

**January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Barton Hills Neighborhood Association  
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order.

Minutes approved with correction.

**Announcements –**

Cub Scout Pack 14 is doing a Food Drive through January 31, 2014. Items can be dropped off at 2607 Barton Hills Drive

Carol Mann has volunteered and is now our Membership Outreach Chair

**Treasurer's Report –**

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Previous Balance        | \$ 26,129.56 |
| Deposits                | \$ 3,218.00  |
| Expenses                | \$ 5,422.26  |
| Receivables Outstanding | \$ 1,237.50  |
| Paypal                  | \$ 342.15    |

Current Balance includes Petty Cash for Meeting

**\$ 24,317.45**

**Barton Hills Community Park - Roy Smithers, Melanie Gantt, and Eric Miller. Shawn Cooper with PARD also present**

Phase 1A is complete – which included the boulders, erosion control (dry river bed) and mulching around the trees near the NE side of the park.

Phase 1B is underway – Placed are the Blazer Blocks along the perimeter, portions of the riprap are removed. A new trail for pedestrian access to the park will be laid by a local boy scout seeking his Eagle badge with the assistance of the contractor. The trail will extend from the sidewalk along Barton Hills Dr. and run along the face of the hill to the loop running track. There will also be new plantings and low limestone walls to prevent erosion caused by large rain events. A rain garden will be installed, terracing, seeding of grasses and wildflowers.

Phase 2 – Playground. Many items discussed and engagement. Highlights of natural materials, mounding and undulating forms, and elliptical pieces. Goal is summer installation. Sadly the embankment slide won't work with our grade.

Future phases will be adapted from the Master Plan document.

All efforts appreciated and everyone thanked.

### **ANC Report – Tom Nuckols**

Focus is now on Code Next (the Land Development Code rewrite). Current focus in particular is Community Character with upcoming Community Character is a Box Meetings. Need photo documentation of residential and commercial uses. Strengths and Weaknesses. Over 8,000 different proposals in for the rewrite committee. One of those was a setback reduction, discussion ensued regarding effects of proposal.

### **Neighborhood Watch – John Luther**

Since our last report

20 - Incidents

3 Car Theft

6 Burglary

5 Thefts

4 Burglary of Vehicles

3 Criminal Mischief

24 Folks for our 1300 Homes. Not enough folks to consider doing a lot of nights

Many burglary of a vehicles – Car left unlocked or Items left in view inside. LOCK YOUR CAR!!!

NW has the ability to ask for directed patrol if there is a problem area.

### **Area Development Committee – Peter Hess**

Discussions regarding Code Next - concerns on density changes to SF-3. Discussions on some of area character SOS regulations, deed restrictions, etc...

Bluebonnet Hills updated mainly spearheaded by Zilker Neighborhood. Discussions about the dye test and Urban Watershed vs. SOS.

Update regarding the pedestrian bicycle bridge adjacent to the Mopac Bridge to connect Oak Hill to Downtown.

### **Greenbelt Guardians**

Next work day is March 1<sup>st</sup> working at Homedale. Bridge recovery, invasive removal, trail maintenance, and trash removal.

Working on grant coordination. Several Interested Parties to coordinate with issues regarding winrows and endangered species – TexasCor, Watershed, AFD, and PARD. A little perplexing on consensus to get the specific and future projects going.

Some discussions on possible slash removal.

### **Membership Outreach - Carol Mann**

There is an e-mail created for suggestions and as very open to ideas. In addition to our Spring Fling and Independence Day Parade looking for our interests

Kids Co-Op?

Vegetable Co-Op?

BH Cares?

[Bartonhillsoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:Bartonhillsoutreach@gmail.com)

### **Presentation from Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority – Mario Esponinoza and Patricia Bruck with Jacobs**

In the process of an Environmental Study for Mopac from the river to Slaughter Lane. North of the river improvements are in process. Addition of one lane in the existing RoW (at this time no elevated structures are proposed). The additional lane is to be more of an Express Lane, Van Pool, Cap Metro lane. From the river to Parmer improvements are 11 miles and cost is 160 million.

Studying to see the many factors for improvements from the river to Slaughter which is 8 miles and much different terrain.

Many items discussed. Different transit options.

Rail

Bicycles as commuting

Concerns on tolls

Hand out attached for ease of additional information.

**Meeting Adjourned**



## THE PROBLEM

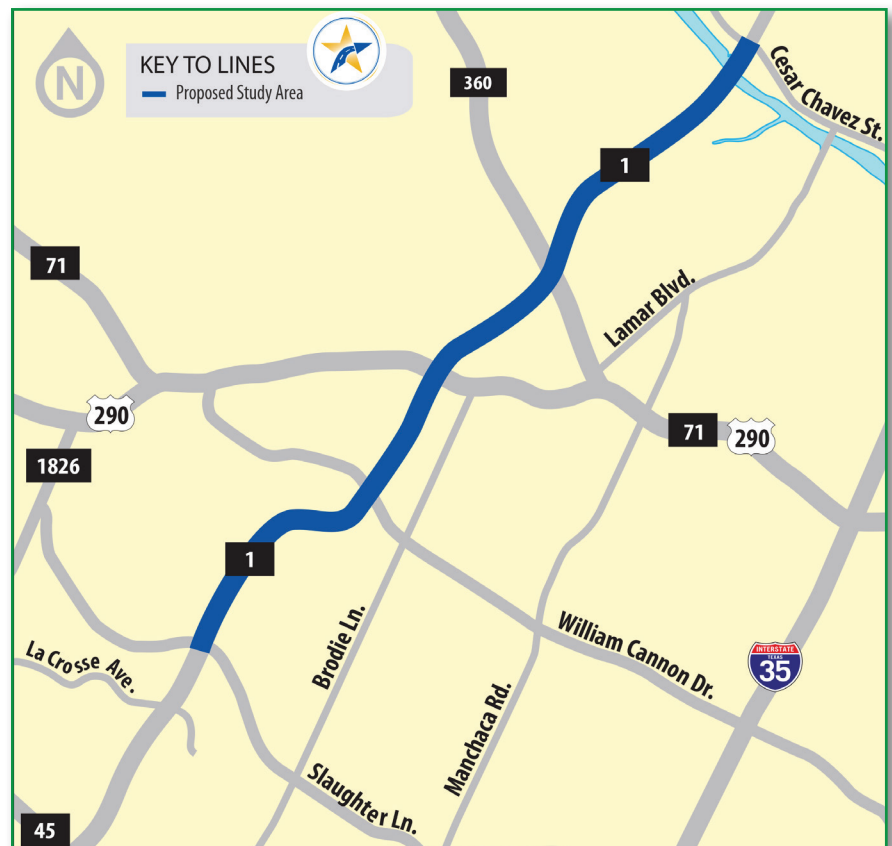
MoPac Expressway south of Lady Bird Lake is a vital artery for Austin commuters and neighbors, as well as visitors to our region. Constructed between 1973 and 2013 as a four to six lane divided highway, it attracts up to 150,000 cars and trucks per day. The corridor provides access to neighborhoods, schools, businesses, parks and trails, and recreational centers, all of which would benefit from enhanced mobility and safety. Over time, residential, retail and commercial development in the corridor has led to increased traffic congestion, negatively impacting mobility and quality of life for the traveling public and adjacent neighborhoods.

## IDENTIFYING A SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION

The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (Mobility Authority) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) are working with the City of Austin, Capital Metro and other local partners to improve mobility on approximately eight miles of the MoPac Expressway from Cesar Chavez Street to Slaughter Lane.

An environmental study has been initiated to determine the best alternatives for improving mobility and safety. Over the course of the study, a full range of alternatives will be developed that will take into account the needs of drivers, transit riders, bicyclists and pedestrians, as well as surrounding businesses, neighborhoods and the environment. Analysis of engineering feasibility as well as social, economic and environmental impacts of each alternative will be conducted. With this information and public input, the study team will identify a recommended alternative. Throughout the process, the community will be consulted on a wide range of topics, including:

- ▶ Purpose for and need of improvements to MoPac
- ▶ Alternatives and roadway design
- ▶ Bicycle and pedestrian accommodations
- ▶ Corridor aesthetics
- ▶ Neighborhood access and connectivity
- ▶ Environmental considerations



## ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The study will assess the potential impacts of proposed transportation improvements on the environment. The following resources will be studied: threatened and endangered species and other wildlife, water quality, trees and other vegetation, cultural resources, traffic noise, air quality, socio-economic resources, geology and soils, visual and aesthetic resources, parkland and other recreational facilities.

## CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS

The study team is also initiating a Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) process, so that any mobility improvements not only meet the needs of the community they serve, but fit into the physical setting while reflecting the unique features and characteristics of the project area.

## PUBLIC INPUT

The study team is committed to maintaining open communication with residents, local leaders and businesses in the area, as well as the traveling public, to ensure that the study reflects the needs and input of the community and its various stakeholders. Throughout this process, the study team will:

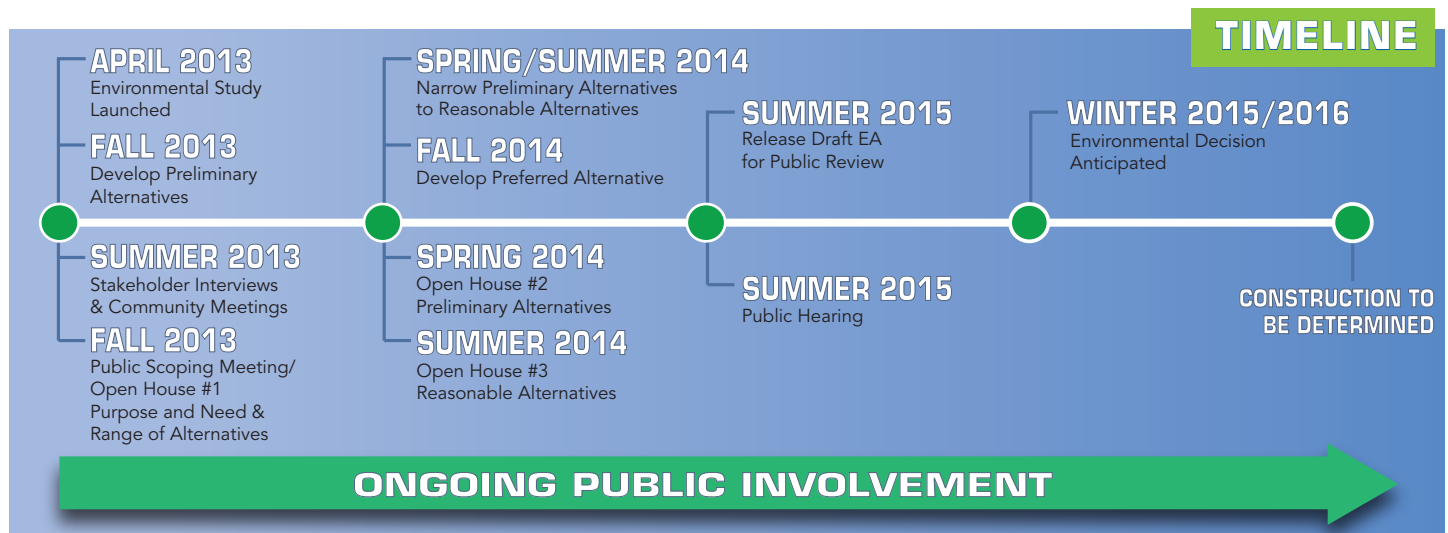
- ▶ Conduct open houses
- ▶ Publish newsletters
- ▶ Visit with neighborhood groups and other stakeholders
- ▶ Share information online and via social media

## HOW TO GET AND STAY INVOLVED

We welcome your feedback and questions about the **MoPac South Environmental Study**. To learn more or to request a presentation for your group:

Contact: **Melissa Hurst**, *Community Outreach Manager*, Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority  
Email: [mhurst@ctrma.org](mailto:mhurst@ctrma.org) | Phone: (512) 996-9778

Please visit the Website at: [www.MoPacSouth.com](http://www.MoPacSouth.com) for information and to sign up for updates.



The study is expected to take 2-3 years to complete.

## IS THIS PROJECT RELATED TO THE MOPAC INTERSECTIONS ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY?

At the same time the Mopac South Environmental Study is underway, a separate study is being conducted to assess possible mobility and safety improvements at the intersections of MoPac Expressway with Slaughter Lane and La Crosse Avenue. For more information about this study, contact **Melissa Hurst** at [mhurst@ctrma.org](mailto:mhurst@ctrma.org) or (512) 996-9778.