

PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

Traveling through the Dallas, Ellis, and Kaufman county study area can be a challenge. I-20, the closest east-west freeway, lies miles to the north. There are gaps in the arterial street network that force east-west traffic to take circuitous routes that use I-20 or US 287. In addition, arterial roadways are growing more congested as the area adds residential, commercial, and industrial development. Loop 9 would provide important east-west connectivity, reduce travel times, and support economic development opportunities in the study area.

PROJECT HISTORY

First conceived in 1957 as part of an outer loop around the City of Dallas, Loop 9 has a long project history. The project has been studied at various times by local, regional and state agencies. During the most recent study, ending in 2011, TxDOT prepared a draft environmental impact statement for the Loop 9 project. That study envisioned Loop 9 as a wide, high-speed toll facility from US 287 near Mansfield to I-20 in Mesquite. Based on several factors including the elimination of the Trans-Texas Corridor from statewide plans and the Regional Outer Loop from regional plans, a new approach was needed for the Loop 9 Southeast project.

CURRENT EFFORTS

To address the local and regional transportation concerns, a new approach has been identified for the Loop 9 Southeast project. In September 2012, a Loop 9 Corridor/Feasibility Study began for the revised Loop 9 project concept from US 67 to I-20. The Corridor/Feasibility Study incorporates more flexible design standards, a reduced right-of-way, a shorter project length, and minimizes the overall impacts when compared to past studies.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

These public meetings are to inform the public of the changes to the Loop 9 Southeast project, provide an introduction of the Corridor/Feasibility Study, and allow the public to provide direct feedback. Additional public meetings will be held to share ideas about how the Loop 9 Southeast project could be phased for construction, to provide an overall timeframe for the development of the different project phases, to identify how initial public comments are incorporated into the project concept where feasible, and to receive community input.

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

Additional meetings with local officials, state and federal resource agencies, and other stakeholders are ongoing. These meetings provide information about the new approach for the project and identify ways to make the Loop 9 project more responsive to local transportation needs.

PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

The outcome of the Loop 9 Southeast Corridor/Feasibility Study will be a program of projects. Some part(s) of Loop 9 will have higher priority because of traffic volumes, critical connections, and/or economic development. The program of projects will consist of a prioritized list of smaller portions of the Loop 9 Southeast corridor and provide a time line of when each project would be needed.

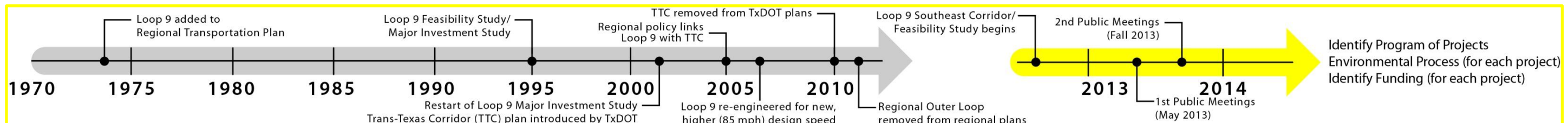
ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

The identified projects will be advanced for environmental study and engineering design in the order listed in the program of projects. The final alignment and access points for each portion of Loop 9 would be chosen during this future environmental analysis process. The environmental process for each programmed project will provide an opportunity for more public involvement even after this Corridor/Feasibility Study is concluded.

PROJECT FUNDING

Funding sources would need to be identified for right-of-way acquisition and construction of the programmed projects cleared through the environmental process. TxDOT and North Central Texas Council of Governments would work together with state and local officials to ensure that the most needed portions of the Loop 9 corridor are constructed quickly, while preserving space to build the full design.

Loop 9 Southeast Project Time Line



LOOP 9 SOUTHEAST CONTACT INFORMATION

Written comments regarding the study may be submitted at the Public Meetings. If one wishes to submit a written comment after the Public Meetings it must be hand-delivered or postmarked on or before **Monday, June 3, 2013**.

By Mail:

Loop 9
Attn: Mr. Bruce Nolley, P.E.
Texas Department of Transportation
Dallas District Office
4777 East Highway 80
Mesquite, Texas 75150

By E-mail:

comments@loop9.org

Information from tonight's public meeting will be available
on the project website: www.loop9.org

***Por favor escribir al correo electrónico
comments@loop9.org, o llamar al teléfono
(214) 320-6100 para obtener información en Español.***



LOOP 9 SOUTHEAST PROJECT FACT SHEET



CORRIDOR/FEASIBILITY STUDY LOOP 9 SOUTHEAST: US 67 TO I-20

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Ferris High School
1025 E. 8th Street
Ferris, TX 75125

AND

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Ovilla Road Baptist Church
3251 Ovilla Road
Ovilla, TX 75154