



COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY

Conducted in conjunction with Project Update Workshop
Held on May 23, 2017

During the workshop, participants provided input through a community survey which was also available online for an extended time until June 6, 2017. The survey is not a scientific poll. The results only reflect the view of those workshop and virtual participants that chose to participate.

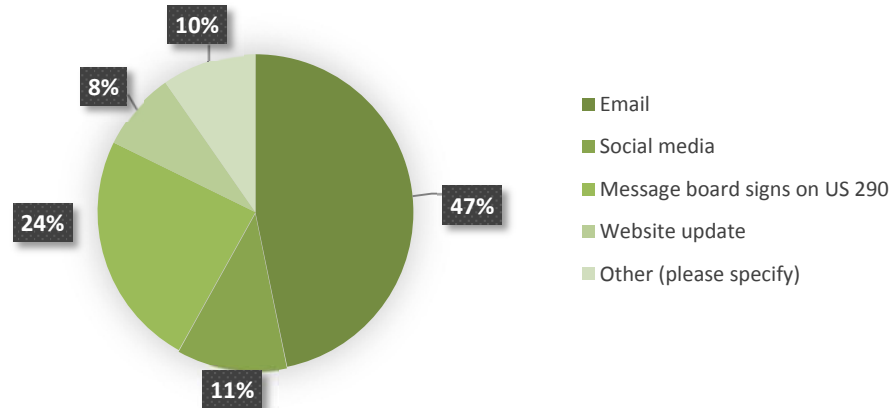
OVERVIEW

- ❖ **Between May 23 and June 6, 2017, the team received 53 community surveys.** We received 40 handwritten surveys at the workshop and 13 additional surveys were completed online.
- ❖ **The best ways to reach out to the public.** Many of the meeting attendees learned about the meeting through the variable message sign on US 290 (28%) and the email blasts that were sent out prior to the meeting (55%). These two outreach methods were the most effective for reaching the public. Additionally, the online forum www.NextDoor.com was mentioned many times by the public as a good way to get the word out about our project to the neighboring communities.
- ❖ **Interest in the environmental topics covered in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).** Most people would like to know the impacts of the project to traffic, noise, and vegetation and wildlife in the area. Some were interested in the indirect and cumulative impacts and impacts to water resources. They were least interested in archaeological resources and hazardous materials.
- ❖ **US 290 is one of the most congested roads in the state.** Most of the attendees had noticed traffic getting a lot worse on US 290 over the past year and they are looking forward to reliable drive time and spending less time sitting in traffic.
- ❖ **Start construction sooner than later.** Many of the attendees expressed their interest in wanting to see a change in the traffic conditions at the “Y” sooner rather than later. They support both Alternatives A and C and did not want to move forward with the No Build Alternative. They also believe that if toll financing ensures that US 290 and SH 71 improvements can be constructed sooner, we should obtain toll financing as long as the frontage roads remain un-tolled.

SURVEY RESULTS

QUESTION 1:

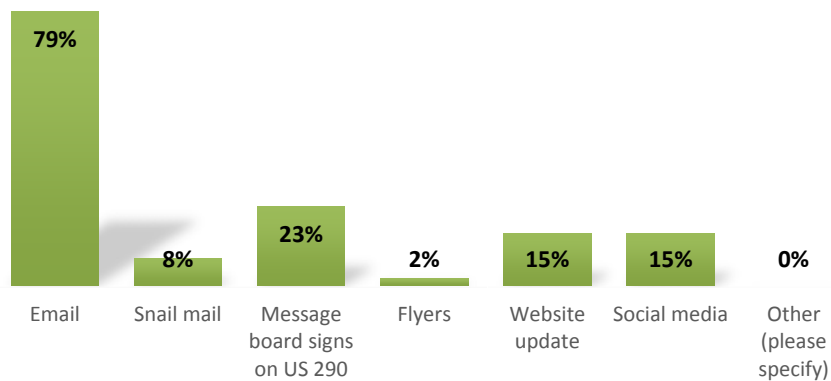
How did you hear about this workshop?



Other (Please specify)
<i>I wasn't able to attend</i>
<i>Oak Hill newspaper</i>
<i>Oak Hill Gazette</i>
<i>Oak Hill Gazette</i>
<i>Road signs</i>
<i>NextDoor</i>
<i>NextDoor/Scenic Brook Neighborhood</i>
<i>Oak Hill Gazette</i>

QUESTION 2:

How do you prefer to be invited to upcoming meetings? Check all that apply



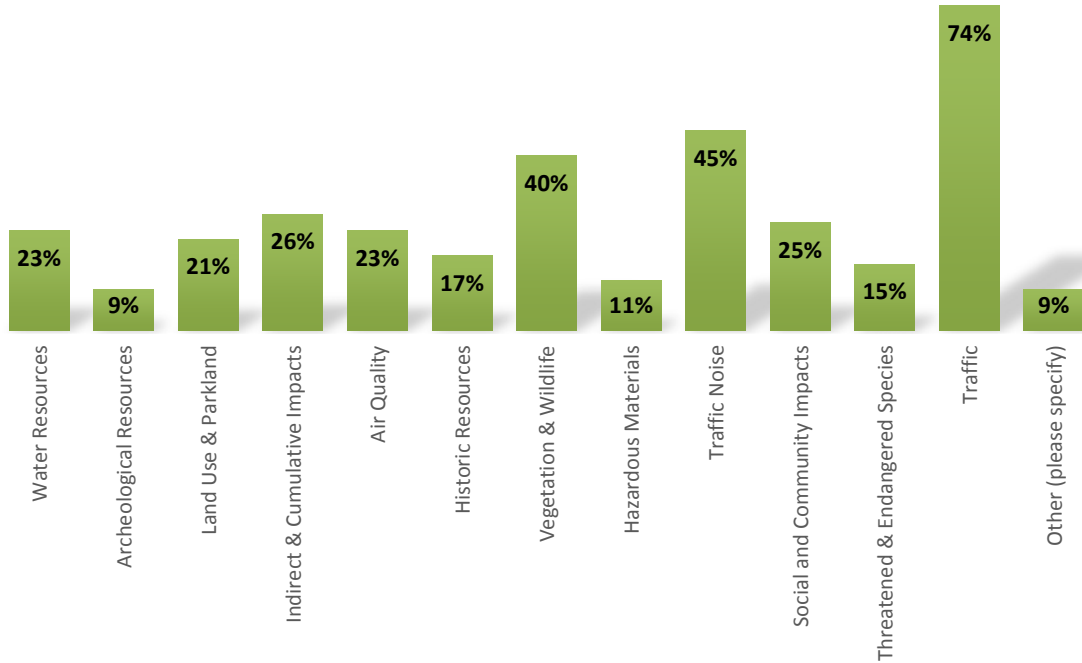
QUESTION 3:

It is important to us that we get the word out about the upcoming release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the public hearing event to Oak Hill neighbors, businesses, and commuters, and we're looking for new ideas of ways to reach out to the public. What are your thoughts? How can we reach more interested people with our meeting notices and invitations?

- ❖ NextDoor Neighbor
- ❖ Prepare a link and send it out so that people can cut and paste it to their neighborhood message boards through Nextdoor or other group emails. Put it in the Impact newspaper. Hand out info at the HEB / Randalls check out registers
- ❖ Inform the Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce if you haven't already.
- ❖ I think all the options in item 2 would be effective, except for flyers and maybe snail mail. Mentions in publications like Community Impact and the Oakhill Gazette and other neighborhood papers would help. Community Impact is good about updating work areas so a lot of people keep up with that.
- ❖ Mail sent to individual email address email list notifying us of meetings, checkpoints, decisions. Any chance for us to participate
- ❖ Info put in HEB and Wells Fargo parking lots
- ❖ Get people from each neighborhood to put it on NextDoor
- ❖ Info center or kiosk at HEB, Starbucks, McDonalds, Via313, any high traffic business
- ❖ The flashing sign got my attention, then I found the article in Oak Hill Gazette
- ❖ Put on NextDoor
- ❖ Use web survey advertised through message board sign and NextDoor announcement. Get more input from commuters using the route on daily basis
- ❖ NextDoor community info. website
- ❖ Reach people far in advance and provide opportunities for authentic input & questions. More than 1 public hearing date is justified and at times when more people can attend. 6 pm too early
- ❖ Southwest Community newspaper that comes in all mail
- ❖ Facebook
- ❖ Have a timeline - have dates when this will be started - How long it takes to be finished and what is going to be done if it's not finished in time. A
- ❖ Electronic signs are good
- ❖ Flyers, Mass mail out to area, TV station (coverage)
- ❖ Television spots (15 seconds?)
- ❖ Loved the message board on US 290. Consider distributing flyers through AISD schools, or include in their e-newsletters and PTA websites. Maybe a billboard near the Y.
- ❖ Message board Signs on US 290
- ❖ No comment.
- ❖ Put flyers up in local businesses wherever they give permission
- ❖ NextDoor Neighbor app is a great source for reaching the community. Many neighbors talk about their concerns and ideas through the NextDoor app. The City of Austin police, post updates all the time, which seems to reach a wide audience. Thanks.
- ❖ The EIS is now in +/- 3rd generation. Why not build on earlier studies rather than going back to "O" – Each year delay causes costs to increase +/- 7%. Just do something - soon!
- ❖ NextDoor, Oak Hill Gazette, Impact News
- ❖ Many new people have moved into O.H. including apartment dwellers who may not know of the project or impacts. Do real estate offices, OH businesses receive notices of meetings?
- ❖ Please keep traffic noise level down. Thanks
- ❖ Public Notices at Y business Email dist.

QUESTION 4:

The following are some of the topics that are being studied and will be presented in the Draft EIS and the public hearing. Which one(s) are you most interested in? (check all that apply)



Other (Please specify)

Preservation of riparian areas, compact design at Wm Cannon, preserve trees at Hampton Inn

I am most interested in getting through the "Y" faster! None of the above – just finish EIS and move ahead – been 35+/- years in the making.

Opportunities for improved land use, parkland, walk/bike trails, pedestrian traffic across 290, etc.

With the size and continued growth in Austin. We have to Build!! No matter what!

Aesthetic impacts

Roadway Light Pollution

Agencies (TxDOT/CTRMA) have had MANY YEARS to acquire land to retain & detain water runoff from the project. Home should not flood.

Heritage trees, old school, pizza bld., old residence next to pizza place

Safety esp reducing accidents and reducing cut through of neighborhoods

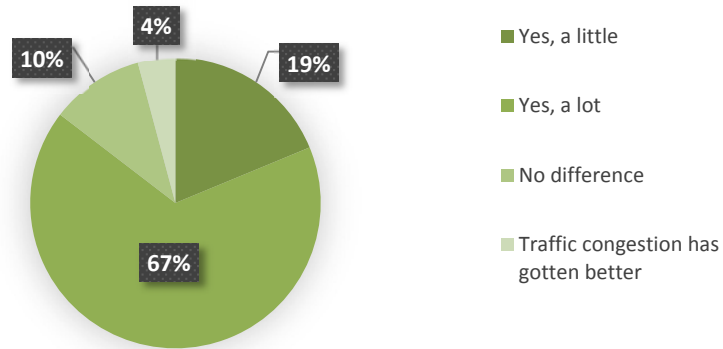
Safety

My second and third concerns are traffic and traffic.

Dark Sky Lighting

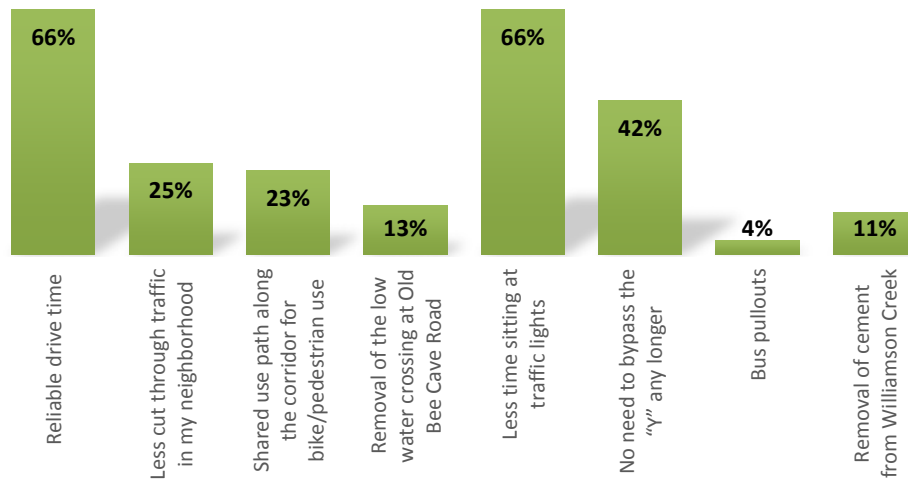
QUESTION 5:

According to Texas A&M Transportation Institute, US 290 is back on the list regarding the most congested roads in the state! Have you noticed traffic getting worse over the last year?



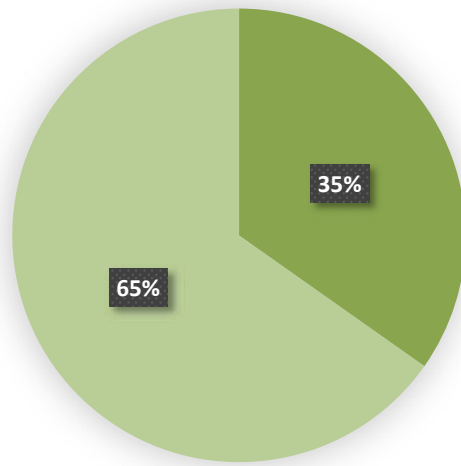
QUESTION 6:

If this project moves forward and is constructed, what are you most looking forward to? (check all that apply)



QUESTION 7:

Which is closer to your opinion?



- We should wait until the legislature approves funding for this road and use the state gas tax to construct this road no matter how long it takes to obtain funding.
- If toll financing ensures that US 290 and SH 71 improvements can be constructed sooner, we should obtain toll financing as long as the frontage roads remain un-tolled.

QUESTION 8:

Other Comments?

- ❖ Build Now!!
- ❖ If we're going to wait another 60 years to do a major overhaul of this intersection, I'd like this one to be build ASAP, with whatever funding sources necessary (including tolls), and I'd like it to be the most vehicle throughput possible. The area will continue to grow, and whatever will be built, will be outdated soon after it opens.
- ❖ Don't wreck the views and the quiet with high overpasses!
- ❖ I live right where the freeway ends (On Parkwood). The current configuration is a big safety hazard.
- ❖ San Antonio has Zero toll roads but continues to build freeways. Why do we have to have toll roads if they don't?
- ❖ I support both Alternatives A or C. I DO NOT support the No-Build alternative. I support tolling the new mainlanes.
- ❖ TOLL ROADS SUCK!!!!
- ❖ I'm looking forward to learning what the recommendation will be; I certainly hope that we will finally be able to move on with A or C. The Project Managers have done a great job to keep the public informed and engaged and I appreciate that.
- ❖ Tara Lane has only one way out and in. the exit out to 290 is not safe for the residents
- ❖ Move! 1985 was a long time ago
- ❖ Let's get this done ASAP. Both options look good.
- ❖ Build either A or C – Please
- ❖ Build either A or C
- ❖ The good of many people should not be influenced by the words of a few. This project is been needed for years and years please move forward with this
- ❖ Alternative C. We need safe roads to drive on
- ❖ We appreciate the environment concerns. But we are more interested in the safety and road improvement Alternative C
- ❖ Is removal of the low water crossing at Old Bee Cave Road necessary? Or raise it?
- ❖ The gas tax has not been raised since 1991(2). Given the power in state that won't happen any time soon. Without a raise in the gas tax #1 is not viable IMHO. I am against making this a toll, so never is #2

- ❖ Development along US 290 and 71 is occurring rapidly. There isn't much time to address the congestion problem at the Y. Quick action is needed.
- ❖ Quit stalling! Start building
- ❖ More attention to flood prevention. Flooding potentials and mitigation efforts must be clearly detailed in the environmental study. Shared use path is not promoted along creek in flood prone areas.
- ❖ Design flood mitigation for Williamson Creek. Development will continue to Dripping Springs, etc. There is a limit to how much water we can handle.
- ❖ Alternative C appears to be the best plan for: costs, environment, scalability, speed of construction. What everyone wants is for the project to hurry up. I don't want to wait and I don't want to spend \$800 yearly
- ❖ Increase gas tax 5 cents and have free roads
- ❖ NO TOLL ROADS
- ❖ The traffic projections are a fantasy. Look at how traffic has grown over the past 15 years. SW Austin has grown tremendously yet traffic has only increased modestly. These traffic counts are driving the width and # of lanes which cause more elevated sections and more trees removed. City bond will take care of the low water crossing. You left off fewer trees, more concrete, homeless under the bridge and bhsht at the Y. Phase the road, build in stages as money ca be gathered. Start @ Joe Tanner & Wm Cannon and move west. Ask Greg Abbott (about toll financing.)
- ❖ All this needs to happen!! All of the drawings look great and will improve many peoples quality of Life!!
- ❖ No Tolls!
- ❖ What did you do with the money allocated for this 25+ years ago?
- ❖ What about neighboring housing developments? Is there a way to get on and off 290? And way to turn opposite direction on 290? What about Seton hospital access? No Toll Road this is the only access for most residents onto West 290
- ❖ Great visuals. Thank you.
- ❖ No tolls. Why did it take so long? This is a good idea. What about Seton Hospital access? DO NOT MAKE TOLL ROAD!!!
- ❖ JUST BUILD IT - WHETHER A OR C
- ❖ Forgot to mention on previously filled out survey, I prefer Alternative C
- ❖ Forgot to add I prefer Alternative C
- ❖ I live on W. View Road and frequently visit businesses on the South-West side of 290, southwest of Circle Drive/Southview, primarily Automotive Specialists and a family that lives behind there. Also, 18 wheel tractor- trailers deliver to those businesses. Both Plans A and C remove that access.
- ❖ My main concern today, and the reason for coming to this meeting, was to address the current danger at Joe Tanner Rd. (just before and after the freeway ends). There is no proper signage, such as blinking lights, and reduce speed ahead. 18 wheelers and cars do not slow down, and businesses, neighbors, and thru traffic, have to cross in a very short time, to make U-turn (going East). I spoke to James R. Williams of TXDOT and will be emailing him. Please keep this area as a high safety priority for a short term fix! Thx.
- ❖ Get the legislature to approve a \$0.25/gallon tax increase and forget tolls. It's all about politics and getting re-elected-re-elected! Pathetic ethics-
- ❖ Construction is better than no construction but fuel tax should be increased due to increases in fuel efficiency effectively being a tax cut. Would make more sense than numerous toll roads throughout the state. No politician would ever increase fuel tax though and it would be a political suicide so I guess we are left w/ another toll road.
- ❖ Reduced traffic noise and accidents at th light @290 & Convict Hill
- ❖ The traffic projections that are driving this project scope and scale do not align with the historical trends (about 1.5% growth). To meet 2040 projections for this project requires 4.5% to 4.7% growth rates for traffic that is double population growth. I believe there are better alternatives. I've discussed with TXDOT and elected leaders that fall on deaf ears.
- ❖ When the EPA gets into the process and any other long gaps between meetings, I would appreciate a brief email status progress report. I and others start asking each other if we know anything or if maybe we got

accidentally dropped from the email list and are missing something important. Also, I would like to see a more descriptive list of the large number of historical sites such as what was found such as ruins of log cabin, Indian pottery, arrowheads... No specific locations info!! We have enough to start an OH history center as part of the neighborhood plans.

- ❖ No tolls, we already paid for this a long time ago.
- ❖ No tolls, minimize elevation, minimize tree removal, improve traffic flow, *minimize road noise after project is completion