

# TYPICAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

FM 2444 (Staples St.) Upgrade Project: Oso Parkway to SH 286 (Chapman Ranch Road)

## **Why is this project needed?**

This project is needed to address the increased development of residential areas and attractions south of Oso Creek along FM 2444. The proposed project would increase traffic capacity, improve safety, reduce traffic congestion, and enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety and mobility.

## **What is being proposed long-term? (Updated)**

What is being proposed long-term is the “Ultimate” development of the roadway that would include additional travel lanes in each direction with controlled left-turns with medians. In addition, the roadway would include curb and gutter, underground storm drains, shoulders that could accommodate bicycles as well as emergency parking, sidewalks, and improved intersections and signals at Oso Parkway, Kitty Hawk/Country Creek Road, and SH 286 (Chapman Ranch Road).

## **What would happen in the near term? (Updated)**

Due to funding limitations, an “Interim” project is proposed to get underway in 2013 that will build additional travel lanes, medians, and shoulders from the Oso Creek bridge to east of the Botanical Gardens entrance. Additional travel lanes, a continuous left turn lane, and shoulders will be built from east of the Botanical Gardens entrance to SH 286. Traffic signals will be installed at Oso Parkway, Kitty Hawk/Country Creek Road, and SH 286.

## **What is the timeframe for the Ultimate development?**

This would depend upon traffic growth, increased subdivision development, the completion of the South Oso Parkway north and south of FM 2444, and funding availability. It would be the intention of the MPO to carry this as a long-range project that is unfunded in the 2010 – 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

## **Why are “medians” part of this project?**

As traffic volumes increase, there are increased incidents of traffic conflicts. Crashes increase and safety is reduced. Medians provide controlled left-turns and U-turns to reduce the incidence of conflict. Although initially seen as a problem by the citizens - traffic crash data has demonstrated that the number of crashes and incidents are generally reduced over time.

## **How will the project be paid for? (Updated)**

The TxDOT Commission allocated funds from the statewide Proposition 12 bond program to the 25 Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO’s) for projects that could be under construction by mid-2013. The MPO allocation would provide \$14.0 million for this project of which \$11.2 million will be applied to construction. The MPO identified an additional \$9.1 million of other funding to be used for the project.

### **This area has had high water incidents. How would this be addressed? (Updated)**



The area just south of the Oso Creek has a low spot and the design will incorporate improved drainage and raise the road to reduce flooding of the roadway. Drainage from farm land west of the Oso will also be a factor in the final engineering. Working with local property owners TxDOT will provide an optimum design for site drainage.

### **How will driveway access be provided to farmland or new developments?**

The local TxDOT District will work with property owners to identify and provide needed access. The general contact number is (361) 808-2300. Martin Horst, the Corpus Christ Area Engineer, can also be contacted at (361) 808-2261.

### **How do I submit a question?**

On this webpage we have included a copy of the comment form that can be filled out and mailed to TxDOT.

### **What if I want to talk with someone? (Updated)**

If additional information is required please contact Christopher Amy at TxDOT (361) 808-2376 or the Corpus Christi MPO at (361) 884-0687.