



MEMO

To: BERT LUMBRERAS, CITY MANAGER
STEVE PARKER, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
COLLETTE JAMISON, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
STEPHANIE REYES, CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM: ROHIT VIJ, P.E. – SENIOR ENGINEER

THRU: LAURIE MOYER, P.E. – DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING & CIP

DATE: NOVEMBER 30, 2018

RE: **Transportation Master Plan Report & Appendices**

This memo is prepared to provide a summary of the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) development process, TMP Report and Appendices as requested by Council.

Transportation Master Plan Development Process

A Transportation Master Plan is a planning tool that outlines goals and policies for the transportation system, and builds on data and analysis to develop recommendations to accommodate growth.

The last complete iteration of the San Marcos TMP was completed in 2004. Since that time, the rapid pace of growth in the region has changed and the vision of a future San Marcos has evolved with it. The 2004 plan focuses more on private automobile traffic than on transit or non-motorized transportation. While chapter 6 of the 2004 Plan addresses bicycle and pedestrian facilities for San Marcos, the Plan ultimately focuses on the improvement of single occupant vehicle facilities first.

The proposed TMP was built upon 2004 plan and followed the following steps in the development process from which recommendations are developed:

Vision & Goals: Goals established in the Comprehensive Plan “A River Runs Through Us” were used as the basis of the TMP. These goals are expanded and refined to develop transportation recommendations.

Existing Conditions Assessment: Understanding the existing conditions helps establish where the community is in relation to its goals. Data on demographics, bicycle infrastructure, trails, sidewalks, roadway inventory and traffic operations was collected. The projected level of growth based on census data and City planning information was also determined. In addition a comprehensive review and evaluation of existing documents and policies that guide the planning and implementation of transportation facilities was conducted.

Community Engagement: Incorporating the community into the development of TMP is important to gather input and feedback for informed consent. Throughout the planning process for the TMP, City staff worked to keep the public informed and involved. Engaging the public and community stakeholders helped to clarify the project vision and provided opportunities for meaningful input and involvement by the community.

Future Scenario Assessment: Traffic models were used to evaluate future traffic conditions based on the projected levels of growth. These models along with information from the community engagement were used to identify problem areas and develop infrastructure recommendations. New roadway types were developed to reflect City goals. Performance measures were established to prioritize projects.

Recommendations: Using the information from the previous steps, recommendations were developed to help the community reach its goals. Projects were prioritized and a list of projects with costs and timeframe for construction was developed. The Thoroughfare Plan identifies transportation corridors to be implemented as development occurs.

Transportation Master Plan Report

TMP report summarizes the steps mentioned above including TMP development process, land use and transportation planning goals, existing conditions analysis, community engagement, future scenario analysis, recommendations, best practices and capital improvements plan; with back up information and analysis provided in the report appendices. Report can be reviewed by clicking the link [COSM_TMP_Draft_11.16.18.pdf](#)

Transportation Master Plan Appendices

The data collected and the analysis performed during the development of Transportation Master Plan is included with the Report as appendices. The appendices provide backup information on the tasks completed.

Appendix A: Existing Conditions 1 (Document & Policy Review): This report provided a comprehensive review and evaluation of existing documents and policies. The intent of the report was to summarize the transportation policies set forth in these documents and to identify any conflicts and inconsistencies with the Comprehensive Plan, known as Vision San Marcos: A River Runs Through Us (2013). Documents reviewed include:

- San Marcos Transportation Master Plan (2004) prepared by Wilbur Smith Associates
- San Marcos Transportation Design Manual (2004) prepared by Wilbur Smith Associates
- City of San Marcos Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan (2010) prepared by San Marcos Parks and Recreation Department
- San Marcos Downtown Master Plan (2008) prepared by Broaddus & Associates
- The San Marcos Five Year Transit Plan (2014)
- Downtown Parking Initiative (2012) prepared by Gateway Planning and Kimley Horn & Associates;

- Hays County Parks, Open Space & Natural Areas Master Plan (2012) prepared by Design Workshop Inc. and Greenplay, LLC
- Texas State University Campus Master Plan (2006-2015) prepared by Broaddus & Associates.
- ITE Context Sensitive Design Manual (2010)
- Agreements with TxDOT.
- San Marcos Land Development Code (including zoning regulations).

Appendix A: Existing Conditions 1 (Document & Policy Review) can be reviewed by clicking the link [Appendix A - Existing Conditions1.pdf](#).

Appendix A: Existing Conditions 2 (Traffic Data & Analysis): This report included the following information:

- Traffic data collected during the development of Transportation Master Plan
- Traffic operation analysis results for 24 critical intersections

Appendix A: Existing Conditions 2 (Traffic Data & Analysis) can be reviewed by clicking the link [Appendix A - Existing Conditions2.pdf](#).

Appendix B: Community Engagement: This appendix provided back up data collected during the community engagement process of the Transportation Master Plan including

- Public survey
- Online citizen survey
- Greenways master plan public survey
- Open house comments

Appendix B: Community Engagement can be reviewed by clicking the link [Appendix B - Community Engagement.pdf](#).

Appendix C: Future Scenario Analysis (Traffic Forecasting): This report provided future scenario analysis including:

- A summary of the travel demand forecasting process and evaluation of the different modeling scenarios
- Modelling process included the Preferred Land Use Scenario map, associated demographics, socio economic data and roadway network
- Three scenarios were modeled consistent with the comprehensive plan modeling process:
 - Base (2010): Represents 2010 base year conditions;
 - Interim Conditions (2025): Provides an evaluation of interim demographic and roadway network conditions; and
 - Preferred Land Use Scenario (2035): Focuses on promoting efficient and sustainable growth in key areas and providing multimodal mobility options that connects the activity centers.
- Traffic operation analysis for the top 25 congested intersections within San Marcos, under

existing, 2025 and 2035 horizon years with recommended improvements.

Appendix C: Future Scenario Analysis (Traffic Forecasting) can be reviewed by clicking the link [Appendix C - Future Scenario.pdf](#).

Appendix D: Recommendations (Multimodal Transportation): This report provided TMP recommendations including:

- Multimodal transportation alternatives
 - Complete streets
 - Context sensitive design
 - Green streets
 - Bicycle facilities
 - Pedestrian facilities
 - Transit options
- Thoroughfare design standards
- Thoroughfare types and corresponding cross sections

Appendix D: Recommendations (Multimodal Transportation) can be reviewed by clicking the link [Appendix D - Recommendations.pdf](#).

Appendix E (Thoroughfare Plan): Proposed thoroughfare plan map can be reviewed by clicking the link [Appendix E - Thoroughfare Plan.pdf](#).

Appendix F (CIP Map): Capital Improvement Projects map can be reviewed by clicking the link [Appendix F - Capital Improvement Projects Map.pdf](#).

- It illustrates short and midterm roadway improvements required to accommodate traffic growth within San Marcos.

Appendix G (Bicycle Plan): Proposed Bicycle Infrastructure plan can be reviewed by clicking the link [Appendix G - Bicycle Plan.pdf](#).

Appendix H (Greenways Plan): Proposed Greenways plan can be reviewed by clicking the link [Appendix H - Greenways Plan.pdf](#).

Appendix I (Capital Improvements Plan): Capital Improvements Plan can be reviewed by clicking the link [Appendix I - Capital Improvements Plan.pdf](#) and provides following information:

- Prioritization criteria used to rank CIP projects
- Priority 1, 2 and 3 roadways projects with preliminary cost estimates
- Critical intersections improvement summary with cost estimates.

Transportation Master Plan and City's Capital Improvements Program (CIP)

The TMP recommends a priority and scope for projects to be implemented through the City's CIP. Staff will recommend projects to be included in the CIP for City Council approval. The actual implementation will occur based upon approval of funding. Projects recommended in the TMP will be included beginning in the 2020 CIP.