

I-69 Program Segment Committee Meeting

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING

SUBJECT: Segment Two Committee Meeting

DATE: November 15, 2011

LOCATION: Lufkin City Hall, Lufkin , Texas

ATTENDING: Attendees are listed on attached sign-in sheets (Attachment 1)

Purpose:

The purpose of this meeting was to: 1) review the Segment Two Committee September 2011 meeting notes and discuss the upcoming I-69 Summit and I-69 sign unveiling; 2) discuss next steps for the committee in moving towards compiling recommendations for the Advisory Committee; 3) review public outreach efforts for Segment Committees statewide and within Segment Two to-date; 4) discuss the Segment Two Committee final report outline and contents; 5) verify the recommended Segment Two priority sections; and 6) discuss early implementation opportunities within Segment Two. A power point presentation was utilized to provide an overview of aforementioned items during the meeting. The agenda and power point presentation are included as Attachment 2.

Welcome/Introductions:

Jim Wehmeier, Committee Chair, welcomed those in attendance. He went on to thank the committee members that participated in the public open houses and noted that approximately 130 members of the public attended. He also thanked TxDOT and staff for their support and said that the open houses were interesting and first rate. A summary of the Segment Two Committee open houses is included as Attachment 3.

Administrative/Announcements:

Marc inquired if the Segment Two Committee members had any comments on the September 2011 meeting notes that were sent via email prior to the meeting. No comments were offered at the time. Marc requested that if the committee members had any comments, that they be forwarded to him or Doise Miers within one week.

Marc also noted that there will be two events in Corpus Christi on December 5th, 1) the I-69 Summit, a joint meeting with the I-69 Advisory Committee and the Alliance for I-69 Texas Board; and 2) the I-69 sign unveiling at the intersection of U.S. 77 and SH 44. He reminded committee members that both events require RSVPs. Jennifer Shepard will accept RSVPs for the I-69 Summit, and Anna Gonzalez will accept RSVPs for I-69 sign unveiling. Contact information for RSVPs has been previously sent to committee member's email, and Doise is also able to forward RSVPs to either. Marc then provided RSVP forms to the committee members.

Next Steps and Final Committee Tasks:

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Marc reviewed the tasks completed to-date and noted that the next tasks per the schedule were to wrap up public outreach activities and discuss public comments, finalize the priorities and recommendations of the Segment Two Committee and, submit the Segment Two Committee final recommendations to the Advisory Committee in the form of a final committee report.

Summary of Public Outreach Activities:

Marc provided a summary of all the segment committee public outreach efforts to-date (Attachment 4). He noted that there have been 109 activities reaching over 5,000 people statewide and over half of the comment cards received were related to I-69 within Segment Two.

A list of the Segment Two public outreach activities forms received to-date (Attachment 5) was provided. Marc noted that there have been 28 activities in Segment Two and asked that committee members fill out activity forms for any additional meetings that are not on the list. The Committee Chair requested the form be sent to him electronically. The Committee Chair had two meetings not on the list and one committee member also had a meeting not on the list. There are no planned activities by committee members in the near future.

Marc discussed the summary of feedback from the segment committees' outreach effort from June through November 14, 2011 (Attachment 6). The document contains a summary of comments, recommendations and questions received from the public. Items relating directly to Segment Two have been highlighted in yellow for the committee's information and eight questions, specific to Segment Two, are included on the last page. Marc inquired how the committee would like to address the questions. A summary of the discussion is as follows:

- Marc explained that no contact information was provided on the comments and that other committees are considering various media forms appropriate to respond to questions such as the newspapers, MPO websites, I-69 website, editorial boards, etc. or by even responding to the questions in the report to the Advisory Committee.
- Question number three was discussed. It was determined that an explanation of the congressional law would be provided as an answer.
- Question number four was discussed. It was determined that an explanation of why the interchange was built (i.e. safety improvement, high traffic volumes, etc.) would be provided as an answer.
- The remaining questions were discussed. It was determined that an explanation of preliminary planning process and funding availability relating to timing of construction would be provided. Additionally, the environmental process would be explained emphasizing that the public will have the opportunity to provide input throughout the project development including comments on alignment level details.
- Marc noted that residents and property owners within Moscow submitted a multi-signature letter requesting a bypass to the west. At the September 2011 Segment Two Committee meeting, committee members changed their previous recommendation, based on comments, to now reflect a relief route at Moscow. A committee member inquired as to how many times the new configuration would cross the railroad track that parallels U.S. 59 in the area. Marc responded that further studies will be required to determine the location and that would determine the number of crossings. Another

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committee member asked how the dimensions of the box around Moscow were set. Marc explained that the box does not reflect study limits, it indicates that this is a general location where a relief route was suggested to be studied by committee members.

- A committee member expressed concern that, by including the Moscow relief route with the Corrigan relief route, the Corrigan relief route could be delayed. Other committee members agreed that, because of congestion, a relief route Corrigan should be developed as soon as possible. Marc indicated that the Segment Committee process has resulted in the importance of a solution for congestion in the community of Corrigan and addressing the concerns of the community of Moscow.
- A committee member commented that he was surprised there were not more comments relating to Leggett. Another committee member responded that she has spoken to people from Leggett and let them know that any comments received now, would be important to carry in to the environmental process. Another committee member noted that there are many issues in Leggett such as Indian lands (approximately 700 acres east of U.S. 59), schools, etc. It was decided that more comment cards will be distributed by committee members in Leggett. A committee member noted that he had delivered brochures to the smoke shop near Leggett for insertion into shopping bags as customers purchase items. He will deliver additional brochures to the smoke shop to encourage comment.
- A committee member summarized her role as; to inform the public, disseminate information to the public, and be a voice for the public prior to the environmental process.

Marc concluded with a recap of the committee assessment of the public outreach process to-date. He also noted that TxDOT has been pleased with the work of the committee and it is important to do a good job of documenting the efforts, in case TxDOT would like to use this public outreach format for future projects.

Discussion of Final Committee Reports:

Marc advised the committee members that the remaining task before them is to complete a final committee report that will be submitted to the Advisory Committee for their consideration and incorporation in a statewide plan for I-69. He asked them to review the draft table of contents and provide any comments. He noted that this is a draft table of contents that the committee members can add to or subtract from the outline at this time. Discussions included the following:

- Jim Wehmeier will provide a "Message from the Chair".
- A committee member asked if the interim reports from the Segment Committees and Advisory Committee were well received by the Texas Transportation Commission. Doise noted that they were well received.
- Marc explained that this report will build on the interim report but will include the public outreach effort and more detail such as costs, conceptual interstate layout information, etc. related to Segment Two.
- No comments were provided on the outline.

Marc concluded by explaining that an initial draft of this report is being prepared and a draft copy of the report will be available for their review/comment in advance of the next meeting.

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Verify Recommended Priorities:

Marc directed the committee member's attention to the Segment Two Recommended Priorities map (Attachment 7). He asked the members to confirm that they remain satisfied with the priorities that they identified for their Segment. These included the following priorities:

- Redesignate U.S. 59 as an interstate from south of Rosenberg to the Liberty County line
- Diboll/Lufkin Relief Route (U.S. 59)
- Corrigan/Moscow Relief Route (U.S. 59)
- U.S. 59 from Shepherd to Livingston
- U.S. 59 from the Liberty County line to Cleveland
- Relief options for Houston

Discussions regarding the Segment Two Recommended Priorities included the following:

- Committee members discussed combining a relief route at Leggett with the Corrigan/Moscow relief route priority section. It was concluded that an interchange to provide access to FM 942 and SH 116 in Leggett should be included as an early implementation opportunity.
- The Committee Chair commented that the relief options at Houston should provide improved access to the ports and congestion relief in the Houston area. A committee member asked what the affect of the Panama Canal improvements would be on all the ports along the Texas coast. The Committee Chair answered that they could all experience an increase in cargo traffic. It was agreed upon that this priority would remain in the priorities editorially, but it is the committee members from the Houston area responsibility to address this matter.
- A committee member noted that redesignation through the Houston area is an important priority and that future improvements should be built out from either end of the interstate, as funding becomes available. Additionally, he noted that improvements from Shepherd to Livingston are important.

It was concluded the priority sections would remain the same, however, it will be emphasized that they are listed in no particular order of preference and that resolving congestion in Corrigan is critical.

Discussion of Early Implementation Opportunities:

Marc explained that this exercise is to identify individual projects within or outside of their priority sections which have an immediate need or can be built independently as funding becomes available. In the case of relief routes, the first step would be to initiate an environmental/route location study that will engage the public, investigate environmental issues, initiate preliminary design and ultimately produce a recommended alignment. The committee may wish to recommend that relief routes are candidates for early implementation or identify smaller projects such as interstate redesignations, new interchanges, safety improvements, adding control of access, widenings, etc. The discussion was as follows:

- A committee member noted that Riggs Cemetery was recently designated as a State Historical Site.

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- Dennis Cooley, the TxDOT Lufkin District Engineer, noted that two improvement projects on U.S. 59, north of Lufkin, are in the right-of-way acquisition process and should begin construction soon.
- The Committee Chair suggested that the MIS work for the Lufkin/Diboll relief route and the environmental study done previously for Corrigan were good starts and could be expanded upon.
- A committee member commented that connectivity to FM 942 and SH 116 in Leggett is needed for community access. Committee members agreed that an interchange at Leggett is an early implementation opportunity.
- Corrigan is the worst congestion spot on U.S. 59 and associated log trucks from the Harden Mill add to the congestion.
- Committee members agreed that during early implementation, environmental studies need to begin for the Corrigan/Moscow relief route, the Lufkin/Diboll relief route, and for U.S. 59 from Cleveland to the Montgomery County line.
- A committee member inquired if high speed rail was being considered. Marc noted that other segments have discussed freight rail but there have been no rail discussions by this segment committee. Another committee member noted that passenger rail was being added in the Houston area along U.S. 290, I-10 and I-45. The Committee Chair suggested that to be visionary, rail needs to be considered as part of the future I-69 regional planning considerations and should be noted in the final report. The committee members agreed with his recommendation. It was also concluded that provisions for rail should be added to the Transportation Facilities to be Considered as part of I-69 Program map.

Marc requested that the committee members email him or Doise if they think of any other early implementation opportunities.

Wrap Up:

Another committee member suggested that the public be advised of a comment cutoff date to have the comments included in the final report. It was suggested this would be good to add to the website.

Marc noted that the draft final committee report will be emailed to committee members well in advance of the next meeting. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for December 14, 2011 in the afternoon.

The committee also determined it would be beneficial to maintain their status as a group and to meet periodically, but not regularly, to keep committee members in the loop.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Attachments:

1. Sign-In Sheet
2. Agenda and Presentation
3. Summary of the Segment Two Committee Open Houses
4. Summary of all the Segment Committee Public Outreach Efforts

I-69 Program Segment Committee Meeting

5. Public Outreach Activities Forms Received to-Date
6. Summary of Feedback Received from the Segment Committee Outreach Efforts June through November 14, 2011
7. Segment Two Recommended Priorities Map

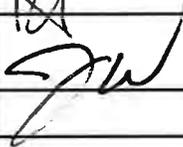
Meeting staff included:

Doise Miers-TxDOT, Marc Williams-Consultant, Tina Brown-Consultant, Deven Rohrer-Consultant

**I-69 Program
Segment Committee Meeting**

**Attachment 1
Sign-In Sheet**

**I-69 Segment Two Committee Meeting
November 15, 2011
Lufkin, TX**

Last	First	Appointing Entity	Int.
Brandon, P.E.	Don	Chambers County	
Brown	Bill	City of Diboll	
Chambers	Spencer	Port of Houston Authority	
Dill	Andy	Montgomery County	
Emmett	Ed	Harris County	
Evans	Clarke	City of Livingston	
Fortune	Grimes	City of Corrigan	
Huffman	Jerry	Angelina County	
Icenhower	Kim	Fort Bend County	
Johnson	Ashby	Houston-Galveston Area Council	
Kirkham	Lloyd	City of Cleveland	
Kramer	Micheal	City of Houston	
Lattner	Jessica Jones	Polk County	
Marrs	Donny	San Jacinto County	
McNair	Craig	Liberty County	
Murphy	Sydney	Polk County Economic & Industrial Development Corporation	
Paben	Tom	Texas Farm Bureau	
Spruill, P.E.	Douglas W.	City of Humble	
Thomas	Ronnie	Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	
Wehmeier	Jim	Lufkin/Angelina Economic Development Corporation	
Williams	Jeremy	City of Splendora	
		Polk County	

**I-69 Program
Segment Committee Meeting**

**Attachment 2
Agenda and Presentation**

I-69 Segment Two Committee Meeting
Lufkin City Hall
300 E. Shepherd, Room 202; Lufkin, TX 75901
November 15, 2011
2 p.m.

Welcome/Introductions

Jim Wehmeier, Committee Chair
Marc Williams, Facilitator

Administrative/Announcements

Review and approve September 2011 meeting notes
I-69 Designation (I-37 to Robstown) and event RSVPs

Next Steps and Final Committee Tasks

Summary of Public Outreach Activities

Review public outreach efforts to-date of segment committee members statewide and within Segment Two.

- Review public outreach update summary
- Confirm Activity Reports
- Note any additional outreach activities
- Review comments that may require action
- Document recommended actions or responses

Discussion of Final Committee Reports

Review draft Table of Contents and discuss content for final Committee Report

Verify Recommended Priorities

Final confirmation of Recommended Priorities

Discussion Early Implementation Opportunities

Discuss committee recommendations for early implementation opportunities to initiate future project development actions within Segment Two.

Wrap Up

Future meeting scheduling

Adjourn



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I-69 Segment Two Committee Meeting

November 15, 2011



Meeting Agenda

Jim Wehmeier, Committee Chair
Marc Williams, Facilitator

- **Welcome/Introductions**
- **Administrative/Announcements**
- **Next Steps and Remaining Committee Tasks**
- **Summary Update of Public Input & Assessment of Outreach Efforts To-Date**
- **Discussion of Committee Reports**
- **Verify Recommended Priorities**
- **Discuss Early Implementation Opportunities**
- **Report Feedback Activities**
- **Adjourn**



Next Steps and Final Committee Tasks

- Wrap up public outreach activities and discuss public comments
- Finalize priorities and recommendations of the Segment Committee
- Submit final recommendations to the Advisory Committee

I-69 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prepare I-69 Texas Plan with Segment Committee Representation

I-69 SEGMENT COMMITTEES

Finalize Segment Committee Recommendations and Priorities to Provide to Advisory Committee

Consider Public Comments and Suggestions

Seek Public Input

Define Preliminary Recommendations and Priorities for I-69

Review and Mark Up Conceptual Interstate Layout Maps

Recommend Highways to serve as I-69 and Connecting Facilities

Identify Transportation Needs and Challenges



Public Outreach Summary Update

	Statewide	Segment 2
Activity Reports Submitted	109	28
Individuals Contacted	5347	791
Comment Cards Received	235	123
Internet Comments Received	187	26



Review Public Comments and Remaining Activities

- Confirm Record of Activity Reports
- Note any Remaining Outreach Activities
- Review Comments that May Require Action
- Document Recommended Actions or Responses



Recap of Committee Assessment of Outreach Efforts To-Date

What did you like about the process?

- Citizen driven nature
- Good start to process
- Opportunity to receive public feedback
- Exciting for East Texas
- The way information was distributed

What did you dislike about the process?

- Nothing
- Cumbersome
- Not knowing where it is going to go
- Not knowing about funding

What went well?

- Review of maps
- Benefit of I-69
- Public involvement
- Process and presentation

What could be improved?

- Nothing
- More use of email lists, facebook, twitter, etc.
- More news articles



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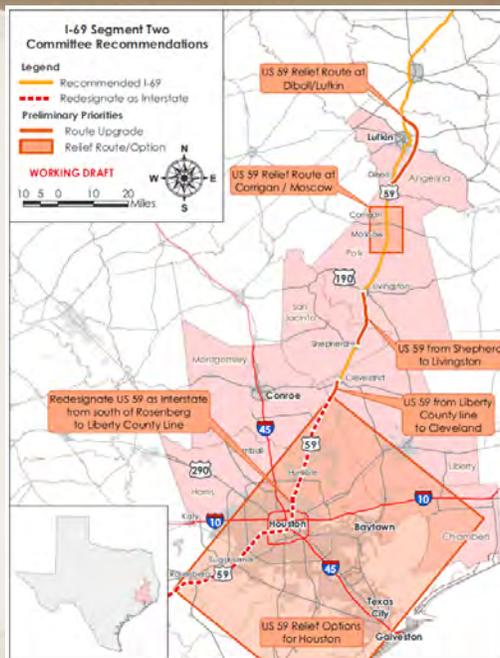
Final Committee Report - Draft Table of Contents -

- A Message from the Chair
- A Citizens Plan for I-69
 - Advisory Committee
 - Segment Committees
- I-69 Segment Two Committee
- Transportation Problems and Challenges
- Recommended Highways to Serve as I-69 and Connecting Facilities
 - Recommended Interstate 69 Route
 - Other Recommended Facilities to Consider in I-69 Planning
- Development of Conceptual Interstate Layouts and Costs
 - Interstate Highway Requirements
 - Conceptual Interstate Layouts
 - Order of Magnitude Cost Estimates
 - Funding Requirements
- Public Outreach
- Committee Recommendations for I-69
 - Segment Two Priorities
 - Early Implementation Opportunities
- Conclusion and Next Steps



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Verify Segment Two Recommended Priorities





Discuss Committee Recommendations for Early Implementation Opportunities

- Examples:
 - Redesignate Existing Sections Built to Interstate Standards
 - Undertake Route Location/Environmental Studies for Priority Sections
 - New Grade Separation/Safety Improvement
 - Control of Access Projects
 - Widening
 - Other Problem Areas



Report Feedback Activities

- Committee Assessment of Outreach Efforts To-Date (Use Comment Cards)
 - How did the public respond?
 - What did you like/dislike about the process?
 - What went well/could be improved?
 - Are further outreach efforts needed
- Review map of 'Recommended Facilities to be Considered for Development of I-69'
- One-on-One Discussion of Early Implementation Opportunities



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I-69 Segment Two Committee Meeting
November 15, 2011



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I-69 Driven by Texans Video



**I-69 Program
Segment Committee Meeting**

**Attachment 3
Summary of the Segment Two
Committee Open Houses**

I-69 Segment 2 Committee Open Houses

Total Comments – 41

Total Attendance - 130

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Polk Co. Economic Development/Chamber of Commerce Center, Livingston, TX 77351

Attendance

47 people signed in (public)

1 - Advisory Committee Member – Nolan Alders

4 - Segment 2 Committee Members – Grimes Fortune, Lloyd Kirkham, Sydney Murphy and Ronnie Thomas

Outreach

A press release was forwarded to 16 media outlets on October 11, 2011

Comments

Comment Cards Received - 29

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Zoo Administration Building, Jaguar Room, Lufkin, TX 75901

Attendance

65 people signed in (public)

2 - Advisory Committee Members – Nolan Alders and Jack Gordon

3 - Segment 2 Committee Members – Grimes Fortune, Sydney Murphy and Jim Wehmeier

Outreach

A press release was forwarded to 41 media outlets on October 21, 2011

Comments

Comment Cards Received - 7

Thursday, November 3, 2011

Cleveland Civic Center, Cleveland, TX 77327

Attendance

18 people signed in (public)

4 - Segment 2 Committee Members – Andy Dill, Lloyd Kirkham, Douglas Spruill, and Jim Wehmeier,

Outreach

A press release was forwarded to 39 media outlets on October 31, 2011

Comments

Comment Cards Received – 5

**I-69 Program
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**Attachment 4
Summary of all the Segment
Committee Public Outreach
Efforts**

Summary of All Segment Committee Public Outreach Efforts

Total Number		Total Number	
Rotary Clubs	10	Lions Club	3
Attendees	290	Attendees	62
City Council Meetings	5	EDC	4
Attendees	108	Attendees	100
Town Hall Meetings	4	Commissioner Court Mtg	5
Attendees	121	Attendees	155
Chamber of Commerce	8	Mtg w/ Council Members	1
Attendees	2379	Attendees	2
Mtg w/ Congressman	7	Public Hearing	2
Attendees	30	Attendees	265
Port Meetings	1	Business Groups	5
Attendees	16	Attendees	459
Real Estate Groups	4	MPO's	5
Attendees	140	Attendees	81
Healthcare groups	2	Moscow on The Go	1
Attendees	219	Attendees	79
Community Service Org	2	Open House	3
Attendees	17	Attendees	132
Transportation Advocacy Group	2	Community Stakeholder	8
Attendees	40	Attendees	47
Management Group	1	Infrastructure Groups	3
Attendees	20	Attendees	125
Television Interviews	2	Radio	1
Farm Bureau	1	Political Group	1
Attendees	8	Attendees	20
You Tube	1	RV Club	1
Views	123	Attendees	165
Brochure Locations	16	City Officials	3
		Attendees	6
Total Groups		109	
Total Attendees		5347	

**I-69 Program
Segment Committee Meeting**

**Attachment 5
Public Outreach Activities Forms
Received to-Date**

Segment Two

Public Outreach Activity Forms

11/03/2011- Andy Dill, Lloyd Kirkham, Ronnie Thomas, Jim Wehmeier - I-69 Segment Two Committee Open House- Attendees got to view conceptual maps and were encouraged to submit comments. 18 attendees

10/25/2011- Grimes Fortune, Sydney Murphy, Jim Wehmeier, Nolan Alders, Jim Gonzales - I-69 Segment Two Committee Open House-Attendees got to view conceptual maps and were encouraged to submit comments. 67 attendees

10/18/2011- Sydney Murphy- Escapees- Presented I-69 information to an RV Club. Also handed out comment cards. 165 attendees

10/13/2011- Grimes Fortune, Lloyd Kirkham, Sydney Murphy, Ronnie Thomas- I-69 Townhall- Attendees got to view conceptual maps and were encouraged to submit comments. 47 attendees

10/10/2011- Andy Dill- KSTAR County/ KVST 99.7- Promotion of the I-69 Open Houses with 30 and 60 second PSA's announcing the event. Radio will run the PSA's the week of 10/10/11

9/26/2011-Jim Wehmeier- Rotary Meeting- Wanted to ensure there was access and ability to develop along I69. Wanted to know how much Right of Way would be necessary compared to TTC. Encouraged comments

9/6/2011-Andy Dill-Cleveland Lions Club- Concerned about hazardous materials if there is an accident and what resources exist in the rural areas. 21 attendees

8/24/2011-June Farrell-Press Release- H-GAC staff translated TxDOT Press Release into 3 languages, sourced ethnic media information and forwarded Press Release via email

8/23/2011- Andy Dill- Rotary Club of East Montgomery County-Is there a possibility that I-69 will go directly to Port of Houston. 20 attendees

8/9/2011- Grimes Fortune- Moscow on The Go- Questions about going through Moscow or relief route to west. Relief route would link to Corrigan relief route and be one continuous route. 79 attendees

8/4/2011- Andy Dill- Greater Cleveland Chamber of Commerce- Discussed restrictions on cement trucks and loss of businesses. Local paper reported on event. 120 attendees

8/2/2011- Grimes Fortune- North Polk County Chamber of Commerce- Concerns about frontage roads on relief route and log trucks. 32 attendees

8/01/2011- Jim Wehmeier- Lufkin ISD- Provided information for all ISD Admin.

7/29/2011- Jim Wehmeier-Angelina County Chamber of Commerce- Delivered stand and brochures

7/29/2011- Jim Wehmeier- Angelina County- Information provided for all commissioners, the judge and all elected officials and department heads. 50 attendees

7/29/2011- Jim Wehmeier-City of Lufkin- Provided information to all elected officials and department heads for the City of Lufkin. 32 attendees

7/20/2011- Doug Spruill- Transportation Advocacy Group, Houston- No comment. 30 attendees

7/20/2011- Andy Dill- Re/Max Associates of Northeast of Kingwood- Presented information to group of real estate agents at quarterly meeting. 55 attendees

7/19/2011-Grimes Fortune- Corrigan City Council- Corrigan would like relief route to go west around Moscow. 14 attendees

6/29/2011- Andy Dill- Kingwood Executive Group- Presented information to a group of Kingwood business owners at weekly meeting. 25 attendees

6/28/2011- Ronnie Thomas- Alabama-Coushatta Tribe- Left brochures a tribe smoke shop

6/23/2011- Andy Dill- Re/Max Rewards Home Buyer Seminar- Presented information along with area into to new home byers and real estate related personnel. 30 attendees

6/06/2011-Andy Dill-Meeting with Congressman Brady- Presented information at the conclusion of town hall meetings. Discussed paperwork being filed to designate portions of Houston at I-69. 6 attendees

6/01/2011- Clarke Evans- Livingston City Council- Passed out brochures to Livingston City Council members.

Sydney Murphy- Meeting with Congressman Brady- no comment

Sydney Murphy- Rotary Chapter- Gave information for newsletter

Sydney Murphy- Polk Co. POA Association- Presented information and handed out cards and brochures.

Sydney Murphy- Chamber Directors and Ambassadors- Passed out brochures and report.

**I-69 Program
Segment Committee Meeting**

**Attachment 6
Summary of Feedback Received
from the Segment Committee
Outreach Efforts June through
November 14, 2011**

Summary of Feedback Received From Segment Committee Outreach Effort

June through November 14, 2011

(Comments from Segment 2 are highlighted in yellow)

Comments Overall:

In support of I-69:

- Connection between Mexico and U.S. ports
- Economic development, Texas would be more appealing to large businesses
- Improved safety
- Plan for future growth
- Need to prepare for widening of the Panama Canal
- Enhanced job growth
- Would provide better evacuation route during hurricanes
- Too many large trucks on the roads, we need I-69 to accommodate the truck traffic
- The most needed highway improvement in the state
- Need highway from Texarkana, TX to South Texas

Not opposed, but has concerns:

- Opposed to tolls, private funding and raising taxes in general
- Funding should be used for other programs such as social, healthcare, education, and improvements to other roads instead of I-69
- Fear of foreign or private ownership
- Fear of losing homes, churches, cemeteries, property and/or livelihood
- Concerned about increased traffic noise in small communities
- Access limitation, especially for emergency vehicles
- East Texas is beautiful, leave it alone. Go West!
- Safety concerns regarding how I-69 would affect children accessing school buses

Opposed to I-69:

- I-69 would promote more truck traffic, crime, drugs, guns and illegal aliens entering the United States
- This project would only add to our debt
- The railroad system is a better way to move freight
- Feel that the I-69 project too similar to the Trans Texas Corridor
- Does not see the need for I-69, happy with current highway system

Recommendations:

- Use existing right-of-way
- Build it now!
- Respect the trade areas near Lufkin, TX and Nacogdoches, TX
- An I-69 sign was placed near my home on US 59 in Nacogdoches, TX. This could negatively impact my property value. Please remove it!
- Publish meeting advertisements on the front page of the newspaper
- Schedule meetings on different days and at different times so we can attend more than one
- A more open process
- Send copies of the plans for I-69 to local libraries in addition to posting them to the internet
- Add more information on how I-69 would benefit those living near US 59 to the website
- Need a firm timeframe and dates
- I-69 should be cement and not tar and gravel
- Address safety concerns (ability to see oncoming cars) between 105 Bypass and the San Jacinto River
- Include wildlife passages and native vegetation in the plans for I-69
- Avoid any impact to Laruelia Hill
- Preserve Riggs Cemetery
- Take advantage of multi-modal opportunities
- Include Kendleton, TX on map of recommendations
- Sinton, Refugio, and Odem would benefit from I-69
- I-69 will accommodate the transport of goods from Freeport, TX the intermodal facility near Kendleton, TX and continuing growth in western Fort Bend County
- Funding
 - Allow comprehensive development agreements and public-private partnerships
 - Increase gasoline tax based on inflation and utilize it for highway repair and improvements only
 - Use private funding or tolls if necessary
 - Restrict the timeframe for which I-69 would be a toll road
 - Use Harbor Maintenance Fund
 - Earmark the funding to finish I-69 from Corpus Christi, TX to Brownville, TX
- I-69 Routes
 - The ability to connect I-30 to a north-south route will be invaluable
 - Texarkana, Bowie, and Cass counties as well as Arkansas need I-69
 - Get as close to Longview, TX as possible
 - Bring through Ingleside, TX
 - Victoria, TX to Corpus Christi, TX should be a spur route of I-69 or I-37
 - Existing I-37 from US 77 to downtown Corpus Christi, TX should be a spur route of I-37 as should US 83 through the Valley

- Use existing US 77 from Victoria, TX to Refugio, TX rather than US 59 from Victoria, TX to Goliad, TX to Beeville, TX
- There should be a direct route from Victoria, TX to Laredo, TX
- If I-69 joins US 77, this should occur south of Corpus Christi, TX and not go through the southern portion of Victoria County
- Route should go through Premont, TX
- Go through Carthage, TX and Panola County
- Need a relief route in Carthage, TX
- Bypass Moscow, TX and Corrigan, TX on the west side
- Stay in the box near Moscow, TX
- Go straight through Moscow, TX, upgrade US 59 through Moscow, TX
- Build an elevated structure over Moscow, TX
- Need east loop around Livingston, TX
- Please go east of Leggett, TX
- Stay on US 59 to Corrigan, TX
- Complete I-69 in Liberty County
- US 281 south of McAllen, TX through Pharr, TX should be a priority for I-69
- Designation of US 281 in Pharr, TX as I-69 is long overdue
- Route toward Brownville, TX
- Route to Matamoros, Mexico
- Route through Cameron County
- Extend to the Rio Grande Valley
- Follow US 79 from Louisiana state line to the intersection of US 77 in Rockdale, TX, then follow US 77 south to Victoria, TX
- Follow US 79 from Marshall, TX to where it ties into I-35 in Round Rock, TX
- Marshall, TX needs a relief route on the west side
- Relief options need to extend into most of Matagorda County, counties southwest of Harris and Fort Bend are looking for relief routes that serve the Port of Freeport, Galveston, Texas City and Houston
- Needs to be easily accessible to Tyler, Smith, Longview, Gregg, Upshur, Ruck counties
- Route planned east of Lufkin, TX should provide access to SH 103 and any planned service roads near the Angelina and Neches River railroad tracks
- Look at combining US 59, SH 99 and I-69 as much as possible
- Include a connector loop using Isleib Road in Beasley, TX
- Use US 77 through San Patricio, TX
- Develop a connector route on SH 36
- Go through Texarkana, Linden, and Carthage
- Stay on US 59 through Nacogdoches, TX
- Utilizing US 59 would be a poor choice, it is already overrun with traffic and is used as an evacuation route for hurricanes
- The intersection of South Loop and US 59 in Nacogdoches, TX needs improvement
- Need FM 1301 to connect to US 59 in Wharton, TX for I-69 to work

- Follow US 59 through Wharton, TX
- US 59 south of Victoria, TX is wide enough for I-69, building an additional bypass in this area would be wasteful
- Should go around Tenaha and connect Joaquin and Logansport
- Interstate Designation
 - Extend the I-37 designation down US 77 to the Rio Grande Valley
 - Should be designated as I-47 in Texas not I-69
 - Can we choose a different name other than I-69?
 - US 59 through Rosenberg, TX should be I-69

Questions:

1. Will we be coordinating with the LA DOTD to recommend a route between Logansport and Stonewall? Will it be an upgrade to an existing roadway or a new roadway?
2. On the map provided, when enlarged, shows I-69 going to Texarkana, TX. Why on the smaller version on the map does it show the project track diverting north of Nacogdoches, TX and traveling upwards in a northeast direction across northwest Louisiana, northern Mississippi, etc? I thought this was a North-South project which would carry further north than Texarkana, TX. I was under the impression it would travel more in a direction toward Kansas City, at least connecting to another interstate highway, maybe at Joplin to I believe I-44 or I-45 before diverting northeasterly direction.
3. Given the existing numbering scheme, why would it not be called I-47? It seems that would best reflect its location between north-south I-45 and I-49.
4. I would like to know why so much money was spent on the overpass for traffic going from Diboll, TX US 59 onto the loop to the east when I-69 takes a different route at that point.
5. Cannot see detail on map of alternate route around Lufkin. Where can I find this information?
6. I live at the Angelina River in Angelina County; I would like to see a detailed map of your plans at my location.
7. How many miles is the relief route east of Lufkin, TX going to extend down I-69 South?
8. Why was Kendleton, TX not included in the map of recommendations? *The larger towns (1000+) are listed on the maps but some of the smaller ones are not. The Segment 3 Committee decided to label Kendleton, TX on this map.*
9. When will we know what decision has been made?
10. Please send me more detail for the area near US 59 and FM 2782.
11. Please send more information on how this would affect Houston County.
12. Exactly what part of US 59 between Nacogdoches and Garrison are going to be affected? Is there an exact map I can look at?
13. What is the state going to do in Leggett?
14. How much warning will I get if this happens?

**I-69 Program
Segment Committee Meeting**

**Attachment 7
Segment Two Recommended
Priorities Map**

I-69 Segment Two Committee Recommendations

Legend

- Recommended I-69
- - - Redesignate as Interstate

Preliminary Priorities

- Route Upgrade
- Relief Route/Option

WORKING DRAFT

