

09/19/2007

Robert B. Daigh, P.E.  
Austin District Engineer  
Texas Department of Transportation  
P.O. Drawer 15426  
Austin, Texas 78761-5426

Dear Mr. Daigh,

Thank you for your diligent efforts to collaborate with the City of Austin in the redesign of the proposed expansion of US 290 W in Oak Hill. The Austin City Council appreciates your willingness to work with us throughout the process.

While there has been much progress in minimizing affected areas of the creek, many questions remain unanswered in regards to water quality impacts and stream restoration. The City of Austin is nationally recognized for its expertise in best management practices involving construction phase and permanent water quality controls and stream restoration. We believe we have an opportunity to form a partnership between TxDOT and the City of Austin to minimize and monitor the roadway's impact on Williamson Creek.

The Austin City Council is requesting that TxDOT and the City of Austin form a team to develop together water quality control plans and to jointly monitor the effectiveness of construction-phase water quality controls. The city's staff would also like to work with TxDOT to develop a restoration plan with the goal of returning the creek to as natural a state as possible.

In addition, we suggest that the City of Austin and TxDOT commit to biannual updates to the CAMPO policy board on environmental impacts from design to construction completion. It would be beneficial to have a meeting between the two agencies before the October vote to discuss details.

Please let us know how we may help arrange this meeting. The City of Austin looks forward to a continued productive relationship with TxDOT on this major project.

Warmest Regards,

Austin City Council

Cc: Mayor and Council  
City Manager Toby Futrell