

EL PASO



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REIMAGINE I-10 CORRIDOR STUDY OUTREACH SUMMARY



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BACKGROUND

The Reimagine I-10 Corridor Study began in early 2017. Throughout the study's progress, TxDOT and the study team (HDR and Blanton & Associates), conducted several rounds of outreach efforts, including work group meetings, public meetings, one-on-one meetings, and community engagement efforts. The following summary provides an overview and chronology of these efforts. More detailed summary reports were prepared for each of the three rounds of work group and public meetings, and those reports are available for review at the TxDOT El Paso District or by request.

REIMAGINE I-10 CORRIDOR STUDY OUTREACH SUMMARY

TxDOT conducted extensive public outreach for the Reimagine I-10 Corridor Study, spanning approximately three years.

Outreach efforts resulted in **586 officially recorded public comments** (for details, see Public Meeting Summary 1, 2, 3 on the study website or upon request), in addition to numerous emails from elected officials, agency and entity directors, and members of the public that were received outside of official comment periods but included as part of the Corridor Study record. Comments were documented, carefully considered, and included in proposed Corridor Study concepts. TxDOT plans to continue this public engagement with future projects that arise from the Reimagine I-10 Corridor Study, in order to ensure that TxDOT and the community work together to build the best solution for El Paso.



Held 47 in-person meetings, including work groups, public meetings, and one-on-one meetings with interested entities and stakeholders



Published seven notices in local papers and online news platforms



Attended or participated in six community events, and also ran a movie trailer in local theaters



Posted continual updates to TxDOT's website and social media feeds



Mailed approximately 3,600 letters or postcards to adjacent property owners, interested parties, and work group members



Provided regular media updates, including on-camera interviews with local news broadcasters about the study status and upcoming meetings



Sent approximately 850 email invitations to workgroup members and interested parties



OUTREACH ROUND I

GENERAL OUTCOME/FEEDBACK FROM OUTREACH

During this round of outreach, the team received input from the study work group that there may be push back from the public, that there needs to be an emphasis on incident management, and that mobility, congestion, and connectivity are top priorities for I-10. In response to public outreach efforts, **294 comments** were received during this round. Comments at this stage included concerns about lighting, traffic congestion and choke-points, ramp and exit/entrance locations, truck bypasses, incident management, multi-modal transportation options, adaptive lanes, and signage.



WORKGROUP MEETINGS

- UTEP Physical Plant Complex #113, Building A June 2, 2017
- TxDOT El Paso District Office June 2, 2017



PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Vinton City Hall July 26, 2017
- UTEP July 27, 2017
- El Paso Multipurpose Rec Center August 9, 2017
- Rio Vista Community Center August 8, 2017



ADDITIONAL OUTREACH

- Published notices in El Paso Times and El Diario de El Paso newspapers
- Purchased banner advertisement on elpasoinc.com
- Mailed letters to 175 work group members
- Mailed postcards to 1,322 adjacent property owners
- Manned information booth at a Chihuahua's baseball game on July 25, 2017
- Posted meeting information on www.Reimaginel10.com
- Updated meetings pages with meeting materials
- Regularly updated Reimagine I-10 study page on www.txdot.gov



OUTREACH ROUND II

GENERAL OUTCOME/FEEDBACK FROM OUTREACH

During this round of outreach, the workgroup asked and provided input about priority areas, deck park options, adaptive lanes, funding, and the use of technology. In response to public outreach efforts, **129 comments** were received from the public during this round. These comments included concerns about exit/entrance ramp locations, lighting, the potential removal of the Profrío Diaz exit, access and impacts to the Sunset Heights neighborhood, questions about the deck plaza concept, multi-modal transportation including rapid transit, and comments about bicycle and pedestrian facilities.



WORKGROUP MEETINGS

- TxDOT El Paso District Office February 13, 2018
- UTEP Physical Plant Complex #113, Building A February 14, 2018



PUBLIC MEETINGS

- El Paso Community College Northwest Campus March 6, 2018
- Mesita Elementary School Gymnasium March 7, 2018
- El Paso Multipurpose Recreation Center March 13, 2018
- Fabens High School March 14, 2018



ADDITIONAL OUTREACH

- Published notice on TxDOT Website
- Sent emails to 142 work group members
- Mailed postcards to 1,043 adjacent property owners
- Distributed flyers to 10 libraries/community centers throughout study area, and high schools
- Aired movie trailer advertising study and meetings for four weeks at three local cinemas
- Included flyers in the El Paso Marathon runner's packets
- Manned informational booth at the El Paso Poppy Festival on March 31, 2018
- Utilized Twitter and Facebook to provide study information and advertise event dates
- Sent email broadcast via GovDelivery to 208 recipients (98.6 percent open rate)
- Posted meeting information on www.txdot.gov Hearings and Meetings Schedule
- Updated meetings pages with meeting materials
- Regularly updated Reimagine I-10 study page on www.txdot.gov
- Posted MetroQuest survey on Reimagine I-10 study page



OUTREACH ROUND III

GENERAL OUTCOME/FEEDBACK FROM OUTREACH

During this round of outreach, the work group provided comments and suggestions primarily focused around the proposed adaptive lanes, the conceptual improvements in and around the downtown area, incident management, and truck traffic/port of entry considerations. In response to the public outreach efforts this round, approximately **113 comments** were received. These comments included concerns about downtown bridge removals, access to and from the Sunset Heights neighborhood, the deck park concept, bicycle and pedestrian access and accommodations, ROW and displacements, traffic noise, and funding.



WORKGROUP MEETINGS

- TxDOT EL Paso District. January 9, 2019
- UTEP Physical Plant Complex #113, Building A January 10, 2019



PUBLIC MEETINGS

- El Paso Community Foundation. January 22, 2019
- Ysleta ISD Central Office. January 24, 2019



ADDITIONAL OUTREACH

- Advertised meetings online in El Paso Times and El Diario de El Paso
- Sent email to 499 work group members and interested parties
- Mailed postcard to 1,039 adjacent property owners
- Manned informational booths at the following:
 - El Paso Holiday Market on November 18, 2018
 - El Paso WinterFest on December 15, 2018
- Utilized Twitter and Facebook to provide study information and advertise event dates
- Posted meeting information on www.txdot.gov Hearings and Meetings Schedule
- Updated meetings pages with meeting materials
- Regularly updated Reimagine I-10 study page on www.txdot.gov
- Posted MetroQuest survey on Reimagine I-10 study page



OUTREACH ROUND IV

GENERAL OUTCOME/FEEDBACK FROM OUTREACH

At the final work group meeting, the study team presented the results and recommendations of the corridor study. This included recommended projects within each segment, as well a tentative timeline for top priority projects. The work group provided comments on the corridor study findings and potential projects.

After the conclusion of the last round of public outreach in January 2019, approximately 50 comments were received through the study website and emails to the TxDOT project manager. These comments included concerns about downtown bridge removals, potential impacts to properties in downtown El Paso, proposed frontage roads, routing truck traffic around El Paso through alternate routes, funding priorities, and mass transit and bicycle/pedestrian considerations. TxDOT has reviewed and will consider these comments as projects are identified and move forward into more detailed design and environmental investigations.



WORKGROUP MEETINGS

- TxDOT El Paso District October 30, 2019



ADDITIONAL OUTREACH EFFORTS AND ONE-ON-ONE MEETINGS

In addition to the work group and public outreach meetings, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the study team also conducted several one-on-one meetings with local agencies and stakeholders to provide updates on the study and receive input.

02/13/2017: Meeting with HDR and Texas A&M Transportation Institute to discuss available datasets, statistics and previous and on-going border research for El Paso.

10/18/2017: Meeting with Union Pacific Railroad, HDR, and TxDOT to coordinate options for I-10 and adjacent rail lines east of the downtown area.

11/07/2017: Meeting with City of El Paso, HDR, and TxDOT to discuss goals and objectives of the study, existing problem areas, current/future traffic growth, and current/future projects.

11/07/2017: Meeting with SunMetro, HDR, and TxDOT to discuss goals and objectives of the study and identify future transit projects within the corridor.

11/08/2017: Meeting with City of Socorro, San Elizario, Town of Horizon City, Town of Clint, HDR, and TxDOT to discuss goals and objectives of the study, existing problem areas, current/future traffic growth, and current/future projects.

11/09/2017: Meeting with El Paso County, HDR, and TxDOT to discuss goals and objectives of the study, existing problem areas, current/future traffic growth, and current/future projects.

11/09/2017: Meeting with El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), HDR, and TxDOT to discuss goals and objectives of the study, existing problem areas, current/future traffic growth, and current/future projects.

02/14/2018: Meeting with UPRR, HDR, and TxDOT to review and discuss options for I-10 and adjacent rail lines east of the downtown area.

04/19/2018: Presentation to Greater Chamber of Commerce by HDR and TxDOT to provide update on Reimagine I-10 Study.

04/20/2018: Presentation to El Paso MPO by HDR and TxDOT to provide update on Reimagine I-10 Study.

04/30/2018: Meeting with City of El Paso, HDR, and TxDOT to discuss downtown alternatives.

05/01/2018: Meeting with Medical Center of the Americas, HDR, and TxDOT to discuss ramping configurations east of US 54.

06/13/2018: Meeting with Sunset Heights Homeowners Association (HOA), HDR, and TxDOT to provide an update on the study and discuss options in the downtown area.

06/14/2018: Presentation to El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce by TxDOT to provide update on Reimagine I-10 Study.

06/15/2018: Presentation to Central Business Association by HDR and TxDOT to provide update on Reimagine I-10 Study.

08/02/2018: Presentation to International Bridges Steering Committee by TxDOT to provide update on Reimagine I-10 Study.

09/06/2018: Follow-up Presentation to International Bridges Steering Committee by HDR and TxDOT to provide update on Reimagine I-10 Study.

09/25/2018: Meeting with UPRR, HDR, and TxDOT to review and discuss alternatives for I-10 and adjacent rail lines at Cotton St.

12/04/2018: Meeting with SunMetro, HDR and TxDOT to discuss recommended alternative and identify areas of potential concern.

12/05/2018: Meeting with City of El Paso, HDR and TxDOT to discuss recommended alternative and identify areas of potential concern.

1/9/19: Meeting with TxDOT, HDR, and representatives from St. Clements School regarding potential impacts to school property.

01/16/2019: Meeting with St Clements School, HDR, and TxDOT to discuss to discuss recommended alternative and identify areas of potential concern.

01/25/2019: Presentation to El Paso MPO by HDR and TxDOT to provide update on Reimagine I-10 Study.

03/14/19: Presentation to Central Business Association by TxDOT to provide update on Reimagine I-10 Study.

7/10/19: Presentation and question/answer session with the Sunset Heights Neighborhood Association.

10/02/2019: Presentation and question/answer session to St. Clements board at the school by Jennifer Wright, TxDOT.

10/06/2019: Presentation and question/answer session at Rim Road Neighborhood Association meeting by Jennifer Wright, TxDOT

10/08/2019: Presentation and question/answer session at El Paso County Historical Commission by Jennifer Wright, TxDOT.

11/20/2019: Meeting with City of El Paso Representative Alexandra Anello and TxDOT to discuss recommended alternatives and identify areas of potential concern.

05/07/2020: Meeting with the Medical Center of the Americas partners, TxDOT, HDR, and Blanton and Associates about questions and concerns for future proposed projects within Segment 3 of the corridor study.



