RM 620/RM 2222 CONNECTOR (BYPASS) STATUS REPORT
Because of the enormous traffic demand at the RM 620/2222 intersection, TxDOT searched for a way to relieve congestion at this key intersection. Although the long-term solution will likely be elevated flyovers, what is needed now is an interim solution that is affordable and quick to construct.

The result was a “connector” project more commonly referred to as the “bypass.” The project divides the intersection’s traffic between two locations. RM 620 traffic coming from the south will have a new separate route that merges with RM 2222 a half a mile east of the current intersection. The new route from the south will have an additional northbound auxiliary lane on RM 620 starting at Steiner Ranch Boulevard and terminating at the new connector road, then running along the LCRA transmission line right-of-way to RM 2222. Upon reaching RM 2222, eastbound traffic will merge with a new eastbound auxiliary lane on RM 2222 until past the McNeil Road intersection to the high school. It will then merge back into the existing two lanes to proceed down RM 2222, commonly referred to as Tumbleweed Hill. By removing this traffic from the existing intersection, it allows more green time for traffic to/from north RM 620.

New traffic signals at both the RM 2222 and RM 620 intersections of the connector road will allow access and will be synchronized with the existing signals. A westbound auxiliary lane will be added to RM 2222 between Ribelin Ranch Road and the connector road. This will allow traffic headed west on RM 2222 to also utilize the new connector road. In addition, the River Place intersection will be improved with simultaneous dual left-turns from both sides of River Place Boulevard and a raised center median with turn bays will be added along RM 2222 to control turning movements to local businesses and minimize disruptions to through-traffic.
620/2222 Bypass Project Area
The “bypass” project was split into two projects to facilitate project implementation.

Project 1 – RM 2222 Improvements /Project 2 - 620 to 2222 Connector
*It is not feasible to align Steiner Ranch Boulevard with Comanche Trail because of the steep grade between RM 620 and Steiner Ranch Boulevard.
Proposed 620 Lane - Steiner Ranch Blvd to Connector Road

Steiner Ranch Boulevard

Additional eastbound lane on RM 620
Additional auxiliary lanes and raised medians with turn bays on RM 2222
River Place Boulevard Improvements at RM 2222

RM2222 STA 36+05.21
11' RT
TV=1090.23'

RAISED MEDIAN
CURVE RM2222-7

OWNER: 3M

STA 43+96.13 (RP)
STA 7+19.27 (RP)

CURVE RM2222

RM 2222 STA 49+83.
48.20'
ELEV=1093.6

STA 50+39.10 (RM2222) =
STA 10+00.00 (RPVILLAGE)
RM 2222 Improvements from Connector to RM 620
RM 620/2222 Bypass Major Features

Project 1: Add westbound auxiliary lane from Ribelin Ranch Road to River Place Boulevard
Add eastbound auxiliary lane from Connector Road to McNeil Drive
Raised concrete median and turn lanes along much of RM 2222
Dual simultaneous left-turn lanes on River Place Boulevard at RM 2222

Project 2: New connector road
• two lanes westbound
• two lanes merging to one lane eastbound
New traffic signals where the connector road intersects with RM 620 and RM 2222
Add eastbound lane from Steiner Ranch Boulevard to connector road (5-8’ shoulders)

Steiner Ranch Boulevard: New traffic signal synchronized with Comanche Trail signal
Project 1: Construct a six-lane roadway on RM 2222 from the bypass intersection location to Ribelin Ranch Road

- Environmental decision: anticipated spring 2017
- Right-of-way acquisition: anticipated winter 2017/2018
- Utility coordination and relocation: anticipated summer 2018
- Ready to go out to bid: anticipated summer 2018
- Construction cost estimate: $11 million*

Project 2: Construct connector road from RM 620 to RM 2222 and improvements to RM 620

- Preliminary biological study along bypass road has been completed
- Environmental decision: anticipated summer 2017
- Right-of-way acquisition: anticipated summer 2018
- Utility coordination and relocation: anticipated summer 2018
- Ready to go out to bid: anticipated summer 2018
- Construction cost estimate: $7 million*

*The city of Austin is providing local funding for both projects.
For further information, contact:
Bruce Byron
Public Engagement Officer
Bruce.Byron@txdot.gov
(512) 832-7107