



June 2007

Stay in the Loop

Texas Department of Transportation Announces Public Meetings to Provide Information Regarding the New Braunfels Outer Loop Study

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct two identical public meetings to provide information regarding the New Braunfels Outer Loop Study. Because the study covers such a large area, there will be two identical public meetings — one on the east side of IH 35 and one on the west side of IH 35. TxDOT wants to make the meetings accessible to all residents to maximize public involvement in the planning process. At these meetings the public will have the opportunity to learn more about and comment on the study's need and purpose and identified environmental constraints, to date. Maps and other drawings will be available for public viewing as well. The first two public meetings will be held:

Eastern Public Meeting

Monday, June 25, 2007

Canyon High School OR
1510 IH 35 East
New Braunfels, Texas 78130
6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Western Public Meeting

Wednesday, June 27, 2007

Hoffmann Lane Elementary School
4600 FM 306
New Braunfels, Texas 78132
6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

The public meetings will consist of:

- Open House — 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Study Overview — 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Station Discussions — 7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.
- Station Reports — 7:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Question & Answer Session — 8:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding this study are requested. Comments may be presented during or after the public meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the study team at:

New Braunfels Outer Loop Study
c/o RJ RIVERA Associates, Inc.
7410 Blanco Road, Suite 250
San Antonio, Texas 78216

faxed to (210) 340-5664 or
e-mailed to info@nbolstudy.com

“New Braunfels is seeing significant growth and the identification of a corridor would give the city a tool to preserve the right of way needed before land is developed for residential or commercial use.”

— Greg Malatek, TxDOT



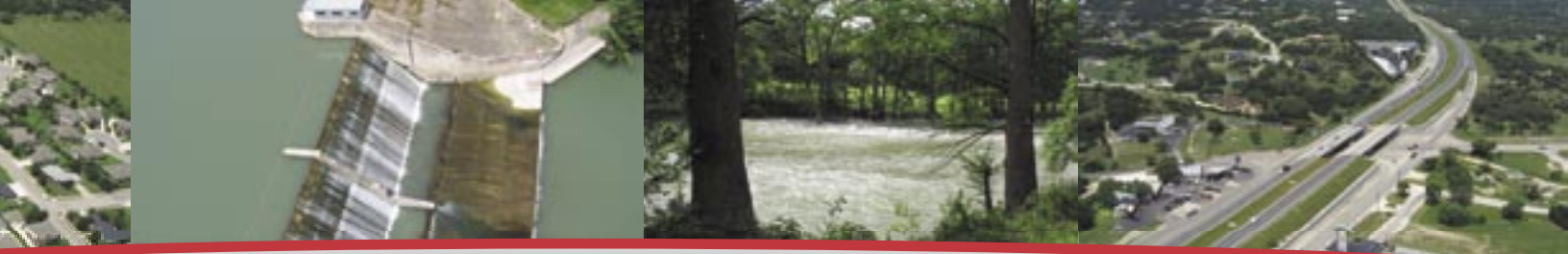
The study will follow the guidelines set forth by the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, which in part states that “it is the continuing policy of the federal Government... to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony for future generations of Americans.” Following these guidelines will help us identify a corridor that minimizes impacts to the human and natural environment.

What Is The New Braunfels Outer Loop Study?

The City of New Braunfels has been experiencing steady growth in the last few years and the TxDOT has identified various areas with transportation needs throughout Comal and Guadalupe counties (see the Population Growth Chart on next page). The concept for the outer loop was first identified on the City of New Braunfels Major Thoroughfare Plan. TxDOT initiated the New Braunfels Outer Loop Study to help the City of New Braunfels further refine a route location so the city can plan appropriately as properties are developed.

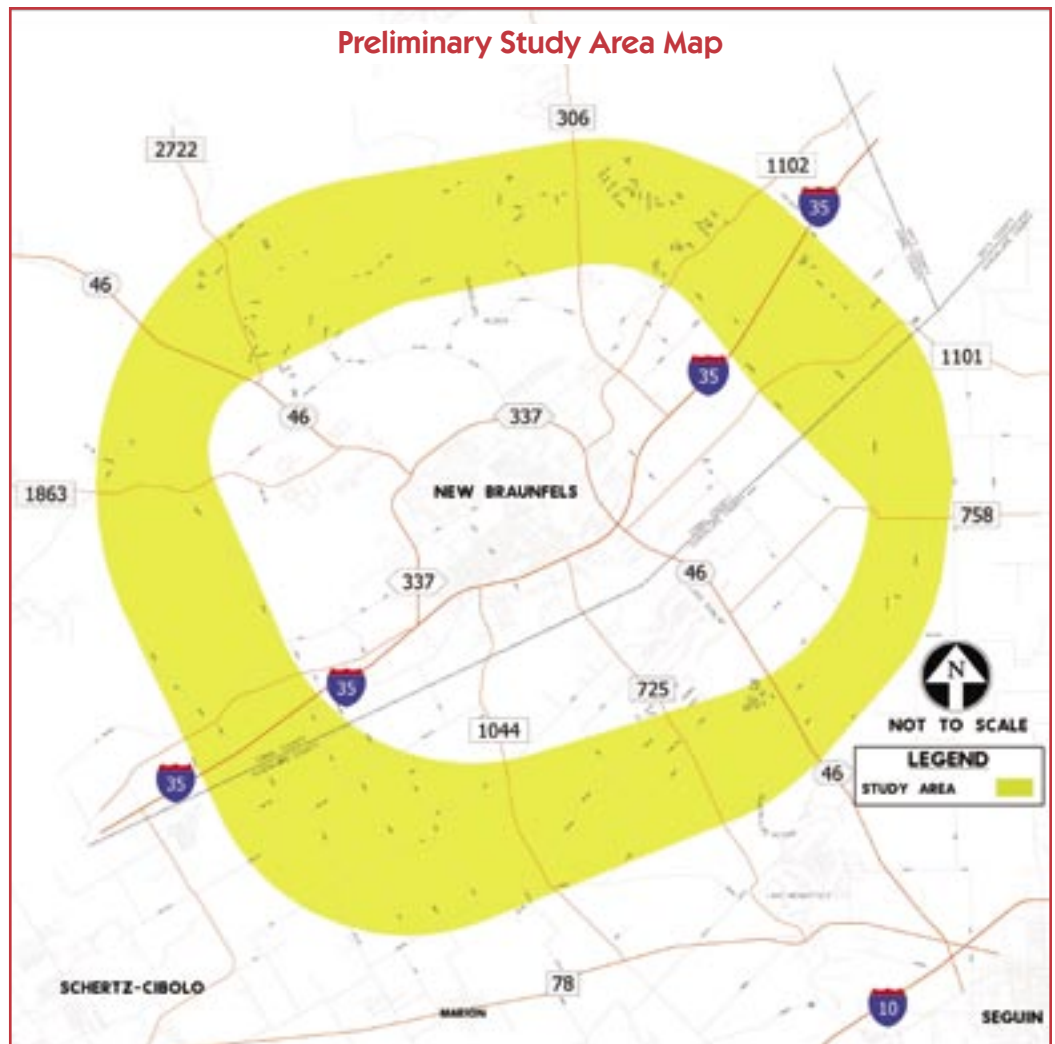
The study area is approximately a 40-mile band around the City of New Braunfels that encompasses portions of Comal and Guadalupe Counties (see the Study Area Map on next page). The outer loop could require two new crossings over the Guadalupe River and would connect to IH 35 on the north side of New Braunfels and to IH 35 on the south side of New Braunfels. The purpose of the study is to conduct the necessary planning and analysis needed to identify a corridor for the possible development of a New Braunfels Outer Loop. As previously stated, New Braunfels is seeing significant growth and the identification of a recommended corridor would give the city a tool to preserve the land (right of way) needed before the land is developed for residential or commercial use.

Comal County is the 12th fastest growing county in Texas and growth in this area is not slowing down. The unincorporated area around New Braunfels is experiencing a lot of commercial growth and roadway projects such as the outer loop offer opportunities to draw additional manufacturing business to the New Braunfels area. In Guadalupe County, flooding is a major concern and evacuation routes are an ever greater concern. The proposed outer loop would provide an additional crossing of the Guadalupe River in Guadalupe County between IH 35 and Lake McQueeney. This would provide an alternate route for residents during flooding and alleviate some of the choke points that currently exist.



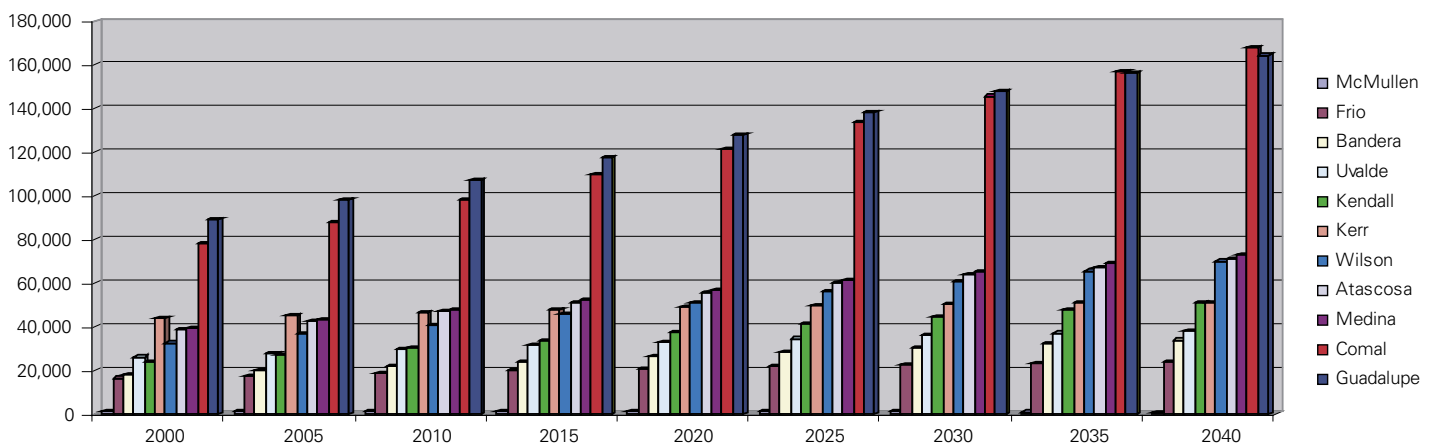
Overall, the study will seek to:

- Identify a potential corridor for land (right of way) preservation.
- Identify and prioritize segments of the loop that are needed sooner than others.
- Follow NEPA guidelines to ensure information collected can be used for the development of future environmental documents for the segments of independent utility.



Population Growth

Texas State Data Center and Office of the State Demographer, Population Projections 2000-2040



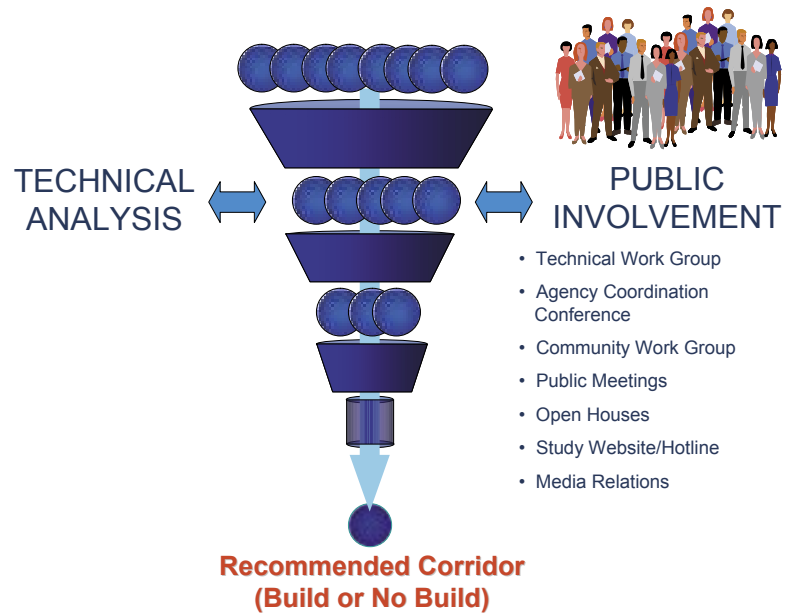
Public Involvement

Public involvement will be an on-going component of this study. TxDOT encourages anyone who is interested in this study to participate in the planning efforts. The overall public involvement campaign will span a period of approximately 12 months and will include several rounds of public meetings as well as two open houses at the end of the study to announce the study recommendation. TxDOT has also established a study hotline at **(866) 704-1114** and a study website at **www.nbolstudy.com** to provide additional information to the public.

TxDOT encourages all community members to stay involved by:

- Adding your name to the study mailing list
- Contacting the study team with questions, comments, or concerns
- Submitting written comment for consideration by the study team
- Attending public meetings and encouraging friends, neighbors, and relatives to do the same

Corridor Study Approach



Para recibir esta
información en Español,
llame al **(866) 704-1114**.

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