Hello, and welcome to the virtual public hearing for the Chaparral Road Improvements Project. My name is Ashlyn, and I will be your MC.

This hearing is being conducted by the Texas Department of Transportation and the City of Killeen, in partnership with Bell County, Killeen-Temple Metropolitan Planning Organization and the City of Harker Heights to share project information and collect input.

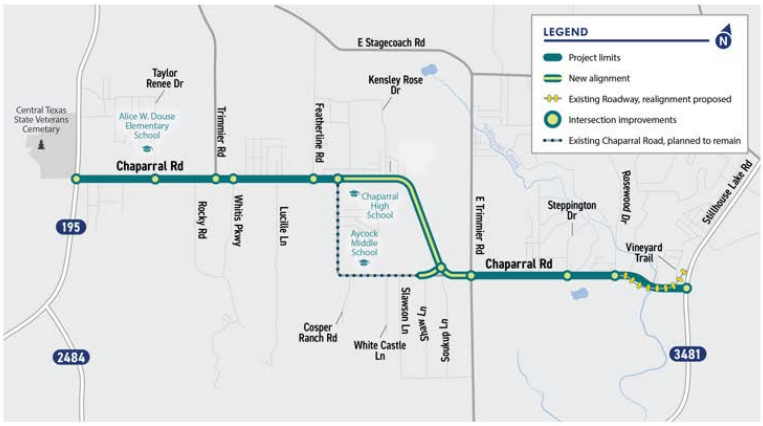
The public hearing includes both in-person and virtual options to participate. The in-person public hearing will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. central time on Thursday, August 13, 2026, at Chaparral High School, 4400 Chaparral Rd, Killeen, TX 76542. This virtual hearing presentation will be available for viewing and comment through Friday, August 28, 2026.

Please note that you can pause this presentation at any time to review the information in more detail.

Following this hearing, TxDOT and the City of Killeen will review and consider all comments received to finalize environmental documentation in preparation for environmental clearance and prepare detailed design plans for various segments along the corridor. For comments to be documented in the public hearing record, we must receive them by Friday, August 28, 2026.

Proposed Improvements

Chaparral Road from SH 195 to FM 3481 (Stillhouse Lake Road)



The purpose of this project is to improve safety and traffic flow, reduce congestion, and realign the roadway to eliminate unsafe curves. The project will also provide safer and more efficient connections to nearby destinations and at FM 3481 (Stillhouse Lake Road).

This project is needed because the existing infrastructure is aging, and traffic volumes have increased. These conditions have reduced safety and mobility for drivers while causing more congestion along the roadway.

Chaparral Road Improvements Public Hearing

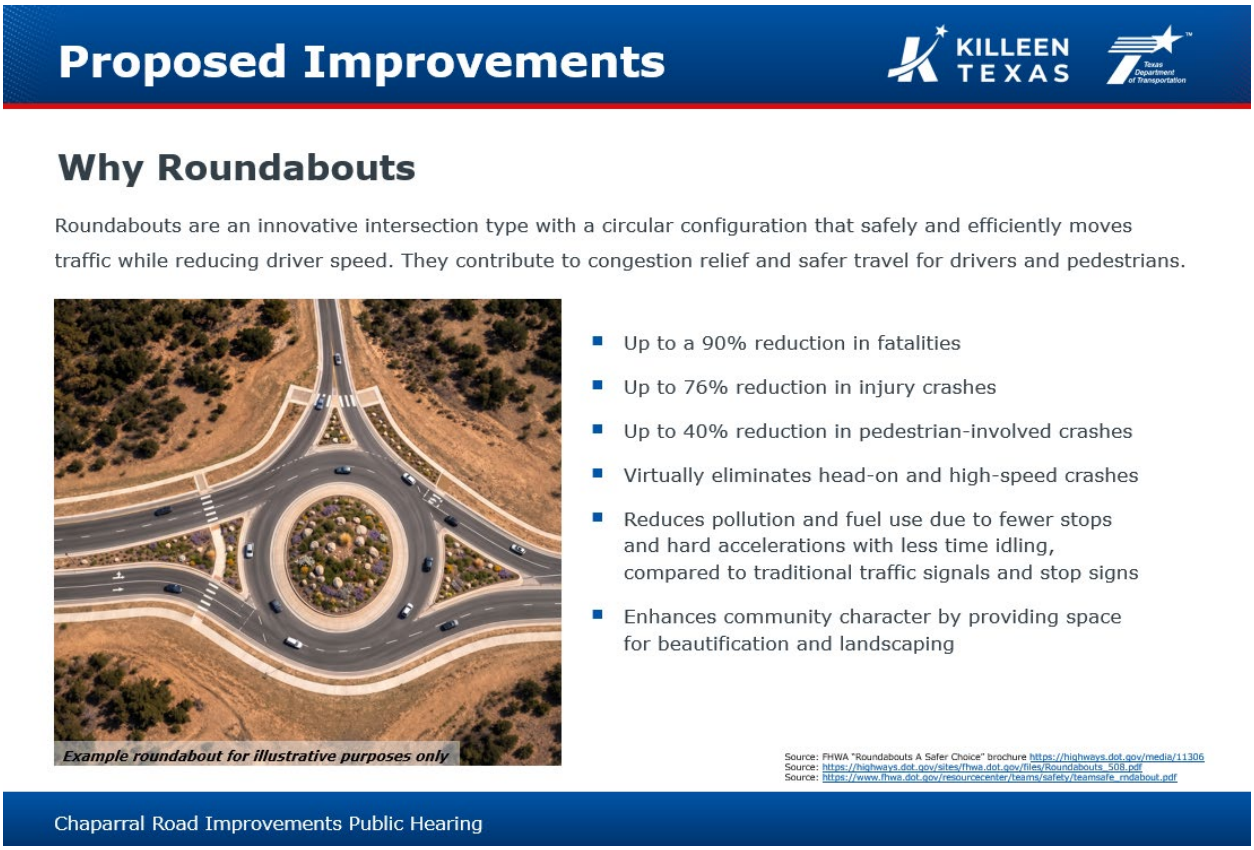
The City of Killeen is proposing improvements along Chaparral Road in Bell County from SH 195 to FM 3481 (Stillhouse Lake Road).

The purpose of this project is to improve safety and traffic flow, reduce congestion, and realign the roadway to eliminate unsafe curves. The project will also provide safer and more efficient connections to nearby destinations, and where Chapparal Road connects to FM 3481 (Stillhouse Lake Road).

This project is needed because the existing infrastructure is aging, and traffic volumes have increased. These conditions have reduced safety and mobility for drivers while causing more congestion along the roadway.

The proposed project includes widening Chaparral Road to a four-lane divided roadway with curb and gutter and a landscaped median, realigning the roadway from Featherline Road to E. Trimmier road and from Rosewood Drive to FM 3481 (Stillhouse Lake Road); improving major intersections by adding signals or roundabouts, adding lighting along both sides of the roadway, a 6-foot sidewalk on the southside of the roadway and a 12-foot shared use path on the northside of the roadway for increased safety for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians.

Additional right of way would be needed to construct the proposed improvements, including potential displacements of one residential and two non-residential structures. The City of Killeen is committed to working closely with impacted property owners throughout project development.

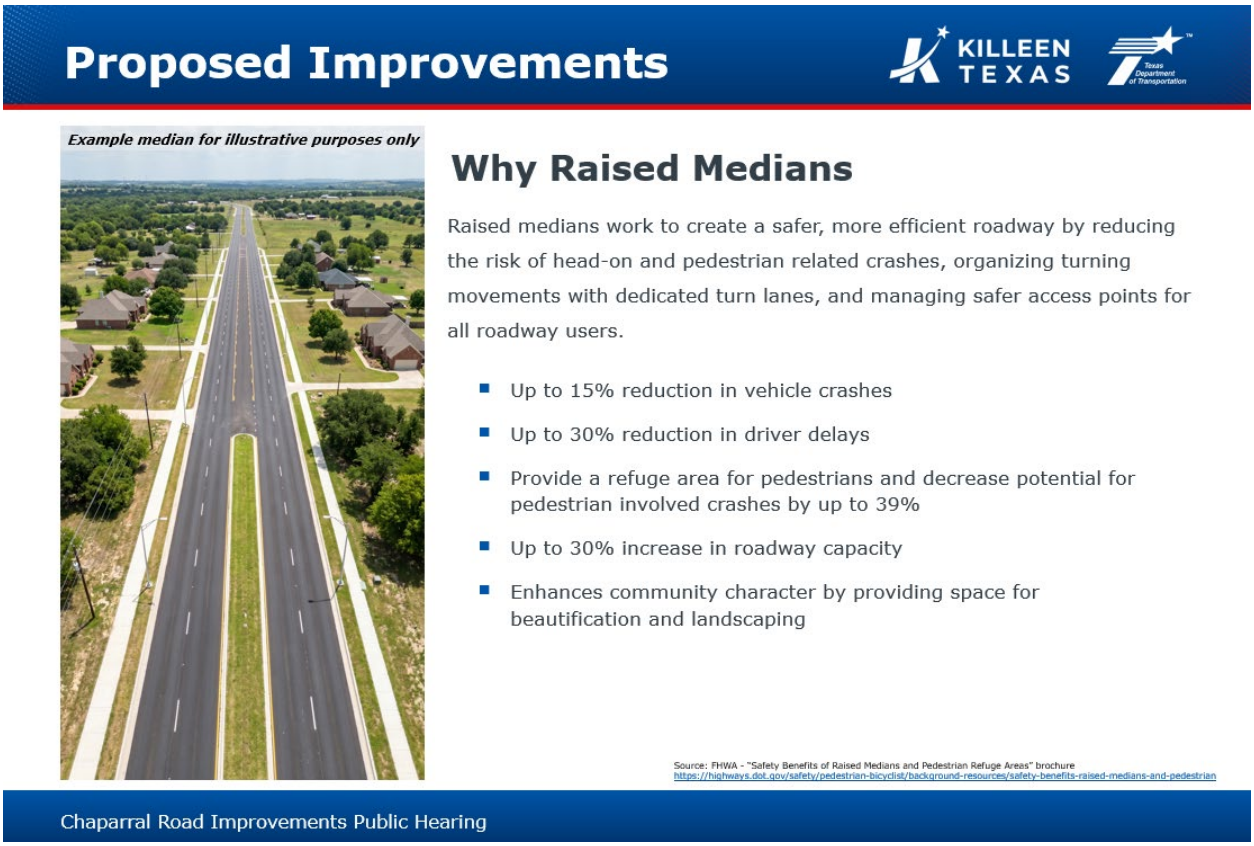


Roundabouts are an innovative intersection type with a circular configuration that safely and efficiently moves traffic while reducing driver speed. They contribute to congestion relief and safer travel for drivers and pedestrians.

They have been proven to:

- Virtually eliminate head-on and high-speed crashes, reducing fatalities by up to 90 percent and injury crashes by up to 76 percent
- Reduce pedestrian involved crashes by up to 40 percent, and can
- Reduce pollution and fuel use due to fewer stops and hard accelerations with less time idling, compared to traditional traffic signals and stop signs

Additionally, they provide space for beautification and landscaping, which can enhance the character of the area.

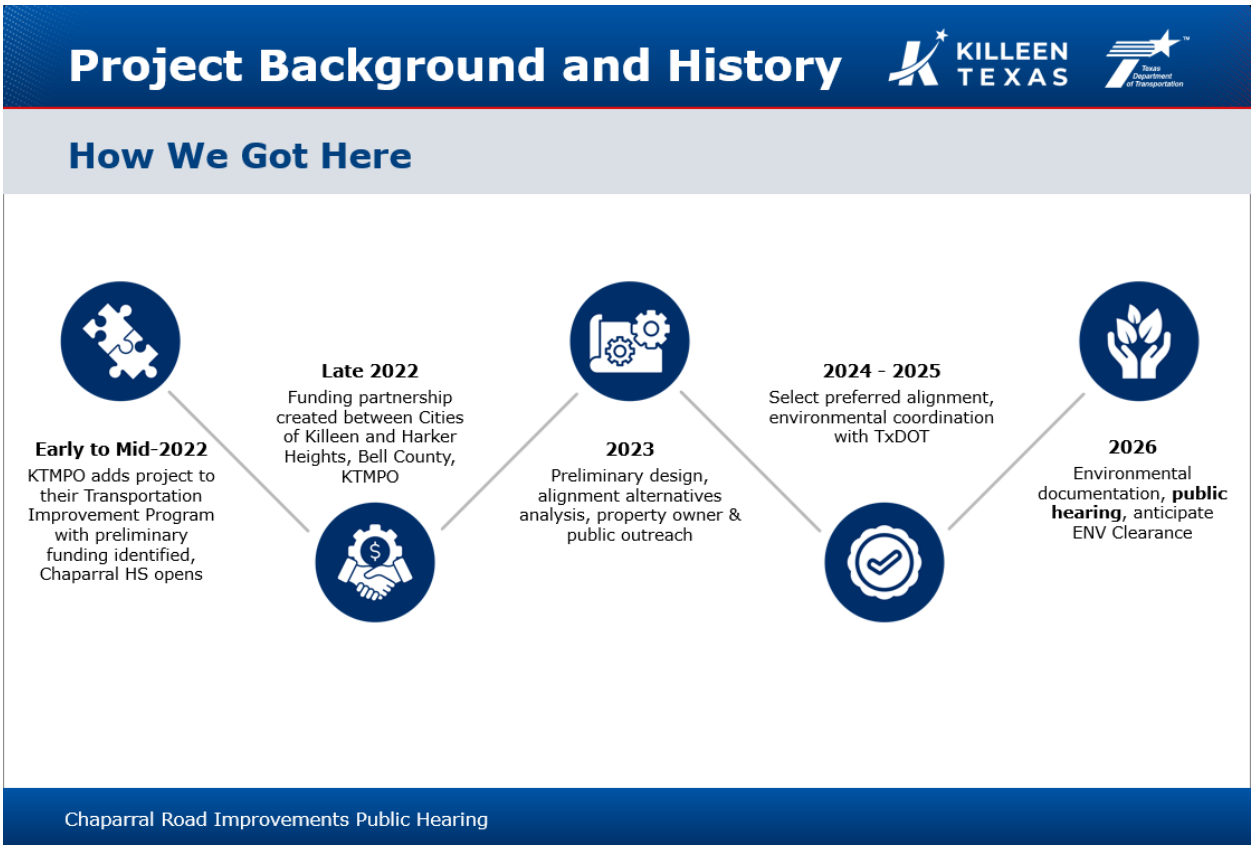


Raised medians help create a safer, more efficient roadway by reducing the risk of head-on and pedestrian-related crashes, organizing turning movements with dedicated turn lanes, and managing safer access points for all roadway users.

They have been proven to:

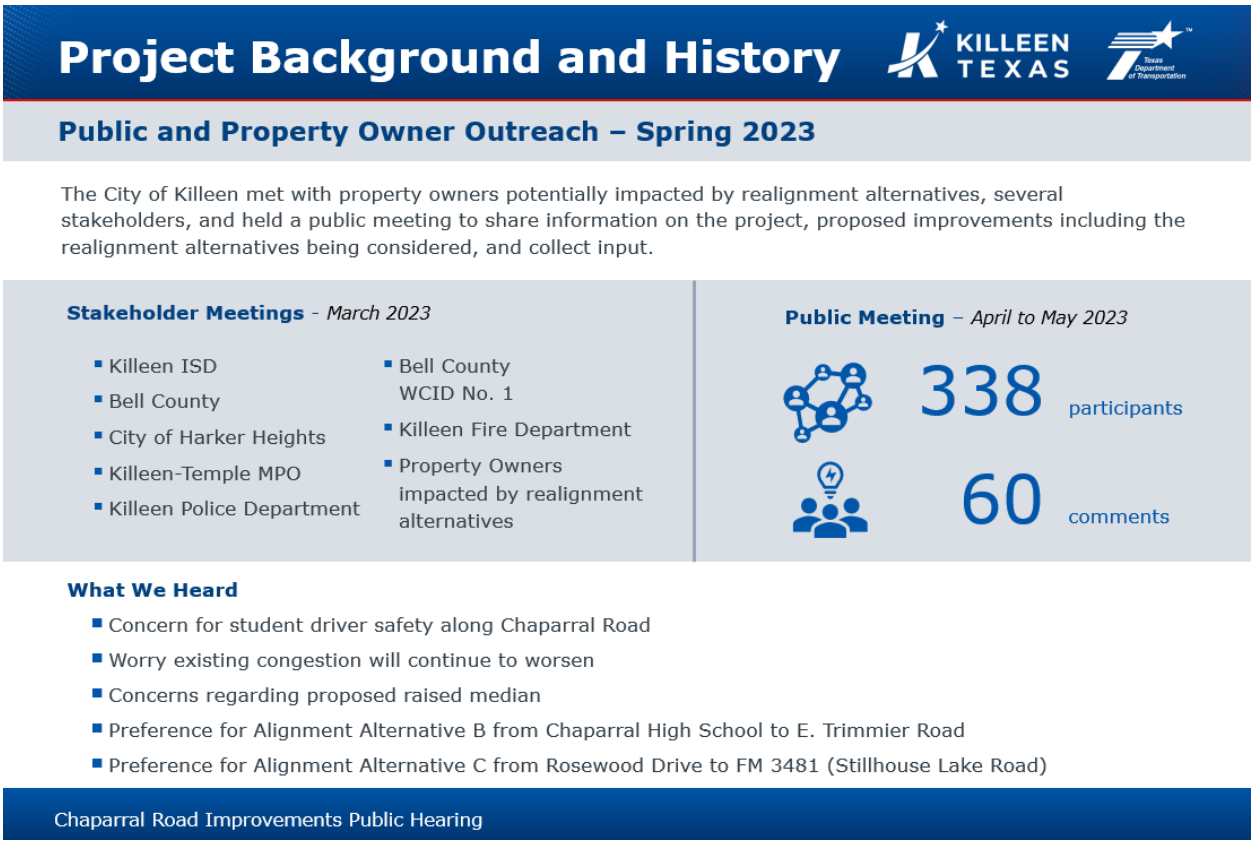
- Reduce vehicle crashes by up to 15 percent
- Reduce driver delays by up to 30 percent
- Decrease the potential for pedestrian-involved crashes by up to 39 percent by providing a refuge area for pedestrians crossing the roadway, and
- Increase roadway capacity by up to 30%

Additionally, in a similar fashion to roundabouts, raised medians also provide space for beautification and landscaping, which can enhance the character of the area.



Improvements to Chaparral Road were first introduced to the City of Killeen Council in 2004 and a future project was eventually added to their Thoroughfare Plan as a top five priority project. Funding partnerships with the Killeen-Temple MPO, Harker Heights, and Bell County were established in 2022. Soon after funding was secured, preliminary design and realignment options were developed and shared with the community for feedback.

The City of Killeen engaged TxDOT for environmental coordination and next steps in 2024 and is holding this public hearing in accordance with both federal and state laws. Following this hearing, TxDOT and the City of Killeen will review and consider all comments received and finalize environmental documentation in preparation for environmental clearance and prepare detailed design for various segments along the corridor.



In spring 2023, the City of Killeen met with several property owners potentially impacted by realignment alternatives and multiple stakeholders. The City also held a public meeting to share information on the project, discuss proposed improvements, and collect input.

Main concerns noted during this engagement related to student safety, increased congestion as the area continues to grow and develop, and concerns around the raised median and access changes. Additionally, the community, along with stakeholders and property owners, noted a preference for Alignment Alternative B for Chaparral Road from the high school to E. Trimmier Road and from Rosewood Drive to FM 3481 as shown in the project map on previous slides.

National Environmental Policy Act

Environmental factors are studied, evaluated, and considered during project development and are key areas that are avoided, if possible, when building roadway improvements.

The City of Killeen will work to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts to the greatest extent feasible.

These are just a few of the environmental factors considered

Social & Community Impacts

Air Quality & Noise Impacts

Biological Resources

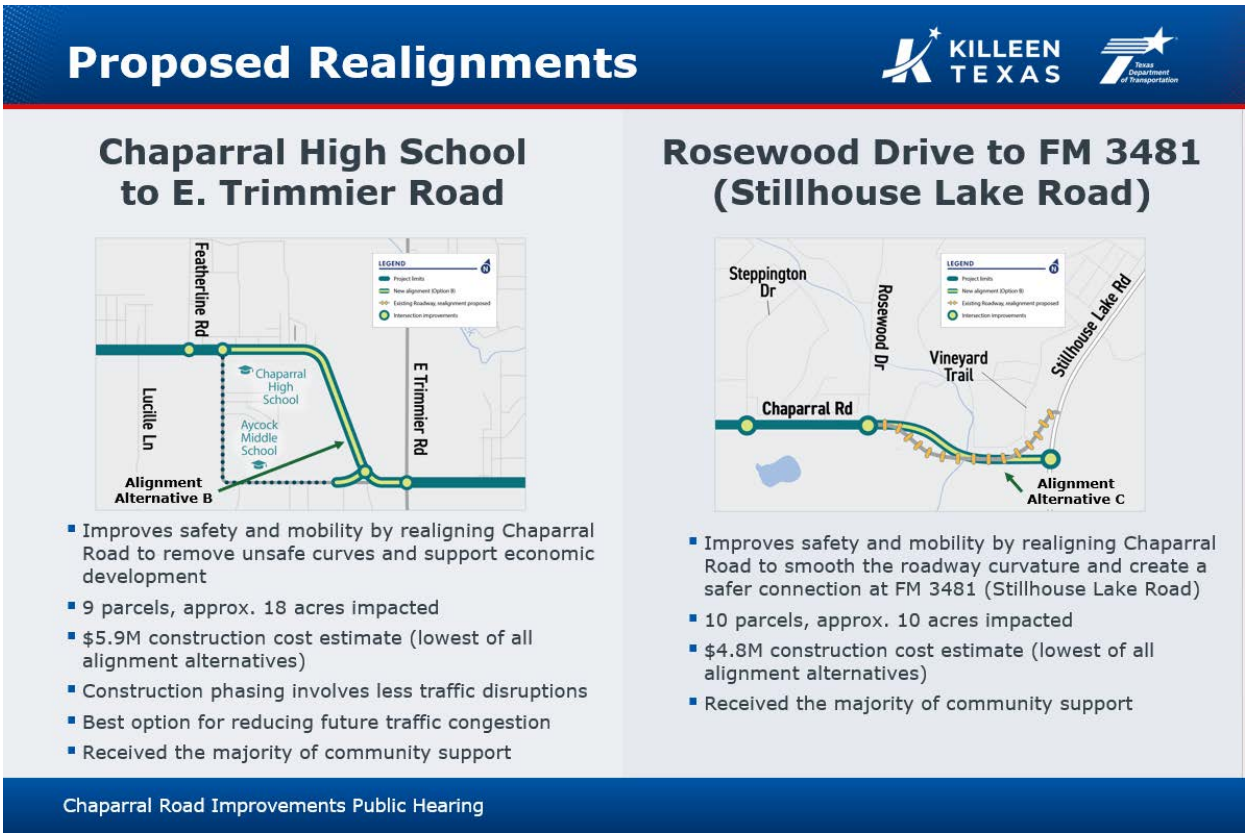
Water Resources

Archeological & Historic Resources

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 July 17, 2025, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

Environmental studies were conducted for the proposed project to support environmental clearance in accordance with NEPA. These environmental analyses are necessary to identify, avoid, and minimize effects on the human and natural environment.

The technical documentation for this project addresses the potential environmental impacts identified during the preliminary engineering of the proposed project. These areas of potential impact include natural, social, and cultural resources.



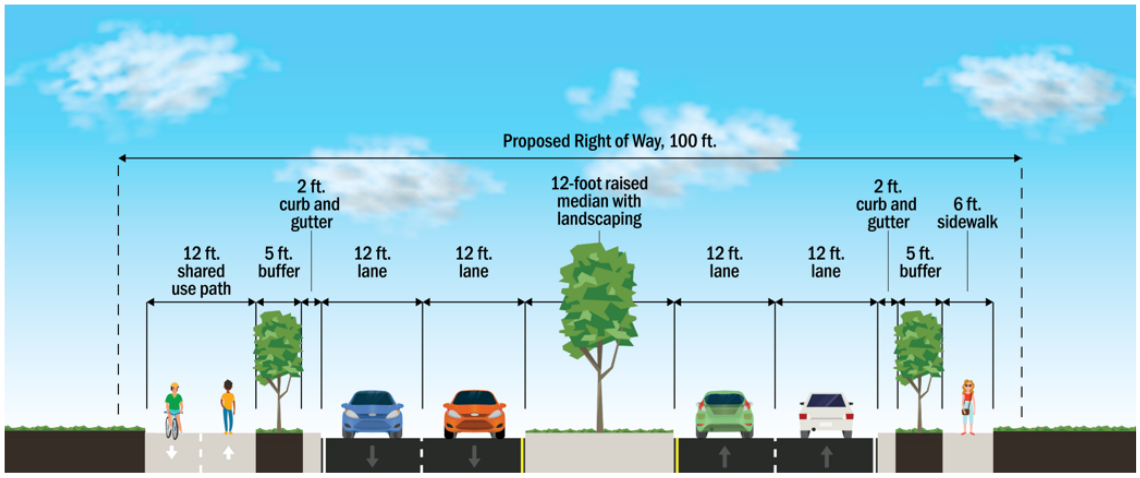
Technical analysis, environmental considerations, and input from property owners, stakeholders and the public are all used to select a preferred alignment option that best meets the needs of the area and minimizes impacts to property owners and the environment.

Alignment Alternative B has been selected for realigning Chaparral Road from Chaparral High School to E. Trimmier Road. This alignment was preferred by the community and is the best option for improving safety and reducing current and projected traffic congestion. This option also includes the least amount of traffic disruptions during construction and has the lowest construction cost of all the previously proposed alternatives.

Alignment Alternative C is the selected alignment for realigning Chaparral Road from Rosewood Drive to FM 3481 (Stillhouse Lake Road). Alignment Alternative C has the lowest construction cost of the options evaluated and received the majority of community support.

Proposed Roadway Configuration

Chaparral Road from SH 195 to Trimmier Creek



Chaparral Road Improvements Public Hearing

Chaparral Road is currently one lane in each direction, with deteriorating pavement and no shoulders. This project is proposing to widen the roadway to two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction with curb and gutter, a 12-foot-wide landscaped median, a 12-foot shared-use path on the north side of the roadway, and a 6-foot sidewalk on the south side of the roadway.

This roadway configuration improves safety and adds traffic capacity to relieve current and projected congestion, while the roundabouts provide opportunities to slow traffic and incorporate landscaping features to enhance the character of the area.

Proposed Roadway Configuration

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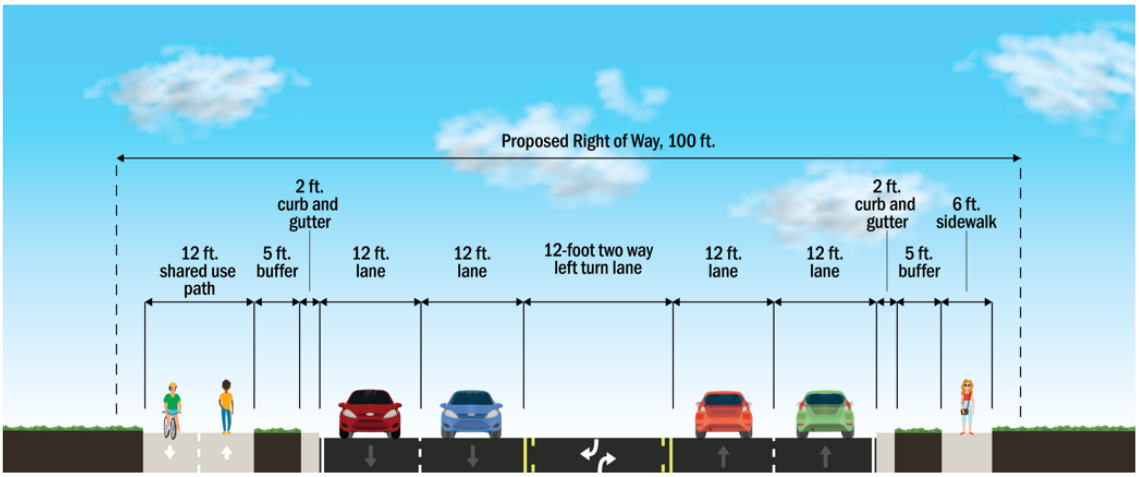
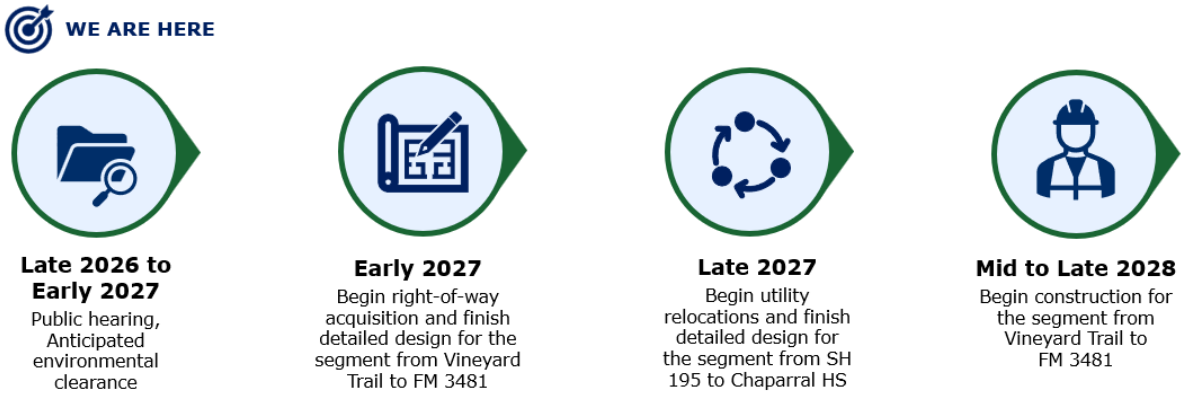
Chaparral Road from Trimmier Creek to FM 3481 (Stillhouse Lake Road)



Chaparral Road Improvements Public Hearing

The roadway configuration for the segment of Chaparral Road from Trimmier Creek to FM 3481 includes a center-turn lane rather than a raised median.

Next Steps and Timeline



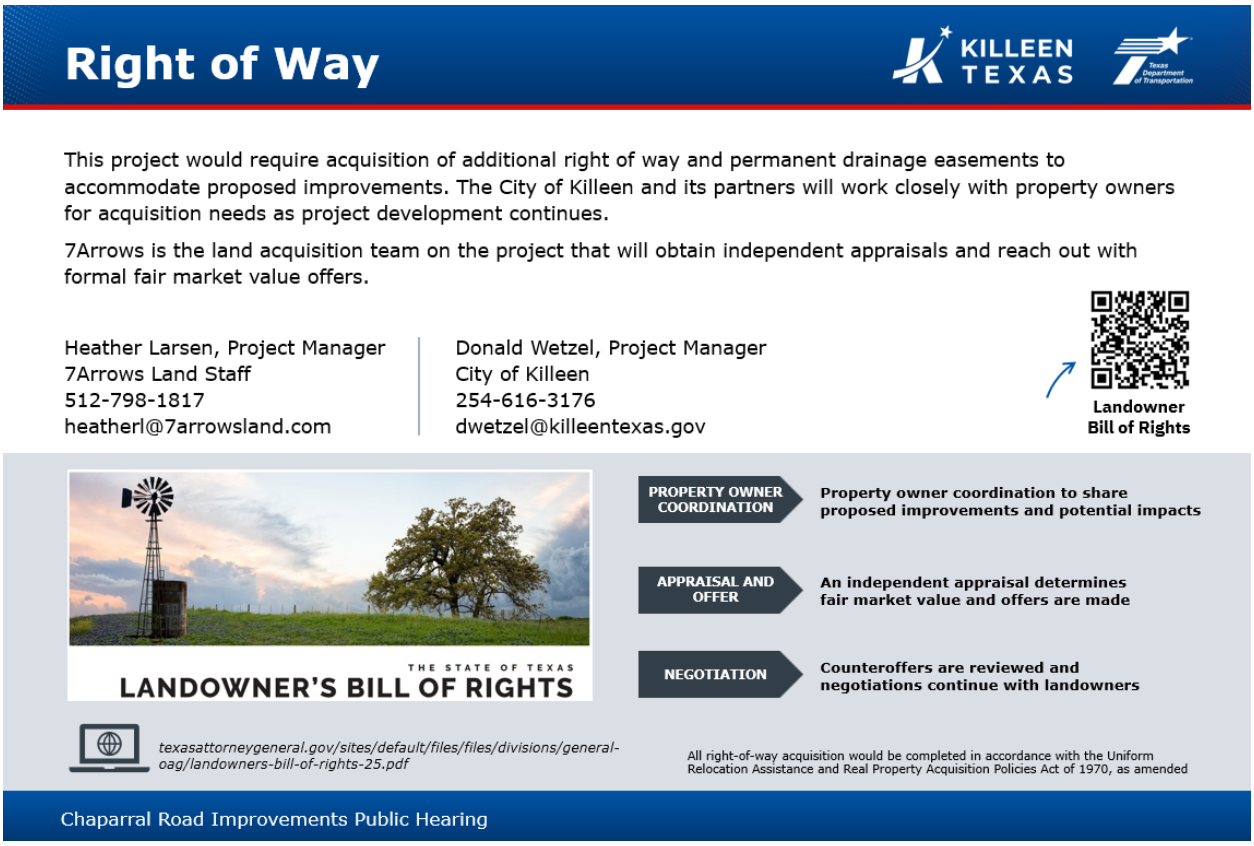
The design for Chaparral Road from Chaparral High School to Vineyard Trail will move forward as funding is identified.

Chaparral Road Improvements Public Hearing

The City of Killeen has completed preliminary design, and this public hearing is now being held to gather additional feedback from the community to finalize environmental documentation in preparation for environmental clearance and prepare detailed design plans for various segments along the corridor.

After the public hearing period closes, any necessary changes to project design plans and environmental documentation would be completed, and TxDOT would provide an Environmental Decision, anticipated by late 2026. Next steps include right-of-way negotiation and acquisition, and completion of detailed design plans for the segment from Vineyard Trail to FM 3481, anticipated to begin in early 2027. In late 2027, the City will begin coordination for utility relocations and complete design for the segment between SH 195 to Chaparral High School.

This project is currently partially funded. This project will be constructed in phases beginning with the segments from Vineyard Trail to FM 3481 and from SH 195 to Chaparral High School, anticipated to begin as early as mid-2028. The segment of Chaparral Road from Chaparral High School to Vineyard Trail is not currently funded for detailed design or construction, but will move forward once funding is identified.



This project would require acquisition of additional right of way and permanent drainage easements to accommodate proposed improvements. The City of Killeen and its partners will work closely with property owners as project development continues and design details are confirmed.

7Arrows is the land acquisition team on the project that will obtain independent appraisals and reach out with formal fair-market value offers to property owners impacted by right-of-way and easement acquisition.

All acquisition will be completed in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended.

Property owners with questions about their property or the acquisition process may contact Heather Larsen with 7Arrows Land Staff at 512-798-1817 or heatherl@7arrowsland.com. You can also reach out to the City of Killeen Project Manager, Donald Wetzel at 254-616-3176 or dwetzel@killeentexas.gov.

Property owners are encouraged to review the Texas Landowner's Bill of Rights by visiting texasattorneygeneral.gov.

The information shared in this virtual hearing will remain available on our project webpage. We welcome any feedback on the information presented and the proposed project plans. While your input is welcome at any time, comments must be received or postmarked by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, August 28, 2026, to be included in official hearing documentation.

Written comments may be provided via comment form at the in-person meeting, by email to chaparralroadproject@lja.com, by mail to Chaparral Road Improvements, c/o CD&P, PO Box 5459, Austin, Texas, 78763. Official verbal testimony can be provided via voicemail by calling 512-354-1499.

TxDOT and the City of Killeen will review and consider all comments received to finalize environmental documentation in preparation for environmental clearance and prepare detailed design plans for various segments along the corridor.