



Frequently Asked Questions www.pondspringsroad.org

What improvements will be made to Pond Springs Road?

The proposed improvements along Pond Springs Road include a 12-foot center turning lane between two 11-foot travel lanes. These improvements will end before it connects with Highway 183 frontage roads. Six-foot shoulders will be built as well, which the City of Austin plans to upgrade to bike lanes in the future. A five-foot sidewalk to improve pedestrian safety will be added to the east side of the street. And, to protect the environment, the road will be constructed at a slight slant to the east side where a 15-foot grass strip will be added to ensure water quality.

Why was the project proposed?

Improvements to Pond Springs Road were proposed to provide a solution to the congestion problem in the area. Residents of the area contacted the county to request the improvements, and it was a part of the 2006 bond election, which was approved by the county's voters. The current road does not easily accommodate left-hand turns causing traffic to back up, especially during peak travel hours. By implementing the proposed improvements, congestion will be reduced and travel will be safer for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians.

When will construction begin?

Construction is scheduled to begin around June 3, 2009, and will follow an aggressive schedule. The plan at this time is for as much of the construction as possible to be completed by October 2009. Improvements will be made starting on the east side of the road where the sidewalk and lanes will be added and then move to the west side. The hours of construction will be 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. You may sign up to receive email updates concerning the construction schedule and progress at roads@wilco.org or visit the project Web site at www.pondspringsroad.org.

Will the County pay for the relocation of signage and other assets currently located in the right-of-way?

No, Williamson County is not responsible for relocation costs. The City of Austin owns all of the right-of-way necessary for the project. Businesses have had the privilege of using the right-of-way at no charge for years and will not be compensated for relocation costs of signage or other items.

Will the road close at any point during construction? Will there be any detours?

For the majority of the project, Pond Springs Road will have at least one lane open in each direction at all times to ensure as little impact to drivers as possible. There may be some late-night or early-morning work at major intersections for a short period of time; in these instances, stakeholders will be alerted via email updates and on the project Web site.

Will my driveway be blocked to prohibit customers from entering my business?

It is a possibility. However, we will work with the business owners in the area to ensure that there is either another way to enter their businesses, or we will work with them on the timing of construction. Please e-mail roads@wilco.org or call our phone line (512) 943-1195, if you have information that will help the County plan for construction in front of your business.

How will you mitigate dust and noise?

We will have a water truck available during construction to mitigate the problem of dust as much as possible. Our main priority is to follow an aggressive construction schedule; as a result, occasional issues of noise may arise even though we will try to avoid causing distractions to businesses along Pond Springs Road. If there are any issues concerning this matter, you may contact the information phone line at (512) 943-1195 or our email at roads@wilco.org.

When the project is complete, will there be crosswalks to protect pedestrians at major intersections?

Yes, there will be crosswalks to improve safety at major intersections that have stoplights. These intersections include Anderson Mill Road and Hunters Chase Drive.

What will happen to my driveway as a result of the project improvements?

All driveways will be rebuilt as part of the project. Driveways that are currently constructed of concrete will be replaced with concrete. If the driveway is asphalt, then it will be replaced with asphalt. Dirt driveways will be replaced with asphalt as a result of the improvements. Properties that do not have a distinct driveway will be designed and constructed to meet City of Austin standards, which may include curbs and other safety features to control traffic flow.

Will trees on Pond Springs Road be removed as a result to the project?

Yes, some trees must be removed from the area in order to complete the project as planned. However, we have made every effort to keep as many trees as possible. We are working to reduce the number of trees to be removed.

Will the work done last year on Pond Springs Road by the City of Austin be affected?

No, the City of Austin's improvements were a planned addition to Pond Springs Road. None of the previous work done in the area will be torn up or taken out. Rather, the new improvements will be built onto the existing road to provide a unified foundation for the new road.

Will there be improvements to Anderson Mill Road?

No, the improvements will only be made to Pond Springs Road. Anderson Mill Road will not be affected by construction in any way, except for the removal of traffic islands.

Who can I contact during the project for more information?

Please contact a member of the Road Bond Program Team at (512) 943-1195 or roads@wilco.org, or visit the project Web site at www.pondspringsroad.org.