



Improvements to the intersection of State Highway 29 at D.B. Wood Road in Williamson County

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1) Why is this project needed?

The purpose of the project is to improve mobility and safety by adding turn lanes along SH 29 and D.B. Wood Road, and a raised median along SH 29.

The SH 29 corridor has seen tremendous traffic growth leading to heavy congestion, and traffic is anticipated to increase in the future. Current traffic volumes along the corridor are approximately 15,000 vehicles per day and are expected to increase to more than 40,000 vehicles per day in 2035. The proposed improvements would improve the safety and operations of the intersection.

Traffic crashes and collisions in the corridor have been frequent and sometimes severe. Eliminating the continuous left-turn lane in order to control left-turn movements along the existing roadway and constructing a raised median containing left-turn lanes only at signalized intersections and select median openings minimizes the risk of collisions, as it reduces the number and locations of conflicting turning movements. This improves the safety and operational efficiency of the corridor.

2) What are the proposed SH 29 at DB Wood Road Improvements?

The proposed project includes improvements along SH 29 from Wood Court to east of River Chase Boulevard, as well as improvements along D.B. Wood Road. These improvements consist of two segments described as follows:

Improvements along SH 29:

This segment of road has an existing roadway section that contains two lanes in each direction with a continuous left-turn lane and drainage swales outside the pavement. The proposed improvements would add curb and gutter, add designated left and right-turn lanes westbound and eastbound along SH 29, eliminate the continuous left-turn lane, and add a raised median. The traffic lanes would be 12 feet wide with an outside lane width of 14 feet.

Improvement along D.B. Wood Road:

This section of roadway would be widened from a three-lane section to a five-lane section south of SH 29 and a six-lane section north of SH 29. The roadway south of SH 29 would have one northbound through lane, one northbound left-turn lane, a northbound shared right-turn lane and through-traffic lane, and two southbound through-traffic lanes. The roadway north of SH 29 would be widened to add room for dual southbound left-turn lanes, a through lane, a shared right-turn lane and through-traffic lane, and two northbound through-traffic lanes. This section would also include the construction of curb and gutter, culverts, retaining walls, and stormwater quality inlets. The traffic lanes would be 12 feet wide.

3) What is the construction schedule for this project?

To be determined as funding becomes available.

4) Will work be done at night and on weekends for this project?

Yes, there would be occasional work at night and on weekends, particularly when a lane closure is required.

5) Will the road close at any point during construction?

SH 29 would remain open to traffic with two lanes in each direction for the duration of the project, except for occasional night and weekend lane closures that would take place during the hours of 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. D.B. Wood Road would require one temporary detour to construct the northwest intersection corner at SH 29. This would require traffic in the southbound direction to be detoured to River Chase Boulevard.

6) With the center median, how will I access the opposite side of the road?

Full median openings would be provided at each signalized intersection and median openings also would be provided at certain designated driveways and cross street locations.

7) How is the project being funded?

The project design and environmental documentation is being funded entirely by Williamson County Road Bond funds. At this time, funding for construction has not been identified. The estimated construction cost based on preliminary design for this project is \$5.4 million.

8) What is TxDOT's role in this project?

Since SH 29 is a TxDOT roadway, TxDOT must authorize the County to perform work on its roadway. When completed, TxDOT would assume responsibility for maintenance of SH 29.

9) Will sidewalks be constructed as part of this project?

Existing sidewalks will be maintained along SH 29 and D.B. Wood Road. The potential for additional sidewalks will be evaluated.

10) Where can I go to provide feedback, or receive more information about the SH 29 at D.B. Wood Road project?

For more information about this project, visit: <http://roadbond.wilco.org>. You can sign up for email updates on the website. Questions and comments may be directed to roads@wilco.org, (512) 943-1195, or submitted to Williamson County's consultant: Unintech Consultant Engineers, Inc., ATTN: David Hedlund, 505 E. Huntland Drive, Suite 335, Austin, Texas 78752 or by email at dhedlund@unintech.com.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.