

Loop 375

(Transmountain Road)

I-10 to East of Franklin Mountains State Park Entrance

Public Hearing

March 22, 2011



Welcome



Mr. Charles H. Berry, Jr., P.E.

Texas Department of Transportation
District Engineer
El Paso District

- Please silence your cell phones
- Simultaneous interpretation available in Spanish

Public Hearing Agenda



- Public Hearing Notices
- Introductions
- Plans and Environmental Document Availability
- Verbal and Written Comments
- Public Hearing Purpose
- Project Schedule
- Project Development
- Technical Presentation
- Public Comment Session

Public Hearing Notices



- **El Paso Times & El Diario de El Paso**
 - English and Spanish legal notices were published on February 20, 2011; March 12, 2011; and March 20, 2011.
- **Invitations**
 - Invitations were mailed to public officials and adjacent property owners on February 16, 2011

Introductions



- Elected Officials
- Project Team Members

Plans & Environmental Document Availability



Project information can be viewed at the **District** from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday–Friday and **City of El Paso** from 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday:

Texas Department of Transportation

El Paso District Office

13301 Gateway Boulevard West

El Paso, Texas 79928

<http://www.txdot.gov>

And

City of El Paso

Attn: Ms. Jane Shang

Deputy City Manager for Mobility Services

2 Civic Center Plaza

El Paso, Texas 79901

<http://www.elpasotexas.gov>

Verbal Comments



- Indicate you would like to speak on the registration forms at the sign-in table.
- Step up to the microphone when your name is called.
- State your name, address, and who you represent (if applicable).

Written Comments



- Complete a comment form tonight.

Or

- Mail comments to:

Tony Gelacio, P.E.

Entech Civil Engineers, Inc.

16360 Park Ten Place, Ste. 230

Houston, TX 77084

- E-mail to: ELP_Loop375West@txdot.gov

All comments must be postmarked no later than Friday, April 1, 2011 to be included in the public record.

Public Hearing Purpose



- Inform the public about the proposed project
- Describe the proposed project
- Provide an opportunity for comments
- Develop a public record

Project Schedule



Identify Regional Needs

Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Planning Studies/Public Hearing

**Obtain Environmental Clearance and
Complete Construction Plans**

Acquire Right of Way

Construction

WE ARE HERE

Project Development Schedule



- Begin Schematic Design Fall 2009
- Public Meeting March 10, 2010
- Finalize Environmental Document Spring 2011
- Finalize Schematic Design Spring 2011
- Public Hearing March 22, 2011
- Environmental Clearance (FONSI) Spring 2011
- Anticipated Construction Letting April 2011
- Completion Spring 2013

Technical Presentation

LOOP 375 (Transmountain Road)

Project Location Map



Need for the Project



At Local Level:

- Rapid Population and Housing Growth
- Increased Travel Demand
- Safety Concerns at Intersections and Driveways
- Decreased Level of Mobility

At Regional Level:

- Increased Population due to Fort Bliss
- Limitations of the Physical Roadway Network
- Increased Traffic Volumes on I-10
- Lack of Viable East-West Alternate Route

Purpose of the Project



At Local Level:

- Improve Traffic Mobility
- Increase Safety
- Improve Efficiency of Transportation Route for Residents, Commuters, Commercial Vehicles and Traveling Public

At Regional Level:

- Provide Regional and Local East-West Connectivity
- Provide an Alternate Route to I-10

Evaluation of Alternatives



Five Alternatives were Developed:

- No-Build
- Construct Climbing Lane
- Construct Two New Lanes
- Boulevard Concept
- Freeway Facility with Frontage Roads and Direct Connectors to I-10

Alternatives were Evaluated Using:

- Micro-Simulation Traffic Analysis

Loop 375 – Project Description



The Proposed Project:

- Provides 2 mainlanes in each direction
- Provides 2-lane frontage roads (Curb & Gutter) in each direction
- Provide Direct Connector Ramps: I-10 west to Loop 375 east and Loop 375 west to I-10 east
- Provides Hike and Bike Trails and Landscaping
- Provides grade separated crossings at:
 - Northwestern Drive
 - Resler Drive
 - Future Plexxar Road
 - Future Paseo del Norte Road
- Right-of-way will be acquired (approximately 41 acres)
- The right-of-way footprint and geometric design provide for expansion to 6-lanes
- One potential business sign displacement

Loop 375

Existing Layout



Franklin
Mountains State
Park

Loop 375 (2 Lanes)



Northwestern
Drive

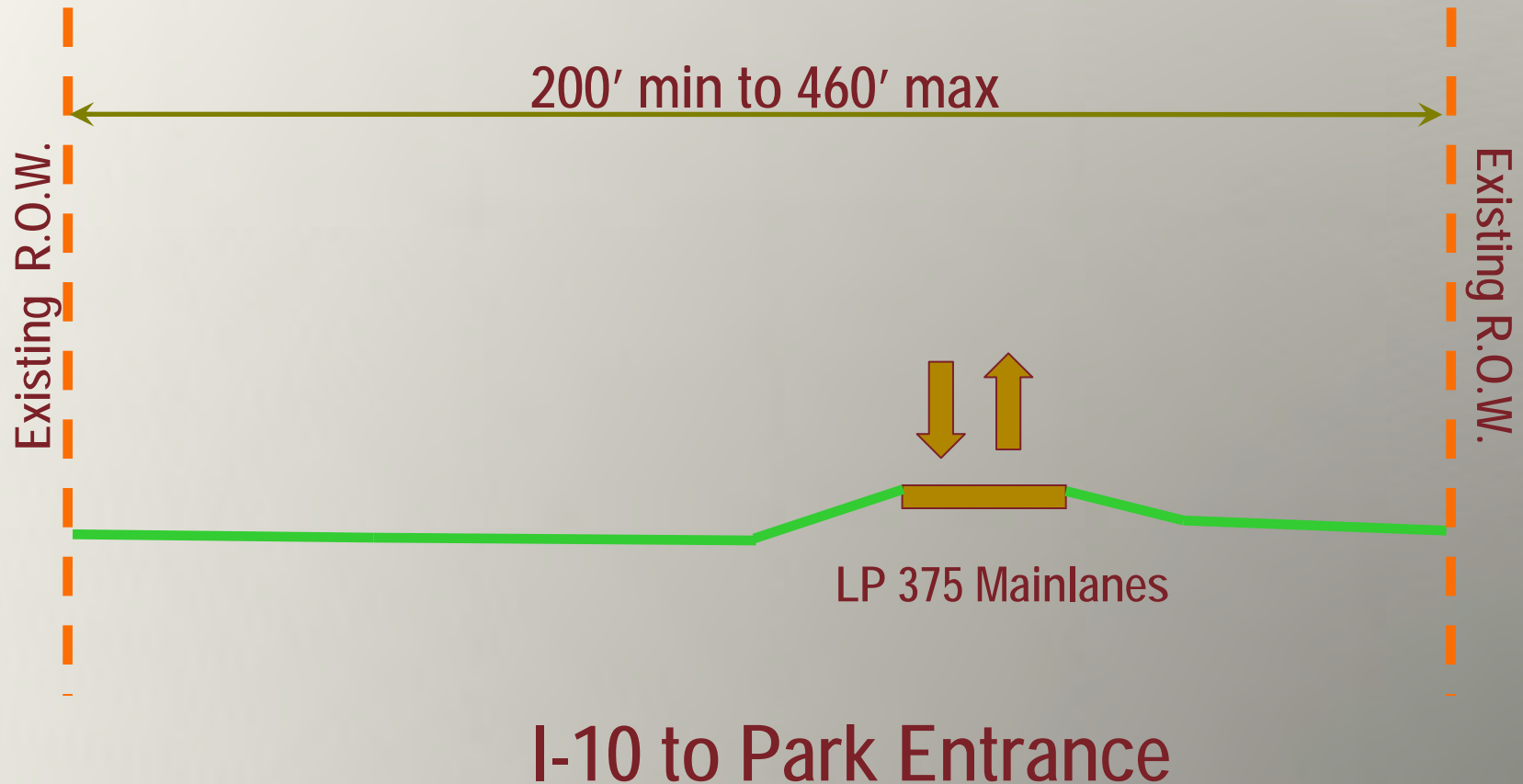
Resler
Drive

(Future) Plexxar
Road

(Future) Paseo del
Norte Road

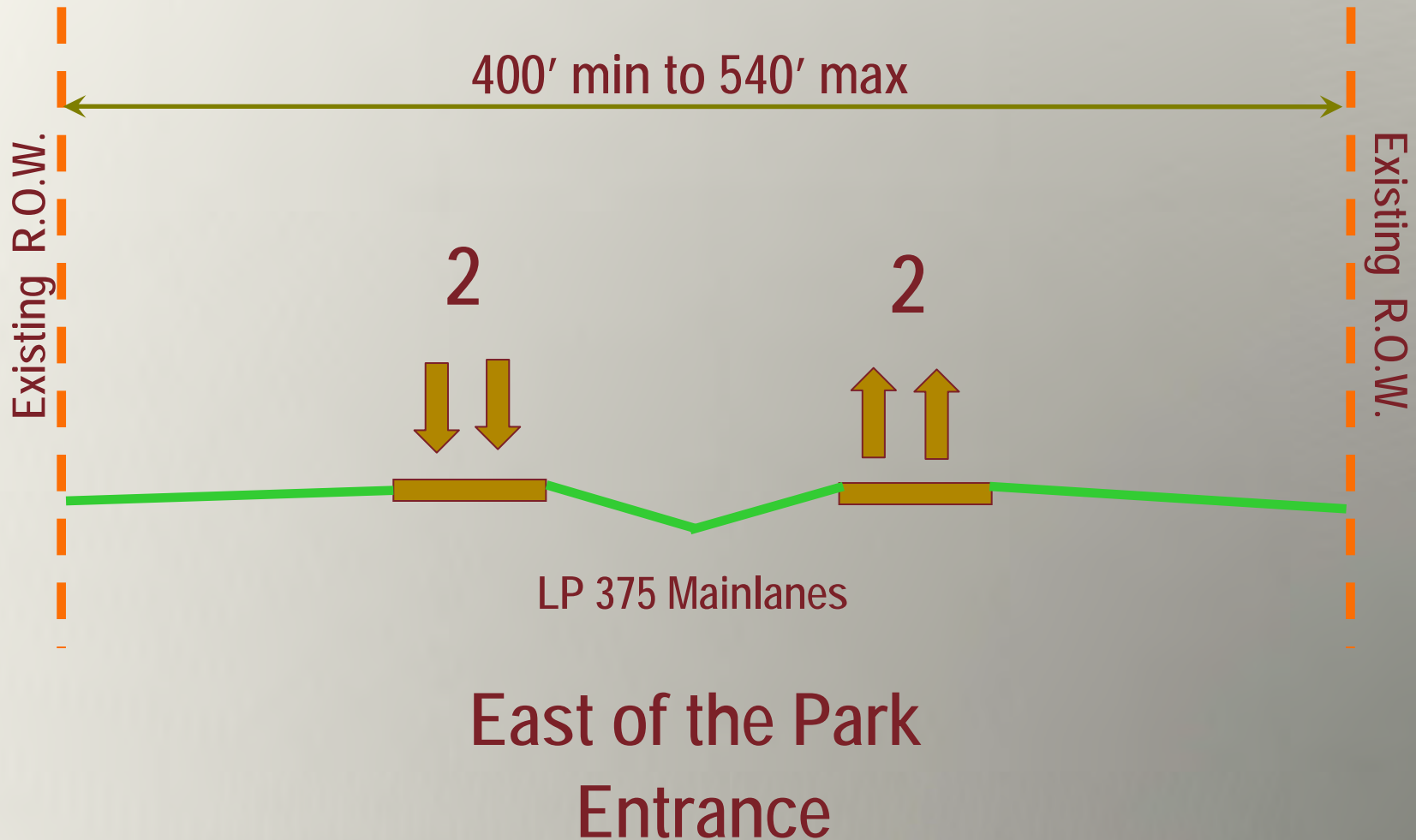
Geometric Considerations

Existing Typical Section (Looking East)



Geometric Considerations

Existing Typical Section (Looking East)



Loop 375

Preferred Alternative



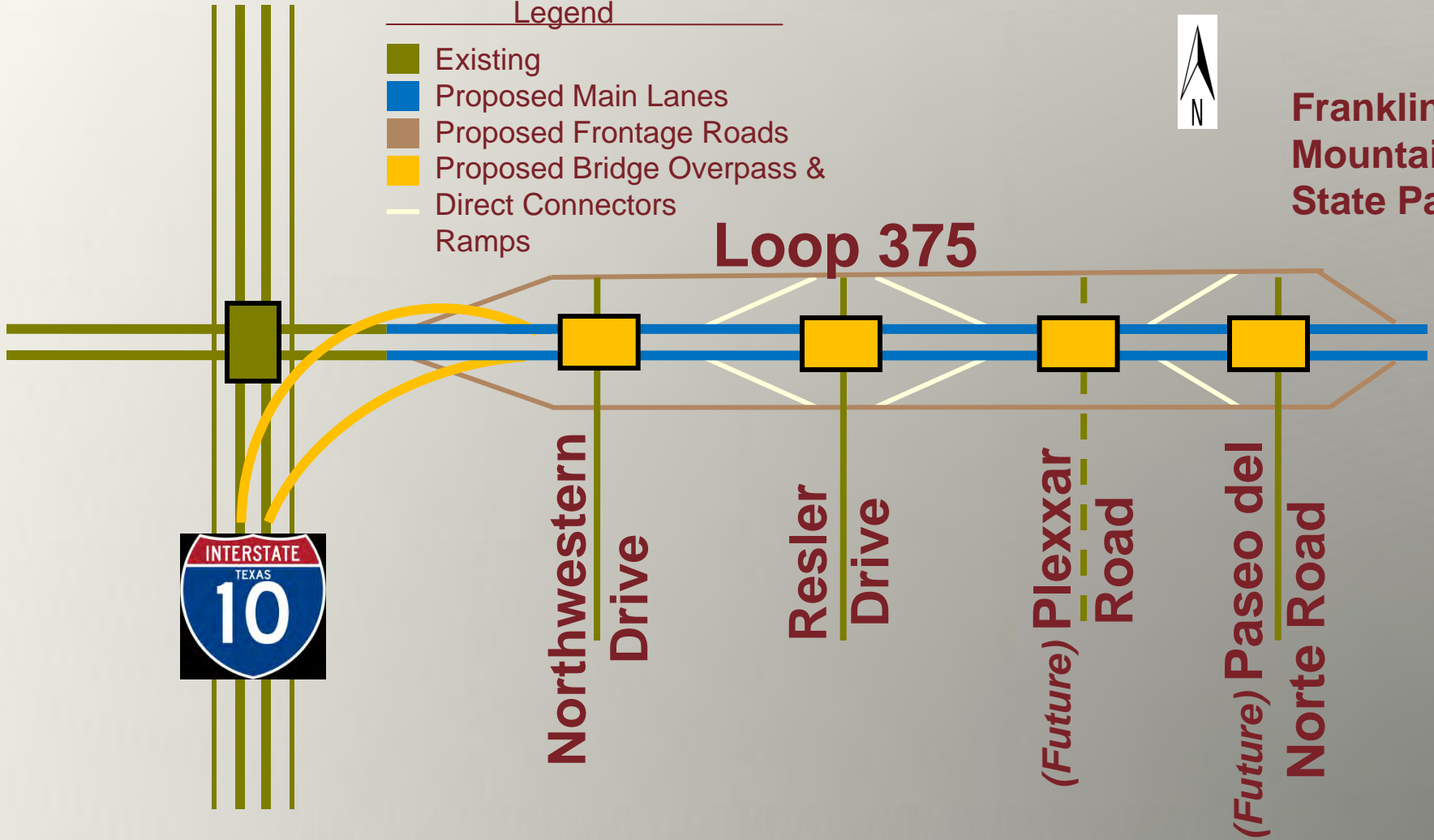
Legend

- Existing
- Proposed Main Lanes
- Proposed Frontage Roads
- Proposed Bridge Overpass &
- Direct Connectors
- Ramps



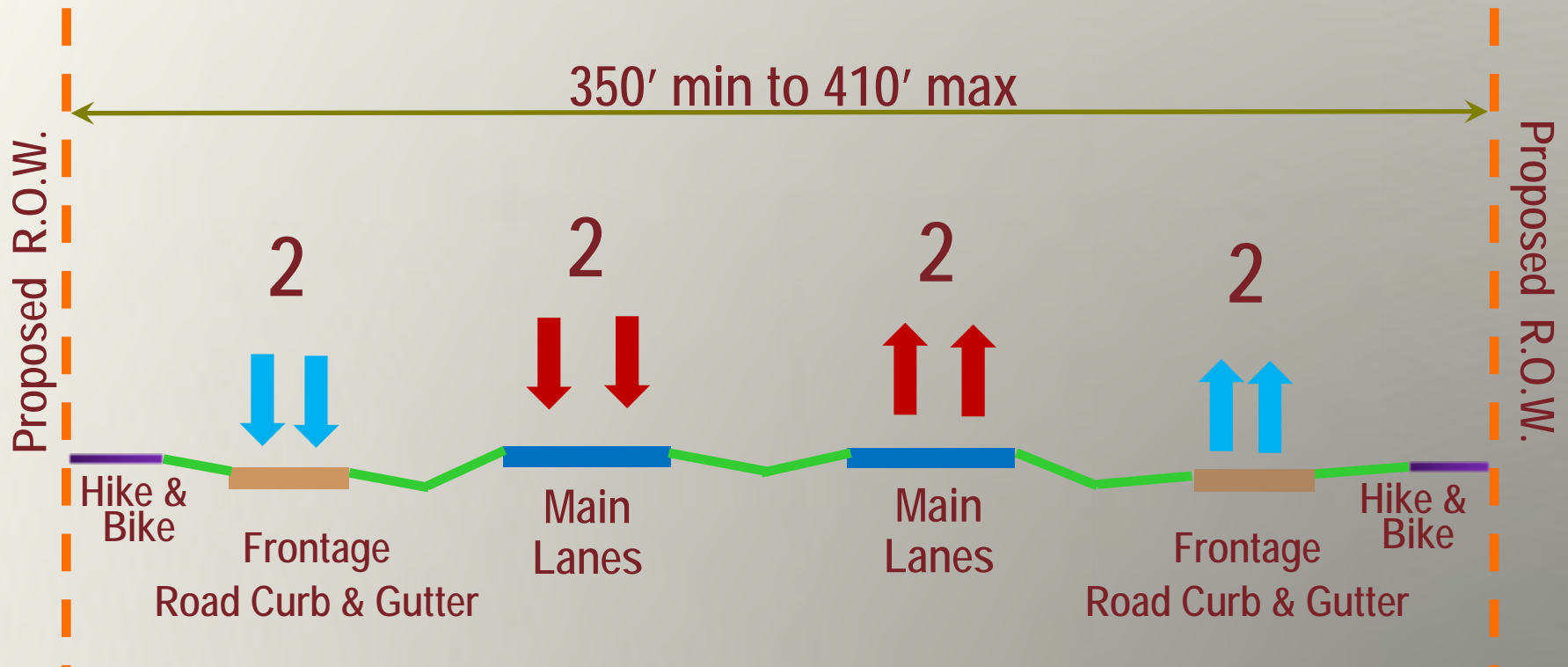
Franklin
Mountains
State Park

Loop 375



Geometric Considerations

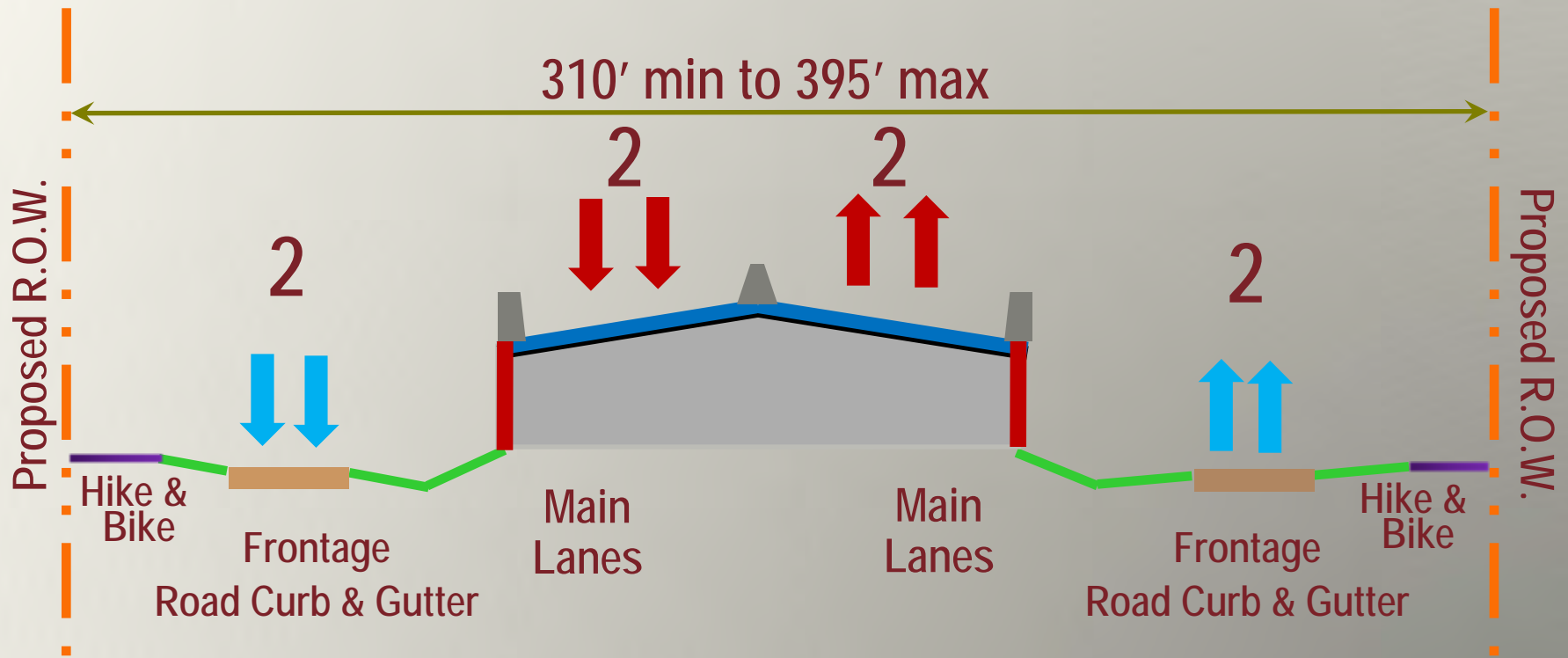
Proposed Typical Section (Looking East)



I-10 to East of Future Paseo del Norte

Geometric Considerations

Proposed Typical Section (Looking East)



Retaining Wall Sections
At Bridge Locations

Geometric Considerations



Proposed Typical Section (Looking East)



Level of Service



LOS	Description
A	Free Flow Operations
B	Reasonable Traffic Flow Conditions
C	Near Free Flow Operations, Some Minor Flow Restrictions
D	Some Minor Congestion
E	Operation at Roadway Capacity
F	Severe Congestion, Stop and Go Operation

Level of Service

Existing Layout



Year	I-10 / Loop 375 Interchange	Loop 375 at Northwestern Drive	Loop 375 at Resler Drive	Loop 375 at Plexxar Road (Future)	Loop 375 at Paseo del Norte Road (Future)
2015 (Base)	D	F	F	F	F
2035	F	F	F	F	F

Level of Service

Preferred Alternative



Year	I-10/Loop 375 Interchange	Loop 375 at Northwestern Drive	Loop 375 at Resler Drive	Loop 375 at Plexxar Road (Future)	Loop 375 at Paseo Del Norte Road (Future)
2015 (Base)	D	B	B	B	B
2035	F	C	C	C	B

Hydraulics



Hydraulics



- Drainage Area – 209 Acres
- Major Culvert Crossings
- Storm Sewer Outfall into Major Arroyo Crossings



Right-of-Way/Utilities



Right-of-way

- Approximately 41 Acres Required
- One Potential Business Sign Relocation
- Three Potential Utility Relocations

Right-of-Way will allow for:

- 4 Mainlanes with future expansion to 6 mainlanes
- 2-lane Frontage Roads
- Entrance and Exit Ramps
- Hike/Bike Trail

Loop 375 Cost Estimate



Major Item	Cost
Estimated ROW/Utility Relocation	5,000,000
Estimated Construction	79,000,000
Estimated Total	\$ 84,000,000

Environmental Studies



Environmental Studies



Natural Environment

- Vegetation
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Soils and Topography
- Jurisdictional Waters of the U.S.
- Water Quality
- Floodplains
- Invasive Species/Beneficial Landscaping

Environmental Studies



Impacts to Vegetation



Environmental Studies



Waters of the U.S. / Water Quality



Environmental Studies



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Environmental Studies



Human Environment

- Relocations
- Environmental Justice Populations
- Community Cohesion
- Section 4(f)/6(f) Properties
- Cultural Resources
- Hazardous Waste/Substances
- Farmland
- Construction Impacts
- Air Quality
- Traffic Noise

Environmental Studies



Visual Impact Assessment



Virtual Imagery – I-10 Facing NE



Virtual Imagery – LP 375 @ Resler Dr.



Virtual Imagery – LP375 @ Future Paseo Del Norte



Written Comments



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Public Comment Session



- **State your name and the name of the group you represent**
 - Elected official speakers will be called to make their statements
 - Other speakers will be called in the order their speaker card was turned into the registration desk

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For More Information



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

**Blanca Del Valle
Public Information Officer
TxDOT- El Paso District
13301 Gateway Boulevard West
El Paso, Texas 79928
(915) 790-4200**

Loop 375 (Transmountain Rd)



THANK YOU