



Figure 7. View of exposed, degraded limestone bedrock and typical soils. Facing south. Note shallow soils and juniper vegetation.



Figure 8. View of typical vegetation. Facing north. Note high ground surface visibility, exposed and degraded limestone bedrock on surface.





Figure 9. Oak Hill THC historical marker. Facing north.



Figure 10. Concrete and brick improvements near Oak Hill marker. Facing south.





Figure 11. Austin Pizza Garden, formerly Old Rock Store. Facing north. Note THC Marker on storefront.



Figure 12. View of exposed bedrock visible in road cut below grade and into bedrock. Facing northwest.





Figure 13. Disturbance from new construction in ROW. Facing northeast.



Figure 14. View of commercial development. Facing southeast. Note proximity to existing roadway, extensive drainage modifications.





Figure 15. View of disturbance in ROW. Facing east. Note proximity to existing roadway, drainage modifications, and utilities.



Figure 16. Typical shovel test. Note solid limestone bedrock beneath shallow clay.





Figure 17. Vegetation overview, north of Williamson Creek. Facing west. Note low ground surface visibility.



Figure 18. View of drainage near proposed detention pond. Facing southwest. Note vegetation and church improvements in background.





Figure 19. View of proposed detention pond area. Facing southeast. Note vegetation and partial clearing.



Figure 20. View of 41TV2516 area. Facing west.





Figure 21. Chert artifacts from the surface of 41TV2516.



Figure 22. View of 41TV2517 area. Facing south. Note vegetation, ground surface visibility, and buried utilities.





Figure 23. Chert artifacts from the surface of 41TV2517.

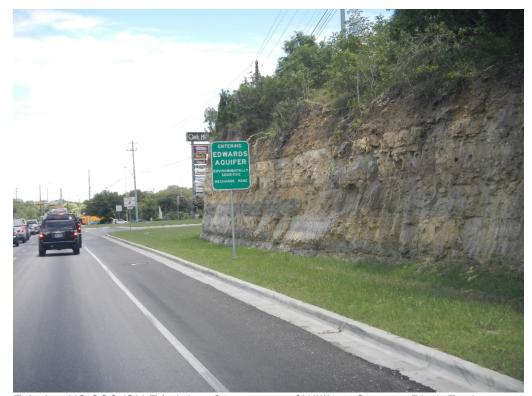
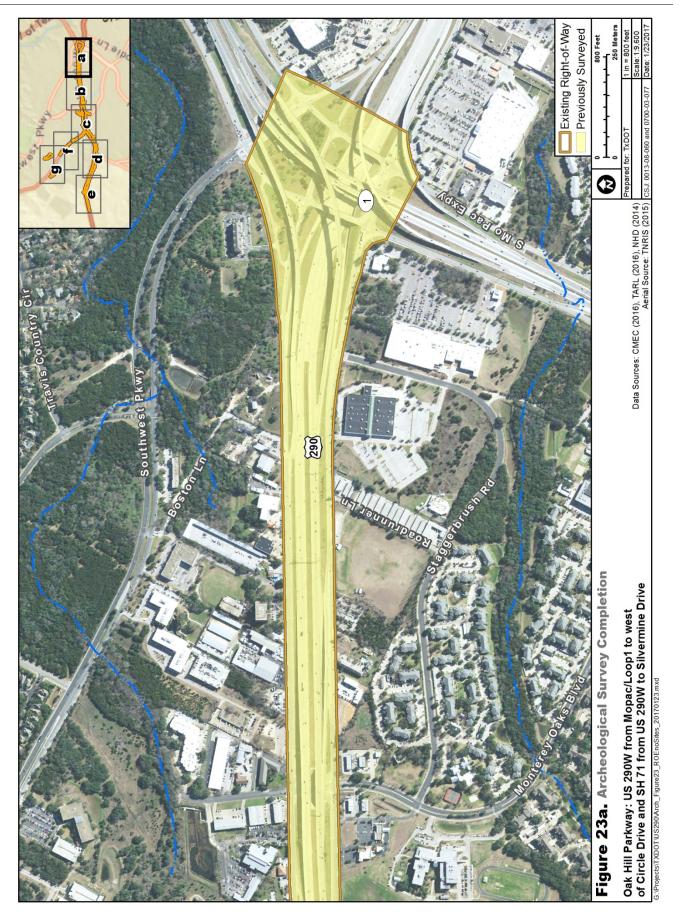
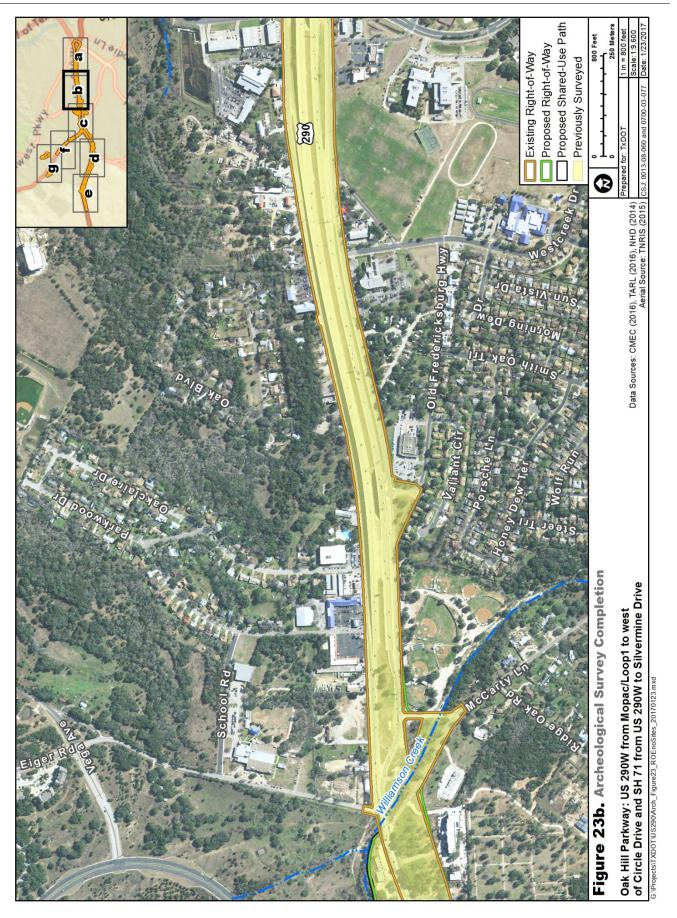


Figure 24. Existing US 290/SH 71 right-of-way west of William Cannon Blvd. Facing east. Note the deep road cut below grade.

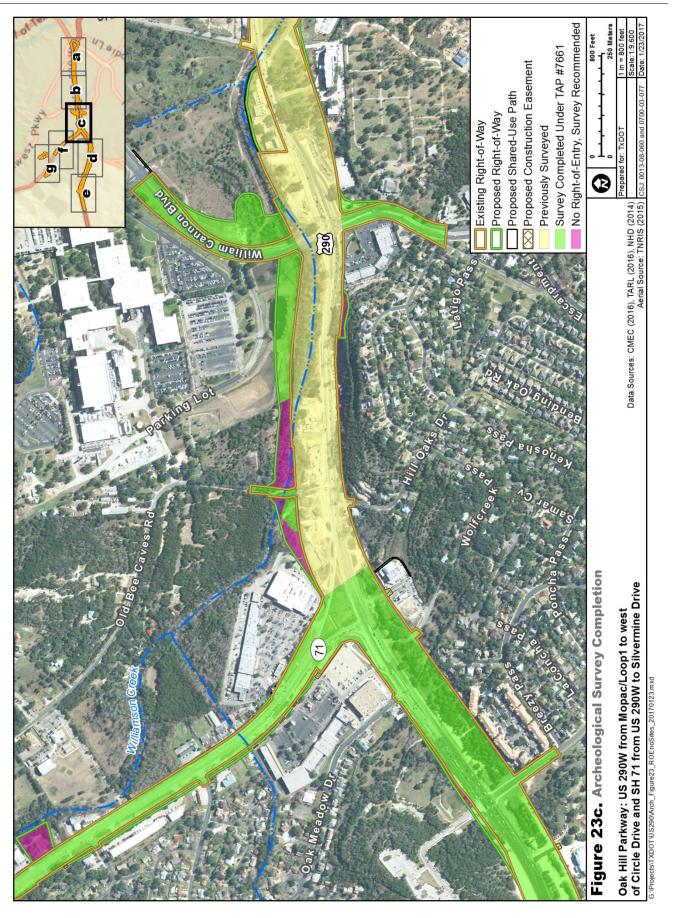




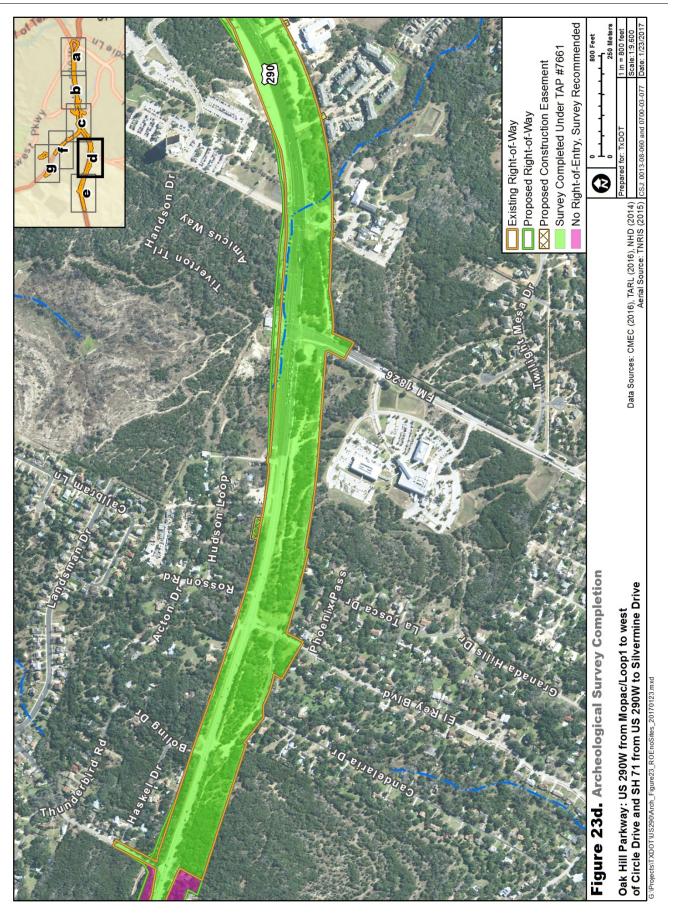




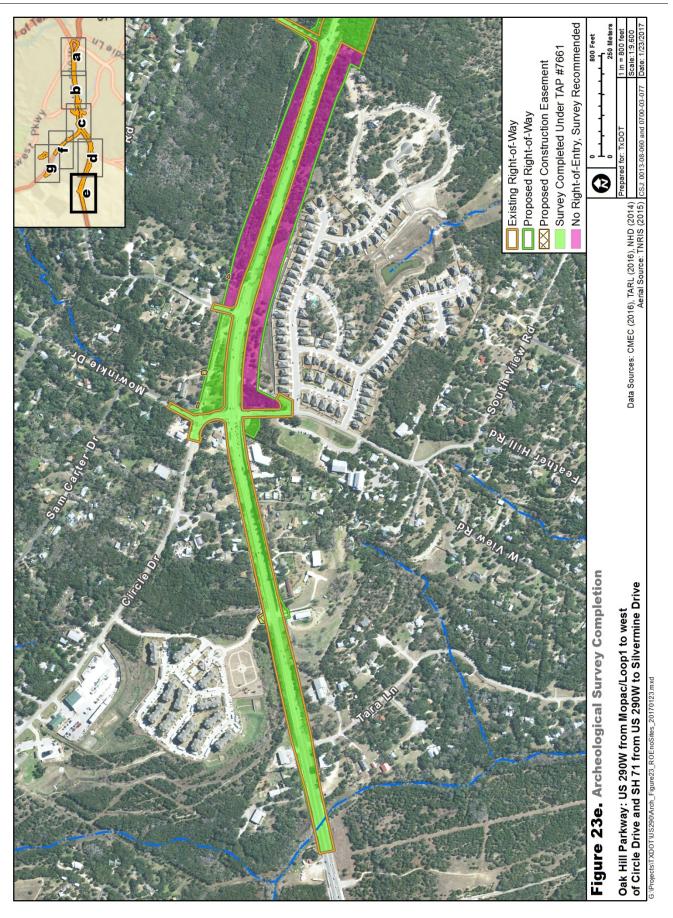




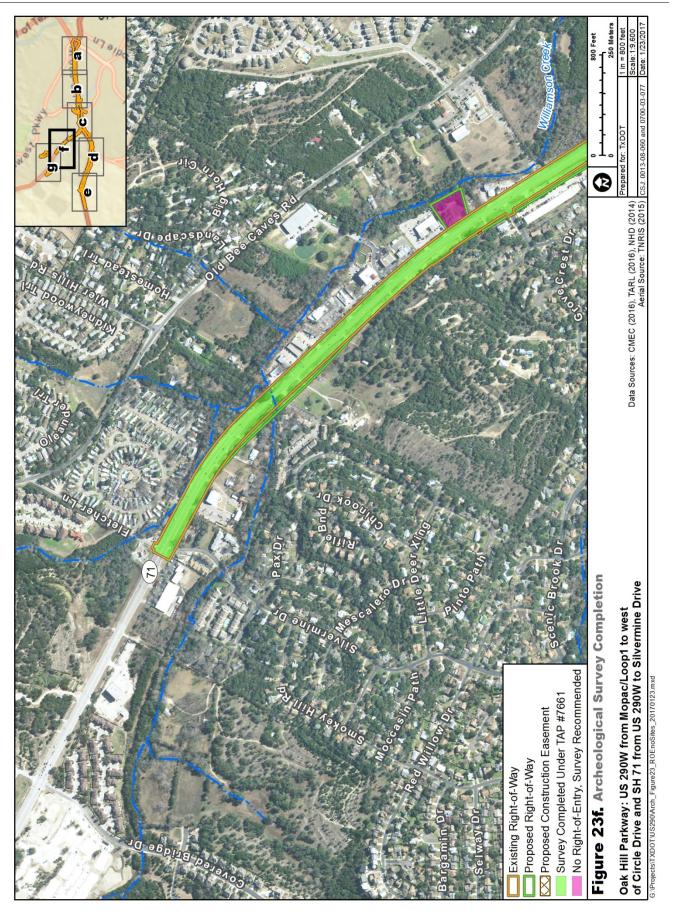




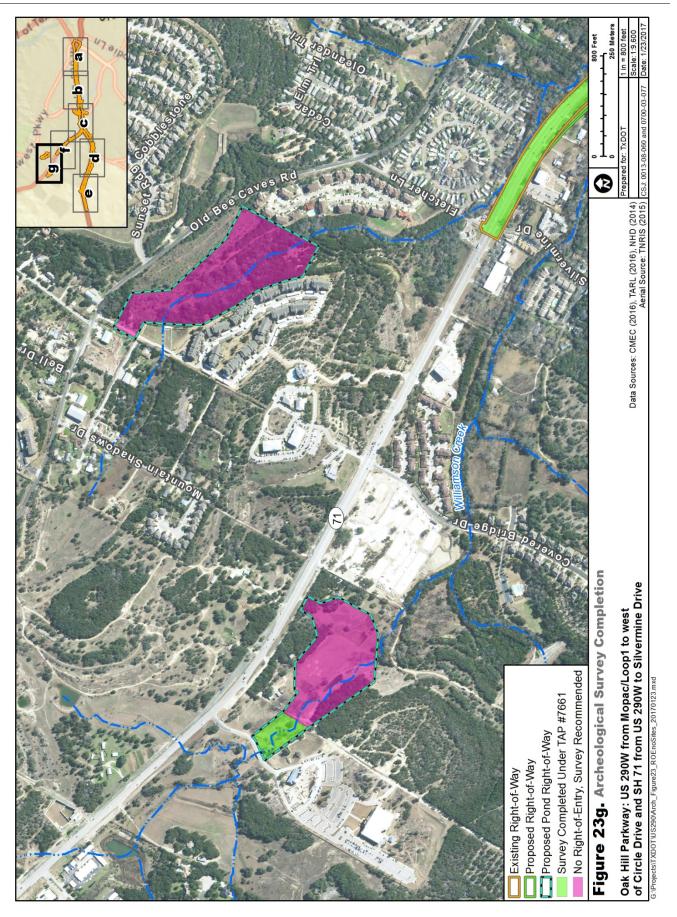














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Appendix A: Field Forms and Regulatory Compliance



125 EAST 11TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 | 512.463.8588 | WWW.TXDOT.GOV

January 12, 2017

RE: Section 106 and Antiquities Code of Texas Consultation: PA-TU and MOU: US 290 at SH 71, Widen Roadway: Travis County: Austin District: Cox/McLain Draft Intensive Archeological Survey Report: CSJ: 0113-08-060
Texas Antiquities Permit No. 7661

Patricia A. Mercado-Allinger Division of Archeology Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276 Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Ms. Mercado-Allinger:

In accord with the First Amended Programmatic Agreement among the Federal Highway Administration, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer (TSHPO), and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding the Implementation of Transportation Undertakings (PA-TU), as well as the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer and TxDOT, we are continuing Section 106 and Antiquities Code of Texas consultation for the proposed undertaking.

This undertaking proposed to improve the intersection of United States Highway 290 (US 290) at State Highway (SH) 71 (also known of the Y) in the city of Austin in Travis County, Texas. At this time two build alternatives are being considered: Alternative A and Alternative C. Both alternatives are controlled-access highways with frontage roads. Alternative A includes main lanes and frontage roads located on each side of Williamson Creek west of William Cannon Drive, depressed US 290 lanes beneath SH 71, direct connector ramps at "The Y", and a single-point flying-T intersection for frontage roads at "The Y". Alternative C includes frontage roads located south of Williamson Creek and main lanes located north of Williamson Creek west of William Cannon Drive, US 290 lanes over SH 71, direct connector ramps at "The Y", and a single-point flying-T intersection for frontage roads at "The Y". The continuous flow intersection at William Cannon and US 290 would not remain for Alternative C. Two detention ponds are also proposed as part of the design for Alternatives A and C. One pond is located southwest of SH 71 and the other to the north of SH 71, off Old Bee Caves Road.

Section 106 and Antiquities Code of Texas consultation has been previously conducted with your office in letters dated June 5, 1985, March 20, 1987, March 30, 1987, December 16, 2004, March 30, 2005, and May 18, 2006. In all of these consultations, your office concurred with a finding of "no historic properties affected", and no State

Antiquities Landmarks affected. Hard copies of these letters are available upon request and are also available in digital form in the documents section of TxDOT's Computer Environmental Tracking System known as, "ECOS".

Since the last consultation, the project design has been changed to incorporate approximately 70.39 acres of proposed new additional ROW, 1.14 acres of construction easements, and 0.4 acres for a recreational trail/path. Due to these changes, the undertaking's area of potential effects (APE) has been re-defined as the existing 160 to 600 foot wide US 290 right of way (ROW) beginning at Loop 1 (also known as Mopac) and extending 6.16 miles west to RM 1826 (please note that the existing US 290 ROW flares out to as wide as 1,295 feet at its intersection with Mopac). The APE also includes the existing 150 to 300 foot wide SH 71 ROW beginning at US 290 and extending 1.26 miles northwest to Silver Mine Road. According to typical roadway design, the depth of impacts is estimated to be up to 40 feet below the current ground surface for bridge and overpass supports, up to 15 feet for the detention ponds, and up to 2 feet for the remainder of the project. The existing ROW, proposed new ROW, proposed detention ponds, and proposed new easements are delineated on the attached suite of 7.5 Minute USGS topographic maps. The APE includes a total of 313.64 acres of existing right-of-way, 70.39 acres of proposed new ROW, 1.41 acres of construction easements, and a 0.4-acremixed-use path easement that has not yet been fully defined. The APE is comprised of a total of 385.58 acres

Due to the addition proposed new ROW and easement areas, TxDOT recommended that additional intensive archeological survey be conducted to confirm the absence of significant archeological deposits that could be impacted by the proposed project.

Your office issued Texas Antiquities Permit No. 7661 to Cox-McLain Environmental Consultants Inc. (CME), to conduct an intensive archeological survey of the areas of the APE that have not been previously assessed. CME has recently completed that survey. This consisted of 100% pedestrian survey in 11.3 acres of the 70.39 acres of proposed new ROW/easements/ mixed use path of the areas where right of entry had been obtained. This included a total of 65 shovel tests. This investigation also included 12.7 acres where right of entry was not obtained, but were assessable from the existing ROW. Therefore, a total of 24 acres of the 70.39 outstanding acres were addressed under this survey. A total of 46.79 acres still require assessment due to denial of right of entry.

The CME investigation resulted in the identification of two newly recorded archeological sites (41TV2516 and 2517). Both of these sites are recorded as sparse prehistoric lithic scatters. No diagnostic artifacts, features, faunal, or floral remains were observed. Shovel tests revealed no subsurface archeological remains and limestone bedrock within 20 centimeters below the ground surface. The investigators have recommended that the portions of these two sites overlapping onto the surveyed areas are insignificant and do not warrant any further work. They have recommended that potential exists for 41TV2516 to extend into unsurveyed areas and therefore additional work may be required once right of entry is obtained. The investigators have also recommended that no

further work is required for the 24 acres assessed under this investigation and that survey is still required for the 46.79 acres of proposed new ROW and easements where right of entry has been denied. Finally, the investigators have recommended that no survey and no further work are warranted for the 313.64 acres of existing ROW. This latter recommendation is due to previous investigations as well as the upland setting and pre-existing disturbances due to extensive bulldozing associated with the original construction of US 290 and SH 71. The areas recommended for additional survey as well as the areas recommended for no further work are delineated on the plan views embedded in the attached report that is attached for your review

TxDOT has reviewed the CME report and agrees with its conclusions. Based upon that report, TxDOT seeks your concurrence for the following recommendations;

- 1. No survey, further work, and additional consultation required for the 313.64 acres of existing ROW associated with this project,
- 2. The portions of 41TV2516 and 41TV2517 overlapping onto the currently surveyed areas do not contribute to either sites eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and do not warrant designations as State Antiquities Landmarks.
- 3. No survey, further work, or additional consultation required for the 24 acres surveyed under this investigation.
- 4. Survey is still required for the 46.79 acres of proposed new ROW and easements where right of entry has been denied.
- 5. The attached report is adequate and that the stipulations set forth in the Antiquities Code of Texas have been fulfilled. Please signify your concurrence by signing on the signature line provided below.

In the event that archeological materials are discovered during construction, construction in the immediate area shall cease, and the TSHPO will be contacted to initiate accidental discovery procedures in accordance of the terms of the Programmatic Agreement among the TSHPO, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Texas Department of Transportation. If you have any questions, please contact me at 416-2640. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

on Budd, TxDOT Staff Archeologist

For Mark Wolfe, State Historic Preservation Officer and Executive Director

Attachments

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated 12-16-14, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

DRAFT Cultural Resources Technical Report



U.S. Highway 290 (US 290) / State Highway (SH)
71 West from State Loop 1 (MoPAC) to
Ranch-to-Market (RM) 1826 and SH 71 to
Silvermine Drive
Travis County, Texas
CSJ # 0113-08-060 and 0700-03-077
December 2016







The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

real places telling real stories

May 26, 2016

Chris Dayton Cox/McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc. 6010 Balcones Drive #210 Austin, TX 78731

Re: Project review under the Antiquities Code of Texas US 290 W from Loop 1 to RM 1826 and SH 71 from US 290 to Silvermine Dr., CSJs: 0113-08-060, 0700-03-077, Travis County, Texas Texas Antiquities Permit Application #7661

Dear Colleague:

Thank you for your Antiquities Permit Application for the above referenced project. This letter presents the final copy of the permit from the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission (THC), the state agency responsible for administering the Antiquities Code of Texas.

Please keep this copy for your records. The Antiquities Permit investigations requires the production and submittal of one printed copy of the final report, a completed abstract form submitted via our online system, two copies of the tagged PDF final report on CD (one with site location information & one without), and verification that any artifacts recovered and records produced during the investigations are curated at the repository listed in the permit. The abstract form maybe submitted via the THC website (www.thc.state.tx.us) or use url: http://xapps.thc.state.tx.us/Abstract/login.aspx Additionally, you must send the THC shapefiles showing the boundaries of the project area and the areas actually surveyed via email to archeological_projects@thc.state.tx.us.

If you have any questions concerning this permit or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Lillie Thompson at 512/463-1858. The reviewer for this project is Mark Denton, 512/463-6096.

Sincerely,

for

Mark Wolfe

Executive Director

MW/lft

Enclosures

Cc: Scott Pletka, Ph.D., TxDOT

Willin a. Mart

State of Texas

TEXAS ANTIQUITIES COMMITTEE

ARCHEOLOGY PERMIT # 7661

This permit is issued by the Texas Historical Commission, hereafter referred to as the Commission, represented herein by and through its duly authorized and empowered representatives. The Commission, under authority of the Texas Natural Resources Code, Title 9, Chapter 191, and subject to the conditions hereinafter set forth, grants this permit for:

Intensive Survey

To be performed on a potential or designated landmark or other public land known as:

Title:

US 290 W from Loop 1 to RM 1826 and SH 71 from US 290 to Silvermine Dr., CS

County: Ti

Location: Southwest Austin metro area

Owned or Controlled by: (hereafter known as the Permittee):

Texas Department of Transportation

125 East 11th Street Austin, Tx 78701

Sponsored by (hereafter known as the Sponsor

Texas Department of Transportation

125 East 11th Street Austin, Tx 78701

The Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm representing the Owner or Sponsor is:

Chris Dayton

Cox/McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc.

6010 Balcones Drive #210

Austin, TX 78731

This permit is to be in effect for a period of:

3 Years and 0 Months

and Will Expire on:

05/20/2019

During the preservation, analysis, and preparation of a final report or until further notice by the Commission, artifacts, field notes, and other data gathered during the investigation will be kept temporarily at:

Cox/McLain Environmental Consulting, Inc.

Upon completion of the final permit report, the same artifacts, field notes, and other data will be placed in a permanent curatorial repository at:

Texas State Univ.-CAS

Scope of Work under this permit shall consist of:

Pedestrian survey with shovel testing in new right-of-way and new easements only. For details, see scope of work submitted with permit application.

This permit is granted on the following terms and conditions:

- 1) This project must be carried out in such a manner that the maximum amount of historic, scientific, archeological, and educational information will be recovered and preserved and must include the scientific, techniques for recovery, recording, preservation and analysis commonly used in archeological investigations. All survey level investigations must follow the state survey standards and the THC survey requirements established with the projects sponsor(s).
- 2) The Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm, serving for the Owner/Permittee and/or the Project Sponsor, is responsible for insuring that specimens, samples, artifacts, materials and records that are collected as a result of this permit are appropriately cleaned, and cataloged for curation. These tasks will be accomplished at no charge to the Commission, and all specimens, artifacts, materials, samples, and original field notes, maps, drawings, and photographs resulting from the investigations remain the property of the State of Texas, or its political subdivision, and must be curated at a certified repository. Verification of curation by the repository is also required, and duplicate copies of any requested records shall be furnished to the Commission before any permit will be considered complete.
- 3) The Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm serving for the Owner/Permittee, and/or the Project Sponsor is responsible for the publication of results of the investigations in a thorough technical report containing relevant descriptions, maps, documents, drawings, and photographs. A draft copy of the report must be submitted to the Commission for review and approval. Any changes to the draft report requested by the Commission must be made or addressed in the report, or under separate written response to the Commission. Once a draft has been approved by the Commission, one (1) printed, unbound copy of the final report containing at least one map with the plotted location of any and all sites recorded and two copies of the report in tagged PDF format on an archival quality CD or DVD shall be furnished to the commission. One copy must include the plotted location of any and all sites recorded and the other should not include the site location data. A paper copy and an electronic copy of the completed Abstracts in Texas Contract Archeology Summary Form must also be submitted with the final report to the Commission. (Printed copies of forms are available from the Commission or also online at www.thc.state.tx.us.)
- 4) If the Owner/Permittee, Project Sponsor or Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm fails to comply with any of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure or with any of the specific terms of this permit, or fails to properly conduct or complete this project within the allotted time, the permit will fall into default status. A notification of Default status shall be sent to the Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm, and the Principal Investigator will not be eligible to be issued any new permits until such time that the conditions of this permit are complete or, if applicable, extended.
- 5) The Owner/Permittee, Project Sponsor, and Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm, in the conduct of the activities hereby authorizes, must comply with all laws, ordinances and regulations of the State of Texas and of its political subdivisions including, but not limited to, the Antiquities Code of Texas; they must conduct the investigation in such a manner as to afford protection to the rights of any and all lessees or easement holders or other persons having an interest in the property and they must return the property to its original condition insofar as possible, to leave it in a state which will not create hazard to life nor contribute to the deterioration of the site or adjacent lands by natural forces.
- 6) Any duly authorized and empowered representative of the Commission may, at any time, visit the site to inspect the fieldwork as well as the field records, materials, and specimens being recovered.
- 7) For reasons of site security associated with historical resources, the Project Sponsor (if not the Owner/Permittee), Principal Investigator, Owner, and Investigation Firm shall not issue any press releases, or divulge to the news media, either directly or indirectly, information regarding the specific location of, or other information that might endanger those resources, or their associated artifacts without first consulting with the Commission, and the State agency or political subdivision of the State that owns or controls the land where the resource has been discovered.
- 8) This permit may not be assigned by the Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm, Owner/Permittee, or Project Sponsor in whole, or in part to any other individual, organization, or corporation not specifically mentioned in this permit without the written consent of the Commission.
- 9) Hold Harmless: The Owner/Permittee hereby expressly releases the State and agrees that Owner/Permittee will hold harmless, indemnify, and defend (including reasonable attorney's fees and cost of litigation) the State, its officers, agents, and employees in their official and/or individual capacities from every liability, loss, or claim for damages to persons or property, direct or indirect of whatsoever nature arising out of, or in any way connected with, any of the activities covered under this permit. The provisions of this paragraph are solely for the benefit of the State and the Texas Historical Commission and are not intended to create or grant any rights, contractual or otherwise, to any other person or entity.
- 10) Addendum: The Owner/Permittee, Project Sponsor and Principal Investigator/Investigation Firm must abide by any addenda hereto attached.

Upon a finding that it is in the best interest of the State, this permit is issued on 05/20/2016.

Pat Mercado-Allinger, for the Texas Historical Commission

Details for Archeological Site Form

Atlas Number 9453251701	
Form	

Materials n/a Collected

Special Samples n/a

Temporary Housing

CMEC (records only)

Permanent Housing

CAS

Primary County Travis
Site Location in County SW

Secondary Counties

USGS Map Signal Hill (3097-223)

Recorder Visited Site

oite .

Time Periods of Occupation

Unknown prehistoric

Description of Location

South of US290, approximately 80 meters SW from intersection of US290 and SH71

UTM Zone 14

UTM Easting 608109 UTM Northing 3345020 UTM Datum NAD 1983

Nearest Natural Water

Williamson Creek

Major Drainage Colorado River

Name and Type

of Drainage Basin Williamson Creek

Owner Information

TxDOT

Informant Information

Soil Description Brackett-Rock outcrop-Real complex, 8 to 30 percent slopes

Soil Surface Texture

ClLo, friable/weak grade, very thin, >50% gravels (degraded limestone bedrock)

Soil Derivation Derivation Situ

Other Soil Derivation

Ground Surface Visible

50-100%

Environmental Description

Upland/hillside, exposed limestone bedrock in surrounding area, many gravels on surface, drainage ditch/modification separates site from 290.

Time Periods of Occupation

few chert artifacts with shallow deposits, no diagnostics

Component Single Component, Unknown Components

Basis for Determining Components

Thin surface deposits, few artifacts

Cultural Features

Site Size

Basis for Size Surface artifact scatter, shovel testing, GPS

Top of Deposits Below Surface

Basis for Top of Deposit

all negative shovel tests in the area

Thickness of Deposit

Basis for Thickness

all negative shovel tests in the area; thin soils, exposed bedrock in surrounding area

Artifactual Materials Present

two chert flakes, numerous flaked chert cobbles, no obvious tools

Circumstances

Affecting Observations Hot, humid

Percentage of Site Intact

Erosional area with thin soils, artifact deposition is purely surficial.

Current Land

Use

TXDOT ROW

Natural Impacts Erosion from rain

Artificial

Impacts

construction on houses and US290, ROW maintenance

Future Impacts

Proposed 290 construction

Research Value Very little, location and type only

Further Investigations

None recommended

State

Archeological Landmark

National Register

Conservation **Easement**

Recorded TX Historical Landmark

Comments on Registration

Additional Comments Small lithic scatter, unknown prehistoric, single component, located in a disturbed hillslope area just south of US290. Area slopes down from south to north (Toward US290), and contains very thin, eroded soils situated above shallow and degraded limestone

bedrock.

Attachments Field map **Local Identifier** FS02 **Revisit Form** Nο

Materials Collected

No

Details for Archeological Site Form

Atlas Number 9453251701

Form THSA139 Data

Form Number

Form Date 7/18/2016 **Trinomial** 41TV2517 Site Type lithic scatter

Explanation of

Type

Multiple flakes, various flaked chert cobbles (10+) on surface, south of 290, SW of US290 and US71 Intersection.

Site Name

Site Number

Project Name 290 Oak Hill Funding Source TxDOT

Project Number

Permitting Source

THC

Permit Number 7661

Additional Sources of Info.

Shannon Smith

Recorder David Sandrock, Shannon Smith

Recorder's Organization

Cox|McLain Environmental

Recorder's **Address**

6010 Balcones Drive, #210

Recorder's City Austin Recorder's TX

State Recorder's Zip

Code

78731

Recorder's **Phone Number**

5123382223

Recorder's Fax Number

Recorder's **Email**

davids@coxmclain.com

Observe/Record

Dates

7.14.2016

Surface

Inspect/Collect 7.14.2016 **Dates**

Surface

Inspect/Collect Intensive pedestrian survey, shovel testing, no collection

Techniques

Mapping Dates 7.14.2016

Mapping Methods

GPS

Testing Dates 7.14.2016 Testing Methods Shovel testing

Excavation n/a **Dates Excavation**

Methods

n/a

Types of Records

digital photos; daily journal; photo logs; shovel test notes

Materials n/a Collected

Special Samples n/a

Temporary Housing

CMEC (records only)

Permanent Housing

CAS

Primary County Travis
Site Location in County SW

Secondary Counties

USGS Map Signal Hill (3097-223)

Recorder Visited Site

oite .

Time Periods of Occupation

Unknown prehistoric

Description of Location

South of US290, approximately 80 meters SW from intersection of US290 and SH71

UTM Zone 14

UTM Easting 608109 UTM Northing 3345020 UTM Datum NAD 1983

Nearest Natural Water

Williamson Creek

Major Drainage Colorado River

Name and Type

of Drainage Basin Williamson Creek

Owner Information

TxDOT

Informant Information

Soil Description Brackett-Rock outcrop-Real complex, 8 to 30 percent slopes

Soil Surface Texture

ClLo, friable/weak grade, very thin, >50% gravels (degraded limestone bedrock)

Soil Derivation Derivation Situ

Other Soil Derivation

Ground Surface Visible

50-100%

Environmental Description

Upland/hillside, exposed limestone bedrock in surrounding area, many gravels on surface, drainage ditch/modification separates site from 290.

Time Periods of Occupation

few chert artifacts with shallow deposits, no diagnostics

Component Single Component, Unknown Components

Basis for Determining Components

Thin surface deposits, few artifacts

Cultural Features

Site Size

Basis for Size Surface artifact scatter, shovel testing, GPS

Top of Deposits Below Surface

Basis for Top of Deposit

all negative shovel tests in the area

Thickness of Deposit

Basis for Thickness

all negative shovel tests in the area; thin soils, exposed bedrock in surrounding area

Artifactual Materials Present

two chert flakes, numerous flaked chert cobbles, no obvious tools

Circumstances

Affecting Observations Hot, humid

Percentage of Site Intact

Erosional area with thin soils, artifact deposition is purely surficial.

Current Land

Use

TXDOT ROW

Natural Impacts Erosion from rain

Artificial

Impacts

construction on houses and US290, ROW maintenance

Future Impacts

Proposed 290 construction

Research Value Very little, location and type only

Further Investigations

None recommended

State

Archeological Landmark

National Register

Conservation **Easement**

Recorded TX Historical Landmark

Comments on Registration

Additional Comments Small lithic scatter, unknown prehistoric, single component, located in a disturbed hillslope area just south of US290. Area slopes down from south to north (Toward US290), and contains very thin, eroded soils situated above shallow and degraded limestone

bedrock.

Attachments Field map **Local Identifier** FS02 **Revisit Form** Nο

Materials Collected

No

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jon Geiselbrecht - TxDOT ENV

Jon Budd-TxDOT ENV

FROM: Chris Dayton and David Sandrock - Cox | McLain Environmental

Consulting, Inc.

DATE: June 29, 2017

RE: Update for Oak Hill Parkway Archeological Survey



On behalf of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and under Texas Antiquities Permit 7661, Cox|Mclain Environmental Consulting, Inc. (CMEC) conducted an intensive archeological survey of proposed widening improvements at the intersection of US Highway 290 (US) and State Highway (SH) 71, locally known as "The Y", in southwestern Travis County, Texas. The project extends approximately 6.16 miles (mi) (9.90 kilometers [km]) along US 290 and 1.26 mi (2.00 km) along SH 71, and includes two isolated detention pond locations on either side of SH 71. The archeological area of potential effects (APE) for this project covers a total of 385.58 acres (ac), including 313.64 ac of existing right-of-way.

Based on the results of background review and coordination with TxDOT, only the proposed new right-of-way and easements (totaling 70.39 ac) were subjected to archeological survey. Fieldwork was conducted in June and July 2016. At that time, right-of-entry was available for 11.30 ac of the proposed new location right-of-way. During this survey, 65 shovel tests were excavated, and two new archeological sites (41TV2516 and 41TV2517) were identified. Both sites are defined as sparse prehistoric lithic scatters in a heavily disturbed, surficial context. No buried cultural material was encountered at either site, and the sites are not recommended for additional work or as eligible for listing on the NRHP or as SALs.

As a result of this survey, CMEC recommended that no further work is necessary within the *existing* right-or-way, or within *evaluated* portions of proposed right-of-way prior to construction. Evaluated portions of proposed right-of-way included surveyed areas (11.30 ac) and narrow slivers of proposed right-of-way for which right-of-entry was not permitted, but were completely visible from existing right-of-way (12.70 ac).

Pedestrian inspection with judgmental shovel testing is recommended in these areas once right-of-entry is obtained for the remaining proposed right-of-way that was not accessible or visible from the existing right-of-way.

Following the completion of CMEC's archeological survey and the associated report, 46.39 ac of the APE were recommended for survey following the granting of right-of-entry. In addition, after the survey conducted under Texas Antiquities Permit 7661, further changes in the alignment have







increased these acreages (see **Figures 1a-g**). The newest design updates add 6.96 ac of proposed new right-of-way, 6.94 ac of which will require archeological survey. An additional 3.37 ac of easement were added, 0.25 ac of which will require archeological survey. In total, 53.58 ac of the project APE will require survey before construction activities can commence.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at chris@coxmclain.com or 512-338-2223.

Sincerely,

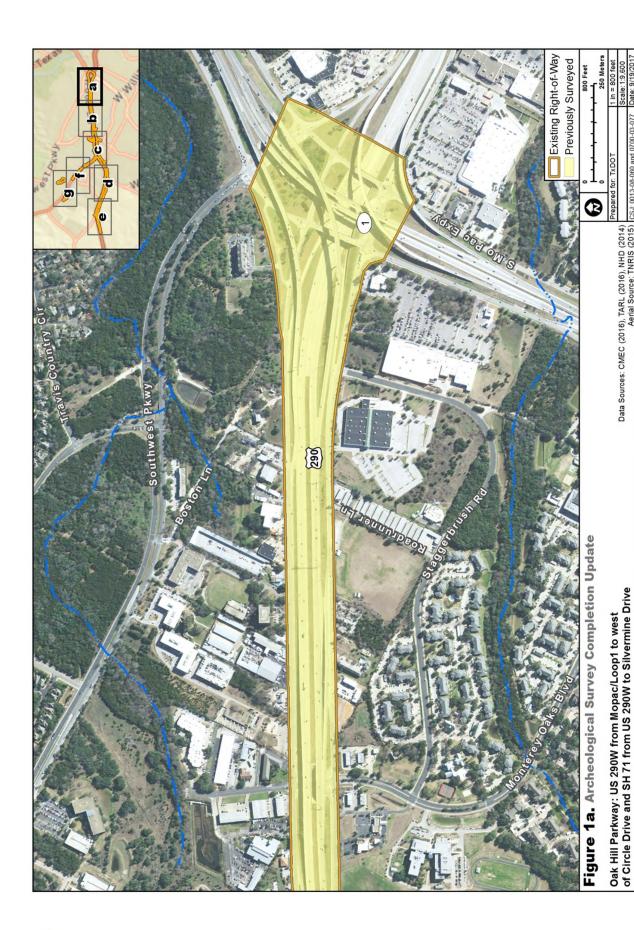
Chris Dayton, PhD, RPA

Cultural Resources Program Manager Cox | McLain Environmental Consulting





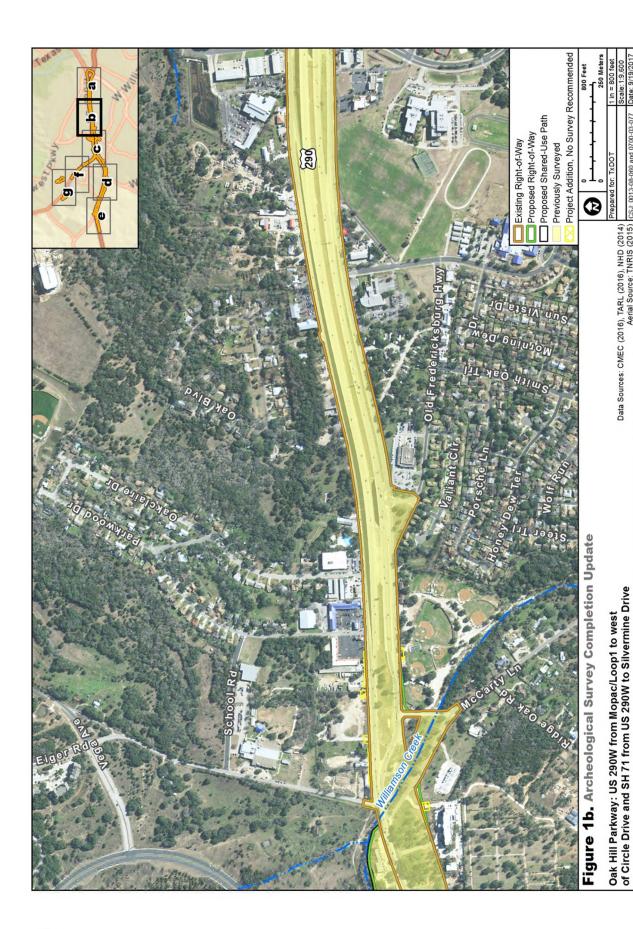








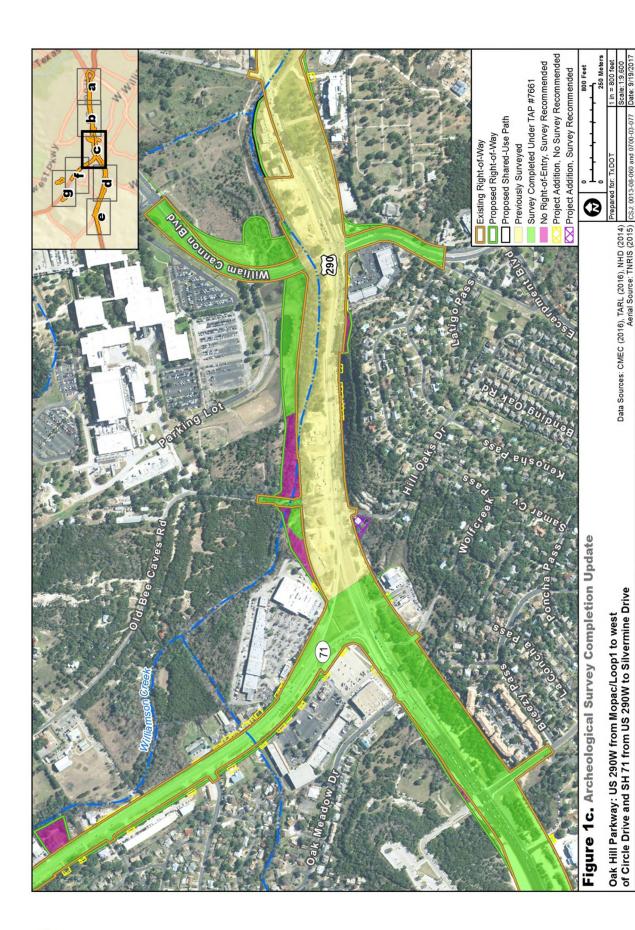








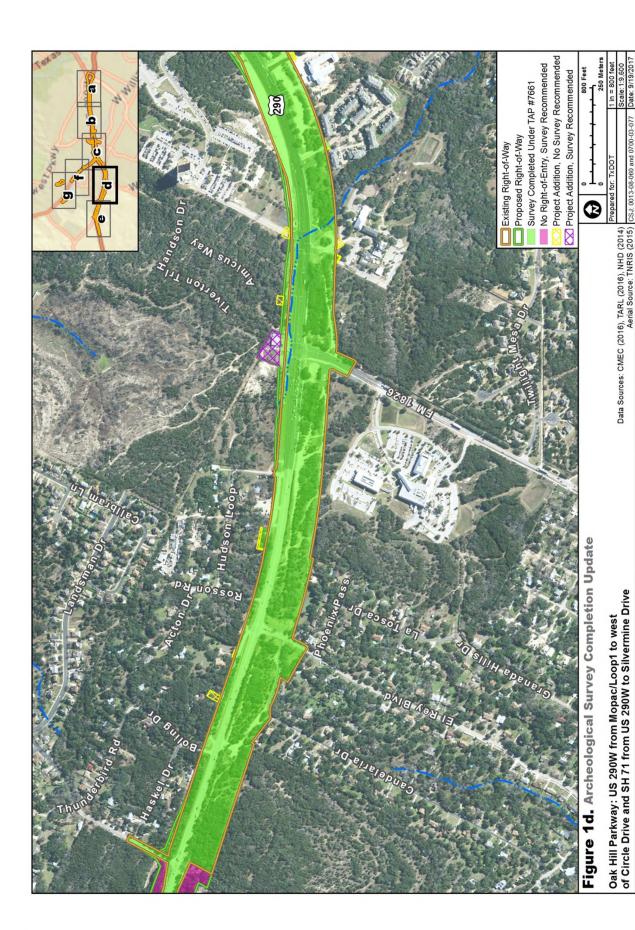








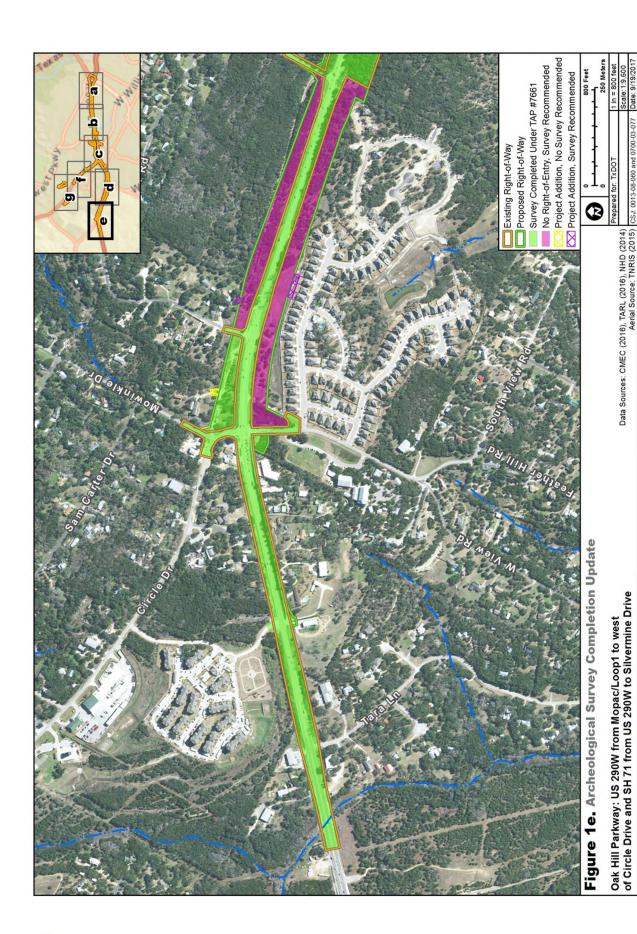








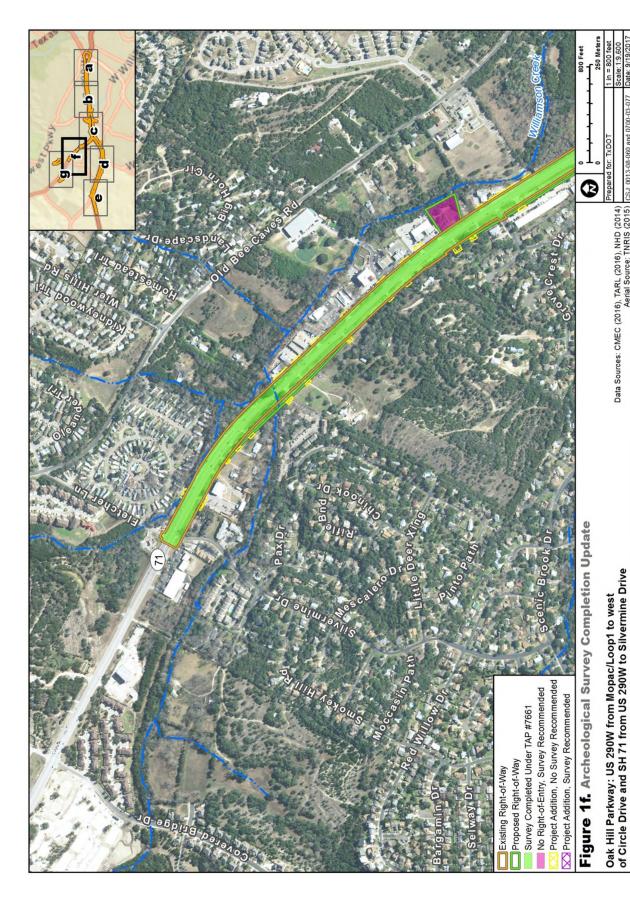








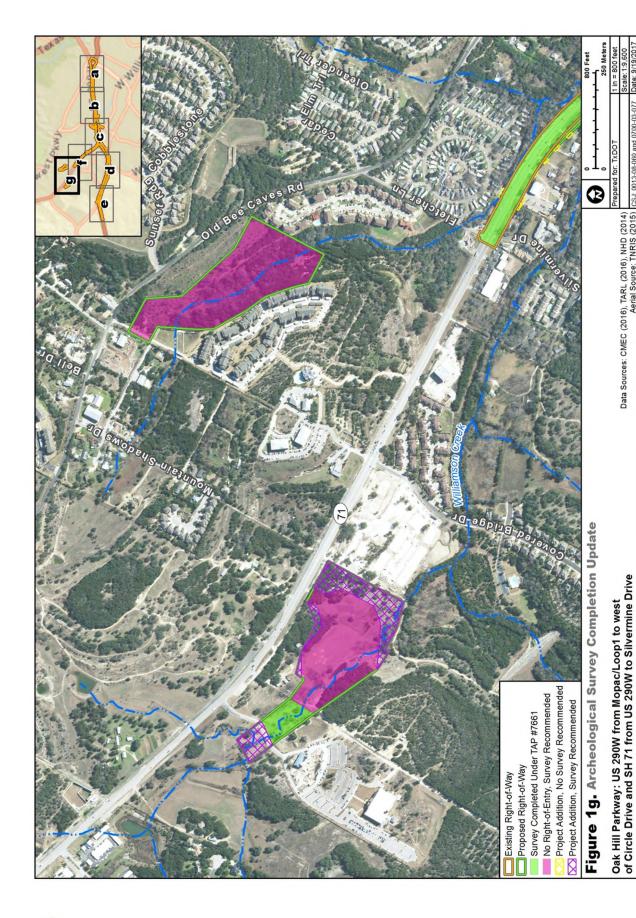




















MEMO

October 18, 2017

To:

ECOS

Project file, CSJ 0113-08-060, SH 71/US 290, Travis County, Austin District

From:

Jon Budd

TxDOT Staff Archeologist

Subject: Internal review under the Programmatic Agreement (PA) Among the Federal Highway Administration, Texas State Historic Preservation Office, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Texas Department of Transportation; and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Department of Transportation

Project Description:

This undertaking proposed to improve the intersection of United States Highway 290 (US 290) at State Highway (SH) 71(also known of the Y) in the city of Austin in Travis County, Texas. At this time two build alternatives are being considered: Alternative A and Alternative C. Both alternatives are controlled-access highways with frontage roads.

Alternative A includes main lanes and frontage roads located on each side of Williamson Creek west of William Cannon Drive, depressed US 290 lanes beneath SH 71, direct connector ramps at "The Y", and a single-point flying-T intersection for frontage roads at "The Y". Alternative C includes frontage roads located south of Williamson Creek and main lanes located north of Williamson Creek west of William Cannon Drive, US 290 lanes over SH 71, direct connector ramps at "The Y", and a single-point flying-T intersection for frontage roads at "The Y". The continuous flow intersection at William Cannon and US 290 would not remain for Alternative C. Two detention ponds are also proposed as part of the design for Alternatives A and C. One pond is located southwest of SH 71 and the other to the north of SH 71, off Old Bee Caves Road.

APE Definition:

The undertaking's area of potential effects (APE) is defined as the existing 160 to 600 foot wide US 290 right of way (ROW) beginning at Loop 1 (also known as Mopac) and extending 6.16 miles west to RM 1826 (please note that the existing US 290 ROW flares out to as wide as 1,295 feet at its intersection with Mopac). The APE also includes the existing 150 to 300 foot wide SH 71 ROW beginning at US 290 and extending 1.26 miles northwest to Silver Mine Road. According to typical roadway design, the depth of impacts is estimated to be up to 40 feet below the current ground surface for bridge and overpass supports, up to 15 feet for the detention ponds, and up to 2 feet for the remainder of the project. The existing ROW, proposed new ROW, proposed detention ponds, and proposed new easements are delineated on the attached suite of 7.5 Minute USGS topographic maps. The APE includes a total of 313.64 acres of existing right-of-way, up to 80 acres of proposed new ROW, up to 5 acres of construction easements, and a 1-acre mixed-use path easement that has not yet been fully defined. The APE is comprised of a total of up to 400 acres.

Records Search Results:

Section 106 and Antiquities Code of Texas consultation has been previously conducted with the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer (TSHPO) in letters dated June 5, 1985, March 20, 1987, March 30, 1987, December 16, 2004, March 30, 2005, May 18, 2006, and January 17, 2017. In all of these consultations, the TSHPO concurred with recommendations that the multiple sites found to be overlapping onto the APE do not contribute to the sites' eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and do not warrant designations as State Antiquities Landmarks. The TSHPO also concurred with recommendations for no further work or consultation required for all of the existing ROW within the APE. The TSHPO also concurred with recommendations that no further work or consultation is required for all of the portions of the APE that has been surveyed. However, due to denial of right of entry, there are still approximately 54 acres of proposed new ROW and easements that still require archeological survey or assessment. The TSHPO has concurred that survey is still warranted in these areas. Please see the TxDOT digital Environmental Compliance Oversight System (ECOS) documents section for the document entitled, "12 July 2017 Documentation of Areas Still Requiring Survey and Section 106 Consult" for more information regarding the unassessed areas.

Justification for Further Work:

Due to the 54 acres of proposed new ROW still requiring assessment and coordination, additional work is recommended.

Permission to conduct archeological investigations was denied by at least one landowner. Thus, as provided under Stipulation XI.E.1 of the PA, this undertaking may proceed with further project development, including completion of the environmental process and right of way acquisition without the concurrence of the SHPO. After obtaining access to the proposed right of way, TxDOT will complete the inventory on unsurveyed properties and conclude any additional work that may be required under the terms of the PA and MOU.

Approved by _

Scott Pletka, Ph.D.

for TXDOT October 18, 2017

Date

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

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