

SH 71 Improvement Project

FACT SHEET



Why Improvements Are Needed for SH 71

State Highway 71 serves as a major corridor for motorists traveling to Austin and the Texas Hill Country. In fact, in 2012, the average daily traffic on SH 71 between Southwest Parkway and US 290 in Oak Hill was about 39,000 vehicles a day. With continued growth in western Travis County, TxDOT is planning for and working on this section of SH 71 to improve safety and manage congestion.

Project Purpose

Currently, sections of SH 71 have turn lanes to allow motorists to safely make left turns. The purpose of the SH 71 improvement project is to improve safety and address congestion by expanding the center-turn lane where driveways are present between Southwest Parkway and US 290, as well as incorporating several other safety improvements like widening shoulders throughout the project limits and adding a traffic signal at Southwest Parkway.

This project includes:

- Extending center-turn lanes in certain areas from Southwest Parkway to US 290 in Oak Hill
- Widening shoulders
- Adding a traffic signal at SH 71 and Southwest Parkway
- Constructing dual left-turn lanes from SH 71 to Southwest Parkway

Construction Details and Timeline

Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2014 and will take about 2 years to complete. Work is scheduled to occur Monday through Friday with some work occurring on Saturdays, in effort to expedite the project. To ensure safety for motorists and workers, travel lanes will be reduced to one lane in each direction for portions of the project.

The estimated construction cost for the SH 71 improvement project is \$15.9 million. The contractor is Joe Bland Construction, L.P.

Contact Information and Construction Updates

For additional project information, please contact:

Ben Engelhardt
South Travis Area Engineer
TxDOT Austin District
512-282-2113
Ben.Engelhardt@txdot.gov

For media inquiries, please contact:

Kelli Reyna
Public Information Officer
TxDOT Austin District
512-832-7060
Kelli.Reyna@txdot.gov

