

TxDOT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in cooperation with the City of Grand Prairie will conduct a Public Hearing for the proposed widening and extension of Lake Ridge Parkway from south of Great Southwest Parkway/High Hawk Boulevard to Interstate Highway (IH) 20 in Grand Prairie, Texas in both Tarrant and Dallas Counties. The purpose of the Hearing is to discuss the social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed roadway improvements within this approximate two-mile section of Lake Ridge Parkway. The Hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 10, 2007 at West Elementary School, 2911 Kingswood Boulevard, Grand Prairie, Texas 75052. Prior to the Public Hearing, an Open House will be held from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., to allow for questions and review of project exhibits. TxDOT staff will be available to answer questions during the Open House. The Public Hearing will begin with a formal presentation at 7:00 p.m., followed by a public comment period.

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide transportation improvements to enhance the regional transportation system by improving mobility on Lake Ridge Parkway and by improving the connectivity with roadways in the southern Dallas-Fort Worth Region. The proposed project is located within the City of Grand Prairie and in both Tarrant and Dallas Counties. Roadway improvements would be built along the existing road alignment and on new location. The existing facility (Lake Ridge Parkway) is a four-lane (two in each direction) divided urban roadway from south of Great Southwest Parkway/High Hawk Boulevard to north of Polo Road. Lake Ridge Parkway currently ends north of Polo Road. The proposed project would modify the existing Lake Ridge Parkway to a six-lane (three in each direction) divided urban curb and gutter roadway with left-turn lanes at various intersections. Lake Ridge Parkway would also be extended as a new location six-lane divided urban roadway from north of Polo Road, continuing in a northeastern direction, eventually utilizing Dorothy Road as the connecting point to the south frontage road of IH 20. The new location extension of Lake Ridge Parkway would result in minor changes to the existing street network. This includes the removal of a short section of Matthew Road such that Matthew Road would terminate in a cul-de-sac on the north side of Fish Creek. Also, Matthew Road would be realigned on the south side of the proposed Lake Ridge Parkway. As a result of this realignment a new local circulator roadway would be provided to connect Sandalwood Road and Bent Tree Trail to the new alignment of Matthew Road. Finally, Vineyard Road, Vicky Lane, and Ernie Lane would be closed to through traffic with the construction of a cul-de-sac for each roadway on the west side of the proposed Lake Ridge Parkway.

The right-of-way width for the existing roadway is typically 100 feet. The typical right-of-way width for the proposed project would range from 120 feet to 144 feet. This would require the acquisition of approximately 25.1 acres of additional right-of-way and would require five residential relocations and no commercial displacements. Some proposed improvements would occur within the floodplain; however, the proposed improvements would not increase the base flood elevation to a level which would violate applicable floodplain regulations or ordinances.

The environmental document, maps, and drawings reflecting the project's location and geometric design will be displayed at the Public Hearing. This and other information about the proposed project are available for public inspection and duplication at the following locations: Dallas District Office located at 4777 East Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150; TxDOT Dallas Southwest Area Office located at 1424 High Meadows Way, Cedar Hill, Texas 75104; and the City of Grand Prairie Development Center, 206 West Church Street, Grand Prairie, Texas 75050. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displaces; as well as, information about the tentative schedules for right-of-way acquisition and construction may be obtained from the TxDOT Dallas District Office.

All interested persons are invited to attend this Hearing. Persons requiring special communication or accommodation needs should contact Mr. Kerry Miller at Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc. (972) 237-9990 at least two (2) working days prior to the Public Hearing. Because the Public Hearing will be conducted in English, any request for language interpreters or other special communication needs should also be made at least two (2) working days prior to the Public Hearing. Every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs will be made.

Written and verbal comments from the public regarding the proposed project may be presented at the Public Hearing. Written comments can also be submitted to the following address: Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., Attn: Mr. Kerry Miller, 4222 85th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79423. Written comments submitted after the Public Hearing must be postmarked on or before Friday, July 20, 2007, in order to be included in the Public Hearing record.