

Loop 360 at Lakewood Drive/Spicewood Springs Road Project Update June 2020

The Loop 360 at Lakewood Drive/Spicewood Springs Road project includes:

- Removing the traffic signals on the Loop 360 mainlanes at Lakewood Drive, Spicewood Springs Road (W), and Spicewood Springs Road (E)/Bluffstone Drive.
- Adding an overpass (where the Loop 360 mainlanes go over the cross street) with non-signalized U-turns in both directions at Lakewood Drive and Spicewood Springs Road (E)/Bluffstone Drive.
- Adding shared-use paths and sidewalks within the project limits to improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodations.

TxDOT held two public workshops for the project:

- November 2018 for the Spicewood Springs Road intersection.
- June 2019 for the Spicewood Springs Road and Lakewood Drive intersections.

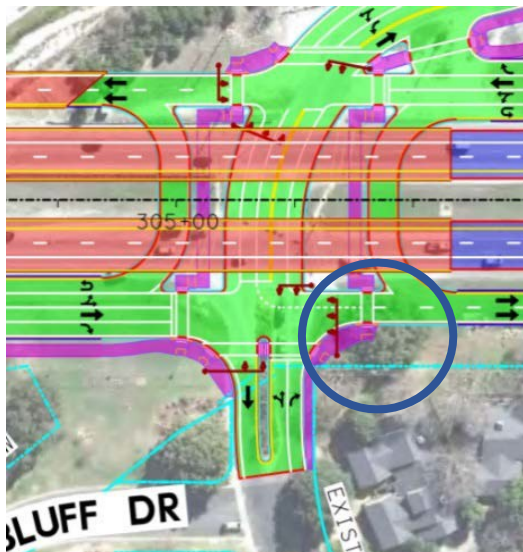
Project information, including a fact sheet and display boards, exhibits and handouts for each workshop, can be found online at: <http://loop360project.com/spicewoodspringsrd.htm>

Based on public input and evaluations, TxDOT is proposing updates and modifications to the design while still accommodating projected traffic volumes and meeting the goals of the project. Proposed updates include:

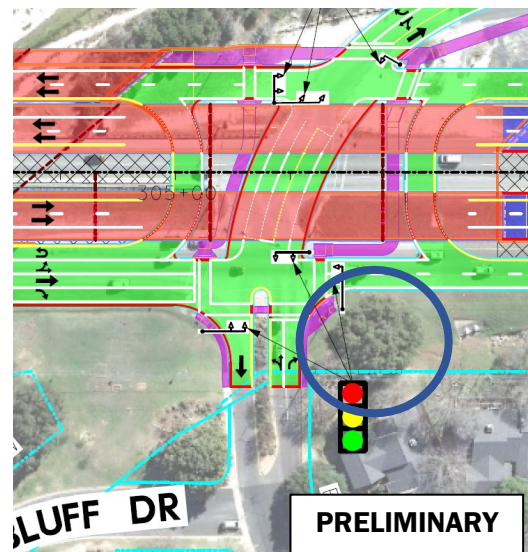
Lakewood Drive

- The Lakewood Drive concept presented in June 2019 required the removal of a large oak tree near the intersection of Lakewood Drive and Loop 360 (circled in blue below). In response to public feedback, TxDOT shifted the roadway approximately 50 feet to the east to avoid impacting the tree.

June 2019:

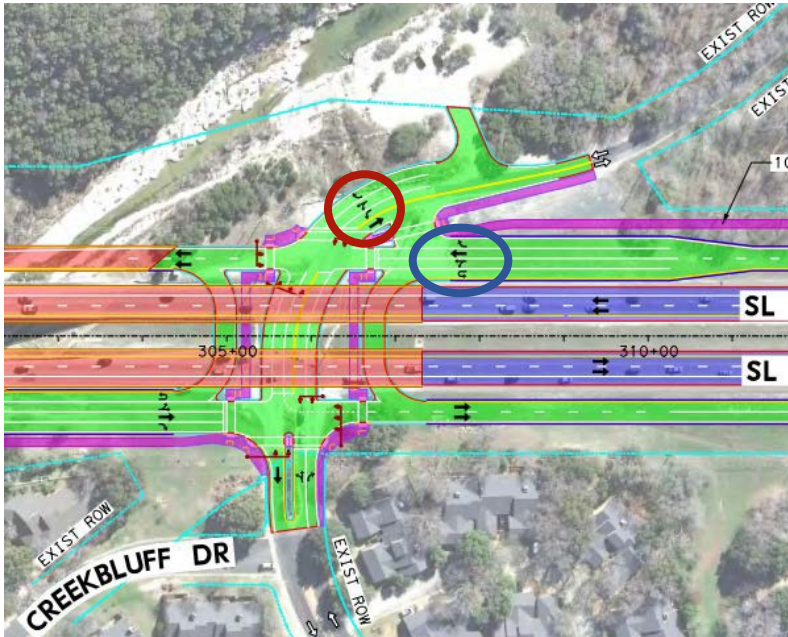


New:

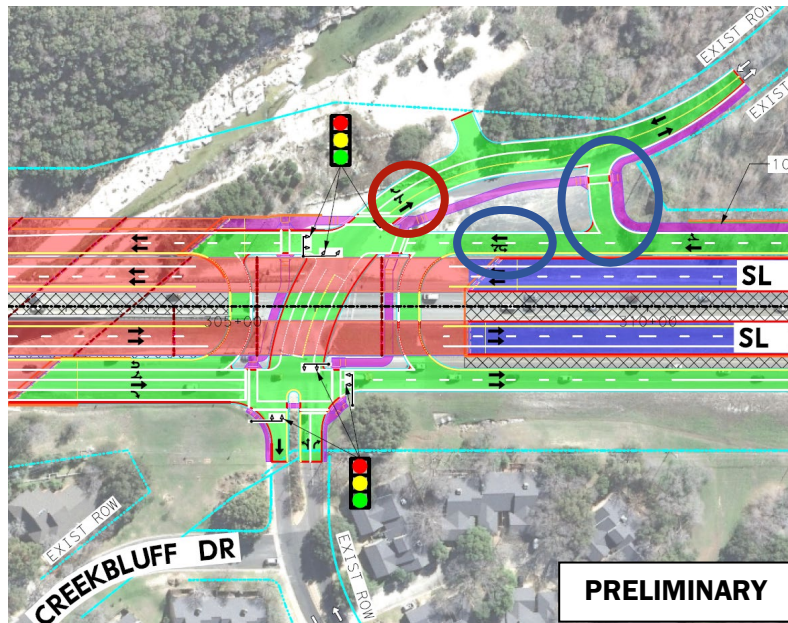


- The lane configuration on the east side of Loop 360 at Lakewood Drive has changed:
 - Westbound Lakewood Drive at Loop 360 (circled in red below): The updated concept includes two lanes, rather than three: a shared left-turn/through, and a dedicated right-turn. This change reduces the footprint of the design while accommodating the 50-foot shift in the roadway described above.
 - Northbound Loop 360 connector road at Lakewood Drive (circled in blue below): The updated concept reconfigures the intersection to make the right turn from northbound Loop 360 onto eastbound Lakewood Drive easier to navigate. At the Loop 360 at Lakewood Drive intersection, the updated concept includes two lanes: shared U-turn/left-turn/through, and a dedicated through.

June 2019:



New:



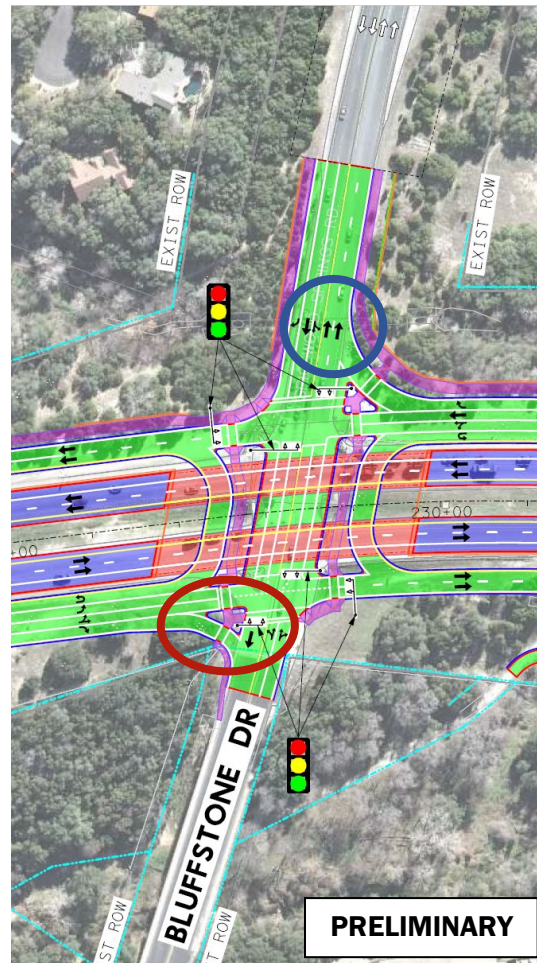
Spicewood Springs Road

- The number of lanes on eastbound Spicewood Springs Road has been reduced to two (rather than three) to accommodate the City of Austin's 2016 Mobility Bond Spicewood Springs Road project, which will also include two lanes heading eastbound on Spicewood Springs Road (E). Updated areas circled in blue below.
- The right turn from southbound Loop 360 to westbound Bluffstone Drive (circled in red below) has been modified to allow improved visibility for drivers making the turn. The design rotates the pedestrian refuge island so that the "tail" points toward approaching traffic. This slows turning vehicle speeds and allows drivers to see approaching cross street traffic, as well as pedestrians, more clearly. The new target design speed for vehicles making the turn is approximately 15 mph.

June 2019:



New:



Overall Project

- The shared-use path has been moved from the west to the east side of the roadway throughout the project limits, based on stakeholder input and input from the City of Austin.

Next Steps

- The TxDOT team will continue to meet with local stakeholders throughout the remainder of the environmental process for the project. Environmental stages are expected to be complete in early 2021, followed by utility relocation and construction.

