

**Please Visit Us On
The Web**

You can obtain the latest information about the Overall Transportation Plan by visiting the project's website, listed below. The website will provide you with all the background on the plan, tell you who is participating in the project, as well as all the steps that are part of this planning process. Additionally, information will be added throughout the project, including minutes from committee meetings, and other items such as this newsletter. By using the site, you are not only able to access information 24 hours a day - you are able to provide input, ask questions, and make suggestions about how this plan can serve all who use the transportation system.

Project Schedule

Draft Transportation Improvement Plan Process	April 2003
Technical Advisory Committee and Stakeholder Focus Group Meeting No. 3	July 2003
Draft Master Transportation Plan	August 2003
Public Meeting No. 2	August 2003
Final TIP Process	September 2003
Final Master Transportation Plan	October 2003

Public Involvement Wanted

Your input into the Georgetown Overall Transportation Plan is encouraged. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, we would like to hear them. You can contact us by phone, fax, mail or email. The numbers and addresses are listed below.

A second Public Meeting will be held in Late August. Watch for details.

Address Correction Requested



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plan news

**City of Georgetown Overall Transportation Plan
Spring 2003**



Public Meeting Held March 26, 2003

Residents Share Ideas & Concerns

Approximately 43 people attended the Public Meeting and Open House at the City of Georgetown Municipal Complex on March 26, 2003. This included members of the general public, project stakeholders, members of the Technical Advisory Committee, City of Georgetown staff, and local media.

The workshop began with Mr. Ed Polasek, AICP, Chief Long Range Planner, welcoming the audience and giving an overview of the Transportation Plan goals and objectives. He then introduced Mr. Bob Hamm with Wilbur Smith Associates, the traffic consulting firm contracted by the City to conduct the planning study and Plan preparation.

Mr. Hamm presented the study purpose and objectives, and the initial data findings. He also presented the preliminary existing transportation conditions and the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) development process.



Residents ask questions and provide comments during the Open House portion of the Public Meeting.



Mr. Ed Polasek, AICP, Chief Long Range Planner for the City of Georgetown, answers questions at the March 26 Public Meeting.

***Public Participates
in Plan Development***

Following the presentation, residents were then asked to share their ideas and issues. These included the following items:

- Move traffic effectively & efficiently
- Expedite completion of Inner & Outer Loops
- Provide U-turns at various locations on IH 35
- Preserve integrity of old town neighborhoods
- Increase & improve safety near schools
- Improve both east-west and north-south connections.

Residents were asked to rank transportation improvements in order of importance. The results are shown below:

1. Roadway Construction/Improvements
2. Traffic Signal Improvements
3. Transit Facilities
4. Bicycle/Pedestrian Improvements



Members of the public attended the first of two Public Meetings for the Georgetown Overall Transportation Plan.

The final Overall Transportation Plan will make recommendations about improving traffic flow while accommodating additional population and employment growth. There will be one more public meeting during the project's duration where interested parties may have input into the Plan.



Study Purpose & Overview

The purpose of this study is to develop an Overall Transportation Plan for the City of Georgetown, which will include recommended transportation improvements needed to accommodate travel demands through the Year 2025. An implementation program that prioritizes the recommended Plan improvements will also be developed and include a short-range (2003 to 2007), intermediate-range (2008 to 2013), and long-range (2013 to 2025) program.

Located in Central Williamson County, Georgetown is the county seat of the fifth fastest growing county in the United States (US Census Bureau, 4/29/02), and is the northern anchor of the fast growing Austin/San Antonio Corridor. The city is projected to continue to experience population and employment growth, resulting in associated mobility and access improvement needs.



Potential highway improvements to be considered include roadway widenings and/or extensions, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, and transit options.

The study will involve an evaluation of various transportation improvements and will consider impacts related to traffic/mobility, engineering/costs, and environmental/land use criteria. This evaluation will provide detailed technical information regarding the impacts of transportation improvements and new location alignments, as well as other selection criteria to use when evaluating proposed alternatives for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program.

Study Area

The study area for this project is the City of Georgetown and its extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ). Major roadways in the study area include I-35, State Highway 29, RM 2338, FM 971, FM 1460 and RM 2243. The area will also be served by the new SH 130 Toll Road, which will originate in Georgetown and parallel I-35 on the east southward to Seguin. Transit options, operated by the Capital Area Rural Transportation System (CARTS), also exist within Georgetown and Williamson County, with connections to Austin and neighboring counties.



Plan Development

A systematic work program has been designed to develop an effective and successful City of Georgetown Overall Transportation Plan. The scope of work consists of five task areas that address:

1. Project Administration;
2. Transportation Model;
3. Overall Transportation Plan;
4. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and,
5. Public Involvement Process.

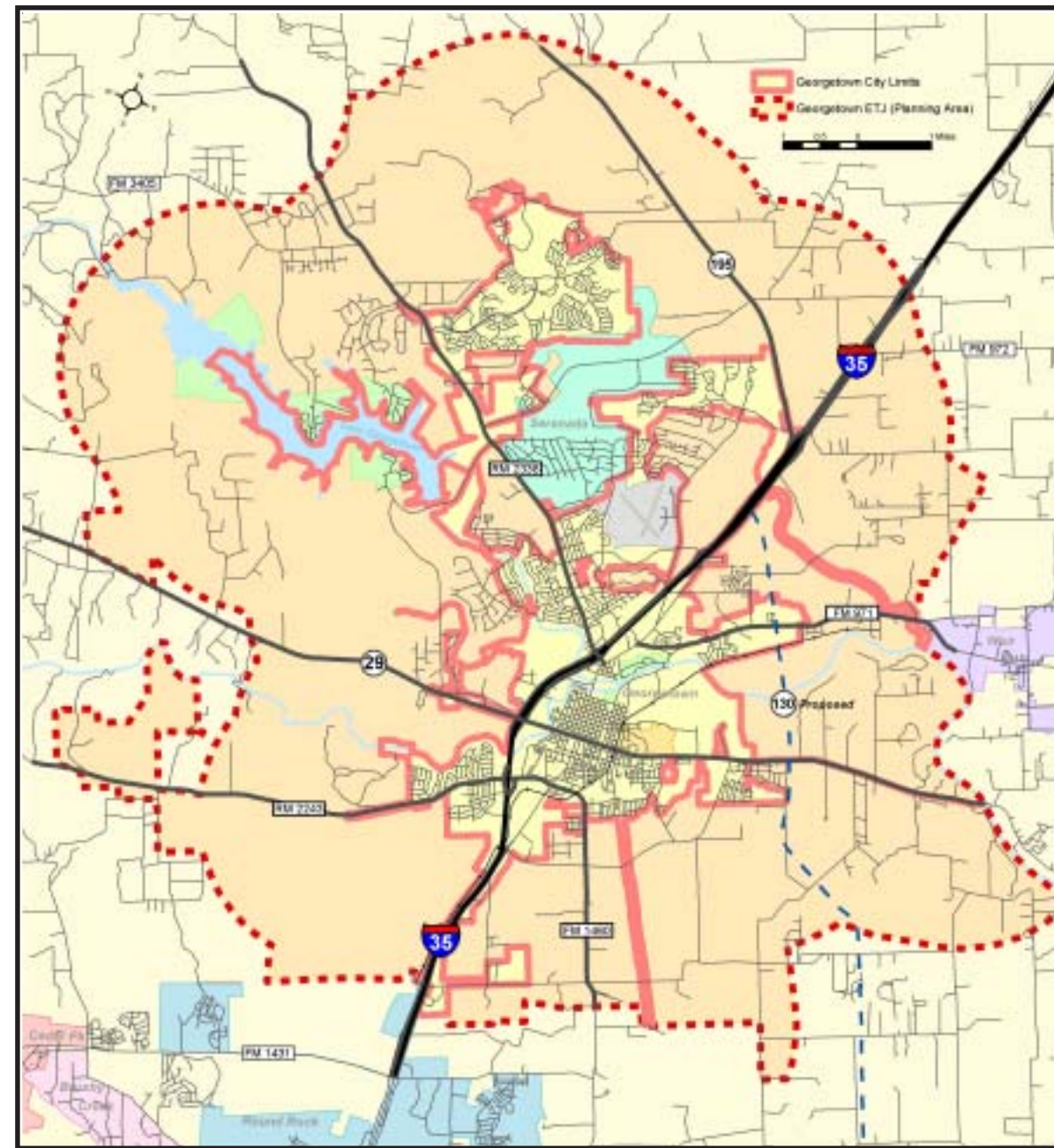


TASK I - Project Administration

The management of project activities will ensure the efficient and timely delivery of study results. Three objectives for the project management program are Cost Control, Schedule Control, and Quality Control.

TASK II – Transportation Model

The development of the Georgetown Modeling System will involve a detailed data collection effort, compiling secondary data from various sources supplemented with limited field reconnaissance. The system will be built using a focused zone structuring technique beginning with the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) regional model as a base. Trip rates, trip length frequencies, mode split factors, and other parameters will be calibrated for the Georgetown model. Several alternative scenarios will be run for 2010 and 2025 and used for input into the Overall Transportation Plan and as project selection criteria for the Georgetown Transportation Enhancement Corporation (GTEC) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Process.



TASK III – Overall Transportation Plan

The development of the Overall Transportation Plan includes the development of construction cost estimates, identification of mobility improvements, and evaluation of social, economic, and environmental impacts. Alternative improvements will be prioritized according to the short- and long-term objectives of the study and the feasibility of project implementation. This task involves the preparation of a Draft and Final Transportation Plan. All study activity will be documented throughout the duration of the project so as to maintain accurate and consistent records of all data collection and forecast activities and alternative assessments and recommendations.



TASK IV – TIP Project Selection Process

The purpose of the project selection process for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is to identify roadway, transit, bicycle, pedestrian and other transportation programs and projects that will be scheduled and implemented within the next three year period. These projects must meet certain criteria developed to ensure that the projects will be ready to be implemented within the programmed years; be consistent with local, state and regional transportation plans; and conform to local, state, regional and federal planning requirements. Projects that are not selected for inclusion in the TIP can be considered in future years (as long as the project is in the Transportation Plan). Projects not in the Transportation Plan may be added through an amendment process.



The City of Georgetown TIP Project Selection Process is essentially a three step program of evaluating and ranking proposed transportation improvements. The first step involves project initiation and a call for projects from the GTEC Board, including an initial screening of projects to ensure the projects satisfy the goals of the Georgetown OTP. Step two involves the completion of a detailed project description form and a technical project evaluation by City staff. Step three involves the GTEC Board detailed project evaluation and development of final ranking and funding priority.

TASK V – Public Involvement Process

Public participation is an integral part of plan development. During key stages of plan development, two public meetings and three stakeholder focus group meetings will be held. Input into the Georgetown Overall Transportation Plan is encouraged. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, we would like to hear from you. Contact us by phone, fax, mail or email. The phone and fax numbers and addresses are listed on the back page.

