



Austin Transportation Department

P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767

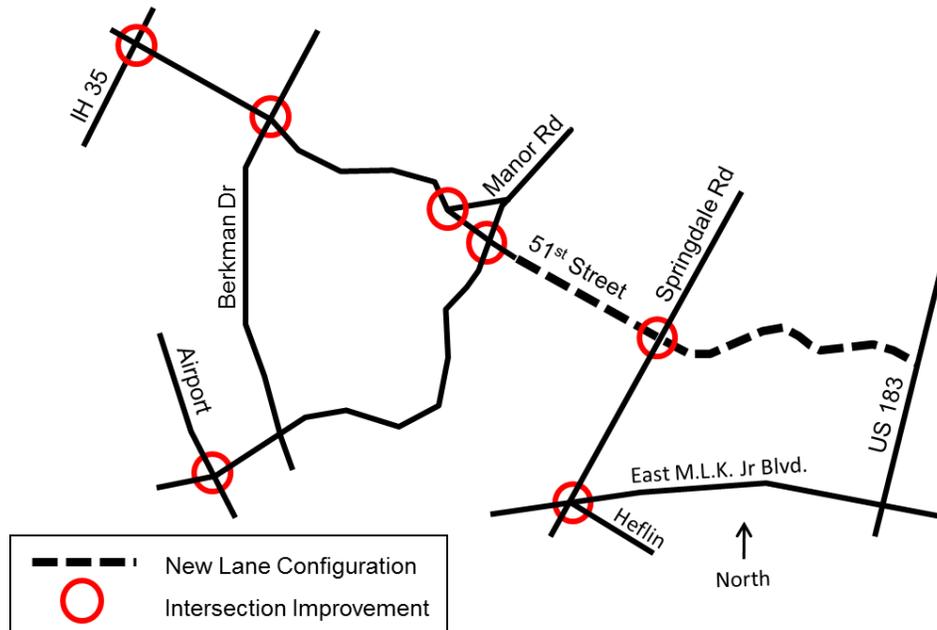
October 20, 2015
To Stakeholder, Property Owner, or Resident:

This is a second notification and contains updated information related to proposed East 51st Street Safety and Mobility Improvements. Local stakeholder feedback was used to re-evaluate the proposed project, resulting in an expanded scope, as indicated in Figure 1, to address existing traffic delays found at nearby intersections.

East 51st Street from Manor Road to HW 183 is in the process of undergoing routine street maintenance (resurfacing). By coordinating with this maintenance, the Austin Transportation Department (ATD) has the opportunity to modify the East 51st Street striping with little to no effect on project cost and duration. ATD is assessing restriping options that could improve safety and mobility for all road users. You are receiving this notification because you live on and/or own property adjacent to East 51st Street in Austin, Texas or are otherwise registered as a stakeholder in the area.

Usted está recibiendo esta notificación porque vive cerca de East 51st Street, es dueño de propiedad cerca de East 51st Street, o es parte interesada de East 51st Street en Austin, Texas. Si necesita un documento traducido en español, llame a (512) 974-7092.

Figure 1 – Overview of Expanded East 51st Street Safety and Mobility Improvements



Background

The initial project proposal was to convert the existing two lanes in each direction on 51st Street (between Manor and US 183) to one lane in each direction with a center turn lane and bicycle lanes. This conversion is anticipated to reduce crashes by 25-40% for all modes and an intersection analysis showed that this could be done without negatively impacting motor vehicle delay.

Update

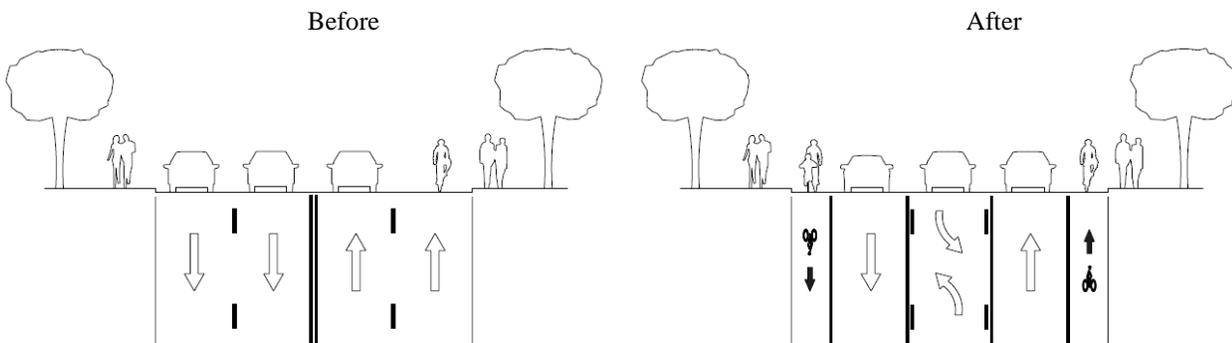
While there was significant feedback was received through the public process in support of the proposed changes there was also a significant number of individuals that routinely experienced long delays at intersections both within and nearby the proposed project limits. Upon looking closer at these problem intersections a package of improvements was identified in addition to the original project scope that is estimated to significantly improve motor vehicle travel times while realizing initial safety and multimodal benefits. Figure 1 gives an overview of where intersection improvements are now proposed in addition to the proposed new lane configuration.

Potential intersection improvements identified at 6 nearby locations including the following:

- Adding turn lanes or changing lane assignments;
- Extending turn lanes;
- Signal detection and timing improvements.

Figure 2 shows the typical proposed striping for East 51st Street. This typical striping may be altered at signalized intersections in order to facilitate efficient traffic operations such as turning movements.

Figure 2 – Typical Cross Sections for East 51st Street



How to Give Input and Get More Information on the Project

In order to ensure the most appropriate allocation of East 51st Street space, ATD is seeking feedback from local residents and other users of this East 51st Street prior to determining final plans. You can obtain additional information about this mobility project and provide feedback at a **public input meeting for the project on Saturday October 31st, from 10:30 am to Noon**, at the Windsor Park Library, 5833 Westminister Drive, Austin, TX 78723. **A presentation of the expanded project scope and anticipated improvements in traffic flow will start at 10:30am with breakout discussion to follow.**

Feedback based on local experience frequently results in improvements to initial project proposals. If necessary, modifications to this proposal can be made after input received at the open house. If you cannot attend this open house and have questions or comments, please contact Nathan Wilkes at 974-7016 or nathan.wilkes@austintexas.gov.

Sincerely,

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