



SH 199 at IH-820 Interchange

Public Involvement Plan

SH 199

From Azle Avenue
to Biway Street

IH-820

From Navajo Trail/Cahoba Drive
to Marine Creek Parkway

CSJ: 0171-05-068

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

Texas Department of Transportation – Fort Worth District Office
October 2018

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PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

The term “Engineer” stated herein refers to Cobb, Fendley & Associates, Inc. (CobbFendley), its designated Project Manager, and its assembled consultant Team. The term “State” herein collectively refers to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Fort Worth District Office and its designated Project Manager. The term “Project” stated herein collectively refers to transforming SH 199 into a freeway with frontage roads and constructing an interchange at IH-820 that have been identified by the State to be all-inclusively studied by the Engineer with the objective of proposing preliminary design improvements.

1.0 OVERVIEW

1.1 PUBLIC AND AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

Public and agency participation and coordination are key elements of the “Project”. One of the first tasks undertaken by the Engineer is creating and implementing a Public Involvement Plan (PIP). This PIP shall be partly based on prior public and agency involvement efforts associated with improving SH 199 at the IH-820 Interchange.

The PIP may be augmented over the course of the Project and shall outline the techniques, timing, and content of the informational distributions and participatory events necessary to select and build consensus for a recommended (preferred and proposed) Build Alternative.

The Engineer shall manage all the public and agency involvement outlined in this PIP and shall develop the technical materials utilized for the Project’s various scheduled meetings that shall include meeting summary reports and documentation.

1.2 GOAL AND OBJECTIVES FOR PUBLIC AND AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

As outlined herein, the Project shall involve, and be responsive to, local (Project Study Area) communities in an established manner that complies with the requirements of federal, State, and local agencies including the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) guidelines for public involvement, and TxDOT Policy Statements. This guidance reflects the Project Team’s desire and overriding goal of involving the public and affected agencies in the decision-making process.

This PIP is intended to be proactive and provide opportunities for timely and productive public review and comment. Public encounter meetings and activities shall be scheduled to coincide with the Project’s various milestones. Public involvement opportunities shall be made available through a range of techniques via scheduled meeting locations at traditional, accessible community meeting places.

Within this context, the following goals have been developed to guide the Project's public and agency involvement:

1. Inform, educate, and actively involve the public throughout the Project;
2. Create opportunities for early and continuous community and agency participation;
3. Maintain the accountability, credibility, and responsibility of the State/Engineer Team;
4. Assure inclusion of any traditionally underserved or under-represented groups; and
5. Strive for consensus among potential competing interests.

1.3 PROJECT LOCATION MAP

The Project Location Map is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1

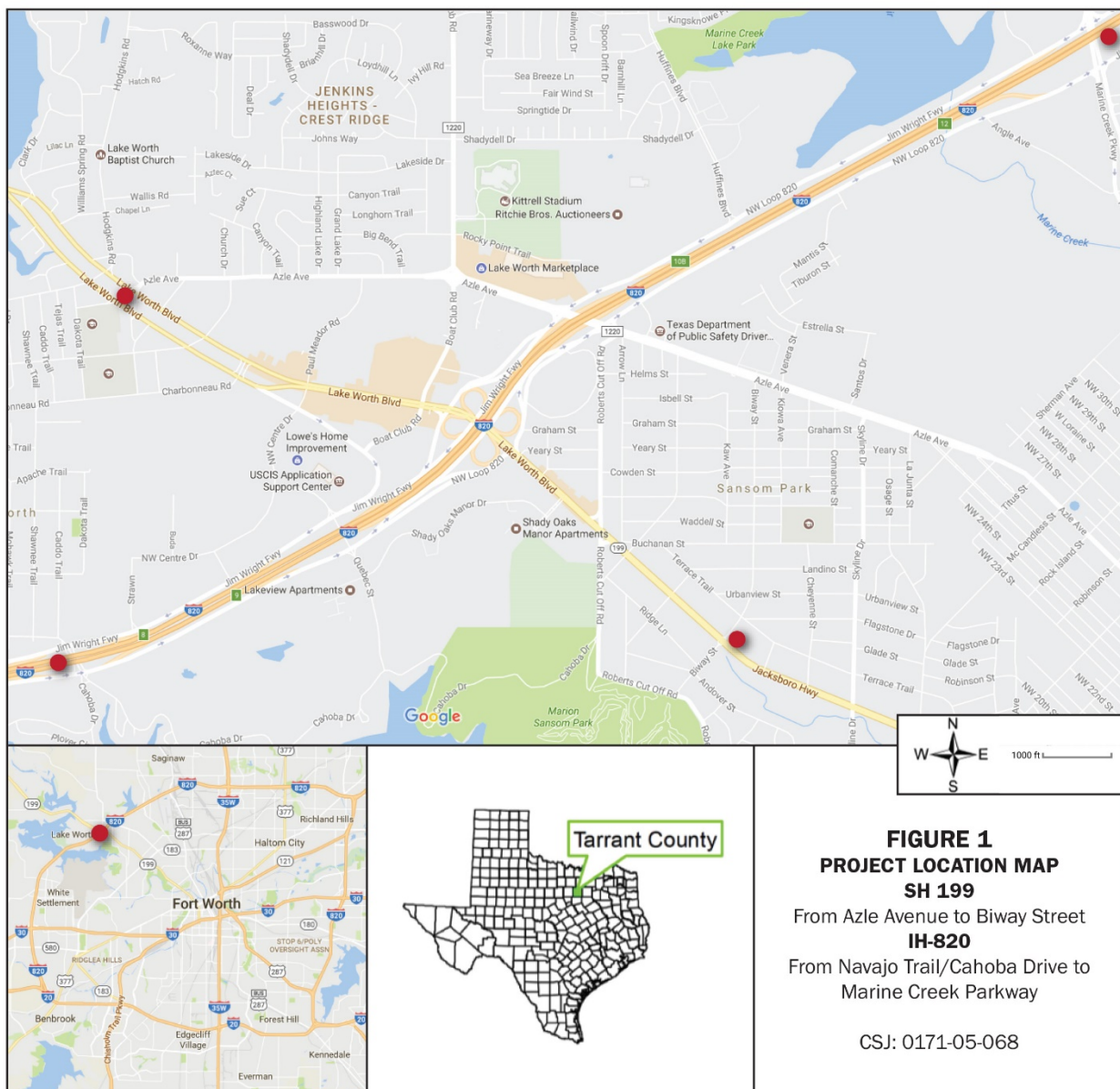


FIGURE 1
PROJECT LOCATION MAP
SH 199
 From Azle Avenue to Biway Street
IH-820
 From Navajo Trail/Cahoba Drive to
 Marine Creek Parkway

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2.0 THE NEED FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Effective public involvement provides an open exchange of information and ideas between the public, stakeholders, and transportation decision-makers. The overall objective of TxDOT's public involvement process is that it is proactive and provides: complete and accurate information, timely public notice, public access to key decisions, and opportunities for early and continual involvement.

Not only does the public involvement process provide a mechanism for TxDOT to solicit ideas and public comments, it also builds support among the public who are stakeholders in the proposed transportation investments that affect their communities.

Key elements for effective public involvement are:

1. A clearly defined need and purpose with associated objectives that initiate a public dialogue on a transportation "project" or mobility "study(ies)" that entails data gathering, soliciting input, evaluating, and recommending solutions and upgrades;
2. Identification of specifically who the affected public and stakeholder groups are with respect to the project;
3. Identification of suitable outreach techniques to thoroughly engage all segments of the public;
4. Notification procedures which effectively identify and focus on affected public groups;
5. Education and assistance techniques which result in an accurate and full public understanding of the transportation problem, potential solution(s), and obstacles and opportunities within the various solutions to the defined problem; and
6. Any necessary follow-through by public agencies demonstrating that the transportation decision-makers openly, diligently, and all-inclusively pursued and considered public input.

3.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT OUTREACH

The identification, study, and design of proposed mobility and safety-related elements to improve the SH 199 at IH-820 Interchange will require a tailored PIP that assists all interested parties to be fully engaged and informed about the Project and encourages and solicits public input.

As part of the study process, travel demand within the Project corridors shall be researched via the generation of 2020, 2045 (Design Year) and 2055 (Pavement Design Year) traffic projections along each Project corridor. Alternative scenario solutions shall be produced and evaluated to examine potential benefits and impacts associated with each proposed mobility and safety-related scenario. This scenario development process and other pertinent Project information shall be presented to the public pursuant to this PIP.

By implementing this PIP, the public shall be informed of the Project and its proposed solutions and provided various means to express their Project-related views, opinions, and concerns. This PIP shall be used to advise all interested agencies of the Project Scope (goals and objectives), present scenario solutions, identify potential benefits and impacts of each scenario/solution, and assist in the determination and understanding of a preferred (proposed) Build Alternative.

The Project development process shall follow all applicable federal procedures which call for the collaborative development of a transportation project with local communities and all involved agencies. Public involvement activities shall be performed in accordance with TAC, Title 43, Part 1, Chapter 2 and 36 CFR 800.2; and in compliance with EO 13166 and EO 12898 and the Commission adopted TxDOT Public Involvement Policy.

This PIP provides an outline of the public involvement process proposed to be used while developing and processing the Project. The Project shall remain flexible to include other outreach tools deemed useful and applicable to the public involvement process and respond to all ideas, concerns, and needs of interested citizens and stakeholders as the Project progresses. This PIP shall be implemented through the following activities.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY OUTREACH

Based on U.S. Census American Fact Finder page, 7.2 percent of households in Lake Worth fall below the poverty level and the population is 26 percent Hispanic in the Lake Worth area.

If it is determined that Environmental Justice (EJ) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) applies, to increase low-income and minority participation, we would (in general):

- Look at the resources the Lake Worth community uses to get information in Spanish (including possibly newspapers, chamber of commerce, schools, churches) and provide information in Spanish about the project
- Provide Spanish translation services at the SH 199 meetings
- Consider posting flyers in English and Spanish at government services locations
- Consider if meeting locations are close to transit service

Proactive efforts will be coordinated with TxDOT to ensure meaningful opportunities for public participation, including activities to increase low-income and minority participation. These public participation efforts will reflect language trends in the project area and accommodate any LEP populations.

5.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT EVENTS

Public involvement activities are designed to encourage participation by the public as partners in the Project and to provide an understandable and convenient means for the public to comment and ask questions. This PIP presents various planned outreach opportunities to the public to encourage study input, involvement, and feedback from interested citizens and stakeholders.

5.1 DISTRICT OPERATING PROCEDURE (DOP)

The Fort Worth District, on April 1, 2017 implemented a District Operating Procedure (DOP) to provide direction concerning project development public involvement activities. The DOP will be followed for this project. Guidelines in the DOP are:

1. A TxDOT Core Group consisting of the Project Manager (PM), Environmental PM and personnel from the Area Office, Advance Project Development, District Public Information Office and Public Involvement Section of the Transportation Planning and Programming Division will be developed for all projects requiring public involvement.
2. The PM will prepare a project Public Involvement Plan and coordinate all public involvement activities through the Core Group.
3. The PM will convene a project technical stakeholder group, including TxDOT and local representatives, for complex projects to provide input for project development and communication with local elected officials.
4. The PM will complete a Public Involvement Roles and Responsibilities document and coordinate with the Core Group no less than 8 weeks before desiring to hold a large event including a public meeting, public hearing or traffic noise workshop.
5. The PM will submit all notices, layouts or handouts to the Core Group for review no less than 4 weeks before a technical stakeholder group meeting and 6 weeks before large events. All comments must be addressed before the notices will be forwarded to advertisement mediums, local officials and prospective attendees.
6. The PM will compile and complete a comment and response draft matrix and schedule a review through a Core Group meeting within approximately 4 weeks after a large event.

5.2 PUBLIC MEETINGS

Two (2) individual Public Meetings (Open House format without formal presentations) shall be conducted by the Engineer at designated sites within the Project Study Area to disperse Project information at key Project milestones and to receive public and stakeholder input and feedback.

Each facility selected, reserved, and rented by the Engineer to conduct a Public Meeting shall attempt to provide adequate capacity and ample parking, close proximity to public transportation, ample room/space to disseminate information, ADA accessibility, and ideally located within the Project Study Area. Uniformed security personnel will be provided if it is deemed necessary to conduct a Public Meeting.

Each Meeting shall be conducted so that attending citizens can freely view exhibits and pursue Project information from Project Team Members and topic-specific exhibits. Each Meeting shall distribute informational materials such as comment forms and Project-related handouts, and present Project info exhibits/display boards, etc.

Applicable Alternatives or Scenarios (solutions) shall be presented at each Public Meeting by the engineer and shall be based on Project information developed to date by the Engineer.

Each Public Meeting is envisioned to be conducted at a Project milestone or task completion phase that involve project aspects that warrant timely public input and feedback:

- Conceptual Design Schematic – Problem Statement; Project Purpose & Need, goals and objectives; initial data collection, research and analysis results; accident history/locations; corridor analysis; current traffic demand and traffic projections; Alternative – Scenario Development and Evaluation via proposed Measures of Effectiveness matrixes; and

- 60-90% Geometric Design Schematic – Preferred Alternative, Scenarios and associated evaluation results, pro-con impact evaluations, and solutions targeting a recommended Build Alternative.

Prior to each Meeting, Display Ads shall be prepared by the Engineer that publicly announce each Meeting date, time, location, and purpose. Display Ads will be published in newspapers approved by TxDOT, including, the Fort Worth Star Telegram, The Detail Newspaper (serving Lake Worth), and La Estrella (Spanish). The Engineer will provide project information to TxDOT's communication specialist (District PIO) for consideration of a News Release.

Public comments from each Meeting shall be compiled and documented by the Engineer in a Public Meeting Summary Report that include written comments and feedback, and attendance sheets. The Report shall include photographs and copies of the handouts distributed at each Meeting.

Informed and easily identifiable Team Members shall support each Meeting to perform attendee registration, explain exhibits, and answer questions.

Team Members shall also perform attendee registration, address questions and comments, and guide attendees through the Public Meeting process. Comment tables shall be available for attendees to submit questions, suggestions, and concerns via comment forms. Attendees shall also have the option to study and mail back a Comment Form per a return mailing address printed on the back of the Form. Prepaid postage shall not be provided on any Form. Unless otherwise indicated, attendees who choose to mail back a Comment Form must have the Form postmarked within 15 days after the Meeting date for the comment to be included in the Public Meeting Summary Report.

5.2.1 Display Ads

Display Ads (in languages approved by the State) that announce each Public Meeting shall be prepared by the Engineer. Each Ad shall be submitted by the Engineer to the State for review no less than six (6) weeks prior to their submittal deadline for publication. After the State has approved each Ad, the Engineer shall publish the Ad in identified newspaper(s) and provide proof of the publication to the State.

Display Ads will be published in newspapers approved by TxDOT, including, the Fort Worth Star Telegram and La Estrella (Spanish).

As such, the Projects' public communication deliverables shall be prepared in languages approved by the State, however the Engineer and State will remain flexible to adding other language translations depending on citizen feedback received as the Project advances.

5.2.2 News Releases

Individual News Releases that announce each Public Meeting shall entail the Engineer providing information to the State such that a State Public Information Officer will write the Release and process it with local media contacts.

5.2.3 Mailed, Emailed, and Social Media Notifications

As a means of announcing each upcoming Public Meeting, the Engineer shall prepare State-approved postcard announcements and mail the postcards to identified elected officials, and to property owners along the Project.

The Engineer shall supplement this task by coordinating with the State to jointly identify any available email addresses that can be used to email the same mailed ads. Emails that are sent shall be sent as BCC. The Engineer shall also supplement this task by supplying the State any input and information needed from the Engineer such that the State can announce the public Meetings via Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.).

5.2.4 Public Meeting Materials

As stated previously, various informational Project materials and info packets shall be made available and distributed by the Engineer at each Public Meeting. These materials shall consist of items such as Comment Forms, Alternative-Scenario exhibit sheets, and matrix comparison sheets. and non-colorized hardcopies of the PowerPoint presentation slides. The Engineer shall also prepare separate Public, TxDOT, Engineer (consultant team), and Elected Official sign-in sheets at each Meeting.

The Engineer shall produce a one page full color Project Fact Sheet. During the course of the project, updates to the Fact Sheet are expected to be produced by the Engineer and shall be distributed by the Engineer at each Public Meeting and a subsequent Public Hearing.

Exhibit boards shall be prepared by the Engineer for each meeting. Exhibit boards shall include any information, research data and evaluations, and current facts associated with the proposed project such as, but not limited to, Project Location Map, design schematic sheets with typical sections, environmental constraints maps, crash data map, etc.

Scheduled coordination meetings between the Engineer and the State shall collaboratively discuss, review, and determine appropriate Public Meeting logistics and intended Meeting handouts and exhibits. This collaboration shall timely convene and review the State's District Public Involvement Checklist and thus not hinder or delay the public involvement preparation process and planned timeline. In this regard, Meeting materials shall be approved by the State no less than one (1) week prior to each Meeting. The Engineer shall submit all Public Meeting materials, with the exception of the Display Ads, to the State approximately three (3) weeks prior to each Public Meeting date.

5.2.5 Public Meeting PowerPoint

For each Meeting, an Engineer-prepared, State-approved PowerPoint presentation shall be presented to the public in the form of a continuous running slide show loop. The Engineer shall present this State-approved PowerPoint via a projector and screen assembly supplied and operated by the Engineer. The Engineer will also provide a copy of the approved PowerPoint to the State for placement on the Project website. The presentation shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Project limits
- Purpose of the public meeting
- Objective/purpose of the project
- Traffic movements at the SH 199 and IH-820 Interchange
- Project Alternatives
- Environmental MOU
- Project schedule
- Instructions for providing comments

5.2.6 Public Meeting Summary Report

After each Public Meeting is conducted, the Engineer shall prepare a Public Meeting Summary Report and submit it to the State for review and approval.

The closing date to receive Public Meeting comments shall be 15 days after the Meeting date. Comments received after 15 days shall not be considered in the Public Meeting Summary Report (Public Record). The Report shall adhere to the Environmental Compliance Public Involvement Toolkit and include when and where each Meeting was conducted, who was in attendance, and Meeting photographs, published Display Ads, News Releases, and sign-in lists. The summary shall also include the comments received at the Meeting, and Engineer responses to comments, as well as any modifications to the Project resulting from a comment. A summary of the Report shall be referenced in the Project's environmental document per the District Operating Procedure (refer to Section 5.1).

5.3 PUBLIC HEARING

Due to the magnitude and nature of the Project, and the anticipated (future) social, economic, and environmental impacts caused by constructing the Project, one (1) Opportunity for a Public Hearing, or one (1) Public Hearing are anticipated for the Project. If there is a Public Hearing, it shall be conducted at a designated site within the Project Study Area to formally present the Project's proposed (Build Alternative) and receive public and stakeholder input and feedback on the same.

Each facility selected, reserved, and rented by the Engineer for the Public Hearing shall attempt to provide adequate capacity and ample parking, close proximity to public transportation, ample room/space to disseminate information, ADA accessibility, and ideally located within the Study

Area. Uniformed security personnel will be provided if it is deemed necessary to conduct a Public Hearing. The Engineer will hire a court reporter to transcribe the hearing. The Engineer will also provide audio and visual equipment to record the hearing.

The Hearing shall be conducted so that attending citizens can freely view exhibits and pursue Project information from Team Members via topic-specific exhibits. The Engineer shall distribute informational materials such as comment Forms and Project-related handouts, and present the preferred alternative at the Hearing.

Information presented and displayed at the Hearing shall be based on Project information developed to date by the Engineer.

The Hearing is envisioned to be conducted after preliminary approval of the Project's Environmental Assessment by both TxDOT-ENV. Prior to the Hearing, Display Ads and News Releases shall be prepared by the Engineer that publicly announce the Hearing date, time, location, and purpose.

Public comments from the Hearing shall be compiled and documented by the Engineer in a Public Hearing Summary and Analysis report that shall include Comment Form and letter feedback, attendance sheets, surveys, and a transcript of the Hearing. The Report shall include photographs and handouts distributed and/or displayed.

Informed and easily identifiable Team Members shall support each Meeting to perform attendee registration, make presentations, and answer questions.

Additionally, Team Members and State staff shall perform hearing attendee registration, address questions and comments, and guide attendees through the hearing process. Comment tables shall be available for attendees to submit questions, suggestions, and concerns via Comment Forms. Attendees shall also have the option to study and mail back the Form via a return mailing address printed on the back of the Form. Prepaid postage shall not be provided on any Form. Unless otherwise indicated, attendees who choose to mail back a Form must have the Form postmarked within 15 days after the Hearing date for the comment to be included in the Public Hearing Summary and Analysis Report.

5.3.1 Display Ads

Display Ads (in languages approved by the State) that entail the Engineer providing the content of each Ad to the State such that a State Public Involvement Specialist will approve and/or write the Ad. The Engineer will coordinate with TxDOT on newspapers for publication including, the Fort Worth Star Telegram and La Estrella (Spanish). Each Ad shall be submitted to the State no less than six (6) weeks prior to their submittal deadline for publication. After the State has approved each Ad, the Engineer shall publish the Ads in identified newspaper(s) and provide proof of the publication to the State.

5.3.2 News Releases

Individual News Releases that announce the Public Hearing shall be prepared by the Engineer and submitted to the State for subsequent State processing of the Release with local media contacts.

5.3.3 Mailed and Emailed Notifications

As a means of announcing the Public Hearing, the Engineer shall mail a letter on TxDOT letterhead, a copy of the hearing notice, and a map to elected officials. The adjacent property owners residing within the Project corridors will receive a copy of the hearing notice and a map. The Engineer shall supplement this task by coordinating with the State to jointly identify any available email addresses that can be used to email the same mailed notices. Emails that are sent shall be sent as BCC (blind carbon copy).

5.3.4 Public Hearing Materials

Various informational Project materials including handouts/packets shall be made available and distributed by the Engineer at the Public Hearing. These materials shall consist of items such as comment forms, Project summary sheets, and the previously stated Project Fact Sheet. The Engineer shall also prepare and have available public, TxDOT, consultant, and elected official sign-in sheets at the Hearing.

Exhibit boards shall be prepared by the Engineer for the Hearing.

Scheduled Coordination meetings between the Engineer and the State shall collaboratively discuss, review, and determine appropriate Hearing logistics and intended Hearing handouts and exhibits. This collaboration shall timely convene and review the State's District Public Involvement Checklist and thus not hinder or delay the public involvement preparation process and planned timeline. In this regard, Hearing handout and exhibit materials must be approved by the State no less than one (1) week prior to the Hearing. The Engineer shall submit all Hearing materials, with the exception of the Display Ads, to the State for review approximately three (3) weeks prior to the Hearing.

The Engineer shall develop renderings, three-dimensional (3D) models, illustrations, and animations as a means of expression and understanding for what the owner of a project envisions and what the public perceives. In support of the Public meeting and hearing, up to six (6) renderings or illustrations shall be prepared to describe the roadway typical sections and features of the preferred alternative. A 3D model shall be created for the preferred alternative from supplied: horizontal and vertical alignments, existing and proposed digital terrain models (DTMs), proposed typical sections, traffic counts, and ground photography. An orthographic plan view roll plot at scale 1"=100', six (6) renderings and one (1) fly through animation shall be prepared for the preferred alternative for viewing at the Public Hearing. The plan view roll shall be on sheets up to 36" wide by 10 feet in length. The animations and renderings shall give the public and stakeholders a clear awareness and appreciation for how traffic will flow into and out of the project area.

The PM will complete a Public Involvement Roles and Responsibilities document and coordinate with the Core Group no less than 8 weeks before desiring to hold a large event including a public meeting, public hearing or traffic noise workshop.

5.3.5 Public Hearing PowerPoint

A PowerPoint presentation fully explaining the Project and proposed mobility-related solutions shall be presented to the public at the Hearing. The Engineer shall prepare the PowerPoint for State approval and provide and operate a projector and screen assembly for the presentation by the State. The Engineer shall assist in the presentation as requested by the State.

5.3.6 Public Hearing Scripts

State-approved PowerPoint presentation and presentation Scripts shall be prepared by the Engineer for each designated, presenting State and Engineer speaker at the Hearing. The Engineer shall operate/synchronize/transition each PowerPoint slide with each script.

5.3.7 Public Hearing Summary and Analysis Report

Upon completion of the Public Hearing, a Public Hearing Summary and Analysis report shall be prepared by the Engineer and submitted to the State for review and approval.

The closing date for Hearing comments is 15 days after the Hearing date. Comments received after 15 days shall not be considered in the Report (Public Record).

The Report, and all other hearing documentation, shall adhere to the Environmental Compliance Public Involvement Toolkit and shall include when and where the Hearing was conducted, who was in attendance, published Display Ads, News Releases, sign-in lists, and Hearing photographs. The summary shall also include the verbal comments made during the Hearing, written comments received at the Hearing, and written comments received during the 15-day comment period; Engineer responses to comments, as well as any modifications to the project resulting from comments. A summary of this Report shall be reference in the Project's environmental document.

The Report shall include required certification, verbatim Hearing transcript, and other information necessary to evaluate and disseminate information from the Hearing. The Report shall be sufficiently detailed to provide a full administrative record of questions asked, issues and concerns raised, and responses given during the Hearing, and provide a basis for incorporating all information gathered at the Hearing into the environmental document.

The Hearing documentation submitted to the State shall include: Summary and Analysis Report; Comment and Response Report (copies of all written comments received and responses); and verbatim Hearing transcript and certification signed by the District Engineer.

5.4 MEETINGS WITH AFFECTED PROPERTY OWNERS

When necessary, the Engineer shall coordinate with the State to conduct any necessary Meeting with Affected Property Owners (MAPOs). The State shall review and approve any handout materials, exhibits, and/or PowerPoint produced by the Engineer prior to conducting each Workshop. The Engineer shall summarize each Workshop via a MAPO Memorandum.

Each ADA accessible facility selected, reserved, and rented by the Engineer for a MAPO shall attempt to provide adequate capacity and ample parking, close proximity to public transportation, ample room/space to disseminate information, and ideally located within the Study Area.

6.0 STAKEHOLDER LIST

The Engineer shall develop and maintain a Stakeholder List database of names/addresses of abutting property owners, stakeholders, elected officials, resource agencies, and other parties that have expressed an interest in the Project. Agency staff and other appropriate individuals who may participate in the Project shall be added to the database as the Project progresses and/or per State direction. The Engineer shall supplement this task by coordinating with the State to jointly identify any available email addresses that shall be another component of the database and the notification process. Emails that are sent shall be sent as BCC (blind carbon copy).

Database names shall be collated as needed, such as 1) general public; 2) adjacent property owners; 3) local government officials and staff; 4) State and Federal government officials and staff; 5) Agency Work Group members; 6) special interest associations/organizations, and; 7) media.

The Stakeholder List shall be updated as needed, with updates likely to occur after each Technical Work Group Meeting (see 10.0 Agency Involvement), Public Meeting, MAPO Meeting, and Public Hearing is conducted.

It may be necessary for the Engineer to obtain mailing addresses of adjacent property owners via a Geographic Information System (GIS) Shapefile for parcels in Tarrant County in ArcMap 10 and the local Central Appraisal District (CAD) website for the purpose of producing and maintaining a dependable mailing list database of existing, adjacent property owners.

The Engineer shall not mail notifications to the media. The State shall provide any available e-mail addresses that shall be used by the State to send its news releases; therefore the addresses shall be for the Engineer's records only.

7.0 NEWSLETTER

The Engineer shall produce up to three editions of a Project Newsletter for electronic distribution to designated, adjacent property owners by the Engineer per the Project Stakeholder List. The Engineer shall supplement this task by coordinating with the State to jointly identify any available email addresses that can be used to email the same newsletters.

This newsletter shall summarize the Project's Transportation Activity. All materials, including the newsletter, shall not be printed or distributed by the Engineer without prior approval by the State.

8.0 WEBSITE

The Engineer shall develop a Project Summary for a Project website page managed by the State. The website shall be advertised as: www.txdot.gov, Search Keyword: SH 199. Per State direction, additional searches may be created, but the TxDOT website and the keyword name shall be the Project advertised on the website.

Summary updates to the website page shall be produced by the Engineer. Also, the Engineer shall also relay to the State any previously produced Public Meeting and Public Hearing handouts, exhibits, and summaries for possible insertion to the website by the State.

9.0 AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

The Engineer shall assist the State in reconvening Technical Work Group (TWG) meetings that were previously conducted for the Project. This Group shall have an integral role in the Project's successful development by offering all-inclusive agency input, scrutiny and opinions on a variety of Study issues. Each Meeting shall convene at a State facility or other no cost facility. This group shall be composed of representatives from agencies and local governments which have a role in funding, permitting, and implementing any proposed transportation improvements and offer policy decisions and guide the technical development of the Project, receive and assess reports on progress, comment on the schedule, provide input on scenarios alternatives/alignments, coordinate with respective agencies, and provide oversight of major activities associated with the Project Schematic, environmental document and/or the IAJR. Outreach to school representative regarding participation in the TWG Meetings shall also be conducted by the Engineer. Ideally, Project update information and facts shared at these Meetings shall be relayed by each agency attendee to their respective agency leaders, elected officials, and their constituency. Membership and attendance shall be structured to allow each TWG Member to voluntarily participate at appropriate times when Project milestones or issues warrant TWG input and feedback. The TWG coordination process shall include the Engineer services as described in the TxDOT District Operating Procedures (refer to Section 5.1).

Along with the TxDOT core group, the TWG consists of key stakeholders - City of Fort Worth, City of Sansom Park, City of Lake Worth, Tarrant County, North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), Fort Worth Transportation Authority (FWTA), Lake Worth Independent School District (ISD), Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, and Northwest Tarrant Chamber of Commerce. NCTCOG's involvement has included the current SH 199 Corridor Master Plan from FM 1886 to West Fork of the Trinity River which includes existing conditions analysis, traffic assessments, economic market analysis, public involvement, and corridor design and operation.

10.0 CONCLUSION

Public involvement activities planned and performed by the Engineer for the Project shall allow stakeholders, adjacent property owners, public officials, resource agencies, area business owners, and other interested citizens to be fully and accurately informed about the Project and encourage their interaction with the Engineer/State Study Team by asking questions and providing input.

Overall, the implementation of the Project's public involvement activities shall allow any interested party to play an important role in the decision-making process that proposes any type of mobility, operations and safety-related improvement, and upgrade to the SH 199 at IH-820.