



Event Summary

Oak Hill Parkway Project Informational Booth Dripping Springs Founders Day Festival

Saturday, April 23 & Sunday, April 24, 2016
Dripping Springs 78620 (Downtown)

On April 23 and 24, 2016, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (Mobility Authority) hosted an Oak Hill Parkway information booth at the Founders Day Festival in downtown Dripping Springs, TX. Project team members were on hand to answer questions about the project and to gather input from commuters who live in the Dripping Springs area about their experiences commuting on US 290 through Oak Hill to their respective workplaces/destinations.

The project team advertised about their participation in the event via the following methods:

- Notice on project website www.OakHillParkway.com
- Social media campaign on Twitter @OakHillParkway
- 3'x10' booth banner displaying project name, project website address, and logos of the sponsoring agencies - TxDOT and the Mobility Authority

Festival attendees who stopped at the information booth were provided with project fact sheets and with the opportunity to sign-up to receive project updates. 22 attendees signed up for the project mailing list to receive those periodic project updates, newsletters and public meeting notices via email and public hearing notices via United States Postal Service mail. Attendees were also given the option to highlight their "Creative Routes" of travel on a large area map to indicate ways they use alternate roadways to avoid driving through the congestion at the intersection of US 290 and SH 71 in Oak Hill.

The project team reported generally positive verbal comments from the public at the event; many attendees were in support of the project being built (at last). A few of the people who supported the project were also in support of the idea of a toll facility. Others supported the need for the project, but would like it to be non-tolled. One person communicated they would like to see a heavier public transportation element (light passenger rail, or bus rapid transit) integrated into the facility. One person commented that the route along US 290 from Dripping Springs to Oak Hills requires them to travel through 21 signalized intersections! And a number of folks knew of the Oak Hill Parkway project and were already on our mailing list to receive project updates.

As for "Creative Routes", multiple people said there was no alternative route to bypass the intersection of US 290 and SH 71 in Oak Hill. A few people had some very creative cut-through routes through neighborhoods to avoid the intersection and to get to Convict Hill or Southwest Parkway. Many said they cannot leave their homes after 7:30 am if they expect to get to their downtown Austin destinations on time in the morning. One person indicated that they leave Dripping Springs at 9:00 am, and it takes them a little less than an hour to get to their destination at MoPac and 35th street. The "Creative Routes" information and general input gathered from the public at the Dripping Springs Founders Day Festival will be incorporated into the environmental study by the project team.