

Appendix H – Public Comments

Transcript of Public Hearing – February 3, 2010

Speaker: Tommy Brashier

Address: 900 N. Valley Mills Dr

City: Waco

Comments: The purpose of this thing has not been made clear. There was an accident on Valley Mills Dr 4 years ago but those pedestrians were jaywalking. Need to use the money to build sidewalks on Valley Mills and crosswalks. Police patrols are needed in the area to reduce speed, especially at night. The growth on Valley Mills was a result of commerce. All we have to do is go back to 1967, where the City of Waco adopted urban Renewal – killed pedestrian traffic and businesses moved to Valley Mills Drive.

Speaker: Stephanie Lambring

Address: 824 Horseshoe Dr

City: Beverly Hills

Comments: I've been a resident of Beverly Hills since 1958. I do business up and down Valley Mills Dr and Hewitt Dr and putting in a median on Valley Mills Dr really is not feasible and will do no good. The traffic study needs to be directed to speed on VMD. I agree with Mr. Brashear regarding pedestrian crosswalks. The only sidewalk on VMD is in front of the CVS Pharmacy on Valley Mills Dr. Hewitt Dr is much the same thing. I witnessed a traffic accident in front of Goodwill – once again, speed was the issue, not a median.

Speaker: Andy Sheehy

Address: 6700 Sanger Ave

City: Waco

Comments: I'm representing ReMAX realty speak specifically regarding the proposed medians on Valley Mills Dr and Hewitt Dr. Restricting traffic in front of a business will reduce the appraisal of the building. This is a bad long-term policy. Don't even give a committee the power to study this. Strongly urge you just to drop this. I think it's a bad idea all the way through.

Speaker: Dale Mathews

Address: 1106 S. Valley Mills Dr

City: Beverly Hills

Comments: I own Champion Fast Lube and Car Wash. I agree with the previous comments on Valley Mills Drive. I suggest the study be made available to the merchants so that we have a chance to meet and prepare for the next meeting.

Speaker: John Wessler

Address: 6801 Sanger Ave, Suite 180

City: Waco

Comments: I own a business on Sanger, if you put in a median, this will give pedestrians a safe-haven which will encourage pedestrians to cross. Second thing I see is you have less space

for cars to go, which will start discussions about widening Valley Mills Dr. We need to focus on alternative safety.

Speaker: Daniel Palmer
Address: 510 N. Valley Mills Dr, Suite 600
City: Waco
Comments: I'm an attorney from Haley & Olson speaking on behalf of Bush's Chicken & Schlotsky's. I strongly recommend that the Board follow the staff's recommendation to do the study and not priority #3.

Speaker: Kyle Nielsen
Address: 916 N. Valley Mills Dr
City: Waco
Comments: I own Genie Carwash. I agree with what has been said, I drive up and down Valley Mills to the Bank down towards Cobbs. The median on Valley Mills Dr causes more problems; the existing median does nothing to solve the problems. I am adamantly opposed to the medians on both Valley Mills Dr and Hewitt Dr. Lets take some time to look at speed. In 15 years on Valley Mills, we have had 1.2 million cars pull out of Genie Car Wash. That's a lot of cars going both ways. I would like to recommend that you take some time and really think about this.

Speaker: Wes Shriber
Address:
City: Waco
Comments: I have interests on both Hewitt Dr & Valley Mills Dr. I wondered about how you are going to put a median on a 6 lane highway. You're going to have to close some lanes. Valley Mills into Beverly Hills, you're going to lose all your left hands turns. Speed is the problem. The Traffic is absolutely absurd, reduce the speed limit to 30 mph.

Received from: Waco City Secretary's Office

Caller:

Joyce White

Keep valley mills the way it is

Suggested contact Longview, TX about their exp. re: medians

Dear Chris Evilla and members of the Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization,

I respectfully object to building of traffic medians on Valley Mills Drive. I'm sure there are valid reasons for supporting such a move, I think they are heavily outweighed by the disruption of commerce this will cause on Waco's number-one commercial street. The end result would be that of turning Valley Mills Drive into a one-way street, as far as accessing businesses is concerned.

I would respectfully request an opportunity to address your group at the 2 p. m. meeting on Wednesday, if possible. I will keep my comments brief and directly to the point.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tommy Brashier
Tommy B's
900 N. Valley Mills Drive
Waco, Texas 76712
254.717.3333

Visitor contact from the Waco-Texas.com web site

Name: Skip Londos

Address:

City:

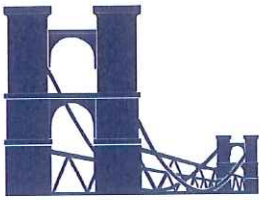
State:

Phone: 254-776-1572

Email: slondos@aol.com

Message:

Just a quick note to make Chris Evilia and city staff aware that I fully support MPO plan to create raised medians on Valley Mills Drive. This will make that stretch Waco safer for pedestrians and more aesthetically pleasing. I hope the city will also consider lowering the speed limit on Valley Mills -- 40 MPH is much too fast to permit safe and comfortable pedestrian activity.



Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization

Proposed Priorities to the 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Your Name: Bianca Valentine
Address: 800 Lewis St.
Waco, Texas 76705

The Waco Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) outlines the transportation needs for the metropolitan area through the year 2035 and the projects required to address those needs. Recommended priorities within the MTP must be constrained to a realistic estimate of future revenues. The MTP is updated every 5 years. The MPO has identified fiscally constrained transportation priorities to address the regional transportation needs and is soliciting public comment regarding these priorities.

All comments will be presented to the MPO Policy Board and given full consideration prior to adoption. You may return this form by mailing it to the address on the back, faxing it to (254) 750-1605 or e-mailing us at mpo@ci.waco.tx.us. Comments must be received by February 1, 2010 to be included as part of the official record. **Thank you for your participation.**

(To mail, please fold in half with this page on the inside and affix a postage stamp. The postal service will not deliver without proper postage. Please tape closed, do not staple.)

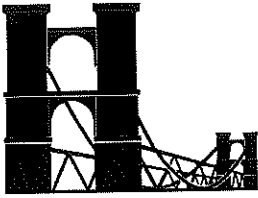
General Comments, Concerns or Suggestions:

- x - ^{gas} 12¢ tax increase
- x - 25% increase in vehicle registration fees
- Eliminate 75% of State gas tax diversions
- x - 3¢ gas tax
- x - \$10 vehicle registration fee

These are small monetary inconveniences compared to:

- not having adequate roads to drive on.
- losing lives on overly congested roads (China Spring Rd)
- NO pedestrian crosswalks on Valley Mills Dr.

Widen I-35! Widen China Spring Rd! Add a landscaped median on Valley Mills Dr!



Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization

Proposed Priorities to the 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Your Name: Roy Walthall
Address: 1936 Post Oak
WACO, TEXAS 76705

The Waco Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) outlines the transportation needs for the metropolitan area through the year 2035 and the projects required to address those needs. Recommended priorities within the MTP must be constrained to a realistic estimate of future revenues. The MTP is updated every 5 years. The MPO has identified fiscally constrained transportation priorities to address the regional transportation needs and is soliciting public comment regarding these priorities.

All comments will be presented to the MPO Policy Board and given full consideration prior to adoption. You may return this form by mailing it to the address on the back, faxing it to (254) 750-1605 or e-mailing us at mpo@ci.waco.tx.us. Comments must be received by February 1, 2010 to be included as part of the official record. **Thank you for your participation.**

(To mail, please fold in half with this page on the inside and affix a postage stamp. The postal service will not deliver without proper postage. Please tape closed, do not staple.)

General Comments, Concerns or Suggestions:

ENCOURAGE AMTRAK TO REROUTE THEIR NEW DAILY "TEXAS EAST" (CHICAGO - LOS ANGELES TRAIN) WHICH IS TO BEGIN SERVICE BEFORE SUMMER, TO COME THROUGH WACO. IT WOULD BOTH SAVE TIME, FUEL, AND DISTANCE FOR AMTRAK PLUS PROVIDE MORE PASSENGERS (AS MCGREGOR SCORED THE HIGHEST PERCENT INCREASES IN PASSENGERS IN BOTH 2008 AND 2009) AND ALL OF THAT IS WACO ORIENTED. IF AMTRAK CAN NOT SEE FIT TO COME TO WACO (AT OUR INTERMODAL CENTER) THEN FROM THAT CENTER THE WACO MPO NEEDS TO PROVIDE DAILY BUS SERVICE TO MCGREGOR FROM FT. HOOD TO WACO TO COINCIDE WITH THE TWO NEW TIMES THAT AMTRAK COMES TO MCGREGOR.



Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization

Proposed Priorities to the 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Your Name:

Bob + Janice Gillen

Address:

1305 Windstone Dr.
Waco TX 76712

The Waco Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) outlines the transportation needs for the metropolitan area through the year 2035 and the projects required to address those needs. Recommended priorities within the MTP must be constrained to a realistic estimate of future revenues. The MTP is updated every 5 years. The MPO has identified fiscally constrained transportation priorities to address the regional transportation needs and is soliciting public comment regarding these priorities.

All comments will be presented to the MPO Policy Board and given full consideration prior to adoption. You may return this form by mailing it to the address on the back, faxing it to (254) 750-1605 or e-mailing us at mpo@ci.waco.tx.us. Comments must be received by February 1, 2010 to be included as part of the official record. **Thank you for your participation.**

(To mail, please fold in half with this page on the inside and affix a postage stamp. The postal service will not deliver without proper postage. Please tape closed, do not staple.)

General Comments, Concerns or Suggestions:

It is our concern that placing medians down the middle of Valley Mills + Hewitt drive to make it safer will create more wrecks from people making U turns. If you do this for people being hit crossing the roads it is against the law to cross where there is not a light so you are telling them to break the law. We feel the money spent on this could be used to resurface the streets in Waco which are in terrible shape. If you insist on the medians please landscape them. Waco does very little to improve its image to attract business. Austin Ave looks terrible. 11 cars have been totaled from the circles. AND had been instead of concrete if something had been placed in the middle you would see them.



January 19, 2010
Waco Transit Administration Center

Visitor Sign In Public Comment Period

2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Name	Address	Zip Code
Kurt Lockman	Pop Anderson	
Mark Smith	601 Franklin	76701
Roy Walthall	1936 Post Oak Dr. WACO	76705
B.ice WINTOGER	922 Fuld	79605
MICHAEL SHAPIRO	900 Franklin	76701
JOHN L. HENDERICKSON	301 S. 8 TH STREET SUITE 100	76701
Jack Stewart	600 Arist - Ave Suite 29	76701
Ed Kabobel	Tx DOT	76504
GREG MALATEK	TX DOT	76504
WALTER REEVES	City of McGregor	76657
Steve White	171 Dove Hill China Spring	76633



January 21, 2010
Lacy-Lakeview Community Center

Visitor Sign In Public Comment Period 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Name	Address	Zip Code
Doreen Plott	5608 Boquey Ln	76708
KARAN SOBE	P.O. Box 20006	76702
Ed Kabobel	TxDOT	76704



January 25, 2010
Hewitt Community Center

Visitor Sign In Public Comment Period

2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Name	Address	Zip Code
Janice Sellen	1305 Wundstone Dr	76712
Paul Holroyd, Jr	1116 Ridgeview Dr	76643
Ray MEADOWS	25 Pointview	76710
Gladyshotson	3705 Tview	76707
Nancy Cagle	4017 Meadow Brook Rd	76710
Ed Kabobel	TxDOT	76704
Adam Miles	Hewitt City Hall	76643



January 26, 2010
City of Waco Multipurpose Center

Visitor Sign In Public Comment Period 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Name	Address	Zip Code
Kurt Krakavica	701 Anderson	
Duane Hoxworth	1201 N. I-35	76705
Sadie Harper	1301 Sherman	76704
Joe Wilson	920 Lanoy	799-4408
KEVIN WILSON	P.O. Box 155166	76715
Dalton Gooden	604 Dearborn	76704



Visitor Sign In Public Comment Period 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Name	Address	Zip Code
Ed Kabobel	TxDOT	76704
Larry Knapke	The West News	76691
Gene Lednicki	NEEL ASSOC	76705
B D Pierce	PO Box 26 WEST TX	76651
Jim Jaska	P.O. Box 24 Ross, Texas	76684
Rick Jaska	P.O. Box 16 Ross, TX.	76684