1

Table of Contents

1	Hamilton Truck / Relief Route Feasibility Study Area Map	3
2	Feasibility Study Information	3-12
3	Widening Project Location Map	14
4	Widening Project Information	13-22
5	Comments	23

2

Hamilton Truck / Relief Route Feasibility Study Area

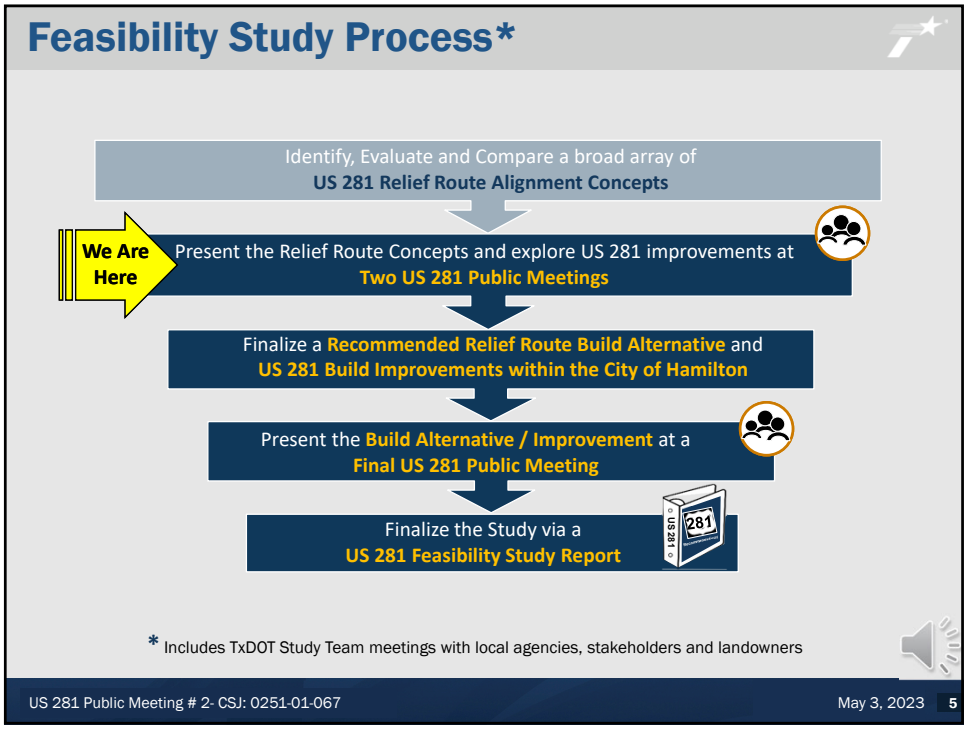
3

Feasibility Study Goals

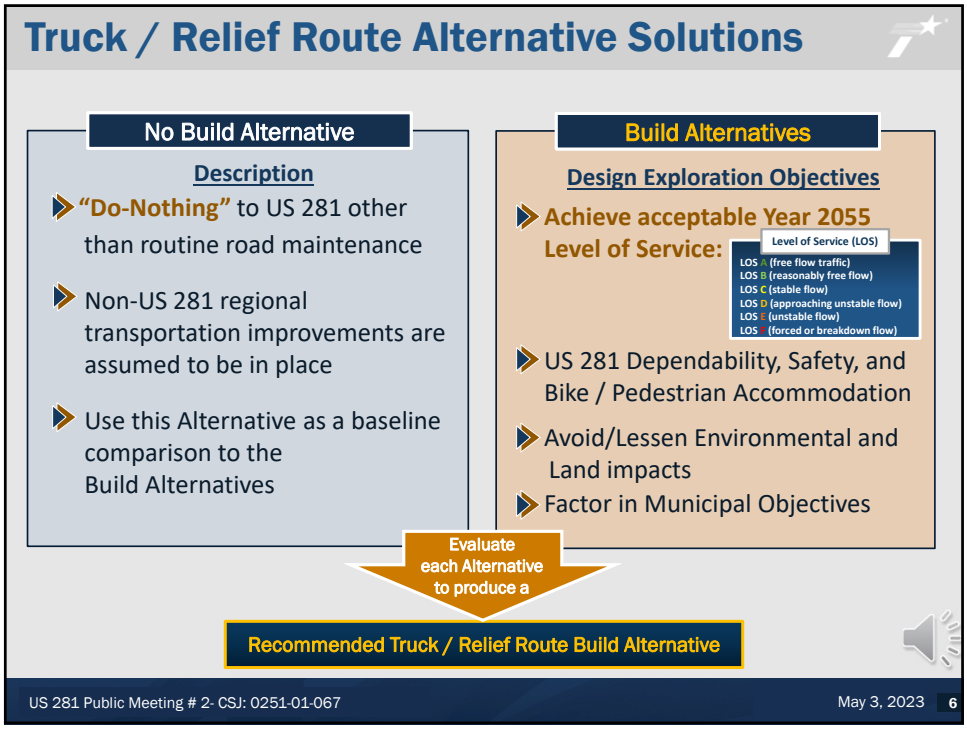
Identify **US 281 Truck / Relief Route Alignment Options** to alleviate US 281 traffic congestion within the City of Hamilton and evaluate the options based on criteria which will include:

- Mobility
- Safety which includes Truck / Relief Route accommodation of hazardous truck cargo
- Traffic Operations
- Natural & Human Environments

4


Feasibility Study Process*
Identify, Evaluate and Compare a broad array of
US 281 Relief Route Alignment Concepts
We Are Here
Present the Relief Route Concepts and explore US 281 improvements at
Two US 281 Public Meetings
Finalize a Recommended Relief Route Build Alternative and
US 281 Build Improvements within the City of Hamilton
Present the Build Alternative / Improvement at a
Final US 281 Public Meeting
Finalize the Study via a
US 281 Feasibility Study Report
* Includes TxDOT Study Team meetings with local agencies, stakeholders and landowners
US 281 Public Meeting # 2- CSJ: 0251-01-067
May 3, 2023
5

5


Truck / Relief Route Alternative Solutions
No Build Alternative
Description
"Do-Nothing" to US 281 other than routine road maintenance
Non-US 281 regional transportation improvements are assumed to be in place
Use this Alternative as a baseline comparison to the Build Alternatives
Build Alternatives
Design Exploration Objectives
Achieve acceptable Year 2055 Level of Service:
Level of Service (LOS)
LOS A (free flow traffic)
LOS B (reasonably free flow)
LOS C (stable flow)
LOS D (approaching unstable flow)
LOS E (unstable flow)
LOS F (forced or breakdown flow)
US 281 Dependability, Safety, and Bike / Pedestrian Accommodation
Avoid/Lessen Environmental and Land impacts
Factor in Municipal Objectives
Evaluate each Alternative to produce a
Recommended Truck / Relief Route Build Alternative
US 281 Public Meeting # 2- CSJ: 0251-01-067
May 3, 2023
6

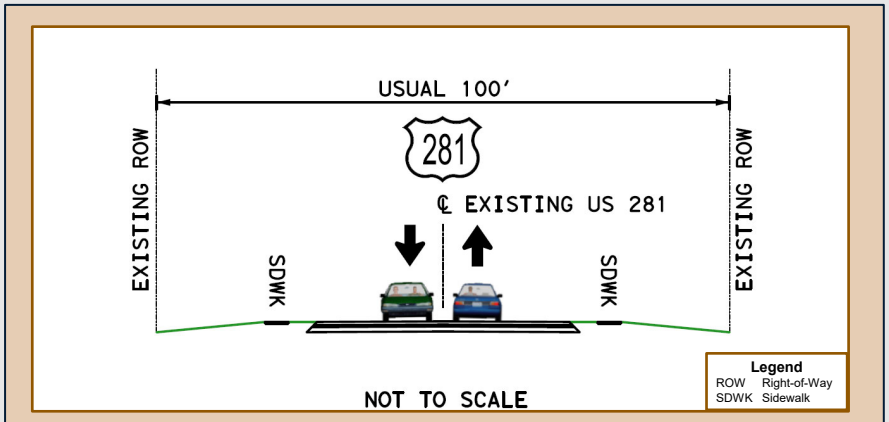
6

Truck / Relief Route: Current Alignment Concepts

- The current Truck / Relief Route alternative alignment concepts are presented at this public meeting for public review and comment
- These Diagrammatics will also be available for inspection at www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings/waco/us281-hamilton-relief-route-feasibility-study-and-widening-project.html.
- The public is also invited to present other concepts to the Department

7

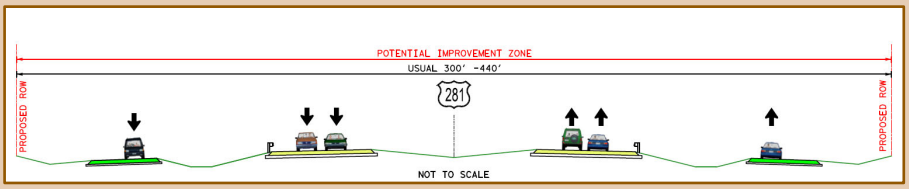
Existing US 281 within the City of Hamilton



EXISTING
(Travel Lanes, Shoulder Widths, Sidewalks & Parking vary throughout Downtown Hamilton)

8

Truck / Relief Route: New Location Roadway Option

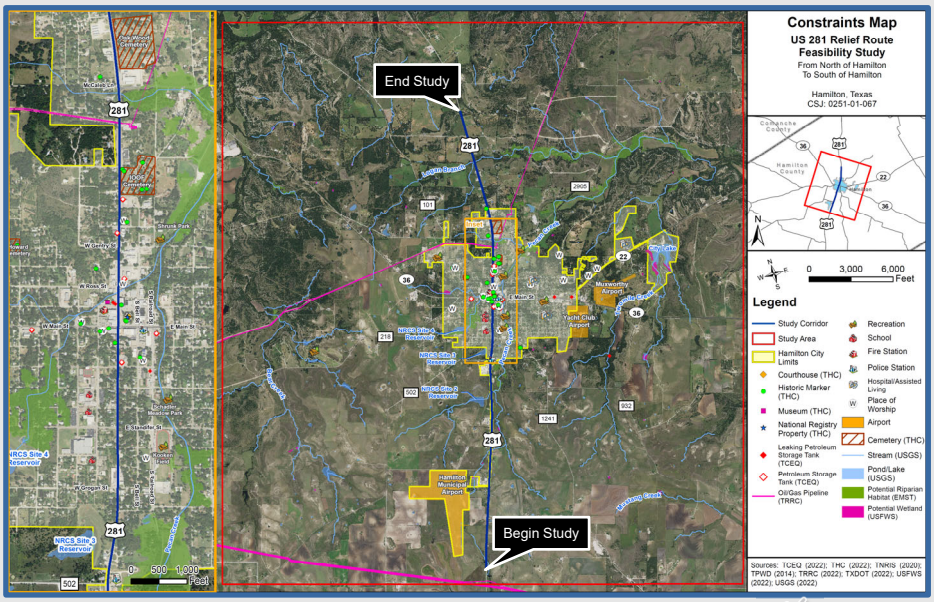


RELIEF ROUTE OPTION
(Ramp, Frontage Road, and Turning Lane locations to be evaluated / determined)

NOTE: Detailed dimensions will be determined during subsequent Relief Route Schematic Design, Environmental Analyses & Public Involvement phases.

9

Truck / Relief Route: Environmental Constraints Map



10

Directing US 281 Travelers to Downtown Hamilton

Guide Signs

Directed Guidance and permitted traffic movements

City Pride Sign Program *(city option)*

Names and Logos of welcoming civic organizations displayed near the city limits

Logo Sign Program *(city and business option)*

Consumer Attraction Signs highlighting go-to sites and services such as gas, food, lodging, camping, 24-hour pharmacies, and tourist attractions

Gateway Signs *(city option)*

Appealing first impression, sense of arrival Monuments bordering communities and downtown districts

11

Timeline and Next Steps*

"Next Steps" after this Feasibility Study

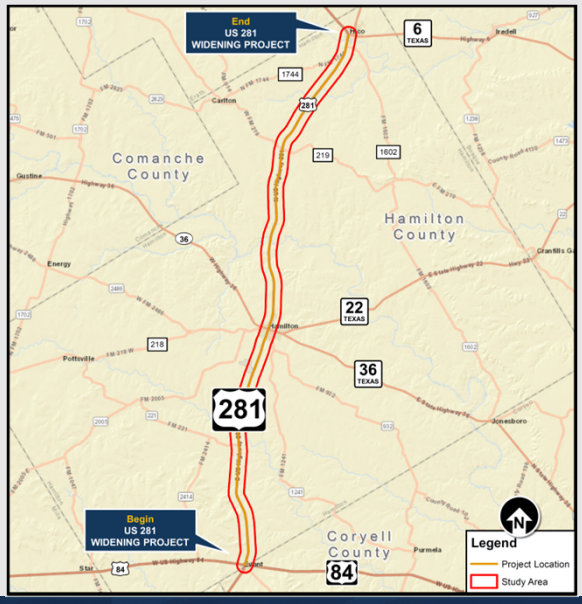
*Subject to Change

12

Widening Project
US 281 from US 84 (Evant, TX) to SH 6 (Hico, TX)

13

Widening Project: Location



14

Widening Project Goals

Identify **US 281 Alternatives** to alleviate US 281 traffic congestion within Hamilton County and evaluate the options based on criteria which will include:

- Mobility & Safety
- Traffic Operations
- Natural & Human Environments

As statewide travel, local developments, and residential populations continue to increase traffic volumes and travel demand, it is important to plan for and produce a RELIABLE & OPERATIONALLY EFFICIENT US 281 CORRIDOR

15

Widening Project Process*

Identify, Evaluate and Compare various US 281 Widening Concepts

We Are Here

Present Concept Alternatives and Explore Other Alternatives at **Two US 281 Public Meetings**

Initiate **US 281 Draft Preliminary Design Schematics and NEPA Document (Environmental Assessment)**

Present the **Draft Preliminary Design Schematics** at a **US 281 Public Meeting**

Present **Final Schematics** and **NEPA Document** at a **US 281 Public Hearing**

* Includes various TxDOT Project Team meetings with local agencies, stakeholders and landowners

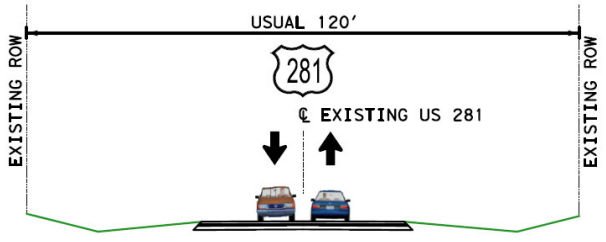
16

Current Widening Alignment Concepts

- The current Widening alternative alignment concepts are presented at this public meeting for public review and comment
- These Diagrammatics will also be available for inspection at www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings/waco/us281-hamilton-relief-route-feasibility-study-and-widening-project.html.
- The public is also invited to present other concepts to the Department

17

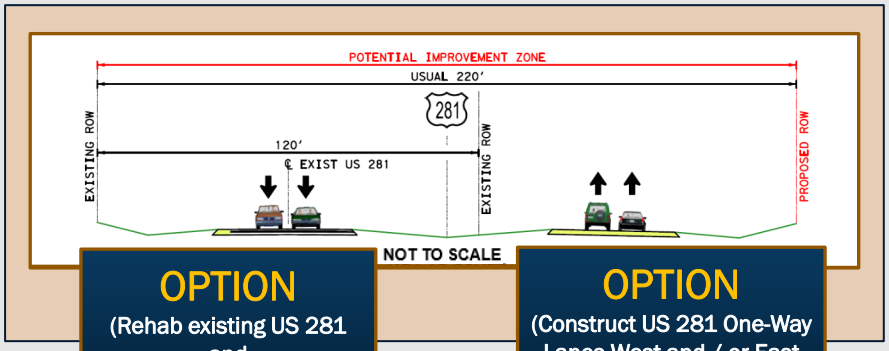
Existing US 281 within Hamilton County



EXISTING
(Number of Travel Lanes and Shoulder Widths vary along US 281 throughout Hamilton County)

18

Widening Project: Roadway Widening Options



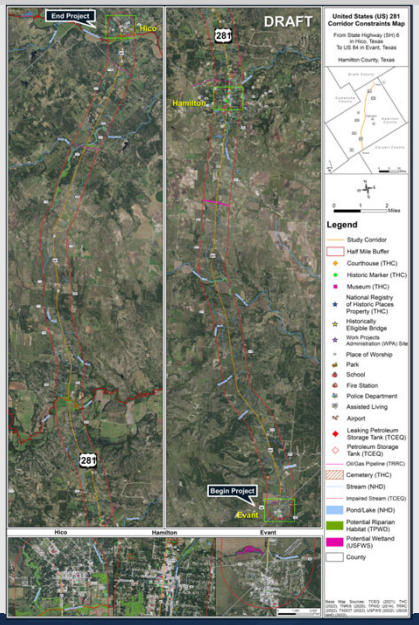
OPTION
(Rehab existing US 281 and Convert Lanes to One-Way)

OPTION
(Construct US 281 One-Way Lanes West and / or East of Existing US 281)

NOTE: Detailed dimensions will be determined during subsequent Relief Route Schematic Design, Environmental Analyses & Public Involvement phases.

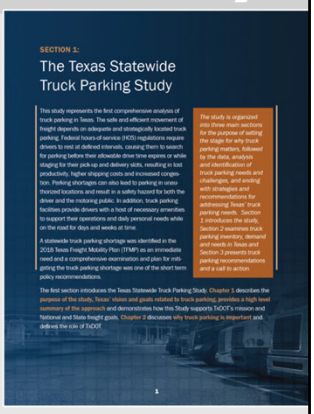
19

Widening Project: Environmental Constraints Map



20

Exploring US 281 Truck Parking



STUDY PURPOSE
Assess and address existing and future truck parking needs with practical, innovative and cost-effective strategies

SOURCE: txdot.gov/pub/txdot/move-texas-freight/studies/truck-parking/final-report.pdf

- Truck Parking / Rest Areas can also serve haul type vehicles such as equestrian event horse trailers
- Current data indicates approximately 16.5% of the US 281 traffic in Hamilton County are trucks
- TxDOT's 2019 Roadway Inventory Database lists the following US 281 2018 Average Annual Daily Traffic volumes which are forecasted to increase through design year 2055:
  - 199 to 248 Single Unit trucks
  - 393 to 550 Tractor Trailer Trucks (The highest volume occurs near downtown Hamilton)

Example: Unauthorized Truck Parking in Midland, TX

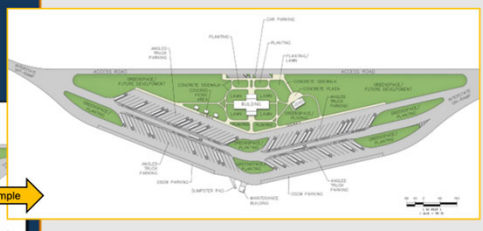
21

Exploring US 281 Truck Parking Continued

ILLUSTRATIVE CONCEPTS FOR NEW TRUCK PARKING FACILITIES

1. New Dedicated Truck Parking Facility (Adjacent to a Highway) – Est. $9,370,000.00
   a. Site survey: 2-3 months
   b. Detailed site design: 12-18 months
   c. Environmental clearance: 6-12 months, TCEQ coordination: 3 months
   d. Right of way review: 1-2 months
   e. Right of way purchase (if necessary): 8-12 month
   f. Utilities examination: 4-6 months
   g. Permitting: 8-12 months depending on location
   h. Construction: 12-18 months

Example



SOURCE: txdot.gov/pub/txdot/move-texas-freight/studies/truck-parking/final-report.pdf

2. Fort Davis Picnic Area: Example of Repurposing an Existing Picnic Area to a Dedicated Truck Parking Facility – Est. $3,260,000
   a. Site survey: 2-3 months
   b. Detailed site design: 10-12 months
   c. Environmental clearance (if necessary): 6-12 months, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) coordination: 3 months
   d. Right of way review: 1-2 months
   e. Right of way purchase (if necessary): 8-12 months
   f. Utilities examination: 4-6 months
   g. Permitting: 8-12 months depending on location
   h. Construction: 10-16 months

SOURCE: txdot.gov/pub/txdot/move-texas-freight/studies/truck-parking/final-report.pdf

22

Comments

Submit Your Comments
during or after this Public Meeting

Mail: **US 281 Study Team**
C/O Bartlett & West, Inc.
9330 LBJ Frwy., Suite 1150
Dallas, TX 75243-3497

Email: US281.Hamilton@civilassociates.com

Phone: (254) 867-2700

SCAN ME

Website: www.txdot.gov/projects/projects-studies/waco/us281.html

*Anytime there are any questions during the study process, please use the contact information above.

*Written comments must be received or postmarked on or before **May 18, 2023** to be included in the Public Meeting Documentation*

23

Thank you for your interest in the US 281 Hamilton Truck / Relief Route Feasibility Study and Widening Project

Texas Department of Transportation

24