

Keeping Colleyville Moving STATE HIGHWAY 26 EXPANSION

Summer, 2003

PUBLIC PROCESS WORKING WELL!

TxDOT and design consultant appreciate community input

The Texas Department of Transportation and its design consultant, Teague Nall and Perkins, are following through on their commitment to public involvement during the development of improvements to SH 26.

Holding of a public meeting, creation of a citizens advisory panel, presentations to community groups, periodic newsletters and an informational web page have made this project one that truly belongs to the citizens of Colleyville, as well as several other communities along the highway corridor, said Gary Teague, president of the consulting firm and design team project manager.

"We have appreciated the interest shown by the entire community as well as the input provided by people who live and have businesses along the corridor," said Mr. Teague. The public meeting was attended by 128 people, and 42 written comments were received.

The Colleyville City Council established the SH 26 Citizens Advisory Committee in 2001 for the purpose of assisting the staff in their coordination with the design team as they considered how best to widen the roadway. Current members are Joe B. Allen, chair; Kim Gill; Joyce Hammill;

Ernest Hedgoth; Richard Hendler; Lorna McElaney; Dee McNosky; Larry T. Midtbo; Louis C. Miller; Butch Wallace; Kipp A. Whitman, and Curtis Young.

Presentations by Mr. Teague have also been given to a number of organizations including the Colleyville Business Alliance and Leadership Colleyville.

TxDOT and its design consultant have listened very carefully to the citizen comments, and in response to this community input have made several significant revisions to the project schematic.

Some of the changes include:

- 1** the addition of a left turn lane to provide local business access south of Cheek-Sparger Road;
- 2** the addition of a left turn lane to the Woodbridge Plaza shopping center, where Stein Mart and Starbucks Coffee are located;
- 3** the addition of a median opening at Acuff Street;
- 4** the addition of a median opening between Professional Court and Church Street, and
- 5** modifying the Bransford Road alignment.

Volume III, Number 1



View SH 26 online

The SH 26 website for Colleyville (www.colleyvilleblvd.com) has been updated and visitors may now view the latest design schematic online. The design schematic reflects the limits and geometry of the proposed widening, including median construction, median openings, left-turn lanes and driveway locations. Questions regarding the schematic should be directed to contact@colleyvilleblvd.com.

Making SH 26 more attractive

Approximately one percent of the TxDOT's budget for SH 26 is committed to aesthetic improvements along the roadway. Preliminary concepts that have been discussed include pavement enhancements at key intersections, median treatments, low maintenance landscape plantings with minimal watering requirements, and fascia treatments on bridges, culvert railings and abutments.

Environmental study key

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the SH 26 corridor between Loop 820 and SH 114, drafted by the design consultant team, is now under review by TxDOT in Austin as well as the Federal Highway Administration. Approval is expected in February 2004.

Approval of the EA is a critical element in the overall project schedule because right-of-way acquisition cannot begin until the EA is approved in its final form. Similarly, right-of-way acquisition must be complete before utilities can be adjusted to accommodate the roadway construction. And finally, the utilities must be adjusted before actual construction of the new roadway begins.

Upcoming SH26 Project Dates

Complete 60% Design Plans: Summer 2003

Complete Final Plans: Spring 2004

Public Hearing: Fall 2003

Begin Right-of-Way Acquisition: Spring 2004

EA Approval: February 2004