City Staff Meeting Notes
City of Cleveland Meeting
Tuesday, January 19, 2022
Cleveland City Hall

Attendees
Jay Knight – Liberty County Judge
David Douglas – Liberty County Engineering Department Administrator & Flood Plain Manager
Alexis Cordova – Agri-Life Extension Agent
Robert Reynolds – Cleveland City Manager
Angela Smith – City of Cleveland
Stacy Williams – City of Cleveland
Thomas Gray – H-GAC
Michael Feeney – Kimley-Horn
Andi Vickers – Kimley-Horn

Notes by Topic

General
- There’s a “new breed” of subdivision developers coming into town; they buy roughly 9 acres right on the county roads
- This mobility study is part of the strategic plan for economic development (done in 2017), and they’re due for an updated strategic plan
- Hoping to include the smaller cities in the county as stakeholders, for feedback, etc
- They are considering zoning parts of SH 105 as residential as opposed to commercial

Transit
- Some/many people don’t even know that the transit system exists, so they’re working on advertising it more, especially on social media
- Elderly/infirm people take their wheelchairs onto Houston St and Peach St
- Currently buses only have capacity for one wheelchair at a time, so they need new buses
- Bus stops need to be upgraded; or have they recently been upgraded...

Active Modes
- Don’t have a lot of biking in the city currently, but they acknowledge that as more young people move to town, biking will likely become more popular
- They are developing a hike and bike trail
- They have been trying to get an elevated pedestrian bridge built over Houston St
  - Potential challenge: oversized loaded trucks

Thoroughfare Plan
- Northside Blvd to run from FM 2025 to Washington St; serving new schools to the north; accommodating significant truck traffic
• Pelican Rd (FM 2204) – connecting FM 787 to SH 105 to accommodate the industrial park north of 787; needs to be paved
• Many terrible crashes along the SH 105 bypass (where Payton is studying for the ISAs)
• Truck traffic comes into town from Louisiana via IH-10 and from Baytown via SH 321, trying to circumvent Houston; trucks are often oversized
• Trucks don’t often take the SH 105 bypass unfortunately
• Judge Knight wants proposed thoroughfare FM 2281
• They mentioned plans for a thoroughfare to pass through Plum Grove, is that on our map already?
• The railroad crossing at Hanson Rd is being closed
Source: Liberty County Thoroughfare Plan, H-GAC Open Data, TxDOT Roadway Inventory
City of Dayton Meeting
Tuesday, January 11, 2022
Dayton City Hall

Attendees:

Judge Jay Knight – Liberty County Judge
Commissioner Leon Wilson – Liberty County Precinct 4 Commissioner
David Douglas – Liberty County Engineer
Kimberly Judge – Dayton City Planner
Caroline Wadzeck – Mayor of Dayton
Steve Floyd – Dayton City Manager
Lisa Collins – TxDOT Beaumont District
Adam Jack – TxDOT Beaumont District (via Teams)
Mike Feeney – Kimley-Horn
Josie Ortiz – Kimley-Horn (via Teams)

Major Comments:

- Dayton (Mayor and Kimberly Judge) nor Liberty County (Judge, Commissioner and David) like the Waco Street alternative proposed by Goodman Corporation.
- Would prefer a grade separated crossing along Kempf Road that eventually ties back to SH 321 north of the High School.
- Adam Jack – “think big” including another river crossing and more rail grade separations.
- Kimberly Judge – Church Street at US 90 is currently problematic.
City of Liberty Meeting  
Thursday, January 13, 2022  
Liberty Municipal Building  

Attendees  
Judge Jay Knight – Liberty County Judge  
David Douglas – Liberty County Engineer  
Alexis Cordova – Agri-Life Extension Manager  
Tom Warner – City Manager  
Thomas Gray (virtual) – H-GAC  
Michael Feeney – Kimley-Horn  
Andi Vickers – Kimley-Horn  

Notes by Topic  

Courthouse Square  
- There is a consensus that there isn’t enough parking as-is, and there is a concern that taking away parking would be a major inconvenience to visitors and employees of the courthouse  
- They sited examples of other small-town courthouses where there is a garage separate around the corner or down the street, and they don’t seem to be fans of that  
- Some of our initial garage location ideas are infeasible  

Main Street  
- Tom’s vision for Main Street  
  - Mixed use, commercial  
  - Hoping that residential land use will move away from the corridor  
  - They are proposing zoning (we should review Pearland’s experience with that and provide guidance)  
  - Liberty is the 3rd oldest city in the state, there’s lots of history, politics, and emotion around Main  
  - Likely will need a continuous TWLTL  

Schools  
- Students are mostly not allowed to walk/bike to and from school; at one school, they can only walk/bike after all the buses have left, and that really discourages students  
  - I think that is so dumb, but whatever, I can’t force the schools to change their policies. I’d love to provide the area with more bike/ped facilities so maybe eventually they will change their policy, but that may be just wishful thinking.  
- The attendees approve of new striping around the school as well as a three-way stop at the intersection of Bowie & Grand  

Thoroughfare Plan  
- Widening of US 90 to begin in 2027 (TxDOT)
• Concern with an east-west bypass north of Liberty because of the levy/floodplain
• When IH-10 is closed, US 90 blows up
• Intersection of SH 146 bypass with US 90 has issues because of turning trucks
• ISD growth is anticipated because of new subdivisions
Liberty County Mobility Study

Thoroughfare Plan Recommendations

Type, Status
- Grand Parkway, Existing
- Grand Parkway, Proposed
- Freeway, Existing
- Freeway, Proposed
- Principal Arterial, Existing
- Principal Arterial, Proposed
- Minor Arterial, Existing
- Minor Arterial, Proposed
- Major Collector, Existing
- Major Collector, Proposed
- Minor Collector, Existing
- Minor Collector, Proposed

Grand Parkway Crossings
- Full Movement
- Ramps
- Bridge

Source: Liberty County Thoroughfare Plan, H-GAC Open Data, TxDOT Roadway Inventory
Brazos Transit District
Meeting Notes
Liberty County Mobility Plan
Meeting with Brazos Transit District
June 3, 2021, 10:00 AM
Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Taslima Khandaker – Brazos Transit District
Jo Marlow – Brazos Transit District
Thomas Gray – H-GAC
Carlene Mullins – H-GAC
Matt Rufo – Asakura Robinson
Michael Feeney – Kimley-Horn
Josie Ortiz – Kimley-Horn
Monica Powell – Kimley-Horn
Wesley Sprott – Kimley-Horn

Matt Rufo introduced Asakura Robinson’s role in the project and began introductions.

Matt Rufo
We are looking to take stock of the available transit provided in Liberty County; would like to find challenges / opportunities for Liberty County transit. Pointed questions to guide discussion:

1. Is ridership data available for current fixed route and paratransit service?
2. What current demand is not being met?
3. What are the current funding sources for service? Are these sustainable? What other funding options have been considered?
4. Are sources available to fund capital expenses like bus stops?
5. Is there interest in a regional connector network service, linking rural connectors to urban cores?
6. What, if any, other opportunities for enhanced service are available?

Taslima Khandaker
1. Ridership data is available; they have an Excel spreadsheet and it is uploaded monthly to GIS
2. Looking to connect more to major employment centers / other land uses they’re not currently serving
3. 5311 funds are being used for existing service; they also receive funding from the local municipalities – Cleveland, Dayton, Liberty and Ames
4. No sources are currently available for bus stops; would need to apply for TxDOT funding or local businesses for capital expenses like bus stops; this would need to be applied for on a project-by-project basis

Existing Service

- There are currently no landing pads or bus stops, as it is a flag-stop system. There are no fixed stops currently
- The current routes have received minor changes to smaller neighborhoods, but have not received major changes since service started
BTD to send approximate service start date for Liberty County

- Vehicles currently operating in Liberty County – one in Cleveland, one in Liberty, Dayton and Ames (collectively); more on-demand vehicles
  - BTD to send the overall number of fixed-route and on-demand vehicles currently operating in Liberty County
  - BTD to send summarized annual ridership data, if available; or monthly data if annual is not available; looking for ridership trend over past several years for both fixed route and on-demand
  - BTD to send cost per revenue hour of fixed route, ADA paratransit, and demand/response service for Liberty County

- For the Demand and Response service, there is always more demand than can be served. Trips are scheduled one week in advance and all timeslots are booked within 15 minutes of opening the schedule
- BTD has data on where they pick-up and drop-off customers; information would be good to show emerging hotspots for potential future
  - BTD to send heatmap showing annual pick-up and drop-off locations

Future Service

- Have not performed a survey to analyze needs for Liberty County, but would be willing to distribute one
  - BTD to send existing survey to Thomas / Matt for input on questions prior to distribution
  - Kimley-Horn to research upcoming events happening in Liberty County for distribution

- There may be a need for a fixed stop at the courthouse, but there have been no specific requests from the public for this
- Downtown Houston is a major employment center that would be good to connect to; would also like to focus on the local cities themselves and filling gaps where they exist (Dayton / Ames)

Funding

- Liberty County does not provide funding currently; it will be difficult to receive additional funding from the local partners, but opportunities may exist with local businesses
  - BTD to confirm that Liberty County is not currently a funding partner
- Fixed-route and ADA Paratransit services are currently fare-free because of COVID, but Demand and Response is not

Matt Rufo
We are looking to complete a summary memo over the next month; if BTD could send data within the next week or so, that would be great.

Thomas Gray
If there are any questions / thoughts over the next few days, feel free to reach out.
Union Pacific Meeting Notes
Liberty County Mobility Plan
Meeting with Union Pacific
May 24, 2021, 10:00 AM
Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Mike Burns – H-GAC
Thomas Gray – H-GAC
Michael Feeney – Kimley-Horn
Payton Arens – Kimley-Horn
Josie Ortiz – Kimley-Horn
Tyson Moeller – Union Pacific
Richard Zientek – Union Pacific

Michael Feeney gave an overview of the project and a quick run-through of what the upcoming Stakeholder meetings would be presenting.

Michael asked for Union Pacific’s general issues and needs concerning the Liberty County Study and any thoughts about roadways and railways. Bullet points are paraphrases from participants.

Tyson Moeller
- If no existing at-grade crossing, UP will be more resistant to an underpass (maintenance issues)
  - If there’s an at-grade crossing, would be more open to an underpass but would prefer overpass
- Industry continues to grow south of Dayton - volume of trains will only increase; trains are getting longer; there is no stop sign at Highway 90
  - As population increases, as well, roadway and railway traffic will continue to be conflicting
  - At-grade crossing should be addressed
- UP has presented a potential overpass in Dayton, but local partiers were not fully supportive
  - To make this relocation happen, TxDOT will need to champion the project

Other data needed:
- Houston Freight Mobility Study - HNTB; to come out shortly
- Map PTRA and UP

Contacts to explore:
- Jeff Norwood – PTRA
- Chad Covern – GIS contact
- Bruce Mann – Port of Houston (already in contact)
- Catherine – Gulf Coast Rail District
Cleveland Chamber of Commerce Meeting Notes
Attendees

Jim Carson – Cleveland Chamber of Commerce
Darrel Broussard – Cleveland Police Chief
Sean Anderson – Cleveland Fire Chief
Bobby Pennington – Cleveland City Manager
Chris Trotter – Cleveland ISD
Thomas Gray – H-GAC
Kadence Novak – Asakura Robinson
Josie Ortiz – Kimley-Horn

Kadence introduced their role in the project and asked:

*What are the biggest challenges today for people walking, biking or taking transit?*

- “Not many places to walk;” don’t have sidewalks, bike lanes, improved shoulders – lack of infrastructure forces people to walk in the streets / in the ditches / in the woods
- Lots of retired people – electric wheelchairs in left turn lane (Houston Ave / SH 321 as a major corridor where this happens)
  - Also low-income populations, those without licenses, those who just want to walk the few blocks to the grocery store
  - Several people have been hit in their wheelchairs making this movement
- Unsure if there is ROW to put sidewalks or bike lanes (utility easements on either side of SH 321)
- Grand Oaks is developing; no sidewalks near schools; currently using an officer to cross the major roadway
  - A couple of children have been hit
- FM 2025 is developing – two schools are being built in this area; no sidewalks or curb/gutter in this area either
  - High speed roadway; curves that limit visibility
- People doing these activities are not always aware of the traffic laws that exist
- Police try to educate people, both proactively and when people violate the laws
  - Not a lot of striping exists, so people just ride bikes where they want to
  - Some ride without lighting
  - Sometimes there are large groups of kids walking which takes up a full lane of traffic because there is nowhere else for them to walk; coincides with first and last bell of school for the majority; occasionally see it outside of school hours
- School has changed the flow of traffic internal to school sites and that has helped some; speed limit is 35 mph when school is in session; 50 mph when school is not in session; this section of roadway is TxDOT ROW; a lot of kids live in the three apartment complexes across the street; deep ditches on either side of the roadway
When children are walking to/from school, they are using the entrance/exit lanes from the parking lots because there’s no other way to cross the ditches.

- No existing protected crossings because there are not a lot of sidewalks.

**Can you describe the locations of the electric wheelchair use?**

- Lots of retired people along Peach Avenue – get in the middle of the road because there’s nowhere to walk.
- Going to the grocery store (Brookshire Brothers).
- No sidewalks between new subdivision and school/retail area; kids are walking in the woods because there is not a safer path.
- FM 787; large apartment complex on east side (1900 block); gov housing on west side (600 block) – lots of people that walk in this area (Franklin Street) – no sidewalk, no improved shoulders; very commercial area with lots of large trucks.
  - From Houston, down Easy St to Nevell (parallel to Peach Ave; several manufactured home communities).

**Sounds like a lot of the folks are walking or rolling (wheelchairs); are there any challenges for bikers or transit users?**

- A little bit of both.
- Brazos Transit District does not have any stops/pads; adds to lack of infrastructure.

**Looking at the data from the existing BTD fixed route and where people are getting on and off in Cleveland, it seems like a lot of folks are getting on around Nevell Street around courthouses and a lot of activity near the HEB and the Walmart.**

- Nevell/Peach is where the retirement home is; Meals on Wheels is located here too.

**If you could do anything (no constraints), what is your vision for people walking, biking or taking transit in your community? Includes policies/programs that you would like to implement.**

- Should abide by all traffic laws (education needed).
- Pedestrian overpass for school (but doesn’t solve problem of walking along the street).
- Sidewalks from Grand Oaks subdivision to Brookshire Brothers along SH 321; at least on one side of the roadway.
- Bike lane with option for wheelchair users to use as well (shared use path).
- Push-button activated protective crossings.
- Education – social media campaigns have been used previously; can use these again.
- Paint dedicated bike lane on the streets (San Jacinto Ave parallels Washington – may be better option).

**Are there are other things that surrounding cities/communities have done that are working well that you all would like to see in Cleveland?**

- SH 105 east into Beaumont area have bike lanes; includes signage and heavy marking with stencils for safety.
- Dedicated bike lanes all over City of Houston; Cleveland has Comp Plan that connects sidewalks that would parallel Houston; planned sidewalk for ped/cyclists that would get them to City Hall, park, police station.
- Light around 7th and Yale in the Heights (“toucan crossing”) to be used around the High School.
- Armadillo-like protectors/physical buffers.
Are there people looking for off-street connections to go across town or across the County?
  • Loop 573 / Washington area – Major HEB and Jack in the Box on that end of the town; no sidewalks or bike lanes
  • Helpful to have sidewalks on 105 and access that at least parallels the road

Any other questions or comments? Either for us or each other?
  • About to start $1M of street overlay improvements
  • Hoping to connect Civic Center back into town
  • Have a Phase 2 for a CBDG grant for a sidewalk project they’ve already started
  • Want to link parks together
  • CDBG funding that has been received was specified for business districts; maybe there’s a way to get funding that is more flexible

Kadence shared their email for further thoughts: kadence@asakurarobinson.com

Thomas thanked everyone for their time and feedback and closed the meeting.
Steering Committee Meeting
Notes
Liberty County Mobility Study

Steering Committee Meeting #1
December 2, 2020
11:00 AM
Microsoft Teams

Thomas Gray gave an introduction to the meeting and the overall project and started the introductions.

1. Introductions

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<td>Liberty County</td>
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<td>Kimberly Judge</td>
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<td>City of Cleveland</td>
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2. Project Overview

Michael Feeney presented the project overview. Study purpose is to conduct a study and develop a comprehensive Mobility Study for Liberty County, the final report will include a section for each of the three participating cities. The overall schedule was also reviewed.
3. **Vision and Goals – DRAFT**

Michael Feeney presented the draft vision and goals for the Mobility Study. Thomas Gray clarified that the study will not just be for vehicles, but also for bicycles/pedestrians/transit.

David Douglas expressed his approval of the vision; no other comments regarding vision or goals were received during the meeting.

*David Douglas:* Ann Miller (Dayton Economic Development) should be added to Steering Committee for Dayton. Can Google her contact information. Kimberly Judge sent contact information in the Teams chat: Ann Miller, Executive Director, 936-257-0055.

*Patti Joiner:* Steering Committee should think of policy changes that need to be made to accommodate future changes, as well as engineering issues.

4. **Public Involvement Plan**

Michael Feeney presented a general overview of the Public Involvement Plan and examples of online involvement tools that KH has used previously.

Michael and Thomas suggested that perhaps UPRR and the Brazos Transit District should be included on the Stakeholder group rather than the Steering Committee.

*David Douglas:* Addition of Ann Miller is sufficient. We don’t want the Study to be skewed to certain routes based on special interest groups. David will call Thomas later. David would like to look into a bypass for the City of Dayton; there are strong freight issues that if were addressed would help a lot.

*Kimberly Judge:* City of Dayton is very interested in a bypass.

*David Douglas:* They have been interested for 25 years but haven’t been able to figure out how to get it done. Need to move heavy freight trucks off US 90 through Dayton.

*Thomas Gray:* Will touch on routes in next section. Have determined that UPRR and Brazos Transit should be included in Stakeholder group rather than Steering Committee.

*Bobby Pennington:* Interested in a bypass; Mobility Study will help to show the need for one; it’s what the community needs.

Michael asked for everyone to identify an alternate representative for the Steering Committee.

Thomas to send a PDF copy of the presentation to the group after the meeting.

Michael asked for everyone to send recommendations of others that should be included on the Stakeholder group.

*Kimberly Judge:* Adding school districts (Jessica Johnson as a contact for Dayton ISD) is very important.
Thomas: Cleveland School District is one of the fastest growing School Districts in the area; definitely important to bring them in. Please pass along contact information for other ISDs if you have them.

Michael presented on public meeting overview; added that we would like to get a list of community events that we may be able to attend to gather information.

David Douglas: Recommends contacting each of the City Managers to get a list of events; e.g. gun show, Liberty Jubilee.

Bobby: Can send available dates for Civic Center.

Michael reiterated – we want to hear as much feedback from everybody that we can.

5. Identified Issues and Needs

Michael Feeney presented the study corridors and intersections for each of the cities to receive comments on.

Cleveland

Bobby: Cleveland corridors look correct; Intersection #1 (FM 2025 at US 59) – there’s a lot going on there and should be seen as a priority but will be a challenging one to address; should be coordinated with TxDOT. Issues include schools, Love’s truck stop, Quik Trip and another pending development.

Michael will drive out there and take a site visit.

Bobby: School to go just north of that intersection. There’s a Love’s truck stop there that is renovating; another gas station on the other corner. Reiterated that intersection is going to require “a lot of thought.”

David Douglas: Is Noel looking at area near Plum Grove?

Noel Salac: FM 1010 at FM 2090 should be looked at. Currently looking at things, but should be studied. Lots of traffic coming from growth in Plum Grove area.

Bobby: Had something on the plan to parallel 1010 through Plum Grove to provide an alternative. FM 1010 will be burdened with traffic as area grows.

Patti: We would like to work with City and County to look at current and future platting activity.

Bobby: Near Intersection #3, there are several plats for a neighborhood of close to 1,000 homes. On the other side of 105, in Montgomery County along Morgan Cemetery Road?

Kimberly Judge: Will send plats from Dayton.

City of Dayton
Theo/Kimberly: Look at Lovers Lane/Brown Road corridors from SH 146 to FM 1409; County has 30’ easement. Kimberly to send this information. A US 90 grade separation over the rail would be nice and is already included in current TIP.

City of Liberty

Chris Jarmon: Section S – have had fatalities on 146; increased truck traffic makes Section S a big safety concern.

6. Existing Conditions

Josie Ortiz presented existing conditions and data collection and requested entities to provide all available data: ArcGIS shapefiles, CIP information, existing plans, etc.

David Douglas: will send available Liberty County GIS data; David to reach out to LJA (their contracted Consultant) to provide their data on platting, etc.

7. Steering Committee Comments

Taken throughout presentation, rather than as a separate item.

Bobby Pennington: can Cleveland apply for FTA 5310 Call for Projects administered by METRO. Thomas suggested that Bobby contact Albert Lyne at METRO, but that Cleveland probably wouldn’t qualify as they were outside of Houston UZA.

Jeff English: Austin is currently holding TIP for fiscal constraint.

8. Next Steps

Michael presented next steps and clarified that we do have budget for additional data collection if need be.

Everything should go through Thomas to have a single point of contact on the project. Send all data and information to Thomas and he will disperse as necessary.

Thomas Gray showed the project website and the data dashboard (currently under development) to the Steering Committee.

ACTION ITEMS

H-GAC

- Add Ann Miller to Steering Committee, Dayton Community Development Corporation, Executive Director, 936-257-0055
- Include UPRR and Brazos Transit District on Stakeholder group
- Send PDF of presentation to group
- Add gun show and Liberty Jubilee to running list of potential community events
• Events happening at the Civic Centers in Liberty, Dayton, and Cleveland will be good opportunities to gather public feedback

**Steering Committee**

• List of policies that should be revisited to allow future changes
• Identify alternate members for Steering Committee participation
• List of recommendations, and contact information if possible, for future members of Stakeholder group
• List of community events where we could conduct outreach during the Study
• Send available data:
  o Plats (AutoCAD, ArcGIS, PDF, etc)
  o ArcGIS shapefiles
  o CIP info/data
  o Existing plans

**Consulting Team**

• Consider/analyze bypass for City of Dayton in Study
• Look at Intersection #1 closely – priority and will be difficult; coordination with TxDOT needed (site visit)
• 1010 and 2090 should be looked at. Lots of traffic coming from growth in Plum Grove area.
• Add Brown Road as E-W corridor in Dayton
• Focus on Section S as safety concern
Thomas Gray gave an introduction to the meeting.

Michael Feeney introduced the consultant team and led the open discussion.

1. Big Picture Open Discussion

Theo Melancon – City Manager, City of Dayton

Success

- Actionable plans to deal with vehicular traffic from one end of town to the other as well as the expansion of transit, biking and walking
• Consider overpass/bypass
• Safety both for vehicular traffic and alternative transportation

Priorities

• How to coordinate transportation with railroad; Dayton has mainline and a spur at-grade that cut off major thoroughfares and also flood; disruption of traffic during rush hour; consider grade-separated crossings
• Tie state highways into Grand Parkway; how to address future loop around Dayton

Challenges/Opportunities

• How to use Grand Parkway (SH 99) as defacto loop; SH 99 will spur development
• Coordinate with UP and TxDOT to get overpass
• Inner loop opportunities to move traffic within AND around city
• River bottom is biggest hurdle; need second entry point from east but environmental issues will be a challenge
• Dayton has E-W and N-S travel issues
  o Possible signalization or expansion of intersections to improve LOS
  o Possible future bypasses, overpasses, or loops around Dayton
• Population growth will be explosive; population centers may pop up that are currently unforeseen
• Need help with ordinances (i.e. access control onto highways) to get ahead of development issues

Kimberly Judge – City of Dayton

• Agree with Theo
• Emphasis on cohesive traffic plan to relieve traffic throughout the County

Ann Miller – Dayton Community Development Corporation

Challenges/Opportunities

• Industry coming to Dayton that will use freight routes and rail; need to plan for this
• Walkability, bike facilities, and transit will need to be a focus as this will be a demand in the future

Tom Warner – City of Liberty

Success

• Reduce congestion on Loop 227 – currently there is a 3-lane section that experiences traffic backup at the signal
• SH 146 at the bypass

Priorities

• Same as above
• Undersized turning radii locally

Challenges/Opportunities

• Highway 90 as biggest issue for County; will need to take care not to impact local businesses

Noel Salac / Lisa Collins – TxDOT Planning Engineer, Beaumont District

Priorities

• SH 146, SH 321, US 90 as large spines for connectivity, mobility and safety (hurricane evacuations)

Challenges/Opportunities

• US 90 between Liberty and Devers – project coming up; will be opportunity to address pedestrian access and cycling; would be the time to address these issues
  ◦ Will be finished in 2024
• FM 1413 grade separation project is letting this fall (2021)
• Overlay projects on US 90 west of Dayton to County Line
• FM 1413 is a safety issue
• Developers coming in west of Dayton looking for access of US 90
• FM 2025 – trying to get connections into IH-69/US 59
• US-59/IH-69
  ◦ South of Cleveland is currently being constructed as 6-lane interstate section
  ◦ North of Cleveland from SL 573 north is designed as a 4-lane facility from Cleveland into San Jacinto Co line, into Shepard, TX. Beyond that will be under the Lufkin District.
• Lesson learned from Chambers County mobility issues – need strong access management
• Open land along SH 105 bypass and south of US-90 generating interest from developers

Other Comments

• TxDOT would like to assist local municipalities in realizing their long-term visions
• BNSF planning a facility west of Cleveland (Thomas Gray)

2. Vision, Goals & Metrics

Michael Feeney presented vision, goals, and metrics and requested that the group give comments or send Thomas a note after the meeting

No comments received during meeting.
3. Study Corridors & Intersections

Josie Ortiz presented the study corridors and intersections, highlighting the ones that had been added per the comments from the previous meeting.

Noel Salac – glad to see FM 1010 @ FM 2090 (Intersection 22) added to this list.

4. Public Outreach Tools

Josie Ortiz presented H-GAC’s Data Dashboard that is available on H-GAC’s project website.

Thomas Gray presented the community outreach tool, Bang the Table (BTT), that will be used for public input during the project. The site is not live yet, but it will be open for several weeks once active.

Lisa Collins – Does BTT automatically collect responses and provide statistics or does it need to be scrubbed by Kimley-Horn after?

Thomas Gray – Data goes to H-GAC, as they have signed on directly with BTT; there is a statistics page with summaries

Michael Feeney – Site produces graphs and tables; easy to use

Allie Isbell – BTT also works from a cell phone and is handy to provide input while in the field using the app. H-GAC will also provide a short video instructing how to leave a comment using the map. The survey will be open a few weeks before and after the public meeting (generally between April 15 - May 13).

Tom Warner – I haven’t seen anything in the presentation regarding schools; there are schools where traffic is causing backups onto State Highways; school bus traffic on State Highways that are stopping traffic; safety issues with kids getting on/off bus

Thomas Gray – The study will address school traffic and will consider these comments.

5. Next Steps

Michael Feeney went over the agenda for the public meeting.

Allie Isbell – We are still figuring out how to broadcast the video about the public comment demonstration; will be a pre-recorded presentation with audio; study team will be there live to answer questions

Michael Feeney – Thomas Gray will send out links and information to Steering Committee members so the entities can advertise through their channels/websites.

Michael Feeney went through next steps and extended the data submission deadline to March 12.

Patti Joiner requested data from Steering Committee regarding schools (traffic issues, proposed schools), platting/development, etc.
Thomas Gray – Schools will also be represented on Stakeholder Committee invitations; will send information to Steering Committee about Stakeholder Committee representation and proposed meetings.

6. Thank You! Further Discussion

Michael Feeney presented the project website address and contact information for Thomas and Allie of H-GAC.

Savannah Cunningham introduced herself as representing Bobby Pennington of City of Cleveland to take notes and relay information.

Theo Melancon – Thank you and looking forward to final product

Thomas Gray – Will send presentation and meeting notes to all, as well as proposed Stakeholder Committee lists; feel free to send email with any questions and/or comments.

Michael Feeney asked for final comments, thanked participants, and closed the meeting.
Thomas Gray gave an introduction to the meeting and gave an update on what we have been doing since the last Steering Committee meeting on March 10, 2021.

1. **Progress Report**

   Michael Feeney presented the schedule that we have achieved to date as well as the public input that has been received so far.

2. **Congestion Summary**

   Michael Feeney presented existing levels of service, preliminary recommendations, and projected future levels of service if recommendations are implemented. He also presented small area “site visits” for future discussion and the Liberty ISD school congestion issues.
Comments:

Kimberly Judge
Flyover at Waco and US 90 – currently discussing the option of an elevated T or a fly-over over the railroad tracks – is talking to Noel Salac and Chad Bohne; previously discussed an option to get rid of Waco, but if SH 321 underpass floods, it would be difficult for people to cross the City; looking forward to more information about this intersection

Lisa Collins – TX Beaumont District
Looking to determine best path forward for that intersection; in the process of hiring a consultant to determine best option

Noel Salac
Agree with Lisa; there is a lot of discussion about grade separation at US 90, but need to look at all solutions. Have been working with Chad Bohne and TPD Director Adam Jack at the most recent meeting. Constrained by SH 146, many ROW impacts, but are looking at all options.

FM 2025 in Cleveland – looking to develop a 4-lane boulevard section between 2025 and near where 573 and IH 69 meet; Cleveland ISD is building out this area; TxDOT is looking to make changes to geometries of frontage road as well as signals in the area to accommodate the changes. School is looking to open in fall of next year. Talk with Cleveland ISD Superintendent, Chris Trotter, for more information; he is also talking with City of Cleveland.

Improvement to the FM 2025 bridge is high priority for the City; TxDOT is working with the ISD to better configure the signals in the area.

Kimberly Judge
Trying to connect Waco north of US 90 and realign it. Kimberly mentioned they have some draft sketches of this area and she will send them to Thomas.

Tom Warner
Main is a TxDOT roadway from about MLK to Grand Street; TxDOT ROW is up to the curb on the west side, up to the buildings on the east side; want to keep that small-town feel. The streets around the courthouse have been like that for at least 40 years. City’s ROW line is to the building faces on the east side and generally to the curb line on the west side.

Michael Feeney asked about potentially removing the parking on-street and how that might be received.

Tom indicated it may be received well. Everyone other than employees have to enter on west side of building. There is some parking close to City Hall. Politicians are the ones who are likely to park closer to the building. East of Main Street there is a green open space – could potentially be used for parking; not currently owned by City.

Around Grand Street to the north, there’s a possibility of doing some limited takings to do geometric changes to the intersections to improve levels of service.
One of the problems is that for years people have been allowed to back out onto Main Street, but they have no other place to park. Further north around Jefferson / Loop 227, there may be more ability to do some geometric changes.

Have filed a grant with TxDOT to do sidewalks for 16 blocks in the downtown area; should hear back from TxDOT in October on a funding decision.

3. Connectivity Analyses

Josie Ortiz presented the connectivity analyses to date, including the Geographic Information System analyses, the future corridor barriers and limitations, and ultimate DRAFT thoroughfare recommendations. Michael Feeney mentioned one ultimate recommendation will be to do a formal Thoroughfare Plan that will require a more extensive public outreach process as well as approval from the County Commissioners.

Michael Feeney presented potential alternatives for a Dayton bypass and the existing railroad crossings.

Comments:

David Douglas
Received another plat from Trey Harris (Colony Ridge developer) for Santa Fe Section 12 that has 2,000 lots in it. Over on FM 1008, there are 4 nice subdivisions going in that are beginning to strangle 1008 north and south. Tarkington Prairie development on SH 321 just purchased 900 acres; need to choose what direction we want to go for improvements.

Patti Joiner asked if developers have taken advice about putting in Major Thoroughfares or are they stiff-arming the City?

There is a good working relationship with Colony Ridge and they are receptive to making changes. Overall, their new products are much better than what was offered 10 years ago.

Starter homes in Liberty County are running around $220K-$250K. 2-5 acre lots with $400K house on it.

Kimberly Judge
Over here (Dayton area), new homes are probably around $220K.

Patti Joiner
It would be good to talk about support for common regulations and design standards to move forward. If the County / cities need help having this conversation in the future, we would be happy to help.

Noel Salac
David mentioned Trey Harris and his developments. Thinking of the area south of Cleveland, Liberty County passed a resolution as a statement of support for the continuation of FM 1010. TxDOT would need to work with Liberty County to identify issues (a large ROW section would need to be acquired for this to happen).

David Douglas
The situation up there is very different. There was some conversation about improvement around 1010
and letting it pick up Plum Grove Road to solve that problem, but there are a lot of politics that need to be worked through before a decision can be made.

Design standards are getting better for that area and negotiations are involved in that, as well. At some point, it will all need to get worked out, but likely in the long term.

Tom Warner
Since we last talked, at FM 1011 and SH 146, there is the potential for a hospital. Further north at McGuire Road, there is potential for a 400-acre development that would “T” into 146. Further north, a nursing home (on hold for funding). Further north, new sheriff’s office annex and jail (under construction). Just north of that, another 220-home development that is in discussions with the County now. Northern portion of 146 may have more traffic than what you planned for in this analysis. Can provide numbers on the hospital, but the others are in early stages and won’t have numbers for that now.

4. Transit Summary
Josie Ortiz presented existing transit operations and ridership data for transit, with data from the Brazos Transit District.

5. Bicycle / Ped Summary
Josie Ortiz presented existing infrastructure and ridership data for bicycle and pedestrians, with information received from bicycle advocate groups in the County.

6. Policy / Practice Recommendations
Patti Joiner presented the overall regulation and state/local ordinance processes. Patti explained the detail for the draft policy and practice recommendations and how they relate to roadway planning and the ultimate roadway construction. There was an emphasis on having common standards across the County. Patti discussed interlocal agreements in Chapter 242 of the Texas Local Government Code that would allow policymakers to make changes.

7. Next Steps
Michael Feeney presented the next steps and mentioned that we are still on track to provide the final document within the original general timeframe.

If anyone has additional information, please pass it on to Thomas and he will forward it.

8. Thank You! Further Discussion
Thomas Gray
We know we are working on a plan in the middle of substantial development occurring, so we understand it is difficult to incorporate it all together.

Michael Feeney
The policy and practice recommendations should help future planning. A recommendation will also be to perform a formal Thoroughfare Plan for the County.

Thomas Gray
H-GAC has done multiple Thoroughfare Plans in other counties.

Patti Joiner
Life safety issues should be taken into account when planning for future development and roadways, as well. Standards should be coordinated regionally rather than locally.

Thomas Gray
We got great feedback today. We will start looking at more concrete recommendations. Expect to be hearing from us more frequently now that we’ve finished gathering information; we will be looking for more guidance from the Steering Committee.
Thomas Gray gave an introduction to the meeting and gave an update on what we have been doing since the last Steering Committee meeting on September 7, 2021.
Thomas Gray gave an introduction to the meeting and talked about the agenda for the meeting. He asked for comments back on the draft report by July 29, 2022.

Michael Feeney went over the vision, goals, and performance metrics. He talked about the outreach that has occurred throughout the duration of the project.

Michael Feeney flipped through the report to present some highlights and went over the recommendations at the end of the report.

David Douglas asked for special graphics showing the areas of Plum Grove connected to the Grand Parkway and connections to River Ranch.
Stakeholder Meeting Notes
Liberty County Mobility Study
Stakeholder Meeting #1
Cleveland Area
May 25, 2021
10:00 AM
Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Attendee</th>
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<tr>
<td>BNSF</td>
<td>Gary Laffoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cleveland Police Department</td>
<td>Chief Darrel Broussard</td>
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<td>Cornerstone Church &amp; Chair of Transportation Committee for Greater Cleveland Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>Timothy Magee</td>
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<td>Cleveland Emergency Hospitals</td>
<td>Raylene Atkinson</td>
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<td>Jeremy Allen</td>
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<td>Neeru Khanuja</td>
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<td>Keven Sandoval</td>
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*All live chat was paraphrased below

Thomas Gray welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the team.
Michael Feeney asked the Stakeholders: What does success look like to you, what are your priorities, what are the biggest challenges and opportunities for transportation in the County?

Jeremy Allen – Cleveland Emergency Hospitals
Success – a cut-through across the railroad tracks on Travis in front of their hospital; very dangerous for EMS; have community support for this; would require a cut-through for the railroad.

Neeru Khanuja – Cleveland Emergency Hospitals
Chief Operating Officer at Hospital, located at 1017 S Travis; have been open since fall of 2015; increased number of patients; increased traffic; concerned about safety of community as emergency vehicles go through; lots of flooding on that road. There are no sidewalks on this road either, forcing pedestrians and vehicles to share the same pavement.

Chief Broussard – Cleveland Chief of Police
Agree with those comments.
Timothy Magee – Cornerstone Church and Chair of Chamber’s Transportation Committee
Agreed with the above. Concern that if they add a train crossing here, they will lose another one somewhere else, and do not want that.

Chief Broussard – Cleveland Chief of Police
Would be happy to send drone footage.

Mike Feeney
We’ll take you up on the drone footage.

Timothy Magee – Cornerstone Church
Do we need to go over the City’s top 10 requests?

Thomas Gray
We have those later in these slides and will go over them.

Timothy Magee – Cornerstone Church
Cleveland ISD has purchased 80 acres and are looking to build a new road from FM 2025 to Loop 573; already an underpass and overpass, but 573 dead-ends right there; working with TxDOT to give a back door to the school and an additional access to 2025. Will send Thomas a slide he has put together and minutes from the Transportation Committee’s meeting.

Gary Laffoon – BNSF
Rail safety is our number 1 concern. New logistics center off Fostoria Road to break ground in the fall; will create increased truck traffic (most likely looping over to 59/69 to head back to Houston) and commuter traffic from employees in the near future. Working with Robert Reynolds, Mayor of Cleveland, for the 1200-acre park. Dayton yard is also getting congested. Would be happy to answer any questions regarding BNSF.

The 1,200 acres will be a Logistics Center for BNSF and receive containers and raw materials (i.e. aggregate) that will then be shifted to trucks.

Michael Feeney
We know Union Pacific is open to conversation as well. Can you define logistics center?

Gary Laffoon – BNSF
It is a rail-served industrial park to serve all commodities and house others who wish to work out of the area.

Patti Joiner
Do you have an idea of your net-buildable area so we can back in and estimate traffic to / from this facility?

Gary Laffoon – BNSF
Hard to tell right now. I can try to come up with a ballpark, but it depends on what types of companies decide to locate there.

Michael Feeney
Something like an Amazon facility?
Gary Laffoon – BNSF
This facility will be more industrial, merely manifest and potentially unit trains.

Patti Joiner
Could you give a range of square footage? Trying to plan for CIP.

Gary Laffoon – BNSF
Will get you a general estimate.

Jeremy Allen – Cleveland Emergency Hospitals
Would like to invite you out to the hospital to look at the cut-over to get your opinions.

Thomas Gray
Would need to talk to UP because that is their facility.

Timothy Magee – Cornerstone Church
Just emailed Thomas the drone footage and jpeg of new facility. (Thomas confirmed receipt.)

Michael Feeney presented vision and goals, as well as study corridors and intersections. He introduced the project website and how to leave feedback.

Josie Ortiz presented existing conditions maps and pointed to questions for each.

Thomas Gray introduced the public involvement map and gave his contact information. Thomas added pins for the hospital and the rail-served industrial park as previously discussed in the meeting.

Timothy Magee
Church backs up to new industrial park – will there be access only to Fostoria?

Gary Laffoon – BNSF
I believe only to Fostoria, yes.

Patti Joiner
In addition to square footage estimate, could you provide land plan for the site? Single point of access could be problematic.

Michael Feeney presented the web address and Thomas / Allie’s contact information again. Michael thanked the participants for comments.

Thomas Gray thanked everyone as well. Described next steps after study to be planning for future growth; explained that there will be different levels of implementation – short and long-range.

Timothy Magee – Cornerstone Church
Will send Thomas a Zoom link to the Transportation Committee meeting

Michael Feeney
If you need Monica or Josie to attend, they can do that if needed.

Thomas Gray reiterated that the team will come back to this group in the fall and thanked the group again, requesting comments both on the map and through his contact information. Thomas closed the meeting at 10:55.
Thomas Gray welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the team.

Michael Feeley asked the Stakeholders: What does success look like to you, what are your priorities, what are the biggest challenges and opportunities for transportation in the County?

Robert Ward – Liberty ISD
SH 146 bypass; traffic growing more and is a safety issue; only a 2-lane road; a turning lane at the Lee College entrance would be helpful.

Jessica Johnson – Dayton ISD
Reiterate what Mr. Ward said. 146 bypass has been a concern; Superintendents have met with TxDOT to ask for something to be done; biggest concern in Dayton is that all roads converge in Dayton. SH 321 underpass under railroad usually shut down with heavy rain and becomes gridlocked; emergency vehicles can’t get through. The other day, flooding occurred and kids couldn’t get home until 7:15. Many people at the schools don’t live in the city limits. Underpass under 321, US 90 outside of Dayton; if a train comes, we can’t get across town.
Bruce Mann – Port of Houston
With segments H&I for Grand Parkway being built, more industry will be built; need to keep an eye on where freight will be moving and take that into account.

Michael Feeney
We spoke with Union Pacific and chatted about their concerns as well.

Bruce Mann – Port of Houston
You probably also spoke with BNSF about their industrial park coming.

Thomas Gray
Yes, we did.

Rob Vine – Dayton Police Department
26,000 cars travel US 90 every day; most of them will be commuters. Once Hwy 321 underpass is flooded (happens often) and when trains come through, our access across town is shut down. Some type of loop would be difficult through river bottoms but would provide some relief and would improve safety.

Thomas Gray
This is good feedback and provides us another data point that tells us these are important issues.

Jessica Johnson – Dayton ISD
We have a lot of rooftop developments, specifically out 146 and another one in Phase 2 off FM 1008 and there is only one way in and one way out (1008); more development coming out 321 and I understand acreage has been sold; more development coming out Hwy 90. More cars and buses and emergency vehicles on the road with that development.

Gary Martin – Liberty Police Department
When does TxDOT anticipate finishing Hwy 90?

Josie Ortiz (answered per chat)
The notes from the public meeting show TxDOT initial discussions to begin around 2024 from Liberty to Ames. They are looking at an overlay and access control issues for Dayton in general (to begin around mid-2022).

Bruce Mann – Port of Houston (comment in chat)
Maybe look at the TxDOT truck parking study and see if there is anything to consider in relation to that.

Michael Feeney presented vision and goals, as well as study corridors and intersections. He introduced the project website and how to leave feedback.

Josie Ortiz presented existing conditions maps and pointed questions for each.

Thomas Gray introduced the public involvement map and gave his contact information. Thomas added a pin and comment for the underpass on SH 321/Cleveland St, as discussed previously in the meeting. Thomas asked if there were other pins he should add at this time. No comments were received so Thomas reiterated that the map would be open for a few more days if others wanted to add pins.
**Michael Feeney**  
Can you add a pin to the college entrance?

**Thomas Gray** added a pin near Lee College on the 146 bypass.

*Michael Feeney presented the web address and Thomas / Allie’s contact information again. Michael thanked the participants for comments.*

*Thomas Gray thanked everyone as well and asked for final thoughts.*

**Rob Vine – Dayton Police Department**  
I will add some more pins after I’ve had time to think about it. I appreciate your time.

*Thomas Gray will send the presentation to everyone and reiterated that the team will be holding another round of meetings in the fall to share recommendations (which will be short and long-term). The larger-scale recommendations will take longer to implement, but we will work to submit the recommendations for the TIP to begin to get funding.*

*Michael reiterated that there will be actionable items recommended for the near term.*

*Thomas closed the meeting at 1:46.*
Thomas Gray welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced the team, and provided an overview of who was invited to the Stakeholder meeting.

Michael Feeney then presented the analysis of existing intersection performance, recommendations, and improvements based on the recommendations.

Michael Feeney also introduced the online commenting map and gave a description of how to view all data and comment using the tool.

Tyson Moeller
US 90 is like our I-10, bringing trains through the area quite a bit. Make sure you bring in Megan Shay so she can comment on the Cleveland area.

Thomas Gray
We have talked with them quite a bit, especially about the new rail yard going in on the west side of Cleveland.

Chief Sean Anderson
Two lanes at 2025 and 59 doesn’t work right now. It has been an issue for quite a while. Knowing that you all are pushing out the recommended improvements so far is concerning. There is a lot of school traffic that will be coming in within the next two years.
Michael Feeney
Make that comment; we will address it. Short term typically just means that it is cheaper or more easily implemented.

Thomas Gray
We know this is a top priority for Cleveland. It will require a lot more study and design, which is why it fell in the long-term category.

Michael Feeney stated that if there are any questions, to please contact Thomas and provided contact information for Thomas and Allie Isbell. Michael asked for final comments on the map or in general.

Chief Sean Anderson
Could you please send out the PDF of the presentation, as well, so that we can update the new City Manager and Council?

Michael Feeney will send Thomas a copy of the presentation as PDF. Michael presented the locations for potential transit use in the future.

Josie Ortiz
These areas were identified as areas that currently experience higher walking / bicycling activity per TxDOT’s Strava data as well as areas with apartments / shopping centers.

Taslima Khandaker
Did you propose any fixed-routes or stops in the area as part of the study?

Josie Ortiz
We did not. We provided information on the areas where transit may be more heavily used based on current walking and biking patterns as well as land use types that are more amenable to transit use.

Taslima Khandaker
We would be interested to know if anyone has recommendations on fixed stops, as we are thinking about going to fixed routes / stops in the future.

Thomas Gray
We will send you the draft from the sub-consultant so you can see that. We will coordinate with you about the follow-up transit study that we are looking to start?

Thomas Gray solicited any final comments and thanked all participants for attending. Hearing none, Thomas closed the meeting at 11:10.
Liberty County Mobility Study
Stakeholder Meeting #2
Dayton-Liberty Area
April 21, 2022
1:00 PM
Microsoft Teams

Attendees (7):

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<tr>
<td>Union Pacific Railroad</td>
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<td>Brazos Transit District</td>
<td>Taslima Khandaker</td>
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<td>Port of Houston</td>
<td>Bruce Mann</td>
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<td>Liberty Fire Department</td>
<td>Assistant Chief Brian Hurst</td>
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<td>H-GAC</td>
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<td>Kimley-Horn</td>
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<td>Josie Ortiz</td>
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<td>Andi Vickers</td>
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*Comments provided in chat were copied and pasted verbatim; all live chat was paraphrased below*

Thomas Gray welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced the team, and provided an overview of who was invited to the Stakeholder meeting.

Michael Feeney reminded the group what the vision and goals were, as well as a summary of what comments were received from the first phase of public outreach.

Andi Vickers then presented the analysis of existing intersection performance, recommendations, and improvements based on the recommendations.

Michael Feeney introduced the online commenting map and gave a description of how to view all data and comment using the tool.

Tyson Moeller (chat)
I will only be on for about 20 minutes…

Thomas Gray
Does the Fire Department have any issues with the study intersections?

Brian Hurst
We don’t have issues with any intersections in particular, but we do have issues when we have an emergency and the train comes through. Highway 90 and Bowie – a new Fire Station coming in.

Michael Feeney
Tyson, do you have any comments on the bypass proposed?

Tyson Moeller
We will work with the different stakeholders on it to coordinate what happens with our ROW areas, but we are generally familiar with how to work with grade-separated roadways. It is farther north than the
proposed industrial sites that are just south of the proposed alignment. We are double tracking, through this area, but have the capability for triple tracking. This corridor is like our I-10; we want to preserve some area for additional lines if we need it in the future.

**Michael Feeney**

We are having another meeting with the developers in Plum Grove to better communicate potential transportation implications / improvements.

**Tyson Moeller (chat)**

Keep me in the loop if you need anything more from UP. We appreciate all of the planning...

*Michael Feeney gave an overview of the remaining schedule.*

*Thomas gave an update about the upcoming public meeting and mentioned that he will be sending the materials to the group, including those who couldn’t attend the meeting.*

**Bruce Mann**

With the Grand Parkway coming in, we will be needing some additional connectivity to keep people moving around the area.

**Michael Feeney**

Feel free to leave comments on our map and send to your colleagues. We have recommended a future thoroughfare plan to address new connectivity.

*Thomas Gray solicited any final comments and thanked all participants for attending. Hearing none, Thomas closed the meeting at 1:42.*