

**DFW Connector CDA
Design Build Project**

**Public Hearing
For
Disclosure of Financial Information**

**SH 114 FROM BUSINESS 114L (NORTHWEST HIGHWAY)
TO INTERNATIONAL PARKWAY AND
SH 121 FROM SH 360 TO FM 2499
CSJs: 0353-03-059, 0353-03-079, 0364-01-072,
0364-01-112, 0364-01-113 and 0364-01-115**

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS / RECOMMENDATIONS

**DFW Connector CDA
Design Build Project**

Public Hearing for Disclosure of Financial Information

Summary and Analysis/Recommendations

**SH 114 from Bus 114L (Northwest Highway) to International Parkway and
SH 121 from SH 360 to FM 2499**

District/County: Fort Worth/Tarrant County and Dallas/Dallas County

CSJ: 0353-03-059, 0353-03-079, 0364-01-072, 0364-01-112, 0364-01-113,
0364-01-115

Public Hearing: The purpose of the two public hearings was to provide disclosure of financial information regarding the construction project to be delivered through the DFW Connector comprehensive development agreement (CDA). The DFW Connector project includes the corridors of SH 114 from SH 114L Business to east of International Parkway and SH 121 from FM 2499 to SH 360. The project also includes limited improvements for connectivity along IH 635, SH 26, FM 1709 and FM 2499. Managed lanes are also included along SH 114 from east of FM 1709 to east of International Parkway. The hearing provided financial information and an opportunity for public comments regarding: project financing, duration of tolling, method for setting toll rates, competing facilities, termination for convenience, toll rates, and methodology for increasing toll rates.

Proposed Improvements: The Facility will reconstruct the existing corridors of SH 114 and SH 121, add two tolled managed lanes in each direction on SH 114, provide connectivity to SH 26, IH-635, FM 1709 and FM 2499, improve frontage roads and add auxiliary lanes along the corridors. The proposed improvements for the DFW Connector at SH 114 and SH 121 are concurrent and include six main lanes eastbound and seven main lanes westbound and the addition of two managed express lanes in each direction with improvements to SH 114 and SH 121 to tie to existing lanes on each end.

Need and Purpose of the Project: Transportation improvements are needed to the DFW Connector to address current and projected traffic demands and facility deficiencies. The traffic demand on the DFW Connector results from many causes including high population growth, proximity to employment centers, lack of sufficient alternative routes, and high use of single occupancy vehicle users. There are insufficient lanes to carry the existing and projected traffic demand. The high traffic volumes on the highway result in many effects, including slow travel speeds and extended hours of congestion, increased accidents, and increased air emissions.

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve mobility throughout the corridor to relieve existing traffic congestion, improve local traffic circulation, enhance overall traffic safety, and accommodate future travel demand.

Environmental Document Approval: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved the environmental assessment and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact

(FONSI) for SH 114/SH 121 on April 23, 2009. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) also approved the environmental assessment and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for SH 114/SH 121 on April 23, 2009.

Notices and Articles: The notices of the DFW Connector's Public Hearings and the disclosure of financial information were published in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Dallas Morning News on Wednesday, May 20, 2009; Sunday, May 24, 2009; and Monday, May 25, 2009. The notices and disclosure were also published in the Austin American Statesman on Thursday, May 21, 2009; Sunday, May 24, 2009; and Monday, May 25, 2009 and the Coppell Gazette on Wednesday, May 20, 2009; and Wednesday, May 27, 2009. In addition, Spanish versions of the notices and disclosure were published in La Semana on Friday, May 22, 2009 and in Al Dia on Saturday, May 23, 2009.

Public Hearings Dates and Places: The two public hearings were held on May 26, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., at the DFW Airport Marriott South, 4151 Centreport Boulevard, Fort Worth, TX 76155 and on May 26, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., at Ramada Dallas Love Field, 1575 Regal Row, Dallas, TX 75247.

Attendance: Approximately 35 people attended the public hearing in Fort Worth. Of these, approximately 10 were private citizens. The remaining attendees were from TxDOT, the design consultants, elected officials, city and county representatives, media representatives, and other interested parties.

Approximately 12 people attended the public hearing in Dallas. Of these, one was a private citizen. The remaining attendees were from TxDOT, the design consultants, elected officials, city and county representatives, media representatives, and other interested parties.

Conducted by: Ms. Maribel Chavez, District Engineer, and Mr. Brian Barth, Deputy District Engineer, both for the TxDOT Fort Worth District, presented and explained the public hearing process and the details regarding project financing, duration of tolling, method for setting toll rates, competing facilities, termination for convenience, toll rates, methodology for increasing toll rates, and concession payments at the public hearings in Fort Worth and Dallas, respectively.

Exhibits: Plans illustrating the proposed project Schematics and copies of the DFW Connector CDA Contract Documents were made available at the public hearing site, online at TxDOT's web page, and at TxDOT's Fort Worth District office for public viewing and comments.

Comments from Elected / Public Officials:

Verbal:

One comment was received at the public hearing in Fort Worth. Mr. Gary Fickes, County Commissioner of Precinct 3 in Tarrant County, expressed appreciation to Maribel Chavez and TxDOT and support for the project. No elected/public officials provided verbal comments at the public hearing in Dallas.

Written:

One written comment was received from Mr. Jeffrey P. Fegan, Chief Executive Officer of the DFW Airport, concerning specific deferred improvements from the ultimate configuration. Mr. Fegan asked that TxDOT remain diligent in seeking funding for the entire project so that these deferred improvements could be constructed at a later date.

Comments from the Public:

Verbal:

No verbal comments were received from the public at the public hearings in Fort Worth or Dallas.

Written:

One comment was received from Mr. Shelton Weeks of the Inland Western Retail Real Estate Trust, Inc. requesting to be added to any mailing lists for the project.

Summary of Major Comments/Issues that were Addressed:

The lone verbal comment submitted indicated support for the proposed project and a desire for the project to proceed quickly.

TxDOT Response to Public Hearing Comments

TxDOT will continue development of the project and update the project's mailing list of impacted property owners and interested parties.

Recommendation: After review of the comments received during the public involvement phase, TxDOT will continue to work with the local municipalities and property owners during the design and construction phases of the project.