

# Bridge Replacement and Intersection Improvement Project Great Oaks at Brushy Creek Improvements



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 1. What is the Great Oaks at Brushy Creek Improvement Project?

This project is a part of the 2006 and 2013 Williamson County Road Bond Program. The purpose of the proposed Great Oaks Drive Bridge and Intersection Improvement Project is to address critical issues at the intersection of Great Oaks Dr. and Hairy Man Rd./Brushy Creek Rd. This project will raise the bridge to reduce the impact of flooding events caused by the level of the existing bridge structure, provide safe access across Brushy Creek during flood events, provide safe access for emergency vehicles during flood events and provide added intersection capacity to allow improved mobility for vehicles. This project will also improve Brushy Creek Trail connectivity and the safety of trail users, pedestrians and bicyclists.

### 2. What is the purpose of the Great Oaks at Brushy Creek Improvement Project?

The purpose of the Great Oaks at Brushy Creek Improvement Project is:

- To raise the Great Oaks Bridge above the 100-year floodplain of Brushy Creek
- To raise the bridge so it does not obstruct water flow and contribute to the flooding of residents along Brushy Creek
- To provide a safe route for emergency vehicles and other motorists across Brushy Creek during flood events
- To enhance safety and mobility within the project area for both pedestrians and traffic
- To reconfigure the intersection to improve traffic flow

### 3. Why is this project needed?

During heavy rain events, the existing Great Oaks Bridge over Brushy Creek obstructs the flow of water due to the level of the existing bridge structure; this then contributes to upstream flooding. At times, this flooding prevents emergency vehicles from crossing the creek. Also, due to rapid population growth in Williamson County, traffic congestion at this intersection is an issue that needs to be resolved.

### 4. What is the County's role in this project?

The County is responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of the roadway and bridge.

### 5. What is the construction schedule for this project?

Project design is underway and scheduled to be completed late 2018, with an anticipated construction start in spring 2019.

### 6. Will residents and business owners be displaced?

No displacements of residences or businesses will occur as a result of the improvements.

### 7. What criteria were used to determine the proposed improvements?

In order to determine the proposed options, the County and its consultants evaluated local flooding levels, the elevations of the existing terrain, existing and projected traffic volumes and the long-term benefits of the alternatives and cost.

### 8. Why not leave the intersection as is, with the construction of Creek Bend?

While the Creek Bend project will be of benefit to mobility in the area, improvements to the roadway network, as a whole, are necessary to move forward to improve mobility throughout the region.

**9. The at-grade alternative is the recommended preferred alternative. How was this alternative selected?**

The County reviewed comments received from the open house meetings held on June 22, 2016 and July 14, 2016 and has also evaluated the short and long term benefits of the alternatives and determined that the at-grade alternative best addresses the purpose and need of the project.

**10. Will trees be removed as part of this project?**

Yes, trees within the project limits will be impacted. The County will make every attempt to preserve as many trees as possible.

**11. How will pedestrians access the trail in both bridge alternatives?**

Trail users will use sidewalks, cross the bridge and access the new pedestrian tunnel.

**12. How will the County mitigate the effects on existing homes nearby during construction and afterwards?**

To minimize the disturbance to nearby homes, construction will be limited to daytime hours as much as possible. As many trees as possible will remain in place to provide a buffer between the roadway and nearby property lines. Additional measures that may help mitigate the effects will be evaluated during the design phase.

**13. How will parking at the intersection of Great Oaks, Hairy Man and Brushy Creek Roads be affected?**

A new parking lot would be constructed on the north side of Hairy Man Rd., along with a new pedestrian crossing under Hairy Man Rd.

**14. Does the county plan to build the “missing link” of Great Oaks Drive?**

The County does not plan to build the extension of Great Oaks Dr. at this time. The extension is outside the scope of the current project and construction of the missing link is currently unfunded.

**15. Will the low water crossing at Brushy Bend Park be removed as a result of this project?**

The County will not remove the low-water crossing at Brushy Bend Park as a part of this project. The low-water crossing is outside the scope of this project.

**16. Will the low water crossing on Great Oaks Drive between Oak Forest and Live Oak Circle be fixed?**

No. The low-water crossing on Greats Oaks Dr. between Oak Forest and Live Oak Circle is outside the scope of the current project.

**17. How is the project being funded?**

The project study is funded by the 2013 Williamson County Road Bond Program.

**18. Where may I go to ask questions or receive more information about the Great Oaks at Brushy Creek Improvement Project?**

For more information about this project, please visit [www.roadbond.org](http://www.roadbond.org). Questions or comments may be directed by email or phone to the Williamson County Road Bond Program at [roads@wilco.org](mailto:roads@wilco.org) or (512) 943-1195.