

Response to Public Comments

DATE: January 8th, 2019
BY: Lowe Engineers, LLC
PROJECT: **Haynes Bridge Road Widening**
from Old Alabama Road to Mansell Road

A public involvement phase was initiated for the TSPLOST project – Haynes Bridge Road Widening from Old Alabama Road to Mansell Road. The project crosses jurisdictional lines and is shown as a Tier 1 project for both the Cities of Johns Creek and Alpharetta with the City of Johns Creek serving as the Lead Agency. A Public Information Open House (PIOH) meeting was held within each municipality on November 13th and 14th, 2018. A total of 91 comments were received from the citizens in attendance. The comments were grouped into nine different categories based on content. This document provides response to each comment grouping.

Comment Grouping No. 1: *Concerns about Turn Lanes*

Response:

The current design provides left-turn lanes in all locations where impacts can be minimized. As the City proceeds forward with detailed engineering design, all unsignalized intersections will be further evaluated. Potential studied alternatives will include wider median refuge or other modifications which address safety for turning movements to and from the various subdivision entrance points.

The request for deceleration/ right-turn lanes will further expand the roadway footprint and impacts; however, each sideroad and subdivision will be evaluated for areas where deceleration lanes specifically address safety concerns.

Comment Grouping No. 2: *Suggested Roundabouts at Various locations*

Response:

The construction of a roundabout presents a challenge when comparing the heavy volumes along Haynes Bridge Road with the low volumes for individual sideroads. Although not supported operationally, roundabout locations will be evaluated as safety improvements at certain locations based on crash history and as a potential traffic calming measure.

Comment Grouping No. 3: *Concerns about Noise from the proposed project*

Response:

The City is currently evaluating noise abatement measures for roadway projects. The future engineering phase for the Haynes Bridge Road widening project will apply these measures appropriately.

Comment Grouping No. 4: *Concerns about Landscaping*

Response:

The proposed widening project will impact existing landscape features present along the corridor at and adjacent to many subdivision access points. This item will be discussed, by the City's Land Acquisition

staff, individually with each Home Owners Association (HOA) or property owner during the future Right-of-Way phase.

The addition of proposed landscaping for the project is a measure sometimes utilized for the City's roadway projects for aesthetic appeal or buffers. The appropriate type and location will be further evaluated in the project's future phases in conjunction with the expressed noise concerns and consider project budget availability.

Comment Grouping No. 5: *Concerns about Speeding*

Response:

Current speed data gathered for the project corridor suggests lowering the speed limit would be acceptable in certain areas. A reduction of the posted speed will follow engineering standards and require coordination between the Cities of Johns Creek, Alpharetta, and GDOT. The engineering design will also evaluate other design elements which deter higher speeds such as potential roundabouts to interrupt long straightaway segments for the corridor.

Comment Grouping No. 6: *Concerns about Sidewalks*

Response:

The proposed roadway section provides a combination of facilities for pedestrians and other multi-modal options. The current conceptual design includes a sidewalk for connecting the many residential neighborhoods with the Haynes Bridge Middle School and Big Creek Greenway. The opposing shoulder constructs a Multi-Use Trail in accordance with the established City of Johns Creek Trail plan providing a safe facility for pedestrians and cyclists alike.

Comment Grouping No. 7: *Concerns about Traffic Signal Timing*

Response:

The existing corridor contains six signalized intersections which are not currently interconnected. The engineering design will include the addition of communication between the signals, which will allow for a coordinated signal system.

Comment Grouping No. 8: *Suggestions of "Do Not Block the Box" markings*

Response:

The addition of "Do Not Block the Box" pavement markings will be considered by the City's staff as both a short-term and post-construction measure. The feasibility for installation is dependent on the post-construction benefit once additional vehicle capacity is achieved.

Comment Grouping No. 9: *Miscellaneous Comments*

Response:

Bike Lanes – The addition of bike lanes along the corridor are not being considered at this time. Cyclists may use the roadway lanes available in accordance with state and local law.

Old Alabama Intersection – Improvements to the Old Alabama Road intersection are now being considered for inclusion within the scope of services for the engineering design phase.