

**Hamilton Pool Rd. Bridge
Over Pedernales River**

**Meeting Notes
November 15, 2007**

Attendees

	Name	Organization	Telephone	Fax/Cell	E-Mail
1	Steven Manilla	Travis Co. (TNR - Public Works)	(512) 854-9429		steven.manilla@co.travis.tx.us
2	Massoud Mortazavi	Travis Co. (TNR - Public Works)	(512) 854-7589		mo.mortazavi@co.travis.tx.us
3	Benjamin Ramirez	TxDOT – S. Austin Area Office	(512) 292-2405		bramir4@dot.state.tx.us
4	Michael Hyzak	TxDOT – Bridge Division	(512) 416-2184		mhyzak@dot.state.tx.us
5	Sam Brooks	TxDOT – Bridge Division	(512) 416-2358		sbrooks@dot.state.tx.us
6	Keith Taylor	TxDOT – Austin District	(512) 832-7063		ktaylor@dot.state.tx.us
7	Joe Perez	TxDOT – Austin District	(512) 832-7092		jperez4@dot.state.tx.us

Meeting Notes

SUMMARY:

Purpose: Discussion between Travis County, Bridge Division, South Travis Area Office and Austin District of the feasible alternatives for the bridge considering the funding, political and design constraints.

- Advanced Funding Agreement has been executed between TxDOT and Travis County.
- Meeting began by Steve Manilla explaining how the citizens of the area feel about the project which can be described as those that a) want the bridge as-is b) only desire to improve the safety of the bridge by installing guardrail on it and on the approaches and c) a minority who realize the need for a bridge that is adequate for a 100 yr. event but only if it is a two lane bridge.
- Travis County's main concern is to mitigate all safety issues.
- Commissioner Daugherty has expressed concern to Travis County about investing too much on this project since Hamilton Pool Road is slated to become a MAD 4 (4 lanes divided) under CAMPO which required a 100 yr. event.
- Possibility of adding box culverts at east end of bridge or any sort of retrofit was brought up by Steve Manilla and Massoud Mortazavi as a way ease the public's concern.
- If the bridge is to be widened then Steve Manilla and Massoud Mortazavi prefer widening on one side since that would somewhat flatten the approach curves. Traffic control will be easier to handle and the bridge can be kept open while construction occurs.
- Steve Manilla stressed the importance of communicating and informing the public about this project since

one of the amendments passed by CAMPO on Oct. 8 emphasized the “content sensitive design” approach on Hamilton Pool Road from the Blanco Co. Line to SH 71 W.

- Sam Brooks asked how often the bridge overtops. Steve Manilla responded that it overtops frequently. A warning system is planned to be installed soon to warn motorists.
- Sam Brooks mentioned that the purpose for the Highway Bridge Program is to remove bridge deficiencies or replace bridge entirely if necessary.
- Keith Taylor asked Steve Manilla what event flood would be required to sufficiently improve the water adequacy rating of the bridge for his satisfaction. His response was whatever the estimate dictated.
- Massoud Mortazavi indicated that the 5, 10 or 15 yr. flood event could be design goals.
- Michael Hyzak expressed the need for a condition survey.
- Bridge Division comments: What is the true frequency of the bridge and to what frequency should the design be based on.

MEETING CONCLUSIONS:

- Assurances were made to both Steve Manilla and Massoud Mortazavi that the public will be fully involved in the environmental process. 2 or three alternative will be presented.
- Tom Rummel will be filled in on this meeting. He will be the Bridge Division’s point of contact from now on.
- Travis County will be responsible for any right-of-way and utility costs.
- Determine whether a condition survey is needed.
- The Bridge Division and the Austin District will discuss what roles each is going to be responsible for in this project.
- Proceed with obtaining hydraulic data.

ACTION ITEMS:

- After meeting concluded Lisa Novak was consulted to determine whether in fact the bridge was historic. Her response was that even though the Travis County Historical Commission may have concluded that the bridge was not historically significant that the Texas Historical Commission has to have the last say.
- Consult with Mike Walker (AUS-Environmental) whether current documentation is sufficient to assume that the bridge is not historic.
- Consult with AUS-BRINSAP to determine what event flood is required to raise the water adequacy rating up to a 4 as well as expected impact to report if safety concerns are mitigated.
- Consult with Hydraulic engineer to determine impact to creek thru the Bridge Replacement program.