

Appendix G – Resources Agency Coordination



August 30, 2019

Mr. Curtis Loftis, P.E.
2501 S.W. Loop 820
Fort Worth, TX 76133

Dear Mr. Loftis:

We appreciate the partnership between the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the City of Fort Worth (City) to continually improve regional mobility, operations and safety through transportation projects. The Southeast (SE) Connector project is a perfect example of these improvements through project collaboration. Following the SE Connector project meeting at TxDOT offices on July 30, 2019, city staff has identified the following for TxDOT consideration as the project moves forward.

1. Review the proposed number of lanes for bridges and under-pass against projected traffic volumes to reduce the number of through lanes and left-turn lanes where possible to improve pedestrian safety, by reducing the walking distance across vehicle lanes.
 - **PROPOSED ERATH STREET BRIDGE** – Review options to remove the two 12' wide dedicated left-turn lanes, reduce the remaining two 14' wide through lanes to 11' widths, and increase the sidewalk width to 10' minimum for a buffered shared pedestrian/bicycle path on the bridge. On the southbound lane of Erath Street to the northwest bound frontage road, add a “pork chop” island splitting the through traffic movement and right-turn movement. This will improve pedestrian safety crossing at Earth Street and the north frontage road location by use of the proposed island.
 - **PROPOSED MILLER/WILBARGER INTERSECTION** – Review options to maintain the through movement connection for both Miller Avenue and Wilbarger Street. A proposed option is to bridge the continuous frontage roads over both Miller Avenue and Wilbarger Street. Look for opportunities to incorporate transit bus bays at stops on Miller Avenue to pull the buses out of the travel lanes. Once the final intersection configuration is determined for this location, the bicycle infrastructure will be identified using the City's level of comfort analysis based on speed and volume information. Sidewalks along both Miller Avenue and Wilbarger Street should be a minimum of 6' wide.
 - **PROPOSED LANCASTER AVENUE BRIDGE** - Review options to reduce the four westbound lanes with dual left-turn lanes to two westbound through lanes and a single dedicated left-turn lane. Second, reduce the outside lanes of Lancaster from 14' to 11' and increase the sidewalk width to 10' wide minimum for a buffered shared pedestrian and bicycle path over the bridge. This option will improve pedestrian and bicycle safety by reducing the walking distance across East Lancaster Avenue and by moving the bicyclist from street traffic to a buffered shared use path at this interchange.

- **CRAIG STREET BRIDGE** – Remove the Partial Cloverleaf Interchange (Jug-handles) that requires taking residential homes. Review a split level frontage road option that will maintain the existing frontage road connections to Craig Street Bridge and add a through movement connection under the Craig Street Bridge from Lancaster to IH 820. Reduce the bridge width by removing the two dedicated left-turn lanes on the bridge and reduce the through lane width from 14' to 11'. Maintain the 10' wide shared use paths for pedestrian and bicyclist use, but include a buffer to separate the shared use path from the traffic lanes.
2. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities are a transportation priority within the City of Fort Worth to create a non-motorized transportation system that provides a safe, accessible, comfortable, and equitable network of sidewalks, bike facilities and trails for people of all ages and abilities. This vision encourages a healthy lifestyle, economic development, and safety in a seamless network of transportation choices.
- Sidewalks and shared use paths should be separated from the curb. This preference improves safety for pedestrians and bicyclist, especially young children walking and biking.
 - Review options to include a minimum 10' wide pedestrian and bicycle path adjacent to all frontage roads, arterials and bridges. The City recommends using buffers to separate bike lane or share use paths from vehicle traffic lanes on bridges to increase safety as indicated in the Active Transportation Plan.
 - Where on-street bicycle lanes are proposed, look for options that provided buffered or physically separated bike lanes, such as along Meadowbrook Drive, Ramey Street, Berry Street and Wilbarger Street in concurrence with the adopted Active Transportation Plan.
 - In the project schematics, show future trail connections to be “Built by Others” and ensure that the SE Connector project design accounts for all planned future pedestrian, bicycle, and trail connections.
3. Public transportation provides people with mobility and access to employment, education, community resources, medical care, and other opportunities within the community. The connections and accessibility to transit is a priority for the City. Current transit routes include Meadowbrook Drive, East Lancaster Avenue, East Rosedale Street, Ramey Street, and several segments of the IH 820 service roads within the project area.
- Review all transit bus routes and stop location within the project with Trinity Metro planning staff to ensure that the current transit routes and stop locations best serves the community effectively and efficiently. Look for opportunities to enhance transit routes within the SE Connector project area.
 - Improve accessibility to bus stops with installation of bus landing pads and lighting within the public right-of-way. The size of the landing pad depends on the location of sidewalk to accommodate Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and allow for the installation of either a bench or shelter. When the sidewalk is adjacent to curb, install a 14.5' x 10' bus landing pad at the transit stop location. When the sidewalk is off the curb, install an 18.5' x 10' bus landing pad at the transit stop location.

4. Railroad corridors support the movement of people and goods via trains and have a positive economic impact in North Central Texas.
 - Review the two existing Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) corridors within the project area with UPRR officials to ensure the SE Connector project improvements does not prevent future railroad infrastructure capacity improvements. Below is a UPRR point of contact to your convenience.

- **Mr. Douglas G. Woods**
Sr. Mgr. Industry & Public Projects
24125 Aldine Westfield Road
Spring, Texas 77373
Office: (281) 350-7679
Cell: (832) 493-4556

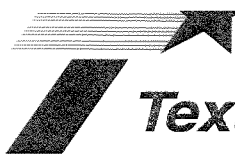
If you have any questions pertaining to these comments, please contact me at Chad.Edwards@FortWorthTexas.gov or 817-392-7259.

Sincerely



Chad Edwards
Regional Mobility and Innovation Officer

C: Tonya Brooks, Assistant Director
Bob Baulsir, Trinity Metro
Douglas G. Woods, UPRR
Project File: SE Connector Project



Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

April 22, 2005

James E. Bruseth, Ph.D.
Department of Antiquities Protection
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Dr. Bruseth:

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Antiquities Code of Texas, we are forwarding for your information review sheets and accompanying maps and other information for the attached projects reviewed since April 14, 2005.

The attached information includes projects that, in our opinion, do not warrant archeological surveys, projects that do not have the potential to affect historic properties, and/or projects where impact evaluations or surveys have been conducted and no archeological sites were found. We respectfully request your concurrence with our recommendations that these projects do not warrant further investigation and will not affect historic properties. Should any cultural remains be identified during construction, construction shall cease in that portion of the project and an archeologist from my staff will conduct an on-site evaluation of the find and consult further with your office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 416-2631.

Sincerely,

Nancy A. Kenmotsu, Ph. D
Director, Cultural Resources Section
Environmental Affairs Division

Attachments

cc: FHWA, Project Managers, CRM Archeologists, CRM file copy



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

January 6, 2017

RE: Early Coordination for Sec. 106 Consultation

To: 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 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TxDOT.

The purpose of this letter is to include more detailed information about TxDOT's consultation program. The documents include information on the **TxDOT Early Tribal Coordination Tool** and a table of the projects and nearby archeological sites, if any, that the **TxDOT Early Tribal Coordination Tool** map depicts. This letter provides more detail about both the **TxDOT Early Tribal Coordination Tool** and the table.

TxDOT Early Coordination Tool

The first attachment contains the link, log in information and directions for the **TxDOT Early Tribal Coordination Tool**. This web-based map depicts hundreds of both minor and major TxDOT projects within your area of interest and any known archeological sites within a kilometer of each project. Each project's provisional area of effects (APE) is defined in the tool as the area within 500 feet of a roadway segment. As TxDOT develops detailed plans for each project and finalizes the APE, this provisional APE in most cases will likely be refined to a smaller area. Archeological sites do occur in proximity to some of the projects, and new sites may be discovered through further investigations. Archeological sites that qualify for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Properties are, however, rare. TxDOT thus expects that most of these projects will have no effect on archeological historic properties. All of the depicted projects have been or will be reviewed by the Environmental Affairs' Archeology Branch to verify that the projects will have no effect.

****YOU MAY COMMENT AT ANY TIME DURING THIS EARLY COORDINATION PROCESS AND USE OF THE TOOL DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA FROM ENTERING INTO CONSULTATION PER SEC. 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA).**

We will continue to send you consultation letters on any project whose area of potential effects includes Native American sites and on all major projects. Major projects:

- include border crossing facility construction, conversion of non-freeways to freeways, new location non-freeways, new location freeways, widening non-freeways, and widening freeways; and
- Require new right-of-way.

Major projects would cause more than 100 cubic yards of ground disturbance to previously-undisturbed areas, and such projects may affect areas that have not been previously surveyed for cultural resources.

For minor projects, TxDOT will conduct investigations of the final APE. These investigations will comprise review of available background information and, in some cases, field studies. TxDOT will not provide further information about such minor projects unless these investigations reveal the presence of a site.

Table of Projects and Sites

The second attachment contains a table of the projects and any sites within the 500-foot APE of each project. As previously noted, sites may have already been identified within this provisional APE. The table lists, as a separate row, each site found within 500 feet of a project. For projects where multiple sites have been found within the provisional APE, the same project will be listed multiple times in the table. Projects for which no known sites occur within 500 feet will be listed only once. The table can be sorted in various ways, such as by County, project status, and let date.

If you have any questions about these tools or would like to consult on any of the projects listed, please contact Laura Cruzada at 512/416-2638, laura.cruzada@txdot.gov. When replying to this correspondence by US Mail, please ensure that the envelope address includes reference to the Archeological Studies Branch, Environmental Affairs Division.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Scott Pletka, Deputy Section Director
Environmental Affairs Division



MEMO

May 29, 2019

To: ECOS, Various Road Projects, Various CSJs, Various Districts

From: Scott Pletka, Ph.D.

Subject: Internal review under the Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding the Implementation of Transportation Undertakings (PA-TU), and internal review under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Department of Transportation

Listed below are projects reviewed internally by qualified TxDOT archeologists. The projects will have no effect on archeological historic properties. As provided under the PA-TU, consultation with the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer is not necessary for these undertakings. As provided under the MOU, the proposed projects do not require individual coordination with the Texas Historical Commission.

CSJ	District	County	Roadway	Description	Work Performed	Consultation	Initial Consult Date
0008-13-125	FTW	Tarrant	IH 820 - SE Connector	Interchange	Background Study	ETCT	1/6/2017
0033-05-089	ABL	Jones	US 83	Intersection improvement	Background Study	ETCT	1/6/2017

Signature _____
For TxDOT
cc: THC

Date: 05 / 29 / 2019

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.

OUR VALUES: *People • Accountability • Trust • Honesty*

OUR MISSION: *Through collaboration and leadership, we deliver a safe, reliable, and integrated transportation system that enables the movement of people and goods.*

An Equal Opportunity Employer

From: [Laura Cruzada](#)
 To: [jason.nelson@ktltribe.org](#); [kentcollier2000@yahoo.com](#); [dpacheco@okkt.net](#); [mooseanico@gmail.com](#); [kellie@tribaladminsivices.org](#); [Ivy Smith](#); [Holly Houghten](#); [Gary.McAdams@wichtattribution.com](#); [Terri.Parton@wichtattribution.com](#); [dhill@cadco.xyz](#); [Tamara Francis](#); [david.cook@kialegeetriben.net](#); [dkely@delawarenation.com](#); [lbrown@tonkawatriben.com](#); [mallen@tonkawatriben.com](#); [Halkey.Larry](#); [nalligood@delawarenation.com](#); [epa4apachetribeok@gmail.com](#); [martinac@comanchenation.com](#); [theodorev@comanchenation.com](#)
 Cc: [Allen Bettis Jr](#)
 Subject: TxDOT Sec. 106 Consultation Request: CSJ: 0008-13-125; I 20/US 820/US 287 Interchanges: Construct Southeast Connector; Tarrant County; Ft. Worth District
 Date: Friday, May 31, 2019 4:36:00 PM

This email is to continue consultation on the above referenced project. It was first evaluated in 2005 and then reevaluated by our team recently. Thank you.

<h1>Sec. 106 Consultation</h1>																					
MAY 31, 2019																					
<p>Contacts:</p> <p>Laura Cruzada 512-416-2638</p>	<p>We kindly request your comments on historic properties of cultural or religious significance to your Tribe that may be affected by the proposed project. Please see the following summary for project details and information. To access the associated reports, which include a detailed project description, APE definition and identification efforts, use the attached link. After 21 days, the link will expire. We will provide an updated link upon request. This project will also be included during our monthly Sec. 106 conference call every third Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m.</p> <p>Summary:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"><i>Project ID (CSJ), County and TxDOT District</i></td> <td><i>0008-13-125, Tarrant, Fort Worth</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Project Sponsor:</i></td> <td><i>TxDOT Ft. Worth District</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Consultation Status:</i></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Initial Consultation</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Continuation of Consultation</i> <i>Reason(s):Reevaluation</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Short Description:</i></td> <td><i>Widen Freeway</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>New Right of Way:</i></td> <td><i>26.0</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Depth of Impacts:</i></td> <td><i>5 feet typical and 50 feet maximum</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Known Archeological Sites or Properties in project area:</i></td> <td><i>None</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Identification Efforts:</i></td> <td><i>Background Study (2005) and current for reevaluation</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Recommendations:</i></td> <td><i>No sites affected; proceed to construction</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Link to Detailed Report:</i></td> <td>"https://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/dropbox/pickup.php?claimID=osvHKYBGHPQFTae1&claimPasscode=F62y7TceWSpFfuBS&emailAddr=allan.bettis%40txdot.gov"</td> </tr> </table> <p>Please provide any comments that you may have on the TxDOT findings and recommendations. Please provide your comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Any comments provided after that time will be addressed to the fullest extent possible.</p> <p>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.</p>	<i>Project ID (CSJ), County and TxDOT District</i>	<i>0008-13-125, Tarrant, Fort Worth</i>	<i>Project Sponsor:</i>	<i>TxDOT Ft. Worth District</i>	<i>Consultation Status:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Initial Consultation</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Continuation of Consultation</i> <i>Reason(s):Reevaluation</i>	<i>Short Description:</i>	<i>Widen Freeway</i>	<i>New Right of Way:</i>	<i>26.0</i>	<i>Depth of Impacts:</i>	<i>5 feet typical and 50 feet maximum</i>	<i>Known Archeological Sites or Properties in project area:</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Identification Efforts:</i>	<i>Background Study (2005) and current for reevaluation</i>	<i>Recommendations:</i>	<i>No sites affected; proceed to construction</i>	<i>Link to Detailed Report:</i>	"https://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/dropbox/pickup.php?claimID=osvHKYBGHPQFTae1&claimPasscode=F62y7TceWSpFfuBS&emailAddr=allan.bettis%40txdot.gov"
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<i>Link to Detailed Report:</i>	"https://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/dropbox/pickup.php?claimID=osvHKYBGHPQFTae1&claimPasscode=F62y7TceWSpFfuBS&emailAddr=allan.bettis%40txdot.gov"																				

Laura Cruzada
 512-416-2638
laura.cruzada@txdot.gov
 Public Involvement Specialist & Tribal Liaison
 Environmental Affairs Division



Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

December 8, 2006

SECTION 106: NO ADVERSE EFFECT

Tarrant County / Fort Worth District

IH 820, IH 20, and US 287, Fort Worth and Arlington

CSJs# 0008-13-125, 0008-13-206, 2374-05-066, 0172-06-080, 0172-09-028

Ms. Adrienne Campbell
History Programs
Texas Historical Commission
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Ms. Campbell:

In accordance with 36 CFR 800 and the First Amended Programmatic Agreement for Cultural Resources, we are continuing Section 106 consultations for the above referenced project, which will be carried out with federal funding, begun September 26, 2006. We request agency review regarding the determination of NRHP-eligibility to two properties and the finding of effects within the above referenced proposed project's area of potential effects (APE).

INTRODUCTION and DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

The Texas Department of Transportation proposes to reconstruct and widen IH 820, IH 20, and US 287 in Tarrant County, Texas, for a total of 16.0 miles. The proposed improvements' limits are:

- IH 820 from Meadowbrook Drive south to IH 20,
- IH 20 from Forest Hill Drive east to east of Kelly Elliott Road,
- US 287 from south of Bishop Street southeast to just north of Sublett Road.

The proposed project encompasses all interconnecting cross-streets, associated direct connections, and access ramps, including the IH 820 interchanges with Lancaster Ave., Rosedale St., US 287, and IH 820. The proposed project would require 26.3 acres of new right-of-way.

The existing highways have a variety of cross-sections in the project area ranging from a minimum of eight to a maximum of 12 lanes (including both main and frontage lanes). The proposed project would add five lanes to the smallest cross-section and add twelve lanes to the largest cross-section. Feasibility studies underway are also considering tolling some of the lanes. See attached figures for project limits and cross-sections.

EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY HISTORIC PROPERTIES and STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A review of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the list of State Archeological Landmarks (SAL), and the list of Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHL) indicated that no historically significant resources have been previously documented within the area of potential effects (APE). It has been determined through consultation with the State Historic Preservation

Officer (SHPO) on September 26, 2003 that the Area of Potential Effects for the project should be 150 feet from the proposed or existing right-of-way (whichever is greater) and 500 feet from the existing or proposed right-of-way (whichever is greater) in the section east of IH 820 between Lancaster Ave and Meadowbrook Drive. See attached letter. A reconnaissance survey revealed that there are 202 historic-age resources (built prior to 1961), located within the project area of potential effects. In a memorandum, dated November 28, 2006 Hicks & Company, the authors of the Historical Resources Survey Report for this project, noted that while their report cites a survey cutoff date of 1955, they disclosed properties in the report that could date as late as the early 1960s. A copy of the memorandum is attached. Throughout the Historical Resources Survey Report, the authors use the term "historic" to refer to "historic-age" resources. While the graphics in the report has been manually edited to reflect the correct meaning, the text itself has not. The historic-age resources include one cemetery, two churches, one park, one road, and 197 residences. As noted on the first page of Appendix D of the Historical Resources Survey Report, "gaps in site numbers reflect resources initially identified but later removed because they lie outside of the APE."

Two hundred historic-age resources were determined not eligible for the National Register because they lost too much of their integrity through alterations and modern intrusions to the extent that they are unable to convey the feeling and association with their historic contexts. TxDOT determined that two of the historic-age resources, site ID#s 118 and 161, are NRHP eligible. The reconnaissance survey yielded enough information suggesting that the F. E. and Mamie Wolfe Addition, located east of IH 820 and north of Handley Park, might be a post-World War II suburban neighborhood historic district. An intensive-level survey of the Wolfe Addition, included with this letter, determined that neither the addition nor any individual resources in the addition were eligible for the National Register. Furthermore, there are no Official State Historical Markers in the APE.

National Register Eligible Properties

ID# 118, 3001 Louise Street

ID# 118 is a 1929 single-story, wood-frame, front-gabled bungalow with a hipped roof and an unusual eyebrow dormer. The house is relatively intact with only minor alterations to the porch and is determined eligible for the National Register under Criterion C: architecture at the local level as a good example of an elaborated catalog design.

ID# 161, Hawkins Cemetery

The Hawkins Cemetery was founded with the 1869 internment of Harvey Hawkins and has an eclectic mix of markers ranging from hand-carved to commercial designs. Hawkins Cemetery meets the requirements for Criteria Consideration C: Cemeteries because of its collection of rural folk headstones, its association with the early settlement of Tarrant County, and its age. TxDOT has determined that Site ID# 161 is eligible at the local level under Criterion A: Exploration and Settlement.

DETERMINATION OF EFFECTS

In accordance with the First Amended Programmatic Agreement and the Criteria for Assessing Adverse Effects per 36 CFR 800.5, and based on the schematics and project description in the March 2006 Environmental Assessment, TxDOT has determined that there will be **no direct effects** to Sites 118 and 161 because no right-of-way will be taken from either resource.

Further, the project poses **no indirect or cumulative adverse effects** to these resources.

- Site 118 is at least 150 feet from the right-of-way and it is screened from IH 820 by Louise Street, other residences, vegetation, and about 200 feet of open right-of-way. The proposed improvements will affect neither the physical features (materials, workmanship, and design),

nor the location, setting, feeling, or association of the building. Site 118 is one of a series of Bungalows and modest houses located on Louise Street (Sites 106- 130) dating from 1915 through the 1950s that are altered to the extent they do not qualify as a historic district. Aerial photography suggests that similar conditions prevail in the area east of Louise Street. If there is a district present east of Site 118, the minor amount of new ROW at the southeast quadrant of the intersection at IH 820 and Craig Street and the construction of a wider northbound on ramp from Lancaster onto IH 820 is not close enough to have an effect.

- Site 161 Hawkins Cemetery, shares a common property and fence line with the US 287 northbound frontage road. Currently, this section of US 287 has eight lanes (four mainlanes and four frontage lanes) and this project proposes to construct a directional managed lane in the center median. Furthermore, the pavement edge will not move any closer towards the cemetery. The proposed improvements will affect neither the physical features (materials, workmanship, and design), nor the location of the site. A substantial amount of traffic currently passes adjacent to the cemetery. This construction will not add sufficient traffic to change the visual, auditory, or atmospheric aspects of the site to further impact its integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with 36 CFR 800 and the First Amended Programmatic Agreement, I hereby request your signed concurrence with this determination of eligibility and **no effect**. We will reopen consultations with the SHPO should the project change.

Thank you for your assistance with the federal review process. If you need further information, please call me at 416-2600.

Sincerely,



Mark M. Brown, Ph.D.
Architectural Historian
Environmental Affairs Division

CONCUR
NO ADVERSE EFFECT

NAME: _____ DATE: _____
for F. Lawrence Oaks, State Historic Preservation Officer

Distribution
Signed original: Michelle Skinner, ENV-PM
Cc w/attachment: ENV-CRM file, THC

Cc w/o attachment: Judy Anderson, Fort Worth District; scan



TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

RICK PERRY, GOVERNOR

JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIRMAN

F. LAWRENCE OAKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

December 21, 2006

Mark M. Brown
Architectural Historian
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701



Re: Project review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, IH 820, IH 20, and US 287, Fort Worth and Arlington, Tarrant County (FHWA) TxDOT CSJ # 0008-13-125, 0008-13-206, 2374-05-066, 0172-06-080, 0172-09-028

Dear Dr. Brown:

Thank you for your correspondence describing the above-referenced project. This letter serves as a comment on the proposed undertaking from the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission (THC).

Texas Historical Commission staff, led by Adrienne Campbell, has completed a review of the information submitted by applying state and federal criteria for eligibility and effect. Based on this review, we concur with your determination that 3001 Louise Street (site 118) and the Hawkins Cemetery (site 161) are eligible to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and that the remainder of the resources are not eligible, including the F.E. and Mamie Wolfe Addition. In addition, we concur with the determination that the proposed project will have no adverse effect to the residence at 3001 Louise Street, as there is no direct taking and the minor amount of new right-of-way will not pose an indirect adverse effect.

However, we cannot concur with your determination of no adverse effect to the Hawkins Cemetery at this time and request more information regarding the proposed project design adjacent to this resource. Although we recognize that there will be no taking of right-of-way from the cemetery, we are concerned that there is the potential for an adverse effect due to visual impacts if the managed lane in the center median is designed as an elevated structure. Please provide more information regarding the project design at this location and an evaluation of visual effects.

Thank you for your participation in this federal review process; we look forward to continued coordination with you on this project. If you have any questions concerning this review or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Brad Patterson at (512) 463-6167.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Adrienne Vaughan Campbell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Adrienne Vaughan Campbell
for: F. Lawrence Oaks
Executive Director, Texas Historical Commission



Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

March 6, 2007



SECTION 106: NO ADVERSE EFFECT

Tarrant County / Fort Worth District

IH 820, IH 20, and US 287, Fort Worth and Arlington

CSJs# 0008-13-125, 0008-13-206, 2374-05-066, 0172-06-080, 0172-09-028

Ms. Adrienne Campbell
History Programs
Texas Historical Commission
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Ms. Campbell:

In accordance with 36 CFR 800 and the First Amended Programmatic Agreement for Cultural Resources, we are responding to your December 21, 2006 letter requesting additional information regarding the proposed project design adjacent to the Hawkins Cemetery (Site 161).

Attached please find:

- schematics showing the proposed US 287 managed lanes from Flintshire Court to Stagetrail Drive (sheets 1 and 2).
- profile of the proposed US 287 managed lanes from Flintshire Court to Stagetrail Drive (sheets 3 and 4).
- cross sections showing the proposed construction on US 287 from stations 450+00 to the southeast project terminus (sheet 5).
- schematic showing proposed Little Rd Exit and portions of IH 20 - US 287 Interchange (sheet 6).

The following description was provided by Miguel Otero-Jimenez, P.E., from PB Engineering:

After taking a detailed look at the schematic we have the following comments.

In the vicinity of the cemetery [in yellow highlight] the mainlanes are not proposed to be modified, only the inclusion of the proposed managed lanes. These are proposed to be constructed at grade with the existing mainlane base line as can be seen on the [Preliminary Design Schematic Plan and Profile Sheets,

THE TEXAS PLAN

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1-4]. The profile shown corresponds to the proposed managed lanes in solid and the existing ground in dotted lines [see sheets 3 and 4]. As can be seen from station 483+00 forward [sheet 4] the proposed profile matches natural ground. However from station 471+00 to 483+00 [sheet 3,] the proposed managed lanes [are] slightly higher than the natural ground with the largest difference being 3 feet in the vicinity of station 478+00. The cemetery is located at approximately station 485+00[, sheet 4].

With regards to the proposed construction at Little Rd. [, sheet 6,] the existing SB mainlanes have a maximum height of 697.98 at station 451+00 of alignment 20E287S [. . .]. The highest elevation at Little Rd. for the proposed NB mainlanes is 703.81 at station 449+50.00 or approximately 5 feet higher than the existing elevated mainlanes. In addition Direct Connector 20W287S Dc has an elevation of 703 over the Little Rd CL. This connector goes higher in elevation to pass over the SB mainlanes. The proposed Managed lanes have a maximum elevation of 693 over Little Rd. five feet lower that the existing SB main lanes. The proposed NB mainlanes have an elevation of 690 over the Little Rd CL, thus 8 feet lower than the existing SB mainlanes. Since Little Rd. is located on station 449+00 and the cemetery is located at station 485+00 the distance from Little Rd to the cemetery is over half a mile. I believe that a 5 foot difference half a mile a way would be difficult to appreciate; therefore it would not constitute a visual impact from the cemetery.

In regards to the sound walls, on [sheet 2] it can be seen that the proposed noise wall 7S is located to the north of the cemetery, and wall 6 is located to the south of the cemetery with no wall proposed immediately adjacent to the cemetery.

DETERMINATION OF EFFECTS

In accordance with the First Amended Programmatic Agreement and the Criteria for Assessing Adverse Effects per 36 CFR 800.5, and based on the attached schematics and project description in the March 2006 Environmental Assessment, TxDOT has determined that there will be **no direct effects** to Site 161 because no right-of-way will be taken from the resource.

Further, the project poses **no indirect or cumulative adverse effects** to this resource.

- Site 161 Hawkins Cemetery, shares a common property and fence line with the US 287 northbound frontage road. Currently, this section of US 287 has eight lanes (four mainlanes and four frontage lanes) and this project proposes to construct a directional managed lane in the center median. The proposed design would not block the current view from within the cemetery. Adjacent to the cemetery, the proposed lanes will be at, or virtually indistinguishable from, the current grade. Furthermore, the pavement edge will not move any closer towards the cemetery. The proposed improvements will affect neither the physical features (materials, workmanship, and design), nor the location of the site. A substantial amount of traffic currently passes adjacent to the cemetery. This

construction will not add sufficient traffic to change the visual, auditory, or atmospheric aspects of the site to further impact its integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with 36 CFR 800 and the First Amended Programmatic Agreement, I hereby request your signed concurrence with this determination of **no effect**. We will reopen consultations with the SHPO should the project change.

Thank you for your assistance with the federal review process. If you need further information, please call me at 416-2600.

Sincerely,



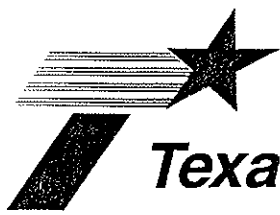
Mark M. Brown, Ph.D.
Architectural Historian
Environmental Affairs Division

CONCUR
NO ADVERSE EFFECT

NAME: John W. Gray DATE: 3/8/07
for F. Lawrence Oaks, State Historic Preservation Officer

Distribution
Signed original: Michelle Skinner, ENV-PM
Cc w/attachment: ENV-CRM file, THC

Cc w/o attachment: Judy Anderson, Fort Worth District; scan



Texas Department of Transportation

P.O. BOX 6868 • FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76115-0868 • (817) 370-6500
July 31, 2000

CONTACT: TPD-MOA

Proposed Improvements for IH 820 Corridor – Environmental Assessment

Ms. Celeste Brancel-Brown
Environmental Review Coordinator
Wildlife Diversity Program, Wildlife Division
Texas Park & Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Rd.
Austin, TX 78744

Dear Ms. Brancel-Brown:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) – Fort Worth District is planning improvements to IH 820 in Tarrant County from IH 20 to Meadowbrook Drive and IH 20 from IH 820 to US 287, a distance of approximately nine miles (see attached map). The project area is found on the Fort Worth and Kennedale, Texas USGS 7.5' topographic maps. These improvements are needed to enhance mobility and safety, as well as to facilitate the movement of current and projected traffic through the corridor. Corridor improvements may be accomplished within existing rights-of-way, although small amounts of additional right-of-way may be required in certain areas.

TxDOT – Fort Worth District has contracted with Parsons Brinckerhoff to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) of the proposed project. We would like to solicit input from your agency regarding pertinent issues that should be addressed by Parsons Brinckerhoff prior to the submission of a draft EA for regulatory review. Although it is early in the process, we are contacting your agency to learn of any relevant information and concerns that you may have regarding this project that should be addressed in the EA.

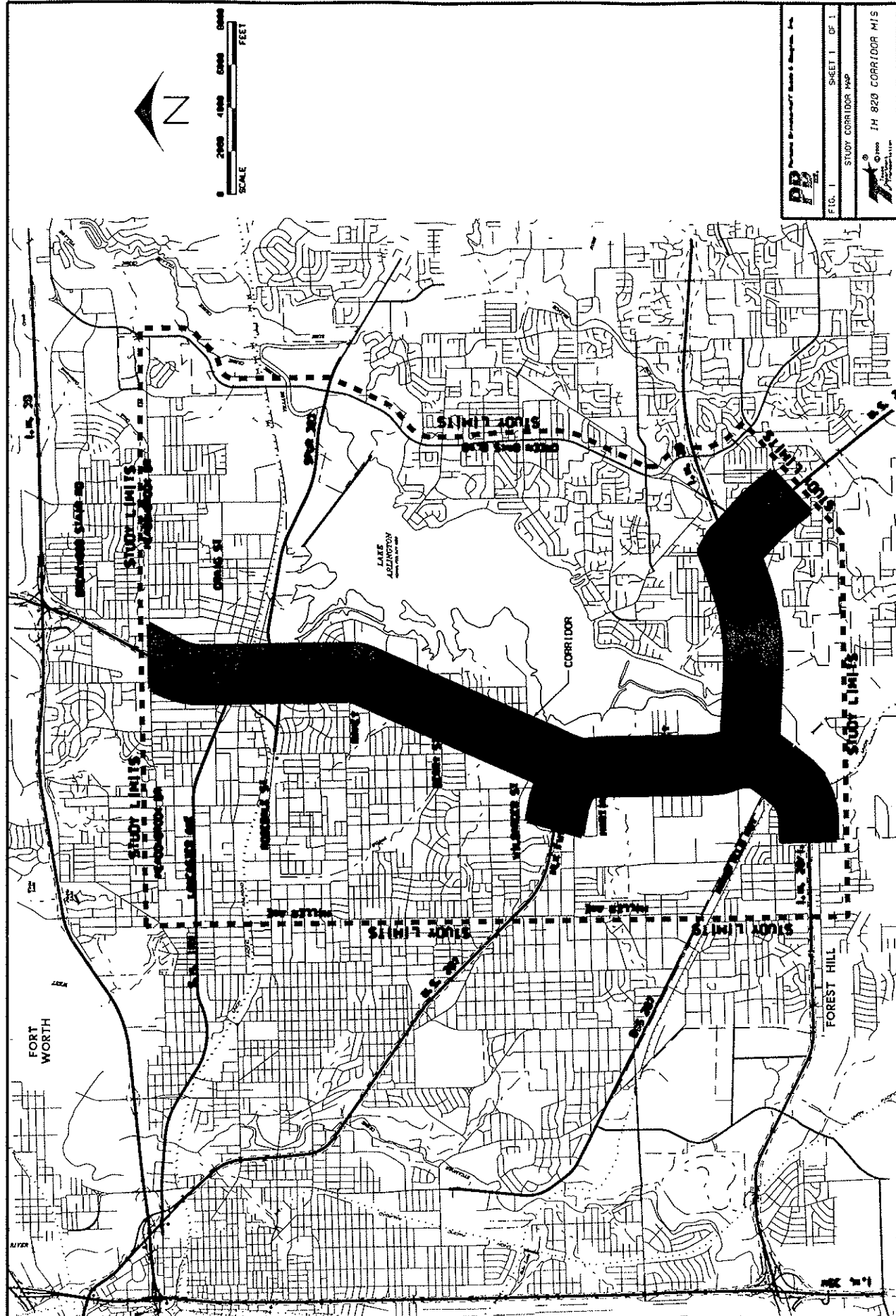
If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding this project, you may contact Mr. Matthew Asaolu, P.E., at (817) 370-6852.


Sincerely,

Charles L. Conrad, P.E.
Director of Transportation
Planning and Development

Attachment: Project Map

cc: Naser Abusaad, P.E. - Parsons Brinckerhoff Project Manager
Elvia Gonzales – TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division
Jim Robertson, AICP - Hicks & Company
Dean Tesmer -- TxDOT-Fort Worth District Design





 P&P Planning & Engineering, Inc.

FIG. 1
 STUDY CORRIDOR MAP

SHEET 1 OF 1
 I H 820 CORRIDOR M/S

The attached letter was sent addressed to each of the following:

Ms. Celeste Brancel-Brown
Wildlife Diversity Program, Wildlife Division
Texas Park & Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Rd.
Austin, TX 78744

Ms. Kathy Boydston
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program
Texas Park & Wildlife Department.
4200 Smith School Rd.
Austin, TX 78744

Ms. Mary Lively
Office Of Environmental Policy
Analysis and Assessment
Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Mr. Mike Howard
Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Mr. Dale Hoff
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Insurance & Mitigation Division
Region VI Federal Regional Center
800 North Loop 288
Denton, TX 76201-3698

Mr. Wayne Lea, P.E.
Regulatory Branch
US Army, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 17300
Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300

Mr. Thomas Cloud
US Fish & Wildlife Service
711 Stadium Drive East #252
Arlington, TX 76011

Mr. Lawrence Oaks
Texas Historical Commission
1511 Colorado Street
PO Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

Mr. Gregg Cooke
US Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross, 13th Floor
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

✓ SCANNED ✓ ETS

June 14, 2006

** Look @ record of occurrence*



Ms. Erin Foster
TxDOT-Environmental Affairs Division
125 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

ETW

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FORT WORTH

ROBERT L. COOK
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Letter due 6/9/06

Dear Ms. Foster:

This letter is in response to your review request, dated April 25, 2006, for potential impacts to rare, threatened, and endangered species from the proposed reconstruction and widening of IH 820 from Meadowbrook Drive to IH 20, IH 20 from Forest Hill Drive to east of Kelly Elliot Road, and US 287 from south of Bishop Street to north of Sublett Road in Tarrant County (CSJ 0008-13-125, -206, 2374-05-066, 0172-06-080, -09-028).

Given the small proportion of public versus private land in Texas, the TPWD Natural Diversity Database (NDD) (formerly Biological and Conservation Data System) does not include a representative inventory of rare resources in the state.

Although it is based on the best data available to TPWD regarding rare species, the data from the NDD do not provide a definitive statement as to the presence, absence, or condition of special species, natural communities, or other significant features within your project area. These data cannot substitute for an on-site evaluation by your qualified biologists. The NDD information is intended to assist you in avoiding harm to species that may occur on your site.

Based on the project description and when suitable habitat is present, the following special feature could potentially be impacted by the proposed project:

Special Features
Colonial Waterbird Rookeries

A Colonial Waterbird Rookery has been documented adjacent to the project route. A printout for this occurrence record is included for your planning reference. **Please do not include this species occurrence printout in your draft or final documents.** Because some species are especially sensitive to collection or harassment, this record is for your reference only.

Please review the enclosed county list, as other rare species could be present depending upon habitat availability. If during clearing or construction, the project area is found to contain rare species, natural plant communities, or special features, TPWD recommends that precautions be taken to avoid impacts to them.



Take a kid
hunting or fishing

Visit a state park
or historic site

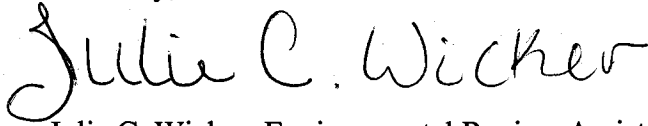
Entered ETS

The US Fish and Wildlife Service should be contacted for additional species occurrence data, guidance, permitting, survey protocols, and mitigation for federally listed species.

This letter does not include a review of habitat impacts for general fish and wildlife from this project. Such a review will be sent to you from the office of Kathy Boydston, TPWD Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program, Wildlife Division (512/389-4571).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional assistance (512/912-7054).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie C. Wicker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Julie C. Wicker, Environmental Review Assistant
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program, Wildlife Division
Threatened and Endangered Species

Enclosures (2)

Element Occurrence Record

Scientific Name: Rookery

Occurrence #: 340

Eo Id: 549

Common Name:

TX Protection Status:

Global Rank: GNR

State Rank: SNR

Federal Status:

Location Information:

Watershed:

12030102 - Lower West Fork Trinity

County Name:

Tarrant

State:

TX

Mapsheet:

32097-F3, Fort Worth

32097-F2, Kennedale

Directions

WOODED LOT NEAR CITY; FOREST HILL SECTION - SOUTHEAST OF FORT WORTH; BETWEEN HIGHWAYS 820 AND 287

Survey Information:

First Observation: 1979

Survey Date:

Last Observation: 1989

Eo Type:

Eo Rank:

Eo Rank Date:

Observed Area:

Comments:

General POST OAK TREES, 5 METERS

Description:

Comments: COLONY NUMBER 555-002

Protection

Comments:

Management

Comments:

Data:

EO Data: NESTING COLONY OF THE CATTLE EGRET, LITTLE BLUE HERON, GREAT EGRET

Site:

Site Name:

Managed Area:

Managed Area Name

Element Occurrence Record

Reference:

Citation:

TEXAS COLONIAL WATERBIRD SOCIETY AND TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT. 1986-1989. TEXAS COLONIAL WATERBIRD CENSUS SUMMARY. SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

MULLINS, L.M. ET.AL. 1982. ET.SEQ. ATLAS & CENSUS OF TEXAS WATERBIRD COLONIES, 1973-1980. TX COLONIAL WATERBIRD SOCIETY.

Specimen:

**Code Key for Printouts from
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Natural Diversity Database (NDD)**

This information is for your assistance only; due to continuing data updates, vulnerability of private land to trespass and of species to disturbance or collection, please do not publish in public documents or otherwise reprint or redistribute the information, instead refer all requesters to our office to obtain the most current information available. Also, please note, identification of a species in a given area does not necessarily mean the species currently exists at the point or area indicated.

LEGAL STATUS AND CONSERVATION RANKS

FEDERAL STATUS (as determined by the US Fish and Wildlife Service)

- LE** Listed Endangered
- LT** Listed Threatened
- PE** Proposed to be listed Endangered
- PT** Proposed to be listed Threatened
- PDL** Proposed to be Delisted (Note: Listing status retained while proposed)
- E/SA, T/SA** Listed Endangered on basis of Similarity of Appearance, Listed Threatened on basis of Similarity of Appearance
- DL** Delisted Endangered/Threatened
- C1** Candidate, Category 1. USFWS has substantial information on biological vulnerability and threats to support proposing to list as threatened or endangered. Data are being gathered on habitat needs and/or critical habitat designations.
- C1*** C1, but lacking known occurrences
- C1**** C1, but lacking known occurrences, except in captivity/cultivation
- XE** Essential Experimental Population
- XN** Non-essential Experimental Population
- Blank** Species is not federally listed

TX PROTECTION (as determined by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)

- E** Listed Endangered
- T** Listed Threatened
- Blank** Species not state-listed

GLOBAL RANK (as determined by NatureServe)

- G1** Critically imperiled globally, extremely rare, typically 5 or fewer viable occurrences
- G2** Imperiled globally, very rare, typically 6 to 20 viable occurrences
- G3** Very rare and local throughout range or found locally in restricted range, typically 21 to 100 viable occurrences
- G4** Apparently secure globally
- G5** Demonstrably secure globally
- GH** Of historical occurrence through its range
- GU** Possibly in peril range-wide, but status uncertain
- G#G#** Ranked within a range as status uncertain
- GX** Apparently extinct throughout range
- Q** Rank qualifier denoting taxonomic assignment is questionable
- #?** Rank qualifier denoting uncertain rank
- C** In captivity or cultivation only
- G#T#** "G" refers to species rank; "T" refers to variety or subspecies rank

STATE (SUBNATIONAL) RANK (as determined by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)

- S1** Critically imperiled in state, extremely rare, vulnerable to extirpation, typically 5 or fewer viable occurrences
- S2** Imperiled in state, very rare, vulnerable to extirpation, typically 6 to 20 viable occurrences
- S3** Rare or uncommon in state, typically 21 to 100 viable occurrences
- S4** Apparently secure in State
- S5** Demonstrably secure in State
- S#S#** Ranked within a range as status uncertain
- SH** Of historical occurrence in state and may be rediscovered
- SU** Unrankable – due to lack of information or substantially conflicting information
- SX** Apparently extirpated from State
- SNR** Unranked – State status not yet assessed
- SNA** Not applicable – species id not a suitable target for conservation activities
- ?** Rank qualifier denoting uncertain rank in State

ELEMENT OCCURRENCE RECORD

Element Occurrence Record (EOR) Spatial and tabular record of an area of land and/or water in which a species, natural community, or other significant feature of natural diversity is, or was, present and associated information; may be a single contiguous area or may be comprised of discrete patches or subpopulations

Occurrence # Unique number assigned to each occurrence of each element when added to the NDD

LOCATION INFORMATION

Watershed Code Eight digit numerical code determined by US Geological Survey (USGS)

Watershed Name of watershed as determined by USGS

Quadrangle Name of USGS topographical map

Directions Directions to geographic location where occurrence was observed, as described by observer or in source

SURVEY INFORMATION

First/Last Observation Date a particular occurrence was first/last observed; refers only to species occurrence as noted in source and does not imply the first/last date the species was present

Survey Date If conducted, date of survey

EO Type State rank qualifiers:

M	Migrant – species occurring regularly on migration at staging areas, or concentration along particular corridors; status refers to the transient population in the State																																
B	Qualifier indicating basic rank refers to the breeding population in State																																
N	Qualifier indicating basic rank refers to the non-breeding population in State																																
EO Rank	<table><tbody><tr><td>A</td><td>Excellent</td><td>AI</td><td>Excellent, Introduced</td></tr><tr><td>B</td><td>Good</td><td>BI</td><td>Good, Introduced</td></tr><tr><td>C</td><td>Marginal</td><td>CI</td><td>Marginal, Introduced</td></tr><tr><td>D</td><td>Poor</td><td>DI</td><td>Poor, Introduced</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>Extant/Present</td><td>EI</td><td>Extant, Introduced</td></tr><tr><td>H</td><td>Historical/No Field Information</td><td>HI</td><td>Historical, Introduced</td></tr><tr><td>X</td><td>Destroyed/Extirpated</td><td>XI</td><td>Destroyed, Introduced</td></tr><tr><td>O</td><td>Obscure</td><td>OI</td><td>Obscure, Introduced</td></tr></tbody></table>	A	Excellent	AI	Excellent, Introduced	B	Good	BI	Good, Introduced	C	Marginal	CI	Marginal, Introduced	D	Poor	DI	Poor, Introduced	E	Extant/Present	EI	Extant, Introduced	H	Historical/No Field Information	HI	Historical, Introduced	X	Destroyed/Extirpated	XI	Destroyed, Introduced	O	Obscure	OI	Obscure, Introduced
A	Excellent	AI	Excellent, Introduced																														
B	Good	BI	Good, Introduced																														
C	Marginal	CI	Marginal, Introduced																														
D	Poor	DI	Poor, Introduced																														
E	Extant/Present	EI	Extant, Introduced																														
H	Historical/No Field Information	HI	Historical, Introduced																														
X	Destroyed/Extirpated	XI	Destroyed, Introduced																														
O	Obscure	OI	Obscure, Introduced																														

EO Rank Date Latest date EO rank was determined or revised

Observed Area Acres, unless indicated otherwise

COMMENTS

Description General physical description of area and habitat where occurrence is located, including associated species, soils, geology, and surrounding land use

Comments Comments concerning the quality or condition of the element occurrence at time of survey

Protection Comments Observer comments concerning legal protection of the occurrence

Management Comments Observer comments concerning management recommendations appropriate for occurrence conservation

DATA

EO Data Biological data; may include number of individuals, vigor, flowering/fruitlet data, nest success, behaviors observed, or unusual characteristic, etc.

SITE

Site Name Title given to site by surveyor

MANAGED AREA INFORMATION

Managed Area Name Place name or (on EOR printout) name of area when the EO is located within or partially within an area identified for conservation, such as State or Federal lands, nature preserves, parks, etc.

Alias Additional names the property is known by

Acres Total acreage of property, including non-contiguous tracts

Manager Contact name, address, and telephone number for area or nearest area land steward

Please use the following citation to credit the source for the printout information:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Wildlife Division, Science, Research, and Diversity Program, Natural Diversity Database [date(s) posted on printouts].

Federal State
Status Status

Rock-pocketbook (*Arcidens confragosus*) - mud, sand, and gravel substrates of medium to large rivers in standing or slow flowing water, may tolerate moderate currents and some reservoirs, east Texas, Red through Guadalupe River basins

Sandbank Pocketbook (*Lampsilis satura*) - small to large rivers with moderate flows and swift current on gravel, gravel-sand, and sand bottoms; east Texas, Big Cypress Bayou south through San Jacinto River basins; Neches River

Texas Heelsplitter (*Potamilus amplichaenus*) - quiet waters in mud or sand and also in reservoirs. Sabine, Neches, and Trinity River basins

*** REPTILES ***

Texas Garter Snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis annectens*) - wet or moist microhabitats are conducive to the species occurrence, but is not necessarily restricted to them; hibernates underground or in or under surface cover; breeds March-August

Texas Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*) - open, arid and semi-arid regions with sparse vegetation, including grass, cactus, scattered brush or scrubby trees; soil may vary in texture from sandy to rocky; burrows into soil, enters rodent burrows, or hides under rock when inactive; breeds March-September

T

Timber/Canebrake Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*) - swamps, floodplains, upland pine and deciduous woodlands, riparian zones, abandoned farmland, limestone bluffs; sandy soil or black clay; prefers dense ground cover, i.e. grapevines or palmetto

T

*** VASCULAR PLANTS ***

Glen Rose yucca (*Yucca necopina*) - grasslands on sandy soils; flowering April-June(?), also found in limestone bedrock, clayey soil on top of limestone, and gravelly limestone alluvium

Status Key:

LE, LT - Federally Listed Endangered/Threatened

PE, PT - Federally Proposed Endangered/Threatened

E/SA, T/SA - Federally Listed Endangered/Threatened by Similarity of Appearance

C1 - Federal Candidate for Listing, Category 1; information supports proposing to list as Endangered/Threatened

DL, PDL - Federally Delisted/Proposed for Delisting

NL - Not Federally Listed

E, T - State Listed Endangered/Threatened

"blank" - Rare, but with no regulatory listing status

Species appearing on these lists do not all share the same probability of occurrence. Some species are migrants or wintering residents only, or may be historic or considered extirpated.



Notes for
County Lists of Texas' Special Species



The Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) county lists **include**:

Vertebrates, Invertebrates, and Vascular Plants on the special species lists of the TPWD, Non-game and Rare Species Program, Natural Diversity Database (NDD) (formerly the Biological and Conservation Data System). These special species lists are comprised of all species, subspecies, and varieties that are federally listed; proposed to be federally listed; have federal candidate status; are state listed; or carry a global conservation status indicating a species is imperiled, very rare, vulnerable to extirpation; and some species ranked rare or uncommon.

Colonial Waterbird Nesting Areas and Migratory Songbird Fallout Areas are included on the county lists for coastal counties only.

The TPWD county lists **exclude**:

Natural Plant Communities such as Little Bluestem-Indiangrass Series (native prairie remnant), Water Oak-Willow Oak Series (bottomland hardwood community), Saltgrass-Cordgrass Series (salt or brackish marsh), Sphagnum-Beakrush Series (seepage bog).

Other Significant Features such as non-coastal bird rookeries, comprehensive migratory bird information, bat roosts, bat caves, invertebrate caves, and prairie dog towns.

These lists are not all inclusive for all rare species distributions. The lists were developed and are updated based on field guides, NDD occurrences data, staff expertise, and scientific publications. In order to keep the lists to a reasonable length, historic ranges for some state extirpated species, full historic distributions for some extant species, accidentals and irregularly appearing species, and portions of migratory routes for particular species are not included.

The **revised date** on each county list reflects the last date any changes or revisions were made for that county and reflects current listing statuses and taxonomy.

Species that appear on county lists do not all share the same probability of occurrence within a county. Some species are migrants or wintering residents only. Additionally, a few species may be historic or considered extirpated within a county. Species considered extirpated within the state are so flagged on each list.

This information is for your assistance only; due to continuing data updates, **please do not reprint or redistribute the information, instead refer all requesters to our office to obtain the most current information available.**



The Natural Diversity Database



The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), Natural Diversity Database (NDD) (formerly the Biological and Conservation Data System), established in 1983, is the Department's most comprehensive source of information on rare, threatened, and endangered plants and animals, exemplary natural communities, and other significant features. Though it is not all-inclusive, the NDD is constantly updated, providing current or additional information on statewide status and locations of these unique elements of natural diversity.

The NDD gathers biological information from museum and herbarium collection records, peer reviewed publications, experts in the scientific community, organizations, qualified individuals, and on-site field surveys conducted by TPWD staff on public lands or private lands with written permission. TPWD staff botanists, zoologists, and ecologists perform field surveys to locate and verify specific occurrences of high-priority biological elements and collect accurate information on their condition, quality, and management needs.

The NDD can be used to help evaluate the environmental impacts of routing and siting options for development projects. It also assists in impact assessment, environmental review, and permit review.

Given the small proportion of public versus private land in Texas, the NDD does not include a representative inventory of rare resources in the state. Although it is based on the best data publicly available to TPWD regarding rare species, these data cannot provide a definitive statement as to the presence, absence, or condition of special species, natural communities, or other significant features in any area. Nor can these data substitute for on-site evaluation by qualified biologists. The NDD information is intended to assist the user in avoiding harm to species that may occur.

Please use the following citation to credit the source for this county level information:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Wildlife Division, Non-game and Rare Species and Habitat Assessment programs. County Lists of Texas' Special Species. [county name(s) and revised date(s)].

For information on obtaining a project review form or a site-specific review of a project area for rare species, and for updated county lists, please call (512) 912-7011.



NATURAL

JUN 23 2006

RESOURCES

June 20, 2006

Ms. Erin R. Foster
Ecological Resources Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 East 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483

RE: Reconstruction and Widening IH 820: From Meadowbrook to IH 20
Reconstruction and Widening IH 20: From IH 820 to US 287
CSJ 0008-13-125, 0008-13-206, 2374-05-066, 0172-06-080, 0172-09-028
(Tarrant County)

Dear Ms. Foster:

Thank you for coordinating with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) regarding the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project referenced above. TPWD offers the following comments concerning the proposed project.

The proposed project involves reconstruction, widening, and associated improvements along approximately 15 miles of an interconnected urban freeway system within the cities of Fort Worth, Arlington, Kennedale, and Forest Hill in southeast Tarrant County. IH 820 from Meadowbrook to US 287 will be expanded from 4 main lanes and 4 frontage road lanes to 8 main lanes and 5 frontage road lanes. IH 820 from US 287 to IH 20 would be expanded from 8 main lanes and 4 frontage road lanes to 12 main lanes, 6 frontage road lanes, and a 2-lane reversible HOV/M or express facility in the median. IH 20 from IH 820 to US 287 would be expanded from 8 main lanes and 4 frontage road lanes to 14 main lanes, 6 frontage road lanes, and a 2-lane reversible HOV/M or express facility in the median. Approximately 26.3 acres of additional right-of-way (ROW) will be required for the proposed improvements. The project corridor is extensively urbanized including residential, commercial, and industrial land uses with urban landscaping and few undeveloped areas.

Total impacts to Waters of the U.S. are estimated at 0.031 acres at 3 of 13 tributary crossings within the project area. The EA indicates that approximately 157 acres of maintained grassy vegetation with few scattered trees within the existing ROW will be impacted. Of the proposed 26.3 acres of new ROW, much of the area is already paved, though urban landscaping consisting of small scattered amounts of Bradford pear (*Pyrus calleryana*), Pecan (*Carya*

To manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and to provide hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Take a kid
hunting or fishing



Visit a state park
or historic site

Erin Foster
Page 2
June 20, 2006

illinoensis), Cedar elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*), Live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), and Mulberry (*Morus* spp.) trees will be impacted. Grassed areas within the proposed ROW consist primarily of introduced Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*) and Johnson grass (*Sorghum halepense*).

Per the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between TPWD and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the TxDOT District should consider compensatory mitigation for loss to unusual vegetation or special habitat features that occur within the project area. For this project, the EA indicates that no unusual vegetation or special habitat features occur within the project area. TPWD feels as if the project area does contain unusual vegetation features specifically riparian vegetation, trees that are unusually larger than other trees in the area, and unusual stands or islands (isolated) of vegetation that should be considered for compensatory mitigation.

Riparian Vegetation

The EA states that although some riparian woodlands species were present within the freeway corridors, they were widely scattered and thus did not constitute true woodlands. The EA also states that the project would impact approximately 7 acres of woodlands associated with Kee Branch consisting of hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*), American elm (*Ulmus Americana*), Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*), Cedar elm, giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*), wood oats (*Chasmanthium latifolium*), green briar (*Smilax bona-nox*), and poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*).

Aerial photography of the intersection of the project corridor with Kee Branch indicates a vegetated riparian corridor within the 100-yr floodplain of Kee Branch. Other tributary crossings on the aerial photography indicate sparse riparian corridors that will be impacted within the project area. Although the TxDOT-Fort Worth District does not consider impacts to the riparian crossings within the project area as significant or necessary for compensatory mitigation, there will be impact to what remains of important riparian corridors within a highly urban landscape. As determined by a site visit conducted by TPWD on June 9, 2006, there is well-established wooded riparian habitat adjacent to Kee Branch consisting of many large diameter trees and approximately 95% canopy cover. The riparian woodlands at this location did not exhibit scattered characteristics as described in the EA. Impacts associated with the proposed project will further fragment this high-quality riparian corridor because of freeway and ROW widening.

Riparian habitats include vegetation found along the banks and on the floodplains of rivers, creeks, and streams. Riparian areas provide important ecological functions in that the vegetation serves as an energy source for aquatic organisms while also providing travel corridors for terrestrial wildlife and foraging, nesting, and loafing cover for many wildlife species. Additionally, trees provide shade and prevent wide fluctuations in water temperature, protecting aquatic wildlife from the harmful effects of climatic extremes. The stems and roots of riparian vegetation stabilize soil by reducing water velocity and minimizing erosion. The TPWD Land and Water Resources Conservation and Recreation Plan (LWRCRP) established riparian habitats as one of the two highest priority habitat types for conservation across the state; therefore TPWD requests compensatory mitigation on an acre-to-acre basis for loss to riparian vegetation adjacent to tributaries that are crossed by the proposed freeway corridors, especially at the Kee Branch location.

Large Trees

The EA does not specify the number and size of trees to be removed from the existing and proposed ROW. As depicted from the project photographs and descriptions of the urban landscape contained within the EA, TPWD anticipates that large mature trees from within the existing and proposed ROW will be impacted. The EA did not provide enough information on the size of trees to be removed compared to the number and size of other trees in the area. Therefore, TPWD requests that TxDOT provide compensatory mitigation for replacement of large mature trees at a one-to-one ratio. A three to five year maintenance plan that ensures an 85% survival rate should be developed for the replacement trees. Removal of tree species that are not native to the Cross Timbers and Prairies Ecoregion of Texas do not necessitate mitigation. Please provide TPWD with an estimation of trees to be removed including species, diameter at breast height, and height, and prepare a mitigation plan and proposal for TPWD review and approval.

Unusual Stands of Vegetation

The aerial photography of the project depicts scattered undeveloped tracts of property within an area dominated by urban development in the vicinity of the freeway corridors of this project. These wooded/undeveloped tracts can be considered unusual vegetation because of the lack of similar habitat within the urban landscape. The EA needs to quantify the area of impact to undeveloped property and the District should consider non-regulatory compensation for loss to this habitat because of the scarcity of similar habitat in the area.

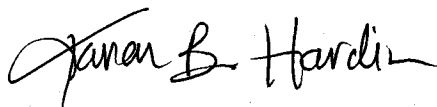
Erin Foster
Page 4
June 20, 2006

Urban wildlife including resident and migratory songbirds depends on greenspace within urban areas to provide foraging, roosting, and breeding habitat. Loss to riparian habitat and undeveloped woodlands within this project area would contribute to a net loss of available habitat within an urban area. There is a lack of similar habitat nearby that amplifies the need for replacement mitigation. TPWD suggests that TxDOT coordinate with federal, state, and local agencies to identify areas where compensatory mitigation could occur, such as protecting or enhancing tracts of undeveloped property near the project corridor, protecting or enhancing riparian corridors within the Cities of Fort Worth, Arlington, Kennedale, and Forest Hill, and use of native landscaping within the project area. TPWD also suggests donating trees for planting at nearby schools, churches, residential communities, parks, stadiums, or other recreational facilities as part of the mitigation efforts. Aid in restoration of nearby stream and riparian systems would also be an ideal form of mitigation.

As stated in the EA, an objective of the project is to protect and enhance social, economic and environmental resources. Of the available wildlife habitat within the existing and proposed ROW, TxDOT has offered little to no protection or enhancement of this environmental resource; therefore, TPWD would like to see more effort towards protection and enhancement of wildlife habitat in relation to the impacts associated with this project.

Please provide TPWD with a response to our requests for mitigation. If you have any questions, please contact me at (903) 675-4447.

Sincerely,



Karen B. Hardin
Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program
Wildlife Division

kbh/4434

Chad Putnam

From: Suzanne Walsh <Suzanne.Walsh@tpwd.texas.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 09, 2019 6:33 PM
To: Chad Putnam
Cc: John Maresh; Jamye Sawey; Susan Shuffield
Subject: RE: Early Coordination Request - CSJ: 0008-13-125, etc.; Southeast Connector; Tarrant County

Categories: 0008-13-125

This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Chad,

Thank you for committing to the additional BMPs to minimize impacts from the project.

Thank you for submitting the following project for early coordination: Southeast Connector (CSJ: 0008-13-125) in Tarrant County. TPWD appreciates TxDOT's commitment to implement the practices listed in the Tier I Site Assessment form submitted on July 18, 2019. Based on a review of the documentation, the avoidance and mitigation efforts described, and provided that project plans do not change, TPWD considers coordination to be complete. However, please note it is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with all federal, state, and local laws that protect plants, fish, and wildlife.

According to §2.204(g) of the 2013 TxDOT-TPWD MOU, TxDOT agreed to provide TXNDD reporting forms for observations of tracked SGCN (which includes federal- and state-listed species) occurrences within TxDOT project areas. Please keep this mind when completing project due diligence tasks. For TXNDD submission guidelines, please visit the following link: http://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/txnnd/submit.phtml

Sincerely,

Suzanne Walsh
Transportation Conservation Coordinator
(512) 389-4579

From: Chad Putnam <Chad.Putnam@txdot.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2019 3:01 PM
To: Sue Reilly <Sue.Reilly@tpwd.texas.gov>
Cc: John Maresh <John.Maresh@txdot.gov>; Jamye Sawey <Jamye.Sawey@txdot.gov>; Suzanne Walsh <Suzanne.Walsh@tpwd.texas.gov>; Susan Shuffield <Susan.Shuffield@txdot.gov>
Subject: RE: Early Coordination Request - CSJ: 0008-13-125, etc.; Southeast Connector; Tarrant County

Sue,

TxDOT will include the additional BMPs in the project as you have requested in the email below.

Thanks,

Chad Putnam
Environmental Specialist
TxDOT FTW District
Office: (817)370-6567

From: Sue Reilly [<mailto:Sue.Reilly@tpwd.texas.gov>]
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2019 4:31 PM
To: Chad Putnam
Cc: John Maresh; Jamye Sawey; Suzanne Walsh
Subject: RE: Early Coordination Request - CSJ: 0008-13-125, etc.; Southeast Connector; Tarrant County

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Chad,

Thank you for adding to the BMPs. I have a couple of additional requests in order to match up the BMPs with those in the PA:

For the Terrestrial Reptile BMP applied, one of the BMPs has been omitted. Please include the following BMP for those species:

- For open trenches and excavated pits, install escape ramps at an angle of less than 45 degrees (1:1) in areas left uncovered. Visually inspect excavation areas for trapped wildlife prior to backfilling.

For the Bat BMPs, please include the following parts of the BMP that were omitted:

- If feature(s) used by bats are removed as a result of construction, replacement structures should incorporate bat-friendly design or artificial roosts should be constructed to replace these features, as practicable.
- Large hollow trees, snags (dead standing trees), and trees with shaggy bark should be surveyed for colonies and, if found, should not be disturbed until the bats are no longer occupying these features. Post-occupancy surveys should be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to tree removal from the landscape.

Thank you for including the Bat BMPs from Section 2 that are optional, that is really helpful.

Sorry I missed the Mussel BMPs on the Tier I form! You guys put a lot of extra BMPs which is amazing! It might be helpful to organize them like they are in the PA with headers and bullets (e.g. Terrestrial Reptile BMPs, Bat BMPs with each bulleted item), then have the extra ones bulleted individually? Or discuss variations from the BMP PA versions?

I appreciate your responses to my other comments about Kee Branch.

Thank you,

Sue Reilly
Transportation Assessment Liaison
Texas Parks and Wildlife
Wildlife Division
512-389-8021

From: Chad Putnam <Chad.Putnam@txdot.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2019 2:38 PM

To: Sue Reilly <Sue.Reilly@tpwd.texas.gov>

Cc: John Maresh <John.Maresh@txdot.gov>; Jamiye Sawey <Jamiye.Sawey@txdot.gov>; Suzanne Walsh <Suzanne.Walsh@tpwd.texas.gov>

Subject: RE: Early Coordination Request - CSJ: 0008-13-125, etc.; Southeast Connector; Tarrant County

Sue,

I have reviewed the species table and the Tier I form to identify the discrepancies that you identified below. The BMPs described in the species table and those described in the Tier I form are consistent with each other.

While the individual mussel species were not identified in the Tier I form, the Tier I form did include the commitment to survey streams within the project footprint for state listed and SGCN species where appropriate habitat exists and that state listed and SGCN mussels discovered during surveys shall be relocated under Texas Parks and Wildlife Department permit.

In addition to the BMPs that were previously identified in the Tier I form, TxDOT will revise the form to include informing the contractor of the potential for the Plains spotted skunk to occur within the project area and to avoid harming the species, if encountered, and to avoid unnecessary impacts. With regard to SGCN bat species, TxDOT will include the following BMPs:

- For activities that have the potential to impact structures, cliffs or caves, or trees; a qualified biologist will perform a habitat assessment and occupancy survey of the feature(s) with roost potential as early in the planning process as possible.
 - Bat surveys of structures should include visual inspections of structural fissures (cracked or spalled concrete, damaged or split beams, split or damaged timber railings), crevices (expansion joints, space between parallel beams, spaces above supports piers), and alternative structures (drainage pipes, bolt cavities, open sections between support beams, swallow nests) for the presence of bats.
- For roosts where occupancy is strongly suspected but unconfirmed during the initial survey, revisit feature(s) at most four weeks prior to scheduled disturbance to confirm absence of bats.
- If bats are present or recent signs of occupation (i.e., piles of guano, distinct musky odor, or staining and rub marks at potential entry points) are observed, take appropriate measures to ensure that bats are not harmed, such as implementing non-lethal exclusion activities or timing or phasing of construction.
 - Exclusion devices can be installed by a qualified individual between September 1 and March 31. Exclusion devices should be used for a minimum of seven days when minimum nighttime temperatures are above 50°F AND minimum daytime temperatures are above 70°F.
 - Before excluding bats from any occupied structure, bat species, weather, temperature, season, and geographic location must be incorporated into any exclusion plans to avoid unnecessary harm or death to bats. Winter exclusion must entail a survey to confirm either, 1) bats are absent or 2) present but active (i.e. continuously active - not intermittently active due to arousals from hibernation).
- Avoid using materials that degrade quickly, like paper, steel wool or rags, to close holes.
- Avoid using chemical and ultrasonic repellents.
- Avoid the use of flexible netting attached with duct tape.
- In order to avoid entombing bats, exclusion activities should be only implemented by a qualified individual. A qualified individual or company should possess at least the following minimum qualifications:
 - Experience in bat exclusion (the individual, not just the company).
 - Proof of rabies pre-exposure vaccinations.
 - Demonstrated knowledge of the relevant bat species, including maternity season date range and habitat requirements.
 - Demonstrated knowledge of rabies and histoplasmosis in relation to bat roosts.

- Conversion of property containing cave or cliff features to transportation purposes should be avoided where feasible.
- Retain mature, large diameter hardwood forest species and native/ornamental palm trees where feasible.
- In all instances, avoid harm or death to bats. Bats should only be handled as a last resort and after communication with TPWD.

TxDOT has and will continue to consider and incorporate the spanning of waterways and their floodplains, where feasible as the project design progresses through the development process.

Regarding the frontage roads in the area of Kee Branch, TxDOT is currently proposing that the frontage roads be bridged over the Kee Branch steams. The existing I-20 mainlanes cross Kee Branch with culverts, at a lower elevation than the proposed frontage road bridges. TxDOT is proposing ramps to/from Green Oaks and Kelly Elliot to the proposed frontage roads. By bringing the frontage roads closer to the mainlanes, the ramp geometry would be difficult to implement. More importantly, there is a stream feeding Kee Branch that is between our proposed westbound frontage road and the mainlanes; TxDOT is proposing to place the westbound frontage road away from that stream to avoid/minimize impacts to the adjacent streams.

As you stated below, the project is early in the design process and the design is subject to change as the project development process continues. TxDOT will continue efforts to minimize the project's impacts on the natural environment within the area of potential effect.

Thanks,

Chad Putnam
Environmental Specialist
TxDOT FTW District
Office: (817)370-6567

From: Sue Reilly [<mailto:Sue.Reilly@tpwd.texas.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2019 1:46 PM
To: Chad Putnam; John Maresh; Jamye Sawey
Subject: RE: Early Coordination Request - CSJ: 0008-13-125, etc.; Southeast Connector; Tarrant County

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Chad,

I have a few questions about this project.

It looks like there are several BMPs listed in the species table that are not included in the Tier I form, e.g. Mussels, Bats, Plains Spotted Skunk. Can you please include all the BMPs in one document, preferably within the Tier I document?

I see that this project is early in the planning process and I just want to advocate for spanning waterways, particularly perennial streams and their floodplains, to minimize impacts to aquatic species and to provide crossing opportunities for terrestrial animals.

In that vein, I wanted to note that the new frontage roads on IH-20 across Kee Branch are impacting quite a bit of riparian habitat. Is it possible to place them closer to the mainlanes to reduce that impact?

I appreciate your help.

Thank you,

Sue Reilly
Transportation Assessment Liaison
Texas Parks and Wildlife
Wildlife Division
512-389-8021

From: WHAB_TxDOT <WHAB_TxDOT@tpwd.texas.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2019 1:43 PM
To: Chad Putnam <Chad.Putnam@txdot.gov>; John Maresh <John.Maresh@txdot.gov>; Jamye Sawey <Jamye.Sawey@txdot.gov>
Cc: Sue Reilly <Sue.Reilly@tpwd.texas.gov>
Subject: RE: Early Coordination Request - CSJ: 0008-13-125, etc.; Southeast Connector; Tarrant County

The TPWD Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program has received your request and has assigned it project ID # 42226. The Habitat Assessment Biologist who will complete your project review is copied on this email.

Thank you,

John Ney
Administrative Assistant
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Wildlife Diversity Program – Habitat Assessment Program
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744
Office: (512) 389-4571

From: Chad Putnam <Chad.Putnam@txdot.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2019 11:08 AM
To: WHAB_TxDOT <WHAB_TxDOT@tpwd.texas.gov>
Cc: John Maresh <John.Maresh@txdot.gov>; Jamye Sawey <Jamye.Sawey@txdot.gov>
Subject: Early Coordination Request - CSJ: 0008-13-125, etc.; Southeast Connector; Tarrant County

Good afternoon,

The TxDOT Fort Worth District would like to request early coordination for a roadway widening and reconstruction project located in Tarrant County. Previous coordination on this project was completed in June of 2006. Due to the

elapsed time since the previous coordination, modifications to the project design, and changes to the TXDOT/TPWD MOU, this project is being re-coordinated.

The project design that was evaluated in this document is based on the Draft 60% Interim Schematic dated May 29, 2019. The approximate 63 acres of proposed new right of way illustrated in the EMST maps represent the anticipated "worst-case" footprint. As the project design is refined, the impacts described herein are not anticipated to increase in magnitude.

The Tier I Site Assessment and other supporting documentation has been uploaded into [TXECOS](#) under CSJ: 0008-13-125. Alternatively, you can retrieve the files by clicking the following link (or copying and pasting it into your web browser) within 21 days:

["https://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/dropbox/pickup.php?claimID=fXCaHhMiht5J8cKT&claimPasscode=mUaZMB81GEwuitpb&mailAddr=chad.putnam%40txdot.gov"](https://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/dropbox/pickup.php?claimID=fXCaHhMiht5J8cKT&claimPasscode=mUaZMB81GEwuitpb&mailAddr=chad.putnam%40txdot.gov)

Full information for the drop-off:

Claim ID: fXCaHhMiht5J8cKT
Claim Passcode: mUaZMB81GEwuitpb
Date of Drop-Off: 2019-07-18 11:06:09-0500

Thanks,

Chad Putnam

Environmental Specialist

TxDOT FTW District

Office : (817)370-6567

Email: Chad.Putnam@txdot.gov

Mailing Address: 2501 S.W. Loop 820, Fort Worth, TX 76133



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~~A Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) message~~

