Documentation of Public Hearing

Project Location
Comanche

State Highway (SH) 6
0257-05-045

Project Limits
SH 16 North to East De Leon City Limits

Hearing Location
De Leon High School Cafeteria
200 W. Manchaca Avenue, De Leon, Texas 76444

Hearing Date and Time
September 17, 2019 6:00 PM

Translation Services
NA

Presenters
Jason Scantling, P.E., Brownwood District Director of Transportation, Planning and Development

Elected Officials in Attendance
Heather Armstrong, City Council
Grace Everheart, City Council
Larry Harin, City Council
Jimmy Johnson, County Commissioner

Total Number of Attendees (approx.)
43

Total Number of Commenters
1

Contents

A. Comment/response matrix
B. Public hearing officer certification
C. Notices provided (including tear sheets, website screen captures, distribution lists with copy of notice sent, etc.)
D. Sign-in sheets
E. Transcript

F. Comments received
G. Figures

A. Comments/ Response Matrix

Comment Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Comment Topic	Response
1				No Written Comments were received.	
2	**Jon Awbrey**	**9/17/2019**	Verbal	Selection of Contractor	TxDOT selects the low-bid contractor, but is our intention to make sure th contractor does a good job and that the project does not go on any longer than necessary to provide the best possible product for the traveling public.

B. Public Hearing Officer Certification

DocuSign Envelope ID: 3AC941F7-7748-4815-BD08-32A74D8AD6C3

Public Hearing Certification

Project Name: SH 6 in De Leon

County Name Comanche

Control Section Job Numbers (CSJ): 0257-05-045

Project Limits:

From: SH 16 N. (De Leon East city limits)

To: East De Leon City Limits

I certify that the following statements are true and apply to the project identified above.

A. A public hearing was held on September 17, 2019 at De Leon High School Cafeteria, 200 W. Manchaca Avenue in De Leon, Texas.

B. The economic and social effects of the project location and design and its impacts on the environment have been considered.

C. In determining economic, social, and environmental effects, the statutory provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 have been considered.

D. The project consistency with the goals and objectives of urban planning, as dictated by the community has been considered.

E. Requirements of Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter E, Section 2.107 have been met.

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.

Signed: _____ DocuSigned by: JH Scantling, P.E. 77D14777834646F... _____ **Date:** 10/24/2019

Print Name: Jason Scantling

C. Notices

Commissioners

From page 6

being attacked by malicious players who steal your information.

Commissioners Johnson and Underwood made the motion and second to appoint election judges and alternates for the term of 2019-2021. All approved. Motion carried. The following were appointed; Precinct #1-Addie Ratliff and Thomas Letz, Precinct #2-Stella Reid and Chanteal Whitehead, Precinct #5-Ruth Zwicker and Ginger Ferguson, Precinct #6-Diane Luker and Lisa Priest, Precinct #7-Sheri Adams and Judy Gunter, Precinct #10-Trevlin Strong and Suzann Thompson, Precinct #11-Susie Hodges and Karen Sones, Precinct #12-Marie Nabors and Judy Barnes, Precinct #13-Christy Williams and LaRessie Wilkerson, Precinct #14-Sherry Whiteside and Cindy Johnson, Precinct #15-Stephen Russell and Chestine Woolsey, Precinct #16-Marshall Valentino and Judy Bingham, Early Voting Ballot Board-Sue Bingham and Ann Ogle, tabulating supervisor-Ruby Lesley and alternate Tammy Turner.

In Emergency Management Operations Tricia Grimshaw had nothing new to report

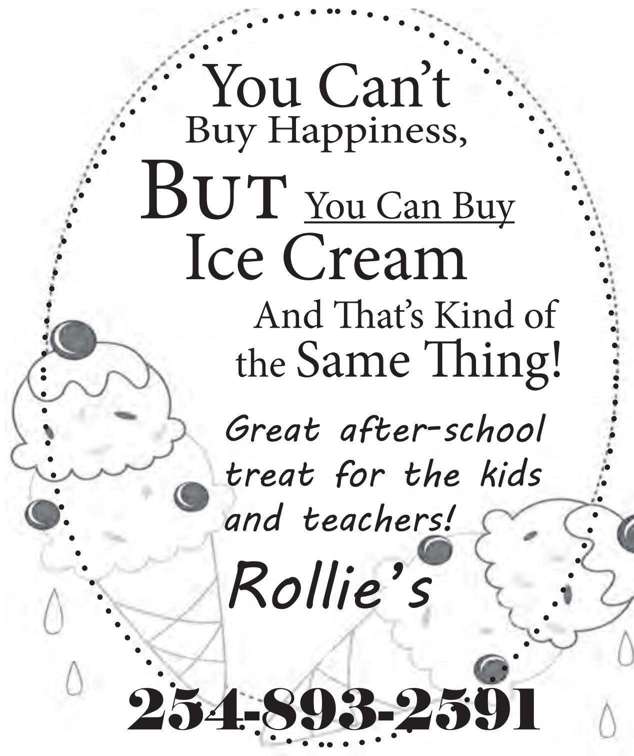
A Burn Ban was enacted for a ninety day period in the unincorporated area of Comanche County and began on July 22, 2019. It is still in effect. Welding with a spotter and a source of water are excluded from the burn ban as well as cooking in an enclosed barbeque grill. It is recommended that residents call Dispatch to inform them of a burn in order to avoid unnecessary responses from the fire department. Wind should be 10 miles an hour or less and humidity of 50% or above.

Sheriff Lambert was present but had nothing to report in Sheriff and Jail Operations.

A Budget Workshop was conducted afterward.

Deadline for all classifieds is Tuesday at Noon.

893-6868



For Rent

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Wanting to Lease Land

Wanted to Lease: Coastal, cultivated land and cattle pasture. Call Bryan Morris @ 817-313-9077

Puzzle Solution

■	O	F	T	E	N	■	■	T	O	T	A	L	■	■
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8	3	7	4	6	5	1	2	9
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Notice of Public Hearing: Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

Texas Department of Transportation

State Highway (SH) 6 from SH 16 N. to East De Leon City Limits
Comanche County
CSJ (Control Section Job Number): 0257-05-045

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The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project. The public hearing will present plans to upgrade and widen SH 6 by converting the existing two-lane roadway with a center turn lane to a four-lane highway with a center turn lane. The project length is approximately two miles and would require approximately 3.04 acres of additional right-of-way. The existing and proposed right-of-way width varies between 80' and 120'. No displacements of commercial or residential properties are anticipated. The purpose of the project is to improve safety and reduce congestion.

The Chapter 26 public hearing is to discuss the proposed project's potential impacts to 0.706 acres of the De Leon Festival Gardens Community Park. As part of this project, TxDOT is considering a Section 4(f) de minimis impact determination for impacts to the De Leon Festival Gardens Community Park. Approximately 0.706 acres located along the southern boundary of the park would be required for permanent incorporation into the proposed transportation facility. A Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding means that the proposed project would not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes that qualify the De Leon Festival Gardens Community Park for protection under Section 4(f). The City of De Leon and TxDOT will consider comments received during the environmental process before making a final Section 4(f) *de minimis* determination.

Maps showing the project will be displayed at the public hearing and on the TxDOT website at: www.txdot.gov and then **Search: SH 6 Comanche County**. Environmental documentation for the project will also be available for inspection at the hearing. This information will also be available Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Brownwood District Office, 2495 Highway 183 North in Brownwood.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented at the hearing or submitted in person or by mail to Jason Scantling, P.E. at 2495 Highway 183 North, Brownwood, Texas 76802, by email to jason.scantling@txdot.gov or submitted online. Comments must be received on or before Friday, Oct. 4, 2019. If you have general questions or concerns regarding the project, please contact Jason Scantling.

The public meeting will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending who have special communication or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Lisa Tipton, TxDOT Brownwood District Public Information Officer, at (325) 643-0413. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the public hearing. The De Leon High School Cafeteria is wheelchair accessible.

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Real Estate

LAMB REAL ESTATE
209 N. Texas St. - 254-893-6502
Bill Lamb - Broker • Troy Morris - Agent • www.deleonrealestate.com

Listings needed & appreciated.

Square One Real Estate
532 South Texas, DeLeon
Joe Grimshaw, Broker (254)977-4280

• **RANCH/HOME SITE!!** 32 acres on pavement between Gorman & DeLeon. One pond and a few trees **$3,500/acre**

Gilder Realty
254-893-3404
Agents: Ronnie Golden, David Gilder
Debbie Gilder
Broker: Robert Gilder
www.GilderRealty.com

813 +/- Acres with 6 tower pivot irrigation system, Hwy 6 and FM 2921 frontage, coastal, cattle pens, pecan trees, cover for wildlife, 1,740 sq. ft (CAD) frame home, stock tanks. $3,250/Acre Sold

323 +/- Acres with Leon River bottom land, 7 water wells, several hundred native pecan trees, corrals, woods, good fences. $1,292,000

284 +/- Acres located on the Sabanna River with 3-irrigation wells, 1-water well for cattle, 3 stock tanks, corrals, barn, Hwy 587 frontage, several hundred native pecan trees. $1,349,000

148 +/- Acres with 3 water wells , 3 stock tanks, cattle pens, good fences. $414,400 Sold

127 +/- Acres Eastland Co. with water wells, stock tanks, approx. 30 acres of woods, coastal, hunting, good fences. $354,380 Sold

Cogburn Real Estate
In DeLeon Continuously Since 1954

• DeLeon: 3-2 DWMH to be moved, 1992 model, app 1680' lliving area (CAD) **$7,500.00**
• Doctors clinic on main street, 20+ rooms, 3 baths; central air/heat, alley access in rear. REDUCED!!! **$19,500**
• DeLeon: Downtown storefront, 2 wall a/c units, nat gas, wood floors w/laminate, new roof in 2018, partial loft, app 840 sq. ft. retail space. $35,000.00 **REDUCED** to **$24,999.00**
• 2-1 frame, 1 car garage, currently rented for $450 per month. ~~$29,999~~. REDUCED **$26,500**
• 2009 Oak Creek modular home to be moved, 3 br, 2 bath, metal roof, Central A/H, 1188sf, 2 porches, nice! **$43,500**
• **NEW LISTING:** DeLeon, app 3.5 A, 2-1-1 frame, app 832', coastal, small creek, well, rural water available **$54,500.00**
• **NEW LISTING:** 3.59 Acres pavement frontage, old house, close to town. **$54,500.00**
• 4.9 Acres, old house, street frontage. **$65,000** SOLD
• **NEW LISTING:** DeLeon: 3-2 frame, app 1800', kitchen w/island, CH/A carpet, linoleum and hardwood floors, lg covered back porch, 2 car carport, stg bldg, pecans. **$99,500.00** ON CONTRACT
• **E Eastland County:** App 11 acres, pvmnt front, lots of tree cover, **$4,450.00**
• **NEW LISTING:** 15.54 Acres in DeLeon, corner of Bell and Juarez. Pecans & lots of other trees, large creek. **$88,000.00**
• 45A 1/2 mile east DeLeon on Hwy 6, some Coastal, 2 ponds, fenced, county water & elec. available, great commercial site. Will divide. REDUCE! **$200,000**
• 47 A more/less at Rucker just off Hwy 6, several wells, reservoir, fenced, app 8A Coastal, Cultivated/Native, sandy Land. **$3,750 acre.**
• 49 +/- acres, fenced, native pasture & coastal, 2 irrigation wells, owner reports 250+ GPM. Nice pond, close to DeLeon. ~~$4,950/acre.~~ **$4,495/ACRE**
• 67.18 Acres, 31 A coastal, 6A cultivated, 30A Native. Good fences, 3 ponds, water wells. Lots of Whitetail deer in area! ~~$4,500 acre.~~ **$4,200/ACRE**
• Near Baird: 95A commercial site with 2500' frontage on I-20 at 313 exit, corner of access road and CR 323. TXDOT daily traffic count of 23,000 plus. Will divide. **$595,000.**

916 N. Texas St., DeLeon Call Us at 254-893-6666
Ray Cogburn - Broker www.cogburnrealestate.com

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

$30/Month
Call 254-893-6868

2-1 TURF
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LARRY SIMPSON INSURANCE
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Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.

County Tax Rate

From page 1

multi-million dollar bond election, and some Comanche County residents fall into Hamilton ISD's school district, so a Comanche County election must be held for those voters. All approved. Commissioners also approved a joint election agreement between Comanche County and Hamilton ISD.

Commissioners also acknowledged an order from District Judge Shaun Carpenter setting a public hearing to review and set the annual budget for the county auditor, any assistant auditor, and the compensation for the 220th Judicial District Court Reporter.

The court then discussed entering into an interlocal agreement with Lubbock County that would provide insurance for a public defender in the event that Comanche County holds a capital murder trial. The cost for the service would be $5,700. Commissioner Johnson said he thought it would be a good idea, and Judge Davis agreed, calling it the "responsible" thing to do. .23.2 A capital murder trial would cost the county at least six figures.

.23.2 However, it was decided that the county would look into all options for this type of insurance, and discuss the matter again at the next meeting of the commissioners' court.

Commissioners then discussed amending their rules of procedure for meetings of the commissioners' court. According to Judge Davis, House Bill 2840, which goes into effect on September 1, requires that government entities such as commissioners' courts allow every citizen the chance to speak at meetings. It also forbids governmental entities from prohibiting criticism of governmental actions.

In Emergency Management Operations Tricia Grimshaw reported that the burn ban should not be lifted.

The burn ban was enacted for a ninety day period in the unincorporated area of Comanche County and began on July 22, 2019. It is still in effect. Welding with a spotter and a source of water are excluded from the burn ban as well as cooking in an enclosed barbeque grill. It is recommended that residents call dispatch to inform them of a burn in order to avoid unnecessary responses from the fire department. Wind should be 10 miles an hour or less and humidity of 50% or above.

A Budget Workshop was conducted afterward. County Auditor Joey Boswell presented a theoretical budget based on the same tax rate as last year, $0.62996 per $100 valuation. That budget ran at a significant, albeit improved, deficit, and included a 3 percent pay raise for employees. Commissioners Sherman Sides, Jimmy Dale Johnson, and Corky Underwood all expressed interest in budgeting for capital murder insurance. Sides and Underwood were also vocal in their support for additional county funding for fire departments throughout the county. Judge Davis also indicated her desire to provide $35 in monthly monetary compensation for county employees for their private cell phone use. Davis said she was concerned that employees were using their private phones to conduct business without compensation. She also expressed concern that, in doing so, county employees had made their private phones subject to the open meetings act.

Deadline for all classifieds is Tuesday at Noon.

893-6868

Puzzle Solution

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For Rent

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Comanche County

CSJ (Control Section Job Number): 0257-05-045

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY

$20/Month

2-1

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In DeLeon Continuously Since 1954

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• Doctors clinic on main street, 20+ rooms, 3 baths; central air/heat, alley access in rear. REDUCED!!! **$10,500**

KWBY 98.5 has the best Bearcat sports coverage in the area!

98.5 KWBY COUNTRY

Don't forget to join us at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday in the lobby of First National Bank in DeLeon or tune in to KWBY 98.5 during programming to hear the weekly updates of the DeLeon Bearcats from Coach Andy Dickson.

Be sure and tune in on Friday nights at 7:30p.m. KWBYradio.com to cheer on the mighty DeLeon Bearcats!!

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The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project. The public hearing will present plans to upgrade and widen SH 6 by converting the existing two-lane roadway with a center turn lane to a four-lane highway with a center turn lane. The project length is approximately two miles and would require approximately 3.04 acres of additional right-of-way. The existing and proposed right-of-way width varies between 80' and 120'. No displacements of commercial or residential properties are anticipated. The purpose of the project is to improve safety and reduce congestion.

The Chapter 26 public hearing is to discuss the proposed project's potential impacts to 0.706 acres of the De Leon Festival Gardens Community Park. As part of this project, TxDOT is considering a Section 4(f) de minimis impact determination for impacts to the De Leon Festival Gardens Community Park. Approximately 0.706 acres located along the southern boundary of the park would be required for permanent incorporation into the proposed transportation facility. A Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding means that the proposed project would not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes that qualify the De Leon Festival Gardens Community Park for protection under Section 4(f). The City of De Leon and TxDOT will consider comments received during the environmental process before making a final Section 4(f) *de minimis* determination.

Maps showing the project will be displayed at the public hearing and on the TxDOT website at: www.txdot.gov and then **Search: SH 6 Comanche County**. Environmental documentation for the project will also be available for inspection at the hearing. This information will also be available Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Brownwood District Office, 2495 Highway 183 North in Brownwood.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented at the hearing or submitted in person or by mail to Jason Scantling, P.E. at 2495 Highway 183 North, Brownwood, Texas 76802, by email to jason.scantling@txdot.gov or submitted online. Comments must be received on or before Friday, Oct. 4, 2019. If you have general questions or concerns regarding the project, please contact Jason Scantling.

The public meeting will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending who have special communication or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Lisa Tipton, TxDOT Brownwood District Public Information Officer, at (325) 643-0413. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the public hearing. The De Leon High School Cafeteria is wheelchair accessible.

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 Dec.16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

ESTATE AUCTION

Estate of Ethel Kunkel, Saturday September 7, 2019 10:00 AM, 12 CR 141 Comanche , Tx 76442, Take HWY 16 South Towards Priddy for 17 miles, Turn Right on CR 141 Second House on the Right, Watch For Signs

Lots of Pyrex Dishes, Fostoria Dishes, Green and Pink Depression Dishes, Old Jewelry, Lots of Antique Glassware, Records, Furniture, and much more!!!!

As Is Where Is No Warrantee No Buyers, Premium Cash or Check Only!!!!! Announcement Sale Day Supersede All Others
Viewing Friday Before The Auction View Pictures and Full List at www.auctionzip.com and Search for Hall Auction Service!!!!

Hall Auction Service
13016 HWY 36 Comanche Tx 76442 Call 325-356-5950 or 325-330-0826
Wade Hall #9269 Jaclynn Townzen Clerk

For Rent

The Housing Authority of the City of DeLeon
is accepting applications at this time. Applications can be picked up at the Housing Authority office between 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday, closed for lunch 12:30 to 1:30. To process your application, it is required that your present original SS Cards and Drivers license/Photo ID. Should your application be approved, you must then furnish original birth certificates to be able to move in. Rent is based on income.
The Authority furnishes Equal housing opportunity to all who qualify.
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Wanting to Lease Land

Wanted to Lease: Coastal, cultivated land and cattle pasture. Call Bryan Morris @ 817-313-9077

Real Estate

LAMB REAL ESTATE
209 N. Texas St. - 254-893-6502
Bill Lamb - Broker • Troy Morris - Agent • www.deleonrealestate.com

Listings needed & appreciated.

1 Square One Real Estate
532 South Texas, DeLeon
Joe Grimshaw, Broker (254)977-4280

- **RANCH/HOME SITE!!** 32 acres on pavement between Gorman & DeLeon. One pond and a few trees.

$3,500/acre

Gilder Realty
254-893-3404
Agents: Ronnie Golden, David Gilder
Debbie Gilder
Broker: Robert Gilder
www.GilderRealty.com

813 +/- Acres with 6 tower pivot irrigation system, Hwy 6 and FM 2921 frontage, coastal, cattle pens, pecan trees, cover for wildlife, 1,740 sq. ft (CAD) frame home, stock tanks. $3,250/Acre Sold
323 +/- Acres with Leon River bottom land, 7 water wells, several hundred native pecan trees, corrals, woods, good fences. $1,292,000
284 +/- Acres located on the Sabanna River with 3-irrigation wells, 1-water well for cattle, 3 stock tanks, corrals, barn, Hwy 587 frontage, several hundred native pecan trees. $1,349,000
148 +/- Acres with 3 water wells , 3 stock tanks, cattle pens, good fences. $414,400 Sold
127 +/- Acres Eastland Co. with water wells, stock tanks, approx. 30 acres of woods, coastal, hunting, good fences. $354,380 Sold

Cogburn Real Estate
In DeLeon Continuously Since 1954

- DeLeon: 3-2 DWMH to be moved, 1992 model, app 1680' lliving area (CAD) **$7,500.00**
- Doctors clinic on main street, 20+ rooms, 3 baths; central air/heat, alley access in rear. REDUCED!!! **$19,500**
- DeLeon: Downtown storefront, 2 wall a/c units, nat gas, wood floors w/laminate, new roof in 2018, partial loft, app 840 sq. ft. retail space. $35,000.00 **REDUCED** to **$24,999.00**
- 2009 Oak Creek modular home to be moved, 3 br, 2 bath, metal roof, Central A/H, 1188sf, 2 porches, nice! **$43,500**
- DeLeon, app 3.5 A, 2-1-1 frame, app 832', coastal, small creek, well, rural water available **$54,500.00**
- **NEW LISTING:** Beautifully renovated 3-2 Oak Creek. New floors, kitchen, paint, metal roof, more! **Reduced to $69,500.**
- 3.59 Acres pavement frontage, old house, close to town. **$54,500.00**
- **NEW LISTING:** 2-1 cabin on Nabor's Lake, large covered deck facing lake, fishing dock, new roof, several large Oaks. **$99,500**
- **NEW LISTING:** From 1917, professionally restored 3-2 frame, new central A/C, kitchen w/stainless, baths, elec., plumbing, roof, paint, metal carport & more! **$150,000**
- **NEW LISTING:** All steel commercial bldg., 32'x48' office/showroom with central air, 85'x85' shop/warehouse. Includes a Fairbanks truck scale. **$175,000.**
- **E Eastland County:** App 11 acres, pvmnt front, lots of tree cover, **$4,450.00**
- 15.54 Acres in DeLeon, corner of Bell and Juarez. Pecans & lots of other trees, large creek. **$88,000.00**
- 45A 1/2 mile east DeLeon on Hwy 6, some Coastal, 2 ponds, fenced, county water & elec. available, great commercial site. Will divide. REDUCE! **$200,000**
- 47 A more/less at Rucker just off Hwy 6, several wells, reservoir, fenced, app 8A Coastal, Cultivated/Native, sandy Land. **$3,750 acre.**
- 49 +/- acres, fenced, native pasture & coastal, 2 irrigation wells, owner reports 250+ GPM. Nice pond, close to DeLeon. ~~$4,950/acre.~~ **$4,495/ACRE**
- 67.18 Acres, 31 A coastal, 6A cultivated, 30A Native. Good fences, 3 ponds, water wells. Lots of Whitetail deer in area! ~~$4,500 acre.~~ **$4,200/ACRE**
- Near Baird: 95A commercial site with 2500' frontage on I-20 at 313 exit, corner of access road and CR 323. TXDOT daily traffic count of 23,000 plus. Will divide. **$595,000.**
- **NEW LISTING:** 320A, lots deer/turkey, native pasture & some heavily wooded. Large creek, 3 ponds, 60' elev. change, minerals. **$2,450.**

ON CONTRACT
ON CONTRACT

916 N. Texas St., DeLeon Call Us at 254-893-6666
Ray Cogburn - Broker www.cogburnrealestate.com

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Call 254-893-6868

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501 S. Texas, DeLeon 893-6555 or 893-2043
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D. Sign-in Sheets

Citizen Sign-In Sheet

Proposed Improvements to State Highway 6 in De Leon

Public Hearing – Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

De Leon High School Cafeteria

200 W. Manchaca, De Leon, TX 76444

Name	Address	Email Address	Affiliation	How did you hear about the meeting?
Daisy Robertson	641 E Alamante Ave	[redacted]		
Katerika Bryan	332 W Labadie Ave	[redacted]		
Billie Smith	1281 Festival Lane			
Erik Burleson	4500 Hwy 16 N DeLeon Tx 76444	[redacted]		
Nancy Scott	901 Hwy 587 DeLeon TX 76444			
LARRY HARIN	500 SCOTT ST DELEON TX 76444			
JASON CLARK	509 W. NAVARRO AVE DELEON, TX 76444			
Dennis Whitsell	391 CR 473 Deleon TX 76444	[redacted]		

Citizen Sign-In Sheet

Proposed Improvements to State Highway 6 in De Leon

Public Hearing – Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

De Leon High School Cafeteria

200 W. Manchaca, De Leon, TX 76444

Name	Address	Email Address	Affiliation	How did you hear about the meeting?
Richard Chesney	2250 Hwy 2921 DeLeon TX 76444			
Dana Jones	849 Pony Express DeLeon 76444			
Kenneth Golden	400 CR480 DeLeon			
Kelly Dalton	0217 W. Navarro DeLeon			
Delyn Dendy Reed	1621 Hwy 2921 DeLeon, 76444			
Jo Carolyn Dendy Miller	100 S. Weatherford St. DeLeon 76444			
Lynn Russell	641 E. Almonte DeLeon, TX 76444			Sign on road

Citizen Sign-In Sheet

Proposed Improvements to State Highway 6 in De Leon

Public Hearing – Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

De Leon High School Cafeteria

200 W. Manchaca, De Leon, TX 76444

Name	Address	Email Address	Affiliation	How did you hear about the meeting?
MIKE BRYAN	332 W LABADIE			
MILTON SMITH	401 HWY 587	[redacted]		
LANCE JONES	201 E NAVARRO	[redacted]		
MaryAnn McNair	209E. Navarro Ave	[redacted]		
GARY SHIRLEY	P.O Box 309 GOLDTHWAITE	[redacted]	PROPERTY OWNER	
ED SANDERS	309 CR470 DE LEON	[redacted]		

Citizen Sign-In Sheet

Proposed Improvements to State Highway 6 in De Leon

Public Hearing – Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

De Leon High School Cafeteria

200 W. Manchaca, De Leon, TX 76444

Name	Address	Email Address	Affiliation	How did you hear about the meeting?
David White	824 S Rusk	[redacted]	Bus Driver	Sign
RD Lara	500 S Lamar	[redacted]		News Paper
Grace Ewalt	1151 CR 475	[redacted]		Sign
Chuck Miller	401 W Ayers	[redacted]	school	
T G Reece	DeLeon			
D'Liza Stockman	932 W. Navarro Ave DeLeon, TX 76444			
Matt Stockman	932 W. Navarro DeLeon			
Leanne Pogue	900 E Navarro Ave DeLeon TX 76444		Allsup's	

Citizen Sign-In Sheet

Proposed Improvements to State Highway 6 in De Leon

Public Hearing – Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

De Leon High School Cafeteria

200 W. Manchaca, De Leon, TX 76444

Name	Address	Email Address	Affiliation	How did you hear about the meeting?
Jimmy Johnson	460 SH 16 DeLeon		County Comm #4	
Dean Thompson	241 S. Pittman St.	[redacted]	Public Works Supervisor	
Beth Whitsell	391 CR 473 DeLeon TX 76444	[redacted]	Sugar Pops	Sign on b
Cavin Henderson	900 E Navarro	—	Allsup's	Letter
Patty Gibson	900 E Navarro		Allsup's	Letter
[illegible]	750 CR 452			—
Jeary Leonard	6060 Hy 16 DeLeon, TX			
Judy Lamb	6000 Hwy 16 DeLeon, TX			
Sanjay Patel	418 W. Navarro Ave DeLeon TX		motel	Sign

Citizen Sign-In Sheet

Proposed Improvements to State Highway 6 in De Leon

Public Hearing – Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

De Leon High School Cafeteria

200 W. Manchaca, De Leon, TX 76444

Name	Address	Email Address	Affiliation	How did you hear about the meeting?
Heather Armstrong	709 W. Reynosa DeLeon, TX	[redacted]	City Council n.org	S
Chris Ayers	500 N Moreland DeLeon, TX	[redacted]		Sign
Joe Bennett	741 W. Navarro	[redacted]		
D Denman	125 S Texas	[redacted]	City Admin.	
Jon Awbrey	701 S. Texas	[redacted]	Free Pass/ City Council	

E. Transcript

TxDOT Public Hearing

CSJ 0257-05-045

SH 6 DeLeon

From SH 16 N to East City Limits of DeLeon

September 17, 2019

DeLeon High School, DeLeon, Texas

* -- * -- * -- * -- * -- *

P R O C E E D I N G S

(September 17, 2019, 6:00 p.m..)

MR. SCANTLING: Good evening. My name is Jason Scantling. I'm the Director of Transportation, Planning and Development for the TxDOT Brownwood District. Before we begin tonight, I have one favor to ask. If I can have everyone, please, silence their cell phones to prevent interruptions. We are having a court reporter record all of the minutes of this meeting.

Today is Tuesday, September the 17th, 2019, and the time is six o'clock. On behalf of TxDOT, I would like to thank you for your interest and participation in this public hearing. We would also like to thank DeLeon High School for the use of this facility.

As you entered tonight, you were asked to register at one of our sign-in tables. If you have not already done so, please register before you leave tonight so we have a record of your participation at this public hearing.

Please feel free to view the maps. They will also be available until we adjourn the meeting this evening, and we'll have attendees there to answer questions.

Prior to December 16, 2014, the Federal

Highway Administration, otherwise known as FHWA, reviewed and approved documents prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act, known as NEPA. However, on December 16, 2014, the Texas Department of Transportation, TxDOT, assumed responsibility from FHWA for reviewing and approving certain assigned NEPA environmental documents. This review and approval process applies to the proposed project being presented this evening.

So, before we begin the technical presentation, I would like to welcome and recognize all of the elected officials we have in attendance tonight. We have Mr. Larry Harlin with the DeLeon City Council; Commissioner Jimmy Johnson of Precinct 4; Heather Armstrong with the City Council of DeLeon; Grace Everhart, the County Tax Assessor Collector.

If there are any other elected officials that are here tonight, if you would like to raise your hands, I would be glad to recognize you.

Each of you have been given an opportunity to speak prior to the public comment period, and I will recognize each of those individuals. Thank you.

The notices of this public hearing were advertised in the publications noted on the slide, along with other forms of outreach. The purpose of this

public hearing is to present proposed improvements to State Highway 6 and to receive your comments on the proposed project.

The verbal public comment session will begin following the presentation. We will not answer questions during the presentation or public comment session due to the format of public hearings, but we will be available to answer your questions following the comment session. This official public hearing will adjourn after all verbal comments have been heard.

The proposed project limits along State Highway 6, otherwise known as East Navarro Street, are from State Highway 16 North, to East DeLeon City Limits in Comanche County, a distance of approximately two miles.

The proposed improvements are needed to provide an alternative route when incidents obstruct the roadway and during emergency evacuations, to accommodate traffic capacity during commute periods, and alleviate increasing congestion levels from new and expected growth in the region.

The proposed improvements include upgrading and widening State Highway 6 by converting the existing two-lane roadway with a center turn lane to a four-lane highway with a center turn lane, essentially adding one

additional lane each direction. The project length is approximately two miles and would require approximately 3.04 acres of additional right of way. No displacements of commercial or residential properties are anticipated.

In addition, we want to recognize Chapter 26 of the environmental process. TxDOT is considering a Section 4(f) de minimis impact determination for impacts to the DeLeon Festival Grounds Community Park. Approximately 0.706 acres located along the southern boundary of the park would be required for permanent incorporation into the proposed transportation facility. A Section 4(f) de minimis finding means that the proposed project would not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes that qualify the DeLeon Festival Gardens Community Park for protection under Section 4(f).

As seen in this illustration, the existing roadway consists of two 12-foot travel lanes with 4-foot shoulders and a 14-foot continuous center turn lane. The proposed project would include the addition of a travel lane in each direction, 5-foot sidewalks on each side of the road for the majority of the project length, storm sewer installation, water and wastewater upgrade, and illumination.

The estimated construction cost for the

proposed project would be approximately $10 million. Construction is anticipated to begin in late Summer of 2020 and would take approximately two-and-half years to complete, approximately Winter of 2022.

Now we will highlight some of the environmental considerations. As part of the environmental process, natural, cultural, and social resources are evaluated for potential impacts as a result of the proposed project.

Throughout the environmental process, TxDOT coordinated with many resource agencies, elected officials, and local stakeholders, including all of the entities listed on this slide, as well as the public and special-interest groups.

The proposed project requires property from the Festival Gardens Community Park totalling 0.706 acres. Because this is a designated park and was acquired through funds provided by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, replacement parkland was required. Chapter 26 of the Parks and Wildlife Code requires that a hearing be held to give the public an opportunity to comment. A Section 4(f) de minimis impact determination for impacts to DeLeon Festival Gardens Community Park must also be considered. A Section 4(f) de minimis finding means that the proposed project would not

adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes that qualify the DeLeon Festival Gardens Community Park for protection under Section 4(f).

The replacement parkland was identified on current DeLeon ISD property totalling 1.6 acres. This land has been agreed to be given to the City of DeLeon by the DeLeon ISD as parkland in perpetuity. This area will also function as a detention pond during rain events.

In the next steps of the environmental process, all comments received tonight, as well as written comments received during the comment period, will be included in the official public hearing record and will be addressed in the next phase of the environmental process.

The environmental documents are available for public review after this public hearing at the Texas Department of Transportation Brownwood District Office located at 2495 Highway 183 North, Brownwood, Texas, 76802.

Thank you. At this time we will move to the public comment portion of the hearing.

There are several ways to comment on the proposed project. You may present your comments here tonight for the court reporter. If you would like to

speak for the public record, and have not filled out a speaker card, please raise your hand now. Speakers will be called in the order in which they sign up.

You may also submit your comments in writing. We have provided comment boxes if you choose to leave your completed comment form tonight. Your comment forms may also be mailed or sent electronically to the e-mail address shown here and listed in your handout.

All comments must be submitted and postmarked by Friday, October 4th, 2019.

Both written and verbal comments will be considered equally. If you submit your comments in writing, it is not necessary to repeat your comments verbally. And, we have staff in the audience that have cards available.

I would like to begin the public comment session by introducing our elected officials who wish to comment. Do we have any elected officials who wish to comment at this time?

Okay. There are no elected official speakers.

Let's move on to the public comment period. Do we have any public comments?

MS. RILEY: I have cards and a pen, if

anyone wants to speak.

MR. SCANTLING: So, I will note that there are no proposed comments. And last opportunity. Okay.

MR. AWBREY: I've got a comment. Somebody's got to say something.

MR. SCANTLING: If I could have you come up, please. Okay. Mr. Awbrey, if you would like to come up and make your comments, please.

MR. AWBREY: Do I have to do that up there?

MR. SCANTLING: You don't have to, but I can give you the microphone.

Mr. AWBREY: So, who am I talking to? Am I talking to you or to them?

MR. SCANTLING: Primarily the court reporter.

MR. AWBREY: Okay.

MR. SCANTLING: If you could state your full name, please.

MR. AWBREY: My full name is Jon, J-O-N, Anthony Awbrey. And I represent the City Council of DeLeon, and I also represent the DeLeon Free Press, and I would like to make a comment about the selection of contractors. I think we all remember the contracting that went on with the road to Gorman 12 years ago, and also the same company that was working on the road

outside of Desdemona, going up to Lake Leon, in which there were two traffic facilities on that road while it was going on. So, I would like to express my desire that we have a contractor that is fairly quick and that does a good job, does a safe job, and I do not -- I would not like to see DeLeon hamstrung or choked by, let's just say, an ability to make more money by stringing it out as long as you can possibly string it out. And that is my comment.

MR. SCANTLING: Thank you for your comments.

Is there anyone else who would like to make a comment before we close?

Thank you again for your participation tonight. It is a very important part of the project process. We will now close the hearing. It is exactly 6:16 p.m. and the hearing is adjourned. And we welcome any comments or questions.

(Hearing adjourned at 6:16 p.m..)

* -- * -- * -- * -- * -- * -- *

COURT REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

MEETING OF: Texas Department of Transportation
Brownwood District
Public Meeting SH 6 DeLeon Project

LOCATION: DeLeon ISD, DeLeon, Texas

DATE: September 17, 2019

I, NANNELL S. MOONEY, Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Texas, hereby certify to the following: That the foregoing pages are the true, accurate, and complete transcript of the Public Meeting regarding CSJ 0257-05-045, SH 6 DeLeon, From SH 16 N to East City Limits of DeLeon; produced by computer-assisted transcription, by Nannell S. Mooney, Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 2477.

I further certify that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties in which this proceeding was taken, and further that I am not financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

WITNESS MY HAND this the 26th day of September, A.D. 2019.

/S/ Nannell S. Mooney

NANNELL S. MOONEY, C.S.R 2477
Expiration: April 30, 2021
Official Court Reporter
Brown County Court at Law
200 South Broadway, Suite 208
Brownwood, Texas 76801
Telephone: 325.646.5859
Facsimile: 325.646.5980
Nannell.Mooney@BrownCountyTx.org

F. Comments Recieved

No Written Comments Received

G. Figures

SH 6 from SH 16 N. to East De Leon City Limits

TxDOT Brownwood District is proposing to upgrade and widen SH 6 from SH 16 N. to East De Leon city limits in Comanche County, Texas.

Proposed Project Benefits

- Improve the safety and mobility of SH 6
- Reduce congestion

Proposed Improvement

- Upgrade and widen SH 6 by converting the existing two-lane roadway with a center turn lane to a four-lane highway with a center turn lane

The project length is approximately two miles and would require approximately 3.04 acres of additional right of way. No displacements of commercial or residential properties are anticipated.

Chapter 26 Texas Parks and Wildlife Code and Section 4(f)

The Sept. 17, 2019, Chapter 26 public hearing will discuss the proposed project's potential impacts to 0.706 acres of the De Leon Festival Gardens Community Park. As part of this project, TxDOT is considering a Section 4(f) de minimis impact determination for impacts to the De Leon Festival Gardens Community Park. Approximately 0.706 acres located along the southern boundary of the park would be required for permanent incorporation into the proposed transportation facility. A Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding means that the proposed project would not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes that qualify the De Leon Festival Gardens Community Park for protection under Section 4 (f). The City of De Leon and TxDOT will consider comments received during the environmental process before making a final Section 4(f) *de minimis* determination.

Estimated Timeline

- Public Hearing - Fall 2019
- Finalize Construction Plans once approved – Fall 2019
- Estimated Environmental Clearance - Fall 2019

- Begin right of way acquisition - In Process
- Utility adjustments/relocations - In Process
- Construction contract awarded once approved: Spring 2020
- Construction duration: To be Determined

Get Involved

- Public Hearing - Sept. 17, 2019
- Public Meeting - Dec. 7, 2017
  - Public Meeting Summary Report
- Public Meeting - May 2, 2017
  - Public Meeting Summary Report

Downloads

- Project Location Map

Contact Us

TxDOT Brownwood District
2495 Highway 183 N.
Brownwood, TX 76802

(325) 643-0415
Email

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Project Tracker

Top 100 Congested Roadways

Stimulus Funding

Projects & Studies

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bly appoint a sheriff to fill the source reported.

See Commissioners pg 4

CONSTITUTION WEEK. DeLeon members of the Daughters of the American Revolution Carrie Morris, Rose Taylor, Linda Frank, and Sheri Morgan of the Teha Lanna Chapter, present DeLeon Mayor Terry Scott with a proclamation proclaiming September 17-September 23 Constitution Week in DeLeon.

Vintage Quilt Show

Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

DeLeon Historical Museum on Texas St.

Parker Couch wins pick 'em

Parker Couch won this week's DeLeon Free Press football contest with 12 correct picks, and was closest to the tie-breaker score of 40 points.

Couch won the tie-breaker by three points over second place finished Nathan Tucker, and nine points over third place finisher Taylor Hodges.

Those finishing with 11 correct picks include Andrew Leal, Lana Coker, Terry Hodges, Susan Hodges, Jimmy Davis, Jared Slemmons, Thom Clayton, Philip Frank and Toby Garrison.

Those with 10 correct picks were Don Carruth, Lane Couch, Kyle Coker, Lorie Couch, and Jason Killebrew.

Almost all pickers picked San Saba to defeat Harper and Eastland to beat West,

See Pick'ems page 11

LAST WEEK'S TOP PICKER. Kyle Coker.

THIS WEEK'S TOP PICKER. Parker Couch

Hospital District to reduce taxes three percent

The Comanche County Consolidated Hospital District Board met in a called meeting on Tuesday to debate a proposed tax rate for the upcoming year.

All Board Directors were present, including President Barbara Williams, Vice President Joe Locke, Secretary Gil Gilbert, and directors Marvin McKinnon, Kim Lampman, and George Bingham.

Plainly spoken was the fact that the hospital district and Comanche County Medical Center were experiencing a great wave of recent success.

As a result, the board agreed to propose a lower tax rate than last year, lowering the rate to $0.313937 per $100 valuation, a decrease of about three percent from last year's rate of $0.328050.

"We're in the best fiscal position we've ever been in," said Locke. "Hospital and district revenue has greatly improved, and we're looking for better improvement in future years."

Locke acknowledged that the cost of indigent care had increased, but said that the intergovernmental transfer program that the hospital district has in place would handle that increase.

"I agree with lowering the rate," said hospital CEO Dr. Larry Troxell. "We're really doing well with the way we are developing out affiliations and service areas, and improving the strength of that. We are working in

See CCMC page 8

Citizen takes issue with city tax hike

On Tuesday, the DeLeon City Council held a public hearing for discussion of the proposed tax rate of $0.559046 per $100 valuation, roughly four cents higher than the effective rate of $0.518094.

The proposed rate is also two cents higher than last year's city rate of $0.537016.

See City of DeLeon pg 8

FIREMAN'S HOUSE FALLS VICTIM. This week the DeLeon Volunteer Fire Department was called for mutual assistance twice to Comanche, including one fire at Patino's on U.S. 377 next to Sonic Drive In on Tuesday and another fire on Wednesday at the home of Comanche firefighter Randy Arnold, which resulted in a total loss. A Go Fund Me page has been set up for the Arnolds. Other aid can be dropped off at Sorrells Farms.

TxDOT to Host Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Improvements to State Highway 6

DELEON – The Texas Department of Transportation will host a public hearing at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at the DeLeon High School Cafeteria (200 W. Manchaca Ave., DeLeon, TX 76444) regarding proposed reconstruction of SH 6 from SH 16N to the eastern city limits of DeLeon. The public is invited to attend.

Displays of the proposed improvements will be available for viewing at 5:30 PM and the public hearing will begin at 6:00 PM. During the hearing,

See TxDOT hearing pg 8

Lady Cats defeat Comanche in epic game

The epic rivalry between DeLeon and Comanche had another chapter added to it Tuesday, as the DeLeon varsity Lady Cats volleyball team defeated the Maidens in four hardscrabble point-for-point games in DeLeon, including one in which both teams scored thirty or more points.

Without a doubt, if you haven't been to a Lady Cats volleyball game, it is something you need to see.

Senior Kylea DeLaTorre returned to the Lady Cats this season with a whole big box of new training and skills, which she displayed with authority Tuesday night against Comanche, engaging in a defensive and offensive scoring clinic that generated a half-dozen points or more each time she caught fire during the contest – with most of these points coming when DeLeon needed them the most.

Comanche took an early one game lead against DeLeon, but the Lady Cats struck back in Games two, three, and four, winning each 33-31, 25-23, and 25-23.

Game Two set the tone for the night as DeLeon and Comanche traded point for point early. Trinity Baxter and Grace Price played with lots of hustle at the floor and from the back row to keep break Comanche's hold at the serving line.

See Epic Game pg 5

From:	Andrew Chisholm
To:	Julie Beaubien; Dan Hohmann; Jason Scantling; Christina Sheedy; Elsa Laing; Taina Bonilla; William McNew; Robert Cochrane; David Denman; JoAnn Templeton; Jordan Perry; Lisa Tipton; Melinda K. Harbor (mkharbour@cityofdeleon.org); Nowlin, Liesa; cmiller@deleonisd.net; Laura Riley
Cc:	Kevin Crim; Diana Myers
Subject:	Public Hearing - SH 6 De Leon 0257-05-045
Start:	Tuesday, September 17, 2019 5:30:00 PM
End:	Tuesday, September 17, 2019 7:00:00 PM
Location:	200 W. Manchaca, De Leon, TX 76444

We will begin receiving the public to look at plans, etc. beginning at ~5:30PM and the Public Hearing will be begin at 6PM and include a formal presentation including powerpoint. Please forward to others needing to attend who may not be included in this invite.

DE LEON HIGH SCHOOL

CAFETERIA

200 W MANCHACA

DE LEON, TX 76444

From: Lisa Tipton
To: Andrew Chisholm
Subject: Tweet and Press Release sent
Date: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 4:53:23 PM

Andrew,

FYI so you can add to your documentation of publicity: I sent out the press release on the public hearing in DeLeon Friday after lunch. I just tweeted a message with a link for more information.

Let me know if there is anything further I can do to help prepare for the hearing.

Thanks,

Lisa Tipton
Public Information Officer
Texas Department of Transportation
2495 Highway 183 North
Brownwood, Texas 76802
325-643-0413
Lisa.Tipton@txdot.gov

From:	Amy Rose
To:	Andrew Chisholm
Cc:	Jason Scantling; Julie Beaubien; Kenneth Rea; Rafael Bejar; Robert Cochrane
Subject:	RE: Message Board - De Leon
Date:	Monday, September 09, 2019 7:52:59 AM
Attachments:	image001.jpg

Andrew,

Below message has just been placed on both PCMS boards.

From: Andrew Chisholm
Sent: Tuesday, September 03, 2019 9:02 AM
To: Kenneth Rea; Rafael Bejar
Cc: Amy Rose; Jason Scantling; Julie Beaubien
Subject: Message Board - De Leon

Ken,
As we discussed previously, would you please set out the board or boards in De Leon on SH 6 beginning next Monday or Tuesday preferably at SH 6 and SH 16 S. if only one is available? If two are available you might place one at each of the SH 16 intersections.

Amy and I discussed the following to be programmed on the message boards:

SH 6
PBLC MTG
9/17

DELEON
HIGH SCL
5:30 PM

Thanks you for setting this up!

Regards,

Andrew C. Chisholm
District Environmental Coordinator
Office: 325-643-0442
Brownwood District

Description: cid:RBUQUNFTOZLJ.IMAGE_26.bmp

Board to issue additional general obligation bonds, in an amount that does not exceed $200 million, for the economically distressed areas program. These bonds can only be used to provide financing for the development of water supply and sewer service projects in those economically distressed areas as defined by law.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of additional general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board in an amount not to exceed $200 million to provide financial assistance for the development of certain projects in economically distressed areas."**

Proposition Number 3
(HJR 34)

HJR 34 proposes a constitutional amendment allowing the legislature to temporarily exempt from ad valorem taxation a portion of certain property located in an area covered by a disaster declaration of the governor. The proposed amendment would allow the legislature to prescribe the method of determining the amount of the tax exemption and the duration of the exemption and also would allow the legislature to create any additional eligibility requirements for the tax exemption.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for a temporary exemption from ad valorem taxation of a portion of the appraised value of certain property damaged by a disaster."**

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment dedicating the revenue received from the existing state sales and use taxes that are imposed on sporting goods to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Historical Commission to protect Texas' natural areas, water quality, and history by acquiring, managing, and improving state and local parks and historic sites while not increasing the rate of the state sales and use taxes."**

Proposition Number 6
(HJR 12)

HJR 12 proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to increase the maximum bond amount for the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) from

$3 billion to $6 billion to be issued by the Texas Public Finance Authority. CPRIT was created in 2007 to promote and fund cancer research in Texas. CPRIT uses bond proceeds to award grants for cancer research and prevention.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to increase by $3 billion the maximum bond amount authorized for the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas."**

Proposition Number 7
(HJR 151)

HJR 151 proposes a constitutional amendment allowing increased distributions from $300 million per year to $600 million per year to the available school fund and also allowing the State Board of Education, the General Land Office, and other entities that manage revenue from land or other properties held in the permanent school fund to dis-

financing of drainage, flood mitigation, and flood control projects."

Proposition Number 9
(HJR 95)

HJR 95 proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to create a property tax exemption for precious metal held in a precious metal depository located in this state.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation precious metal held in a precious metal depository located in this state."**

Proposition Number 10
(SJR 32)

SJR 32 proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to allow a state agency or political subdivision to transfer a law enforcement animal to the animal's handler or another qualified caretaker in certain circumstances. Currently, the Texas Constitution prevents the transfer of certain public property, such as law enforcement animals, to a private person or organization at no cost. This amendment authorizes the legislature to allow the transfer of a law enforcement animal to the animal's handler or another qualified caretaker at no cost, upon the animal's retirement or at another time if the transfer is determined to be in the animal's best interest.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment to allow the transfer of a law enforcement animal to a qualified caretaker in certain circumstances."**

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hiring a fourth officer, who is currently attending the police academy "on the city's dime."

Councilman Buddy Welch and Mayor Terry Scott both indicated that the current police vehicles, two of which are now six years old, had an untold number of hours of idling time on them, which, added City Works Supervisor Dean Thompson, is the most destructive type of use on a vehicle.

The vehicles, Scott said, interest with taxpayer money. There are hidden costs associated with that. There are also other hidden costs when you keep substandard equipment, costs when officers leave because of worn-out equipment, then costs in paying overtime to those that stay, and pretty soon a new police car is much cheaper in comparison."

"What happens when the old vehicles go out before you replace them?" Grisham asked.

raising taxes. She reported the reduction of the city's nest egg over the years as an example. However, she added, the current council was mostly too new to be blamed for that.

With nothing else to discuss, the council adjourned until their next scheduled meeting, which was scheduled for the following Monday night.

TxDOT Hearing

From page 1

the planned improvements will be presented and public comment on the proposed project will be received. Plans include upgrading and widening SH 6 by converting the existing two-lane roadway with a center turn lane to a four-lane highway with a center turn lane. The project length is approximately two miles and would require approximately 3.04 acres of additional right-of-way. The existing and proposed right-of-way width varies between 80' and 120'. No displacements of commercial or residential properties are anticipated. The purpose of the project is to improve safety and reduce congestion.

The public hearing will be held in accordance with Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. At the public hearing, all interested persons have the right to appear, and be heard on the using or taking of public land designated and used as parkland, consisting of approximately 0.706 acres of land, situated in the De Leon Festival Gardens Community Park in the City of De Leon in Comanche County, Texas.

Maps showing the project will be displayed at the public hearing and on the TxDOT website at: www.txdot.gov and then Search: SH 6 Comanche County. Environmental documentation for the project will also be available for inspection at the hearing. This information will also be available Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Brownwood District Office, 2495 Highway 183 North in Brownwood.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented at the hearing or submitted in person or by mail to Jason Scantling, P.E. at 2495 Highway 183 North, Brownwood, Texas 76802, by email to jason.scantling@txdot.gov or submitted online. Comments must be received on or before Friday, Oct. 4, 2019. If you have general questions or concerns regarding the project, please contact Jason Scantling.

The public hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending who have special communication or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Lisa Tipton, TxDOT Brownwood District Public Information Officer, at (325) 643-0413. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the public hearing. The De Leon High School Cafeteria is wheelchair accessible.

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 Dec.16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

For media inquiries, contact TxDOT Brownwood District's Public Information Officer at Lisa.Tipton@txdot.gov or (325) 643-0413.

EXIT
EXIT

Proposed Improvements

- Upgrade and widen SH 6 by converting the existing two-lane roadway with a center turn lane to a four-lane highway with a center turn lane
- Project length is approximately two miles requires approximately 3.04 acres of additional right of way; no displacements of commercial or residential properties are anticipated

e)

September 17, 2019