PROJECT CONCEPT DOCUMENT

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is undertaking design plans and environmental studies for improvements to US 175 / SM Wright Parkway. The study area is shown at left and includes improvements to I-45 from S. M. Wright Parkway (SH 310) to south of Lamar Street (1.7 miles); S. M. Wright Parkway from I-45 to SH 310 near Budd Street (2.5 miles); and providing direct connecting (DC) ramps between C. F. Hawn Freeway and I-45 (1.5 miles). The S. M. Wright Project would increase mobility and improve safety by eliminating the accident prone C. F. Hawn Freeway to S. M. Wright Parkway curve.

In 2015, TxDOT decided to relet the project due to right of way and utility issues. While maintaining its focus on the traditional disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) program, TxDOT used that time to work with the community to develop 1) a pilot federal program that promotes the use of locally based employees, and 2) community to develop 1) a pilot federal program that promotes the use of locally based employees, and 2) establish goals for small, minority- and women-owned businesses as a pilot S/M/WBE and Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) by the TxDOT’s Acquisition Program.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

S. M. Wright Phase I (Formerly Trinity Parkway Phase I)
- Construct new direct-connecting ramps from C. F. Hawn Freeway to I-45, and widen I-45 to the inside from Lamar St. to the S. M. Wright Parkway ramps. The direct-connecting ramps provide allowance for a potential future connection from Trinity Parkway under study by the NTTA.

S. M. Wright Phase II (CSJ: 0092-01-052)
- (Existing S. M. Wright Reconstruction)
- Reconstruct S. M. Wright from I-45 to Budd St. as a low speed, landscaped six (6) lane arterial.

S. M. Wright Phase IIB (0092-01-059; 0092-14-088)
- Add a new NB I-45 exit ramp and a new SB I-45 entrance ramp to and from AI Lipscomb Way. Extend the I-45 frontage roads to MLK Blvd. Reconstruct S. M. Wright from Pennsylvania Ave. to Cesar Chavez Blvd. at AI Lipscomb Way.

S. M. WRIGHT PROJECT STATUS

Phase I and II Project Cost: $51.6 M

Phase IIB Project Cost: $31.4 M

Funding: Local and Regional officials have prioritized programming and funding of the C. F. Hawn-to-I-45 ramps in order to accelerate the S. M. Wright construction, with $151 M anticipated from RTR, STP-MM, Cat. 2 & other funding sources.

Environmental Assessment: Phase I and II complete; Phase IIB underway.

Environmental Clearance: Phase I and II completed; Phase IIB underway.

Phase IIB expected Early 2017.

S. M. Wright Phase IIB Lettings: Re-leter February 2016

S. M. Wright Phase I and IIB Letting: April 2019

OVERALL SCHEDULE

S. M. WRIGHT PHASE I (Formerly Trinity Parkway Phase I) (0-45 and U.S. 175 Connectors) | S. M. WRIGHT PHASE II (Existing S. M. Wright Reconstruction) | S. M. WRIGHT PHASE IIB (Existing S. M. Wright Reconstruction)

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SOURCE: Texas Department of Transportation

PROGRAMMING STATUS

S. M. Wright Phase II
- MTP (2016 Unified Transportation Program) YES
- UTP (2016 Unified Transportation Program) YES
- STP (2016 Statewide Transportation Implementation Program, 2017-2022) YES

S. M. Wright Phase IIB
- MTP (2014 Metropolitan Transportation Plan) YES
- UTP (2016 Unified Transportation Program) NO
- STP (2016 Statewide Transportation Implementation Program, 2017-2022) YES

S. M. WRIGHT PHASE IIB ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

January – Hold Community Work Group Meeting (Phase IIb)

September – Complete Draft PS&E (Phase IIb)

October – Draft EA approval (STP) by TxDOT

December – Hold CSJ Schematic Approval (Phase IIb)

Early 2017 - Start Environmental Clearances (Phase IIb)

First Quarter 2022 - Open to Traffic (S. M. Wright Phase IIB)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NOTE: All dates subject to change.