
FM 150 West Character Plan Citizens Advisory Panel Meeting Notes

Date: August 19, 2015
Time: 5:00 PM
Subject: CAP Meeting 7
Location: Driftwood Community Center
Present: Hays County: Commissioner Conley and Commissioner Whisenant

CAP Members: David Braun, Casey Cutler, Shelby Eckols, Sharon Michaelis, Mark and Lisa Oechsner, Maile Roberts, and Judge Bob Shannon

Project Team: Joe Cantalupo, Joe Skidmore and Greg Blackburn with K Friese & Associates; John Kuhl and Julie LeClaire with Hicks Environmental; Paula Gruber with PSI; Stephanie Russell with HNTB; Arin Gray, Julie Richey and Albert Castro with CD&P; Brian Ray and Kelly Laustsen with Kittelson & Associates

Public members that signed in: Jeanne Merritt, Kathy Nickel, Lynne Hamlin, Dale Caudill, David and Jan Carlson, Jack and Carolyn Puryear, Emily Torgenson, Julia Schulze, Roy Nolan, Jerry Allen, Alma and Gordon King, Pier King, Anthony Tilford, Evie Martin, Randy and Judy Daugherty, Erwin Wernli, Debbie Tilford, Roger and Pat Seiders, George Cofer, Linda Yarbrough, Steve Yarbrough, Kathleen Kahil, Scott Krippel, Travis Tindol, Mark Brough, Robin Garrison, Melodie King, Sherman Eckols, John Jones, Nancy and Jim Marroquin, Kelley Brough, Laura Tansey, and Clifford Hall

Meeting Summary

There was a large audience of members of the public so Joe Cantalupo began the meeting with an overview of the public and CAP process. He noted the project team has been working with, and listening to, the CAP and tonight is where we are working to identify solutions. He gave a brief overview of the schedule and process for tonight.

Joe Skidmore gave a big picture overview of concepts that have come out of the past few meetings. He noted the following are not solutions at this point, but big picture concepts:

- A connection from FM 967 to FM 150 through Rutherford Ranch
- A road that bypasses Driftwood and the low water crossings – which drew focus to needed improvements on FM 1826

- Also looking at regional connectivity
- Improvements on 967
- Possible extension of 1826 to Elder Hill Road

Initial Question and Answer Session

- Is there another option that would do away with an extension of FM 1826 through to Elder Hill Road?
 - We have not identified one at this time
- When will we discuss FM 150 north of 1826? It is a very complicated stretch
 - We will work through this section in detail at the work session tomorrow night
- The piece from Elder Hill goes through clients home to in front of a very nice secluded neighborhood. When do you make that decision?
 - We are not putting exact lines on maps, but big 50,000 foot views of what is needed. It is unnerving, but we have a long way to go before we look closely at lines.
 - Anyway roadway design process will include involvement with property owners

Work session

Joe Skidmore led a work session where he reviewed several maps and potential concepts for improving safety and increasing mobility along FM 150 and in Hays County. These concepts and maps included looking at Heritage Trail bypass concepts. Attendees discussed with the project team potential concepts presented for the following sections of the corridor:

- From FM 3237 to FM 967 to FM 1826
- From just south of and around the double low water crossings and around Driftwood
- The extension of FM 1826 to Elder Hill Road

Action Items:

1. Note public member Chris Dietz owns property along CR 170
2. Bring TxDOT ROW Map to September CAP meeting

FM 150 West Character Plan Citizens Advisory Panel Meeting Notes

Date: August 20, 2015

Time: 5:00 PM

Subject: CAP Meeting 7

Location: Driftwood Community Center

Present: Hays County: Commissioner Conley and Commissioner Whisenant

CAP Members: David Braun, Casey Cutler, Dennis Dement, Shelby Eckols, Sharon Michaelis, Mark and Lisa Oechsner, Maile Roberts, and Judge Bob Shannon

Project Team: Joe Cantalupo, Joe Skidmore, Greg Blackburn, and Dan Cryan with K Friese & Associates; John Kuhl and Julie LeClaire with Hicks Environmental; Paula Gruber with PSI; Laura Harris and Stephanie Russell with HNTB; Julie Richey and Albert Castro with CD&P; Brian Ray and Kelly Laustsen with Kittelson & Associates

Public members that signed in: Patti and Dale Caudill, Kathy Nickel, Nica Eckols, Don Boose, Scott Roberts, and Jerry Allen

Meeting Summary

Joe Cantalupo began the meeting with a short recap of the meeting held the previous night. He gave a brief overview of the process for tonight and the schedule for the remainder of the calendar year.

Presentation Highlights

Kelly Laustsen gave a presentation on the work and concepts that the project team has collected thus far. She discussed in more detail the outline of the information that will be included in the final report for Phase 1. She then gave an overview of the corridor including potential opportunities, conclusions, and next steps. Kelly reviewed context zones and how they are used to identify potential improvements along FM 150. She noted the findings of the speed profile assessment done on FM 150 and noted the variation in the inferred speed along the corridor shows opportunities where smoothing out curves can be made to improve safety performance. Lastly, she reviewed the existing corridor cross section, as well as, potential improvements to increase safety.

Brian Ray continued the presentation where he reviewed several maps and potential concepts for improving safety and increasing mobility along specific sections of FM 150. These concepts and

maps included looking at FM 150:

- From FM 3237 to Arroyo Ranch
 - Potential improvements along this context zone include shoulder widening, curve smoothing and future cross-section
 - Potential improvements to the FM 150 and FM 3237 intersection include a roundabout or traffic signal
- From FM 1826 to FM 3237
 - Potential improvements around the double low water crossing context zone include shoulder widening, curve smoothing, and upgrades to the crossing itself
 - Potential improvements in the Driftwood context zone include shoulder widening and curve smoothing
 - Potential improvements at the FM 1826 and FM 150 intersection include a roundabout or traffic signal
- From RR 12 to FM 1826
 - Potential improvements include shoulder widening and curve smoothing
 - Potential improvements for the FM 150 and RR 12 intersection include a traffic signal or roundabout

Brian then concluded the meeting with a recap of what we have identified and developed, as well as, what will happen next.

Summary of Discussion and Questions

During the presentation CAP members and attendees discussed the options presented and asked questions regarding the potential improvements. Below is a summary of the questions and answers given.

- A CAP member asked if truck traffic can be limited by tonnage on FM 150
 - Minimum criteria must be met in order to meet the requirements set by the state
- A CAP member asked if the variation in inferred speed along the current roadway calculated mathematically or by interpretation
 - This data has been calculated mathematically
- A CAP member asked if additional curves could be added along the corridor to slow traffic
 - Reconstructing a tangent section to add curves is expensive and not something that is typically done.
 - Potential cross sections changes that widen the roadway shoulder would improve safety performance.
- CAP members noted Intersection of FM 150 and FM 3237 should not be considered a community zone
- A CAP member asked if a new crossing at the double low water crossing would be built
 - There is a wide range of options for improvements this is one of them
 - A CAP member noted that flooding at the crossing does not happen very often
- CAP members noted there is no interest for improvements in the Driftwood Community Zone
- A member of the public asked if a roundabout at the intersection of FM 1826 and FM 150, could handle the projected traffic
 - Yes, a roundabout would handle projected traffic counts

- Some members of the public noted a preference for a roundabout versus a traffic signal for this intersection and they would like to see examples of roundabouts in rural areas
- Members of the public noted improvements needed at the FM 150 and Darden Hill intersection
- A public member asked when all of these options for improvements would be considered
 - During Phase 2 of the process
- CAP members noted they would like more time viewing options for the RR 12 and FM 150 intersection; hesitant about a roundabout at this intersection

Action Items:

1. Email presentation to CAP members
2. CAP members would like to view examples of rural roundabout