



Weatherford Loop Feasibility Study

**Public Meeting
December 4, 2003**



PROJECT PROBLEM STATEMENT:

THE PURPOSE of the Weatherford Loop Feasibility Study is to evaluate the feasibility of constructing a loop roadway, or portions of a loop roadway, around the City of Weatherford.

If construction of a loop roadway, or portions of a loop roadway, are determined to not be feasible, then the study will document the reasons why it is not feasible and will explain how the existing transportation network in and around Weatherford will meet future transportation demands.

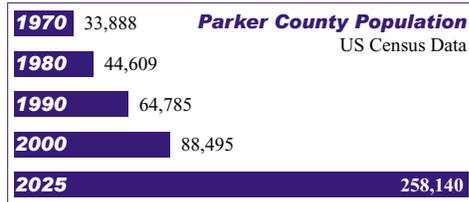
If construction of a loop roadway, or portions of a loop roadway, are determined to be feasible, then the study will recommend a locally preferred plan of action to initiate development of the project(s).

GOALS of the study are to:

- * Ensure a proactive, inclusive, and continuous public involvement process
- * Conduct the study in a fair and unbiased manner
- * Support the economic viability of existing business and industry
- * Recommend transportation options that promote economic growth through development of new business and industry
- * Reduce existing and future congestion on the existing street network
- * Enhance the safety of driving in Weatherford and the surrounding area
- * Provide alternate emergency response routes
- * Provide greater flexibility in routing of truck traffic & hazardous cargo
- * Support future master planning for the City of Weatherford
- * Compliment current and planned city and state roadway improvements
- * Link feasible recommendation(s) with TxDOT's mission statement, priorities and initiatives
- * Develop a final recommendation that is environmentally, socio-economically, technically, and financially feasible

THE NEED to conduct this feasibility study stems from the continued

increase in population growth within Weatherford and Parker County. The population of Parker County expanded from 33,888 residents in 1970 to 88,495 residents in the year 2000, an increase of 261 percent over the thirty year period. Future population projections for Parker County show an estimate of



258,140 residents in 2025, an increase of almost 300 percent over the next 25 year period. The Texas Department of Transportation wants to plan for an adequate transportation system to handle future traffic growth. Thus, this study is being conducted to assist the Department in developing a plan to keep the residents of Parker County moving.

THE SCHEDULE for completing the fifteen month study calls for a written report to be finished in August 2004. The Feasibility Report will document all of the study findings and will make final recommendations concerning the feasibility of a loop roadway around Weatherford.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

is a high priority for the Texas Department of Transportation, which set a goal to develop a "locally preferred" plan of action to address the issues faced in this study. To achieve this goal, public input will be welcomed through a series of three Public Meetings. The first Public Meeting was held on July 15, 2003. Tonight's meeting is the second Public Meeting, and the third in the series will be held during the Spring of 2004. Additionally, a small group of individuals, comprised of local business owners, local elected officials, school officials, and municipal staff, have been invited to attend a total of five Stakeholder Meetings. These Stakeholders represent local interests or entities that are most likely to be affected by possible transportation solutions.



THE FEASIBILITY STUDY includes:

- * Assembly and Review of Data
- * Evaluation of Existing Conditions
- * Evaluation of Social and Environmental Impacts
- * Alternatives Analysis and Evaluation of Future Conditions
- * Selected Alternative Refinement
- * Feasibility Report with conclusions and recommendations

THE ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS involved the study of an unrestricted number of conceptual alternative corridors. Once all of the conceptual corridors were identified, each segment of each alternative was compared within a geographic area using an established set of criteria. The process involved a gradual reduction in the number of alternatives, where promising alternatives were moved forward, and less desirable alternatives were set aside. Through this process, Corridors A, B and C have been identified as viable corridors and will be moved forward for a more detailed level of analysis.

Approximate Lengths of Viable Corridors

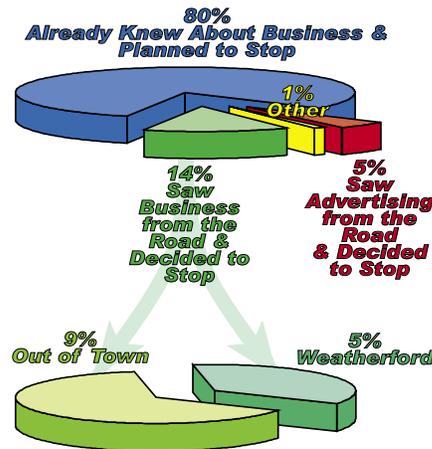
*Corridor A - 10.6 Miles
Corridor B - 12.4 Miles
Corridor C - 15.5 Miles*

TRAVEL SURVEYS were conducted along major highways approximately five miles outside of the Weatherford area in June of 2003. These travel surveys were conducted to determine area travel characteristics and patterns, as well as to provide information in developing a travel demand model for the Weatherford area. This table summarizes the percentage of traffic at each survey location that is simply traveling through Weatherford.

Percent Through Traffic

<i>Station 3 - US 180 East</i>	<i>32%</i>
<i>Station 4 - US 180 West</i>	<i>67%</i>
<i>Station 5 - FM 730</i>	<i>47%</i>
<i>Station 6 - FM 51</i>	<i>39%</i>
<i>Station 7 - FM 920</i>	<i>41%</i>

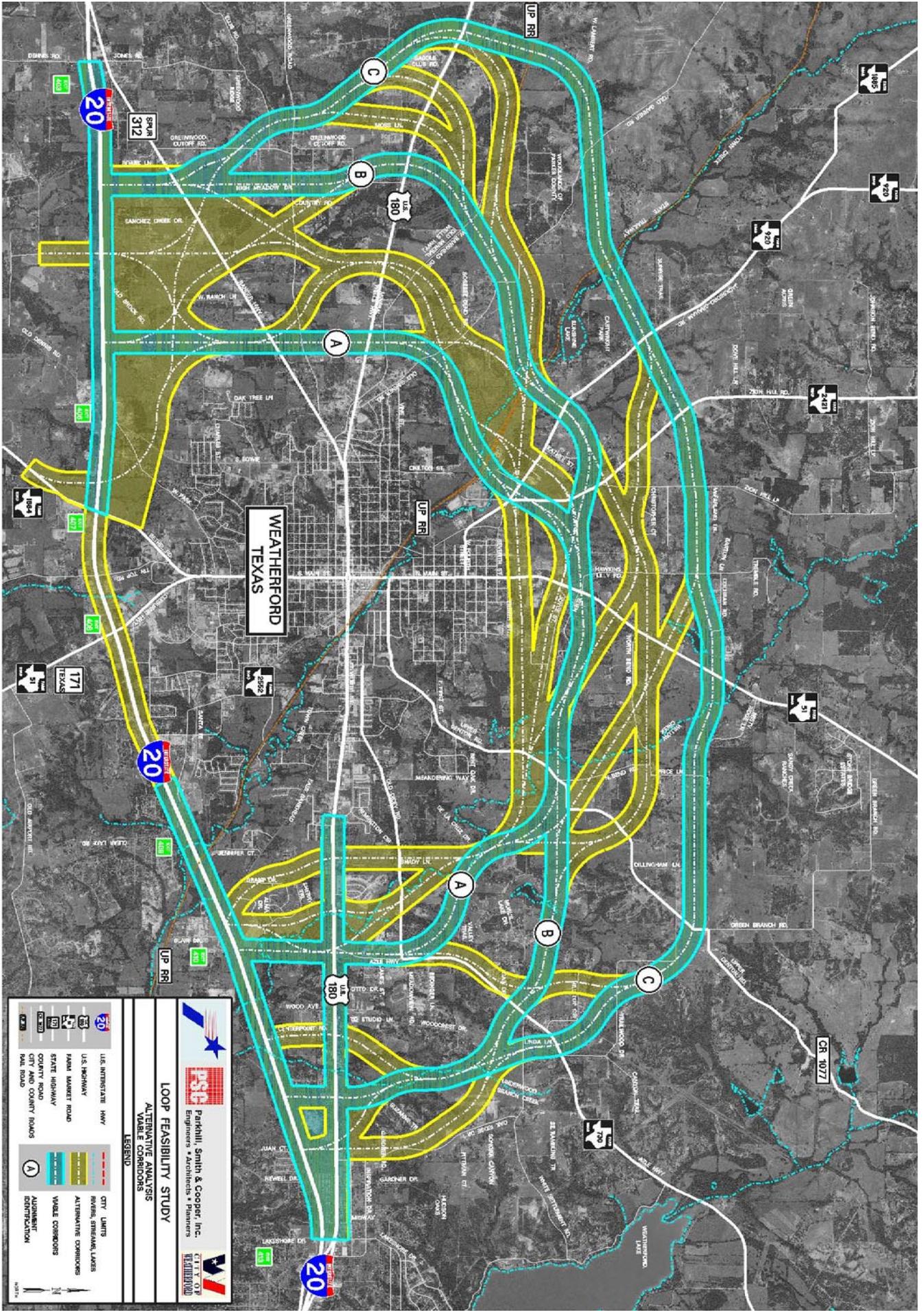
ECONOMIC IMPACT SURVEYS were conducted in July 2003 at local transportation-dependent businesses along principal Weatherford roadways to obtain a thorough understanding of existing economic conditions. The surveys were conducted for three hours each during both the noon and evening meal periods at gas stations/convenience stores and during either the noon or evening meal period at sit-down and fast food restaurants. The majority of customers interviewed live in the Weatherford area (63%). When asked why they stopped at a particular business, most respondents (80%) indicated they had planned to stop at the business prior to leaving their home.



PUBLIC COMMENTS are welcome, and can be made verbally during this public meeting, or can be made in writing. Public Comment Forms are available at the sign-in tables located in the foyer. Or simply mail your written comments to the address listed below.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION can be obtained by contacting the Texas Department of Transportation. The Parker County Area Office of the Texas Department of Transportation is managing the Weatherford Loop Feasibility Study. The project manager is Jimmey Bodiford, P.E. You may write to Mr. Bodiford at TxDOT, 1427 W. Bankhead Highway, Weatherford, Texas 76086 or call (817) 596-9834, or fax (817) 598-0246. You may also e-mail him at jbodifo@dot.state.tx.us.

You can also find information about the project by accessing the TxDOT website: <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/ftw/mis/wloop/project.htm>



**WEATHERFORD
TEXAS**



PS&P
Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc.
Engineers • Architects • Planners



**CITY OF
WEATHERFORD**

LOOP FEASIBILITY STUDY

ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS

VISIBLE CORRIDORS

LEGEND

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. INTERSTATE HWY U.S. HIGHWAY STATE HIGHWAY COUNTY ROAD CITY AND COUNTY ROADS RAIL ROAD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CITY LIMITS WATER, STREAM, LAKES ALTERNATIVE CORRIDORS VISIBLE CORRIDORS ALIGNMENT DISTRIBUTION
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