



Administration

CITY OF CONROE

Est. 1904

December 30, 2014

Mr. David Wurdlow
Transportation Program Manager
Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons, Suite 120
Houston, TX 77027

Re: City of Conroe 2015-2018 Call for Projects Applications

Dear Mr. Wurdlow,

The City of Conroe is pleased to submit an application for funding consideration in the 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program Call for Projects. The two projects in this application are the top mobility priorities for our community. The first of these projects, the widening of FM 830, has been developed through a joint partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation and the Howard Hughes Corporation. By combining public and private assets the Howard Hughes Corporation has agreed to provide upfront funding to complete the design and environmental process for the project. Conroe and TxDOT will construct the project once designed. This project is extremely important to the project partners involved due to the large residential development planned to break ground just adjacent to FM 830.

The second project, the extension of Old Conroe Road, has recently become a high priority for the City due to the need for an alternative north-south connection other than IH 45. This will serve as a relief valve for commuter traffic and will also provide relief during hurricane evacuation scenarios. This project is being pursued independently by Conroe and has the potential to be implemented in phases.

The resolution providing a commitment to our local match requirement is included as part of our application materials. We are also committed to the ongoing maintenance of

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these improvements either independently or through existing maintenance agreements with TxDOT.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,


Paul Virgadamo, Jr.
City Administrator
City of Conroe

PV/pb

cc: Tommy Woolley – Asst. Director Projects/Transportation



P. O. Box 1386 | HOUSTON, TEXAS 77251-1386 | (713) 802-5300 | WWW.TXDOT.GOV

December 17, 2014

Mr. Alan Clark
MPO Director
Houston-Galveston Area Council
P.O. Box 22777
Houston, TX 77227-2777

RE: City of Conroe Sponsored TIP Application
(FM 830: Old Montgomery Road to SH 75)

Dear Mr. Clark,

Throughout the 2015-2018 Call for Projects application period, representatives from the City of Conroe and TxDOT have worked together to develop a strategy for the identification and submission of on-system highway projects that both entities have a vested interest in seeing implemented. One result of this process is that the City of Conroe has agreed to fund the preliminary engineering, design, and environmental work orders for the widening from two to four lanes of Farm to Market Road (FM) 830 from Old Montgomery Road to State Highway 75. This is the major east-west connector from Lake Conroe and will see a major development built adjacent to it by Hughes Corporation in the coming years. Additionally, Conroe has agreed to provide the local match component of this project. This agreement is part of a larger agreement in which TxDOT will be submitting applications for the widening of FM 3083 and FM 2954.

TxDOT is appreciative of this partnership opportunity and whole-heartedly supports this effort by the City of Conroe to sponsor these on-system roadway improvements.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Alford, P.E.
District Engineer
Houston District

Cc: Paul Virgadamo, City Administrator, City of Conroe
Tommy Woolley, P.E., Assistant Director of Transportation, City of Conroe
Jim Webb (The Goodman Corporation)
David Wurdlow (H-GAC)

December 31, 2014

Mr. David Wurdlow
Transportation Program Manager
Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons, Suite 120
Houston, TX 77027

Re: City of Conroe 2015-2018 Call for Projects Submission

Dear Mr. Wurdlow,

Hughes Corporation and The Woodlands Development Company have recently purchased 1,300 acres of real estate in the vicinity of FM 830 and I-45 for development of a new master planned community. We have entered into a partnership with the City of Conroe to pursue the widening of FM 830 from Old Montgomery Road to SH 75. In this context we support the City of Conroe's pursuit of funding through the 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program to support this project.

The proposed improvement to FM 830 would widen the existing two-lane rural road to a four-lane cross-section to include a turn lane. Currently, FM 830 is the only east-west through-way connecting Lake Conroe to IH-45. The road experiences a high level of congestion, especially during peak hours, with volumes that nearly exceed capacity. The H-GAC model currently forecasts FM 830 traffic volumes to exceed capacity by 2025. However, with our new planned development we anticipate that volumes will exceed capacity much earlier.

For this reason, the Howard Hughes Corporation has agreed in principle to collaborate on this project in order to provide the required environmental and design documentation necessary to move the project forward. We hope that our efforts to make this project "shovel-ready" will allow for H-GAC to consider it for funding within this "call for projects".

Thank you for your attention on this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office at (281) 719-6100.

Sincerely,



Robert Heineman
Vice President, Planning
The Woodlands Development Company