2 going to be lane reductions, and that means it's going
3 to be even harder for our kids to get into Vandergrift
4 and to Four Points area with only one road. And so
5 while I appreciate the efforts to help with this
6 intersection, I think that we really can't -- we
7 shouldn't be looking at causing more construction on
8 2222 until there is some other way to get our kids to
9 Vandergrift and Four Points Middle School.

10 Thank you.

11 MR. BISHOP: Ms. Gonzales was our last
12 speaker who signed up for today.

13 All comments received tonight as well as
14 those received by November 10th will be summarized,
15 analyzed and responded to in a report. They will be
16 made to -- available to the public off of the project
17 website. There are details in your packet. And they
18 will be addressed in the final environmental document.

19 This concludes our Public Hearing. I want
20 to thank you for attending. The time is now 7:43. The
21 hearing is officially adjourned. Goodnight.

22
23
24
25



RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name:

TOM HENDRICKS

Address:
(optional)

RIVER PLACE

(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:

NICE PLAN. ONE MINOR CONCERN THAT EXISTS TODAY IS THE DIFFICULTY TURNING LEFT (EAST) FROM TARGET / BELL 4 PJS APARTMENTS. THERE SEEMS TO BE A NUMBER OF MINOR ACCIDENTS THERE TODAY; WILL ^{MORE} FREE FLOWING TRAFFIC ON 2222 WORSEN THE RISK?

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TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 Again, the other point I'd make is that
2 time is of the urgency here. Students are being
3 impacted every day. Teachers and families. And we're
4 literally talking about not just the loss of
5 productivity, but lack -- lack of opportunity. In many
6 cases, folks literally feel trapped in their
7 neighborhoods, and they cannot leave for several hours
8 of the day because of the current conditions.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. BISHOP: Meagan and Caitlin Henry.

11 MS. HENRY: Good evening. My name is Megan
12 Henry.

13 MS. JOSEPH: And I'm Skylar Joseph. We are
14 both freshmen here at Vandergrift.

15 MS. CAITLIN HENRY: And I'm Caitlin Henry.
16 I am a sixth grader at Canyon Ridge Middle School.

17 MS. HENRY: We would like to express our
18 support for the bypass road project.

19 MS. JOSEPH: There are many reasons why
20 this project is important, but for us, safety is our
21 biggest concern.

22 MS. HENRY: The addition of the median will
23 reduce the known hazards that exist in head-on
24 collisions.

25 MS. JOSEPH: The bypass will provide

TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 additional safety for students by increasing access for
2 those students and first responders on an every-day
3 basis as well as in the case of an emergency.

4 MS. CAITLIN HENRY: We ask that you please
5 move forward with this project as soon as possible.

6 MS. HENRY: Thank you for your time and
7 kind consideration.

8 MS. JOSEPH: Thank you for your time and
9 kind consideration.

10 MS. CAITLIN HENRY: Thank you for your time
11 and kind consideration.

12 MR. BISHOP: Debbie Pegary.

13 MS. PEGARY: I don't have any comments
14 right now.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. BISHOP: Naren Chilukuri.

17 MR. CHILUKURI: Yes, sir. Thank you, my
18 name is Naren Chilukuri. I'm going to take this out. I
19 live in Steiner Ranch since 2004.

20 I'm going to give you a small story. I
21 went around entire Steiner -- entire Austin looking for
22 homes, and I finally settled down in Steiner because I
23 love it. I do, too. I love it to the extent that I
24 used to say, still say I'm going to have my tombstone in
25 Steiner, because I love Steiner.



RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Courtney Johnson
Address: 334 S Far View Dr
(optional) _____

(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:

The 2222 access point at the Four Points Target store should be addressed. Suggestions are either a raised cement island that prevents traffic exiting from Target to turn east bound (to Austin) on 2222 or a light. The intersection is very dangerous & needs to be controlled.

In all of these roadways, protected sidewalks are needed. There is a growing low socioeconomic population, plus many kids. ~~It is a~~ Please do not ignore pedestrians as you make these improvements. There could be quite a lot of pedestrian & bicycle traffic to the HEB & other stores, if it was just made safer. Considering the increase in vehicular traffic, this would be a ~~an~~ productive planning. Thank you

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Chris Lee
Address: 2701 Old Course Dr
(optional) Austin TX 78732.

(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:

I do not believe the proposed changes will help very much:

For morning traffic, the choke point is at River Place Blvd heading towards Austin downtown. The proposed changes will move the choke point to McNeil (3 lanes to 2). You can build 10 right turn lanes from 620 onto 2222 but the proposed changes do not fundamentally address increasing volume on 2222 towards Austin.

For evening traffic turning left onto 620 from 2222 it was one traffic light at 620/2222. ~~Now to~~ The proposed changes there will be 2 traffic lights to eventually get onto 620 from 2222. It's hard to see that as an improvement.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Sara Lee
Address: _____
(optional) _____

(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:

I am afraid that this will just delay everyone's traffic.
Rather than stalling and waiting at 620/2222,
now we're going to be stalling & waiting on
2222.
It's just moving traffic from one area
to another area at the cost of millions.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: CHRIS LEVINE
Address: 11708 PALISADES PKWY
(optional) AUSTIN, TX 78732

(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:

TWO SUGGESTIONS!

1) TO TRULY HELP ALLEVIATE TRAFFIC, HAVING THE BYPASS
CONNECT WITH 2222 AT MCNEIL (AFTER RIVER PLACE
LIGHT AND SITIO DEL RIO LIGHT) WOULD BE MOST
EFFICIENT. THIS WAY ONE (OR TWO LANES) CAN GO
STRAIGHT ACROSS 2222 ONTO MCNEIL AND THE OTHER
CAN MERGE ONTO 2222 (PAST ALL THE LIGHTS) AND
GO DOWN THE HILL,

2) ALTERNATIVELY, MAKE THE FAR RIGHT LANE OF 2222
AT MCNEIL A "THRU" LANE SO CONTINUING TRAFFIC
DOESN'T HAVE TO STOP. HAVE A RAISED MEDIAN THERE
SO TRAFFIC TURNING LEFT ONTO 2222 FROM MCNEIL
CAN'T CROSSOVER INTO FAR RIGHT LANE.

Comments may be submitted at this hearing, mailed to Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist, Texas Department of Transportation, Austin District, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426, or faxed to (512) 832-7157 (Attn: Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist) by Nov. 10, 2017.

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RM 2222 and RM 620 PROJECT COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) The proposed bypass exit/entrance point that ties to RM 2222 does not appear to significantly help reduce traffic congestion because the congestion continues to be a problem at River Place Blvd. and Sitio Del Rio. It appears that the traffic that is currently backed-up from River Place Blvd. to the Four Points intersection – and from that intersection back to Steiner – will simply be diverted onto the bypass (which is essentially 1 lane) and backed-up on the bypass and back down to Steiner Ranch Blvd. You are taking away 2 lanes of backed-up traffic and re-routing it to what will essentially be 1 lane of backed-up traffic on the bypass. You're just moving the traffic to a different road. To truly make this project effective, you will need to have the bypass enter/exit RM 2222 AFTER River Place Blvd. and preferably at McNeil. Have the bypass meet at the McNeil intersection with 2 lanes going straight for high school traffic and 1 lane curving and merging onto RM 2222 (no light) to go down the hill. I realize the Balcones Preserve is part of the problem, but other businesses and establishments have paid the environmental assessments in order to have an easement for their properties. So while this may be a more expensive option, it is the best solution if the ultimate goal is to alleviate traffic congestion.
- 2) The Sitio Del Rio traffic light should never have been constructed and is unnecessary given what would appear to be very minimal traffic actually needing that light compared to the amount of traffic on RM 2222. I recommend that it be removed. Any traffic needing to turn left onto RM 2222 from Sitio Del Rio should (and currently can) go behind the offices and exit at the River Place Blvd. light. It doesn't appear that there is enough traffic coming in and out of there to warrant a traffic light. Additionally, there should be a raised median or barricade poles at that intersection preventing any left turn onto RM 2222 from Sitio Del Rio if the light is removed.
- 3) On RM 2222 from River Place Blvd. (or from Sitio Del Rio), a "thru" lane should be constructed at McNeil going eastbound for traffic that does not need to turn left on McNeil. At the very least, if a new lane cannot be constructed, the right lane of RM 2222 should be made into a "thru" lane at McNeil with barricades prohibiting drivers that are turning left onto RM 2222 from McNeil from entering the far right lane. The same type of "thru" lane could also be beneficial going westbound on RM 2222 at the Sitio Del Rio light if the light is not considered for removal.
- 4) At the very least, if none of the above suggestions are considered, the timing on all lights must seriously be reconsidered and redone. Lights on RM 620 and RM 2222 (both for AM and PM traffic hours) should remain green for a much longer period of time with the side traffic lights having a very short 'green' window.

Thank you for your consideration of the above comments/suggestions.

Chris Levine / 11708 Palisades Pkwy / Austin, TX 78732

TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 MR. BISHOP: Jeremy Linton.

2 MR. LINTON: Hello. I'm a driver on 2222,
3 like I suspect a lot of other people here are, and I
4 think it's wonderful that we're talking about this
5 problem, but, frankly, at the end of the day I don't
6 think a bypass road is really going to help the
7 solution. I think it's just going to move the problem
8 somewhere else.

9 You know, like the initial turn lane we
10 talked about many years ago by the Walgreen's, the
11 intention was to have a merge lane, an extra lane there,
12 but as soon as, you know, people started fighting that,
13 you know, what you end up with, a stop light. So I
14 think that the priorities need to be focused on actually
15 solving the problem instead of moving them around.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. BISHOP: Gloria Gonzales.

18 MS. GONZALES: Hello. I'm Gloria Gonzalez.
19 I'm a parent of Leander ISD students. And while I
20 appreciate the City looking into this area and
21 addressing traffic in that intersection, I think what
22 has to be done first is address the traffic getting into
23 our school.

24 While this road is being built, there's
25 going to be a lot of -- while this construction is

From: Shelly Eason < >
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 11:39 AM
To: Roberts, Adam W (Austin); Jones, Peggy
Cc: matt.werner ; Michelle Cooper
Subject: FW: TxDOT Internet E-Mail

Hi, see below is a comment that needs to be included in the hearing comments/response matrix. Shelly

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

From: AUSINFO
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 9:36 AM
To: Shelly Eason
Subject: FW: TxDOT Internet E-Mail

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

From:
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 6:20 AM
To: AUSINFO
Subject: TxDOT Internet E-Mail

Name: Mr. Roger Longenbach< >
Address:
9911 Cinnabar Trl
Austin TX 78726
Austin, TX 78726

Requested Contact Method: Email

Reason for Contact: Customer Service
Complaint: No

Comment: About 620/2222 bypass..I am opposed. All this does is helps Steiner Ranch at the expense of traffic coming from 620 N. When Steiner got the two turn lanes, it allowed more traffic from steiner onto 2222, and made it so our turn lights were constantly full (light green, no where to go) Need to widen 2222 first! Needs more capacity, not a bypass

[Connecting Texans to what matters most. Texas Department of Transportation: 1917-2017
#txdot100]<<http://www.dot.state.tx.us/txdot100/>>



RM 2222 and RM 620
 Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
 Vandegrift High School
 9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Suzanne Lucas
 Address: 12916 Majestic Oaks Dr.
 (optional) Austin, TX 78732

(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:

* I am concerned with the safety hazards that may be increased by removing the middle lane on the 620 between the 2222 + Quinlan. Between the speed, hill, light & high volume of teen drivers I think more accidents (head on) may happen as the opposite traffic flows are closer to each other. Please consider adding a barrier larger than a raised curb between the 2 ways of traffic +/or consider reducing the speed limit on this stretch of the 620.

* Also, I am concerned w/ the safety in the merge of the new bypass onto 2222. All high school students will need to cross 2 lanes to get to the left turn lane @ McNeil. ~~as~~ you will be merging the new 3rd lane ~~into~~ into 2 lanes shortly after McNeil, I think there may be an increase in accidents due to so many lane changes.

over →

Comments may be submitted at this hearing, mailed to Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist, Texas Department of Transportation, Austin District, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426, or faxed to (512) 832-7157 (Attn: Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist) by Nov. 10, 2017.

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* also, please consider some kind of sound insulation (like planted trees) along the bypass road so that the wildlife in the preserve can have a sound buffer.

* Please consider keeping 2 left turn lanes from 2222 onto 620 @ the 4 Pts. Intersection



RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Melinda McAfee
Address: Steiner Ranch
(optional) 78732

(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:

- Median Blocks need to be on 620 to eliminate drivers going down middle lane.
- People/Cars turning left out of Target and apartments needs to stop so median blocks on 2222 necessary.
- Move forward with bypass project - if there is a way to make it better please do it! Safety is necessary!!
- Reduce speed limit on 620 and increase police presence during peak traffic times.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Thomas Means

Address:
(optional) 4293 Canyon Glen Cir
Austin, TX 78732

(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:

Considering we are surrounded by the Balcones Canyon Land Preserve, with all the development encroaching the preserve and dividing a formerly continuous uninterrupted Preserve, why aren't there any "ecoducts" to allow wildlife to freely roam across the Preserve. For example bridges that would give animals access across areas.

This would enable the EPA to consider our request for more development in the area

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1 Thank you very much.

2 MR. BISHOP: Jaime Nassar.

3 MR. NASSAR: Thanks. I live in Steiner
4 Ranch, and my wife teaches at Vandergrift. So this is
5 very important to us.

6 And let me first start by saying, you know,
7 I do support the work, and I think the bypass road is a
8 good start. And -- however, I do think the way you're
9 presenting it is a bit misleading. To say that you are
10 reducing traffic or the future traffic hours by
11 50 percent is not the case. What you're doing is really
12 limiting the growth to only 50 percent, if you're going
13 to go from a million hours to 1.5 million hours of
14 driving. So all you're doing is limiting the work --
15 the traffic, and it's only going to get worse.

16 The goal of this program should be a net
17 zero or some type of deduction. So it seems to me that
18 once again we are not planning for the future, but
19 rather trying to just do a Band-Aid, and that's not
20 going to get what we need.

21 Thanks.

22 Now, concerning -- what's also concerning
23 to me is that you're not adding any lanes to the -- the
24 620. You know, there seems to be plenty of room to do
25 so. And, again, it's a concern to me that you were

TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 spending all this time and money and not going to do
2 anything to expand the lanes. You're not even going to
3 pour any asphalt. You're going to create a new lane by
4 reducing the turn lane and whatever else may -- to -- to
5 limit that expense. And this just leads to more safety
6 concern.

7 Now, you're bringing two high-speed lanes
8 closer together which then only could invite more
9 accidents. So there's a safety concern there that,
10 again, could be helped solved by adding lanes, not just
11 by trying to manipulate what's there now.

12 And, lastly, the environmental concerns are
13 valued. I understand that, and -- and I'm not trying to
14 diminish that. But when we start putting that ahead of
15 our families and our family's safety, that's a big
16 concern to me, right. We have to take care of our
17 families first. And reading things in the paper to
18 saying things like Vandergrift U or LISD U before they
19 put the Vandergrift school there is not helping the
20 matter. The bottom line is the school's there. We need
21 to lessen the traffic, increase the safety. And we can
22 do this in multiple ways by looking at a complete plan
23 on how we're going to be successful in this, and not
24 looking at Band-Aids.

25 Thank you.



RM 2222 and RM 620
 Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
 Public Hearing
 Vandegrift High School
 9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: NIKESH PATEL

Address: (optional) STEINER RANCH

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

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

Comments:

morning

New Bypass Lane with 1 Right from 620 is going to create longer lines & more accidents as everybody would want to be in the right most lane. There should be 2 lanes all the way as dedicated 2 Right lanes. Also river place blud could likely be a new choke point. There should be additional lanes added from ~~steiner~~ river place blud until Mcneil or ~~for~~ for 2 miles.

afternoon

2 left lanes from 2222 to new bypass needs to be longer to accomodate more cars.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Michael Paulson
Address: 10709 Sun Tree Cove
(optional) Austin, TX 78730

(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:

Thank you for holding the hearing.
As a Riverplace homeowner, I am very concerned about the proposed changes. Specifically, I think the new 2222 Bypass will move the traffic backup further downhill on 2222 and delay my access to the Riverplace neighborhood during peak hours (such as evenings, after school $\frac{3}{4}$ work).

We chose to pay a premium to live in Riverplace vs. Steiner Ranch, primarily to avoid this traffic, but the traffic backs up further over time, and this bypass road will make it worse for Riverplace.

Thank you for considering this impact in arriving at a decision.

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1 additional safety for students by increasing access for
2 those students and first responders on an every-day
3 basis as well as in the case of an emergency.

4 MS. CAITLIN HENRY: We ask that you please
5 move forward with this project as soon as possible.

6 MS. HENRY: Thank you for your time and
7 kind consideration.

8 MS. JOSEPH: Thank you for your time and
9 kind consideration.

10 MS. CAITLIN HENRY: Thank you for your time
11 and kind consideration.

12 MR. BISHOP: Debbie Pegary.

13 MS. PEGARY: I don't have any comments
14 right now.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. BISHOP: Naren Chilukuri.

17 MR. CHILUKURI: Yes, sir. Thank you, my
18 name is Naren Chilukuri. I'm going to take this out. I
19 live in Steiner Ranch since 2004.

20 I'm going to give you a small story. I
21 went around entire Steiner -- entire Austin looking for
22 homes, and I finally settled down in Steiner because I
23 love it. I do, too. I love it to the extent that I
24 used to say, still say I'm going to have my tombstone in
25 Steiner, because I love Steiner.



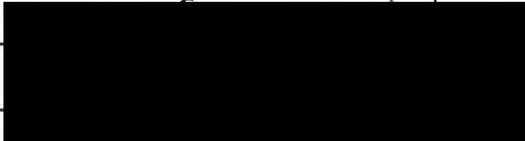
RM 2222 and RM 620
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Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name:

Sydney Polk

Address:
(optional)



(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)):
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- I do business with TxDOT
- I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

Comments:

Overall I approve

The median on 2222 from 620 to the apartments is a better when it's not rush hour. Makes it hard to get to Target from the South or Jade Brown Cleaners from the East.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Ravi Pothukuchy

Address:
(optional) 

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

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

Comments:

I am concerned the new project will reduce the future traffic by 50% but is still 50% more than the current traffic delays which are already pretty bad. The project does not help with mitigate current delays. More measures should be taken to help a smooth flow of traffic. An overpass ~~can~~ at the intersection could be a better option.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Rick Rivera

Address:
(optional)

[Redacted address]

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)):
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- I do business with TxDOT
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Comments:

I am in support of the plan. I've lived in the area for the past 15 years and have witnessed the growth of the area. I work in Austin and my commute has doubled (at least) in that time.

As a board member of SRNA I have ~~been~~ had the opportunity to experience the transparency of the planning process.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Matthew Schaefer
Address: [REDACTED]
(optional)

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

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

Comments:

As a resident of Steiner Ranch and father of 2 children I'm very excited to see this project get approved and completed in 2020. This will greatly improve the safety of the four points area plus improve traffic flow that is getting worse every year.

Thank you for putting this plan into action. Our kids safety as they drive to and from school activities depends on it!!

Matthew Schaefer

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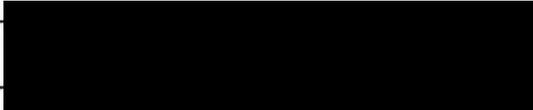
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RM 2222 and RM 620
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 Public Hearing
 Vandegrift High School
 9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: PAUL SHAVER

Address: (optional) 

(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:

I SUPPORT THIS PROJECT!
 PLEASE DO ALL YOU CAN TO
 IMPROVE THIS NIGHTMARE.

CONSIDER HIGHER VISIBILITY
 AND LARGER TRAFFIC LIGHTS
 AT SR BLVD & 620 + COMMANCHE
 TRAIL & 620. DURING LOW SUN LIGHT
 IT CAN BE BLINDING TO SEE ALL
 SIGNALS ON THAT STRETCH OF THE ROAD.
 PLUS CONSIDER THIS ON 2222 @
 McNEIL & RIVER PLACE

THANK YOU

Comments may be submitted at this hearing, mailed to Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist, Texas Department of Transportation, Austin District, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426, or faxed to (512) 832-7157 (Attn: Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist) by Nov. 10, 2017.

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1 community, so we can have a robust and complete voice
2 for this part of town for what's -- for the decisions
3 that are being made in downtown Austin.

4 So if you want to -- I'm going to stick
5 around if you want to come talk to me. You can also
6 check out my website for the district, atxd6.org,
7 atxd6.org, and you can find out more about what we're up
8 to and the hour -- the hours for my field office on
9 Anderson Mill Road which we have staffed with volunteers
10 five days a week. So I'll stick around. But I'm
11 excited to see this project, and I know many of you are,
12 too.

13 MR. BISHOP: All right. Thank you.
14 Bridgett Shea.

15 MS. SHEA: Hi, and thanks everyone for
16 being here. We have been working since I got elected in
17 2015 to try and make sure that there's funding for this
18 project, and we are pretty certain now, thanks probably
19 to the -- the voters for the City of Austin who approved
20 the -- the road bonds. The City match is there, and
21 we've been working with the County. But I -- I've now
22 confirmed that either through CAMPO or through TxDOT or
23 both, the rest of the funding is there for this project
24 so it's -- it's taken a while.

25 We appreciate everybody's patience. But I

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1 feel like this has been a great collaborative effort
2 with TxDOT and the County and the City and the
3 neighborhoods in the community to -- to try and ease the
4 congestion burden at this intersection. So we're
5 excited to see the progress that's being made. We're
6 interested to hear your comments. I know there are some
7 concerns here, and I'm -- I'm hoping that those are
8 going to be addressed. But I really just appreciate
9 everybody coming out and -- and having democracy in
10 action right here.

11 If anyone needs to contact my office, I
12 will be available. I've got cards as well. You can go
13 to the Travis County website and all of our e-mails are
14 online there. That's probably the easiest way to do it.
15 The spelling of my name is a little unusual. But if you
16 go to the Travis County website, you can get all of our
17 contact information there.

18 Thank y'all so much.

19 MR. BISHOP: Robert Abbott. And here
20 after, please face forward, because it really does help
21 the court reporter to ensure that they get your comments
22 accurately.

23 MR. ABBOTT: Good evening. My name is
24 Robert Abbott, fire chief of Travis County Esd 6, Lake
25 Travis Fire Rescue. We're here, I say myself appointed

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1 speeds we're seeing on FM 620 and by extension the roads
2 people use to get on and off 620, that's McNeil, River
3 Place, Steiner Ranch, they're not safe. First, FM 620
4 is not a freeway. There are -- is uncontrolled access
5 being made on both sides of the roadway. This leads to
6 side impact collisions at high speeds, rollovers and
7 head-on collisions.

8 The road design we have on FM 620 does not
9 support safe motor vehicle travel speeds at more than 35
10 miles an hour. The road is just not designed for it.
11 If we eliminate the bottlenecks and roundabouts, and set
12 a signal light so there are reduced speeds, we could
13 have less death and injury and times that are reasonable
14 and appropriate.

15 Thank you for listening. Hope we can work
16 together to make a safer and more livable community.

17 MR. BISHOP: Aaron Sher.

18 MR. SHER: Hello. I'm Aaron Sher. I own
19 Action Marine on 2222. So I'm a business that will be
20 affected by this whole thing. And I'm kind of -- just
21 kind of shook up about how you even address this because
22 some of the biggest problems on 2222 aren't even being
23 addressed.

24 If you look, constantly, the accidents are
25 in front of Target. That's the only place you're

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1 letting me have access to and from 2222 on both sides.
2 Another big problem on 2222 is people coming out of
3 H-E-B, crossing over 2222 and blocking 2222 off. It
4 will back up traffic for blocks. One person can do it.
5 If you'd put -- if you'd put the median up there and let
6 traffic only stay on the right side, when they can't
7 cross over, it will open up 2222.

8 You're putting the crossover right now over
9 where Heritage Body is, and that's going to leave you at
10 traffic. And you're still doing the stuff on 2222. Can
11 you just do, you know, the -- the crossover and see how
12 traffic flows on 2222. Not do all the medians.

13 I mean, that's my big concern, is that
14 you're going to just -- the one big problem is Target.
15 You're leaving that there. The other big problem is
16 people coming out of H-E-B and crossing over and
17 blocking all the traffic going on to 620 going towards
18 Mansfield. And, you know, you can either address those
19 issues -- you're not doing that at all. I don't
20 understand.

21 I mean, we've met with TxDOT and talked
22 with them, but there's no -- there have not been any
23 changes and, you know -- I don't know if you're not
24 going out there at 6 o'clock and watching traffic.
25 Two days ago there was an accident right in front of

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1 Target. Every week there's multiple accidents there,
2 and that -- that's not being addressed. And it's not
3 even Target's fault. That's the only way to get out
4 from there. And then it's going to literally be the
5 only way at that point. So everybody from -- who's at
6 H-E-B, everyone who's at all the businesses, they'll be
7 going out at that spot which has no light and it's going
8 to cause multiple problems. It's going to make it even
9 worse than it is right now. So, I mean, that's --
10 that's my big concerns.

11 So thank you.

12 MR. BISHOP: Roy Waley.

13 MR. WALEY: My name is Roy Waley. I am the
14 conservation chair for the Austin Regional Group of the
15 Sierra Club and I lived on Comanche Trail in the early
16 '80s, and so I've really seen the changes out here. Our
17 biggest problem back then was just getting past Hippy
18 Hollow so we could get out to 620 and get into town in
19 about 15 minutes, which is shorter than the time you
20 have to spend at the intersection now.

21 Our prime concern, as the Sierra Club, the
22 oldest environmental organization in the world, has to
23 do with the BCP, as this skirts the perimeter of the
24 BCP. And there are some cave entrances fairly close to
25 the right-of-way.



RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Aaron Shel
Address: [REDACTED]
(optional)

(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:

There needs to be a light at Target. They cause more traffic issues than anything else. Why put the median up & screw all traffic flow on 2222. put up a few pylons to stop people from driving down the median

Comments may be submitted at this hearing, mailed to Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist, Texas Department of Transportation, Austin District, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426, or faxed to (512) 832-7157 (Attn: Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist) by Nov. 10, 2017.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Brian Smith

Address:
(optional) 

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

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

Comments:

As a local resident in River Place and parent of kids at FPMS and VHS I want to express my support for this project. Not just because of the pain and inconvenience of the traffic, but more importantly I support it because of the safety improvements it will achieve.

My kids drive these roads and they're dangerous. I see accidents almost every single day in this area. I had a good friend killed crossing 2222 several years back.

I think the median on 2222 should help control left turns and improve safety. Many accidents I see are in/out of Target or Wells Fargo on 2222 with left turns.

Thanks for doing this! Let's git'er done!



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RM 2222 and RM 620
 Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
 Public Hearing
 Vandegrift High School
 9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: STEVE

Address: [REDACTED]
 (optional)

(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:

SHAME ON YOU, TXDOT.
 CERTAINLY, THESE IMPROVEMENTS WILL HELP FUNNEL TRAFFIC MORE EFFECTIVELY ONTO 2222 ... WHERE IT WILL, MORE EFFICIENTLY, BACK UP AT MCNEIL DRIVE.

NOTHING ON DISPLAY HERE, THIS EVENING, ADDRESSES THE REAL PROBLEM. ONE YEAR AFTER THIS MESS OF CONSTRUCTION IS DONE, YOU'LL BE DIGGING YOURSELVES OUT OF THE PROBLEM AT MCNEIL.

WHY DON'T YOU TREAT THE PROBLEM: TOO MUCH TRAFFIC AT MCNEIL? THIS IS ALL A WASTE & YOU ALL NEED TO PUT YOUR JOBS ON THE LINE IF YOU GET THIS APPROVED. BECAUSE, AFTER ALL THIS NOISE AND MONEY, IF YOU HAVEN'T IMPROVED CONDITIONS ... YOU ALL SHOULD BE FIRED. NICE WORK ... LOOKS GOOD ... BUT ... DOES IT WORK?

AND, WHAT HAPPENS ON 620 SOUTHBOUND? IF THIS DOES WORK, IT BACKS UP TRAFFIC EVEN MORE EFFICIENTLY SOUTH OF STEINER RANCH.

GOOD GRIEF. BUT, THANKS FOR TRYING. I HOPE IT WORKS.

(I LIVE 12 MILES ON 620, FROM VAUGHT RANCH RD. MY 1-2 HOUR COMMUTE IS TERRIBLE!)
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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name:

Debbie Turner-Jacobs

Address:
(optional)



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

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

Comments:

Understanding that TxDOT has standard project timelines, I would encourage any expediting of this project facilitated by the obvious elected officials support that maybe at all available.

still going up 50%
2035.

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TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 work, and I -- I think it's a nightmare.

2 MR. BISHOP: Brian Thompto.

3 MR. THOMPTO: Hi. My name is Brian
4 Thompto. I'm chairman of the Steiner Ranch Neighborhood
5 Association representing neighborhoods and the HOAs
6 between Lake Travis and Lake Austin, and I'd like to
7 offer very strong support for this project.

8 As the previous gentleman mentioned, today
9 we're in a situation where, you know, thousands of
10 motorists are dealing with stifled traffic on 620 and
11 2222. Our students, our parents, the folks that live
12 out here have to commute through that intersection. Of
13 course, through the topology, 620 and 2222, that
14 intersection, those arteries are just critical, and
15 they're bursting at the seams. I can easily sit there
16 for 30 minutes just to get from Steiner Ranch to 2222 in
17 the morning. I can sit up to another 10 minutes just to
18 get to 2222 depending on the day, and it's absolutely --
19 these improvements are absolutely needed to address this
20 issue.

21 I point out that, of course, this project
22 will not work without its corresponding project which
23 will widen 2222 and also widen the intersection at River
24 Place Boulevard and 2222. So obviously these two go
25 hand in hand. And we are really looking forward to the

TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 relief they will provide.

2 I'd like to also offer up that it's going
3 to be quite critical given that it will now be multiple
4 intersect -- multiple lights involved in orchestrating
5 traffic through these new intersections and the existing
6 intersections, that the most advanced technology
7 available be employed in order to make sure that the
8 traffic signalling can adapt to the circumstances at
9 hand.

10 We of course have a high school in the
11 area. We have large employers. We of course have
12 school on and off days and many other events that drive
13 erratic traffic patterns, and the kind of archaic
14 traffic signalling that we have going on today which was
15 developed decades ago using signals in the ground and
16 light timing is simply not going to be anywhere close to
17 adequate to deal with the complexity of the new
18 situation.

19 I'm confident that -- that the technology
20 that's available can orchestrate traffic through these
21 intersections. I've seen it in simulations. But to
22 make it happen in practice under varying conditions, I
23 would ask that you not only do this project very
24 rapidly, but do it with the latest technology to adapt
25 with adaptive signaling.

TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 Again, the other point I'd make is that
2 time is of the urgency here. Students are being
3 impacted every day. Teachers and families. And we're
4 literally talking about not just the loss of
5 productivity, but lack -- lack of opportunity. In many
6 cases, folks literally feel trapped in their
7 neighborhoods, and they cannot leave for several hours
8 of the day because of the current conditions.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. BISHOP: Meagan and Caitlin Henry.

11 MS. HENRY: Good evening. My name is Megan
12 Henry.

13 MS. JOSEPH: And I'm Skylar Joseph. We are
14 both freshmen here at Vandergrift.

15 MS. CAITLIN HENRY: And I'm Caitlin Henry.
16 I am a sixth grader at Canyon Ridge Middle School.

17 MS. HENRY: We would like to express our
18 support for the bypass road project.

19 MS. JOSEPH: There are many reasons why
20 this project is important, but for us, safety is our
21 biggest concern.

22 MS. HENRY: The addition of the median will
23 reduce the known hazards that exist in head-on
24 collisions.

25 MS. JOSEPH: The bypass will provide



RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: John Tomaszewski

Address:
(optional)



Comments:

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

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

• For Median Development please
look at the Villages of Holland Michigan.
→ They have done some nice farm groves
in

- for the Intersection of 2222 and 620 -
please look at IDOT and Intersection
of Dempster and Milwaukee Ave.
This Intersection provided good flow and
accessibility.

Feel free to ask questions / call.

Thank you.

John



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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Steve Vaughan
Address: _____
(optional) _____

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

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

Comments:

Traffic light sync'd to traffic flow would significantly improve flow. This is particularly important for closely spaced signals at Steiner Ranch Blvd & Comanche Trail & new bypass.

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RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Daniel Venuto
Address: 78732
(optional) _____

(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:

I fully support the
RM 2222 and RM 620 project, as
presented on October 26, 2017.

Comments may be submitted at this hearing, mailed to Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist, Texas Department of Transportation, Austin District, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426, or faxed to (512) 832-7157 (Attn: Shelly Eason, Environmental Specialist) by Nov. 10, 2017.

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TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 Target. Every week there's multiple accidents there,
2 and that -- that's not being addressed. And it's not
3 even Target's fault. That's the only way to get out
4 from there. And then it's going to literally be the
5 only way at that point. So everybody from -- who's at
6 H-E-B, everyone who's at all the businesses, they'll be
7 going out at that spot which has no light and it's going
8 to cause multiple problems. It's going to make it even
9 worse than it is right now. So, I mean, that's --
10 that's my big concerns.

11 So thank you.

12 MR. BISHOP: Roy Waley.

13 MR. WALEY: My name is Roy Waley. I am the
14 conservation chair for the Austin Regional Group of the
15 Sierra Club and I lived on Comanche Trail in the early
16 '80s, and so I've really seen the changes out here. Our
17 biggest problem back then was just getting past Hippy
18 Hollow so we could get out to 620 and get into town in
19 about 15 minutes, which is shorter than the time you
20 have to spend at the intersection now.

21 Our prime concern, as the Sierra Club, the
22 oldest environmental organization in the world, has to
23 do with the BCP, as this skirts the perimeter of the
24 BCP. And there are some cave entrances fairly close to
25 the right-of-way.

TxDOT PUBLIC HEARING - October 26, 2017

1 What we ask is that since the water flow
2 will be diverted by the bypass, is that it be a raised
3 bypass, not a -- not an elevated bypass, but a raised
4 bed bypass and have the water catchment on the uphill
5 side of that, and then have a vegetated catchment strip
6 on the BCP side of it.

7 It would be wonderful if we could have some
8 sound abatement for the avian species and -- and the
9 BCP, and that could be something as simple as a row of
10 trees.

11 The other thing I've been asked to mention
12 this evening is to ask that you have variable
13 directional lanes. In other words, have four lanes
14 coming off of 620 going to 2222 in the mornings, and
15 then switch those lanes as needed and not give a cut, a
16 driveway cut onto the property, what I consider uphill
17 from the road. I certainly sympathize with everyone
18 that has to deal with the traffic out here and I hope
19 we're able to find a solution to that that will also
20 protect our environment.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. BISHOP: Glenn Borkland.

23 MR. BORKLAND: Well, my name is Glenn
24 Borkland and I've been in the body shop business from --
25 since 1970 or so, and I've got Heritage Body and Frame.



RM 2222 and RM 620
 Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
 Public Hearing
 Vandegrift High School
 9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Richard Wall

Address: [Redacted]
 (optional)

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

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Comments:

We live 9 miles from Vandegrift HS in Steiner Ranch. My daughter must catch the bus 70 minutes before the start of school in order to arrive just in time. This extra travel time completely ruins the purpose of a later start time for the teenagers. It is completely unacceptable that my daughter must spend more than 2 hours a day to travel 18 miles Round trip. A significant portion of this transit time is specifically attributable to the 2222-620 intersection. Any improvement is welcome & much needed.

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From: [Jon White](#)
To: [Shelly Eason](#)
Cc: [Todd Bayless](#); [Melinda Mallia](#); [Linda Laack](#)
Subject: RM620/2222 Bypass
Date: Friday, November 10, 2017 5:22:33 PM

Shelly,

I was unable to find an email address that worked properly for the submission of comments. So, I am using yours!

TxDOT Austin District Office
RM 2222/RM 620 PH Comment
P.O. Box 15426
Austin, Texas 78761

November 10, 2017

Travis County staff welcome the opportunity to comment on the Environmental Assessment for the RM 2222/RM 620 Bypass project. We have also appreciated the opportunity to meet with TXDOT staff and representatives to discuss the project. We are particularly interested in potential effects of the project on the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve and the various endangered species in the area. In addition, we are concerned about effects on water quality along with effects on the Jollyville Plateau Salamander.

Comments:

- Travis County staff are generally supportive of the project which will alleviate traffic congestion and associated adverse air quality impacts. The overall design is sensitive to proximity to the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve.
- In general, the Environment Assessment accurately states potential impacts to endangered karst invertebrate localities and addresses proper responses to when new karst features are discovered in the project area.
- Page 37: Karst Species Commitments – The actions described are acceptable. Travis County staff are supportive of considerations that will be made to prevent introduction of tawny crazy ants to the area.
- Page 76 Figure 4: The information presented is not accurate. The figure does not include Geode Cave as a locality for the Bone Cave harvestman, Tooth Cave spider, and Tooth Cave ground beetle. Also, other localities shown on figure do not accurately reflect all endangered karst species at these caves.
- While it appears that permeable friction course (PFC) has water quality benefits, these benefits are
 - not well documented and
 - transitory without a commitment to ongoing maintenance of the PFC.

Travis County staff recommend that additional water quality strategies be

employed in addition to the PFC and that TXDOT commits to regular replacement of the PFC.

- We especially recommend additional water quality controls at the crossing of the headwaters of Bull Creek.

Finally, we believe that the draft Biological Assessment submitted to US Fish and Wildlife Service should have been provided in support of the EA.

We look forward to continuing coordination with TXDOT on this important project.

Yours truly,

Jon A White

Director, Natural Resources and Environmental Quality Division

Travis County TNR

512/854-7212



RM 2222 and RM 620
Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name:

Jim + Craig Wingrove

Address:
(optional)



(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:

The severe traffic problems at RM 2222 & RM 620 have been blatant for years. The timeline for the project seems unnecessarily long for the size of the project and the dire needs of the community. What can be done to speed up the efforts & pull in the completion date. Given the number of wrecks, the decline of property values and the anticipated continued increase in traffic, this problem deserves urgent attention.

Less talk & more action please!

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RM 2222 and RM 620
 Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017
 Public Hearing
 Vandegrift High School
 9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Bill Wofford

Address: (optional)

Comments:

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

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- I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

Attn Leticia Estavilla
 Bob Ramthun

Question - Why have A left turn
 Available from SB 620 At the
 new ~~section~~ Bypass section

Per the handout, only 59 cars
 expected to turn left there, but
 thousands NB on 620 And merging
 onto new BYPASS lanes toward 2222.

Seems to limit "FLOW", when
 those 59 cars Already had chances
 to turn left @ Four Points + 2222 from

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RM 2222 and RM 620
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Public Hearing
Vandegrift High School
9500 McNeil Drive, Austin, Texas

COMMENT FORM

Name: Bill Wofford

Address:
(optional)



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- I do business with TxDOT
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Comments:

A lot of this congestion is due to the heavy school traffic of signalling to get school traffic in & out of their property, Vandegrift H.S. So did LISD fire the consultants that sold them property with only one way in and one way out? Oh, and where are they tonight?

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