Documentation of Public Meeting

Project Location
Williamson County
Austin Avenue Bridges Project
CSJ: 0914-05-187

Project Limits
Austin Avenue from 3rd Street to Morrow Street, including the two bridges crossing the North and South Forks of the San Gabriel River

Meeting Location
The City of Georgetown GCAT Building
510 W. 9th St., Georgetown, TX 78626

Meeting Date and Time
May 11, 2017 at 4 pm

Translation Services
Spanish

Presenters
Open house format

Elected Officials in Attendance
Rachael Jonrowe, Councilmember, City of Georgetown, District 6

Total Number of Attendees (approx.)
61

Total Number of Commenters
107

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<tr>
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</table>
Notices
Mailed Public Meeting Announcement
and Distribution to Businesses
The City of Georgetown, in cooperation with Texas Department of Transportation, is studying Austin Avenue from Valley Street to 3rd Street, including the two bridges crossing the North and South Forks of the San Gabriel River, for possible transportation improvements. You are receiving this letter as a property owner or resident near the study area. The third public meeting is being held to share possible improvement alternatives, provide updates on the environmental compliance process, and collect feedback from the public. Possible alternatives being evaluated include a no-build option, build on new location (one-way pair), rehabilitation with pedestrian bridge, rehabilitation with widening, and full replacement options.

Public Meeting
Anyone interested in the project is invited to attend a public meeting. The meeting will be an open house format with no formal presentation, so attendees can come-and-go at their convenience. Attendees will have the opportunity to view project maps and schematics of the proposed alternatives, visit with team members, ask questions, and share their comments on the project.

Submitting Comments
All comments must be received or postmarked by **Friday, May 26, 2017** for inclusion in the public meeting summary using one of the following methods:

- Complete a written comment card at the meeting
- Submit your written comments by May 26, 2017
  Mail: Austin Avenue Bridges Project
  P.O. Box 409, Georgetown, TX 78627
  Email: Austinave@georgetown.org

Project Contact Information:
[http://austinave.georgetown.org](http://austinave.georgetown.org)
(512) 930-8171
austinave@georgetown.org
*If you are interested in receiving project updates, send an email with “Updates” in the subject line.

Accommodations: The meeting will be conducted in English and a Spanish translator will be present. The City of Georgetown is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you require assistance in participating at a public meeting due to a disability, as defined under the ADA, reasonable assistance, adaptations, or accommodations will be provided upon request. Please contact the City Secretary’s Office, at least three (3) days prior to the scheduled meeting date, at (512) 930-3652 or City Hall at 113 East 8th Street for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.*
La revisión ambiental, consulta, y otras acciones según lo requieran las leyes ambientales para este proyecto se están realizando, o se han realizado, por TxDOT con arreglo a 23 U.S.C. 327 y del Memorando de Entendimiento 16 de diciembre 2014 y ejecutados por FHWA y TXDOT.

Reunión Pública

Las personas interesadas en el proyecto están invitadas a la reunión pública. No hará una presentación formal, y asistentes pueden venir e ir a su conveniencia. Los participantes tendrán la oportunidad de ver los esquemas de las propuestas, platicar con miembros del equipo, hacer preguntas, y compartir comentarios.

Comparta Sus Aportaciones

Todos los comentarios deben ser recibidos o en un sobre sellado a más tardar el viernes 26 de mayo 2017 para ser incluidos en el resumen de la reunión pública. Utilice uno de estos métodos para entregar sus aportaciones:

- Completa una tarjeta de comentario en sesión pública
- Comparta sus comentarios por escrito a TxDOT a más tardar el 26 de mayo 2017
  Correro: Austin Avenue Bridges Project
  P.O. Box 409, Georgetown, TX 78627
  Correro Electrónico: Austinave@georgetown.org

Información de Contacto:
http://austinave.georgetown.org
(512) 930-8171
austinave@georgetown.org

*Para actualizaciones sobre el proyecto, pone “actualizaciones” en la línea de asunto

Acomodaciones: La sesión informativa será en inglés, con un traductor al español. La Ciudad de Georgetown está comprometida con el cumplimiento de la Ley de Americanos con Discapacidades (ADA). Si tiene una discapacidad y necesita ayuda, se puede dar asistencia especial para apoyarlo a pedido. Por favor, contacte la Oficina del Secretario de la ciudad a (512) 930-3652, por lo menos tres días antes de la fecha programada para la reunión. Para más información contacte el municipio en 113 East 8th Street.

La revisión ambiental, consulta, y otras acciones según lo requieran las leyes ambientales para este proyecto se están realizando, o se han realizado, por TxDOT con arreglo a 23 U.S.C. 327 y del Memorando de Entendimiento 16 de diciembre 2014 y ejecutados por FHWA y TXDOT.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>NHAN D TRAN</td>
<td>M &amp; M INVESTMENTS</td>
<td>CITY OF GEORGETOWN</td>
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<tr>
<td>GABRIEL OAKS CHURCH OF CHRIST</td>
<td>MICHAEL E MERSIOSKY</td>
<td>REBECCA SHEPPERD KAUFFMAN</td>
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<td>SAN GABRIEL RIVER PLACE FOUNDATION LTD</td>
<td>PATTI COLBERT</td>
<td>CHRISTINA PAREDES</td>
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<td>JOE L &amp; LISA N LYKES</td>
<td>CHANCE &amp; KATRINA M LEIGH</td>
<td>DWIGHT E RICHTER</td>
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<td>CHARLES &amp; DARLA HENDERSON</td>
<td>ELTON LEE MORRIS</td>
<td>JOHN MATTHEW CLARK</td>
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<td>THERESA S VELASQUE</td>
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<td>MICHAEL J KUHN</td>
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<tr>
<td>RGMP AUSTIN AVENUE LLC</td>
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<td>JOHN MATTHEW &amp; TERI A CLARK</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAMIRIO VENTURES LTD</td>
<td>RAJASTHAN INVESTMENTS LLC</td>
<td>HISTORIC GEORGETOWN SQUARE DEAL COMPANY</td>
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<td>4T-LFT VENTURES</td>
<td>RICHARD J &amp; BURLA J GILMOUR</td>
<td>SALVADOR &amp; MAGDALENA LOPEZ</td>
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<td>PAPA JOHNS USA INC</td>
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<td>DICK R HOLLAND</td>
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<tr>
<td>SANDRA P ETHEREDGE</td>
<td>THREADGILL OIL CO INC</td>
<td>MCDONALDS CORP 4542</td>
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<td>BIG DIAMOND INC</td>
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<td>CHRISTOPHER BEAN</td>
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<td>REPUBLIC SQUARE K/C LTD</td>
<td>WONDERWORKERS PROPERTIES LLC</td>
<td>WILLIAMSON COUNTY</td>
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<td>ANDERSON MILL ACQUISITIONS LLC</td>
<td>RAY F THOMAS</td>
<td>HFC INVESTMENTS LTD</td>
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<td>GAL MANAGEMENT LLC</td>
<td>TEXAS HERITAGE VENTURE LTD</td>
<td>VILLAGE PARK CONDOMINIUMS</td>
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<td>HCGT BURGER</td>
<td>ROBERT G MULLINS</td>
<td>MANDY L &amp; ANDREW M SOLIN</td>
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<td>JERIANNE WHITCOMB KOLBER</td>
<td>HEATHER BRITT</td>
<td>DON K &amp; EDITH L ROBERTSON</td>
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<td>W3-B PROPERTIES LLC</td>
<td>CHRISTA L NEAL</td>
<td>TWO RIVERS GT LTD</td>
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<td>TWO RIVERS GT RETAIL LLC</td>
<td>GT MONUMENT</td>
<td>GT MONUMENT 2</td>
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<td>Current Occupant</td>
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<td>Village Park Condos</td>
<td>Hospice Austin Williamson County</td>
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<td>Mike Hill</td>
<td>Mike Hill</td>
<td>Urban Homes and Land</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main Street Baptist Church</td>
<td>Main Street Baptist Church Youth</td>
<td>Williamson County Judge Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgetown Visitors Center</td>
<td>Georgetown Municipal Court</td>
<td>First Presbyterian Church</td>
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<td>Williamson County Sheriff's Office</td>
<td>Williamson County Jail</td>
<td>Williamson County Court</td>
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<td>Williamson County EMS</td>
<td>Macedonia Baptist Church</td>
<td>Wesley Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Paul United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Georgetown Public Library</td>
<td>Blue Hole Park Parks and Recreation Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Gabriel Park</td>
<td>Veterans of Foreign Wars Park</td>
<td>Harvest Baptist Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgetown Recreation Center</td>
<td>Sam Pfiester</td>
<td>Len Denton Georgetown Neighborhood Alliance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>El Monumento</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred Sellers, Treasurer</td>
<td>Marcy Urban</td>
<td>Rustin Winkstern The Monument Café</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village Park Condominiums HOA</td>
<td>Urban Homes and Land</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bobby Weisbrod</td>
<td>Scott Firth</td>
<td>Billy Ray Stubblefield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diva The Ultimate Design Studio</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Patti Colbert
Historic Bridge Foundation Executive Director

Kitty Henderson
Blue Hole Park
Parks and Recreation Administration

Parks and Recreation Administration

Veterans of Foreign Wars Park

Ross Hunter
Downtown Resource Council

El Monumento

Linda Henderson
Texas Historical Commission

El Charito

Larry Olson
Chair, North Old Town Neighborhood Association (NONA)

Matt Synatschk
City of Georgetown Planning Department

David Ciambrone
Williamson County Historical Commission
Section 106 Consulting Parties Mailing List

Sam Pfiester
El Monumento

Marcy Urban
Urban Homes and Land

Len Denton
Georgetown Neighborhood Alliance

Fred Sellers, Treasurer
Village Park Condominiums HOA

Rustin Winkstern
The Monument Café

Bobby Weisbrod
Diva The Ultimate Design Studio

Scott Firth
Georgetown Texas Heritage Society (GHS)

Billy Ray Stubblefield

Patti Colbert

Kitty Henderson
Executive Director, Historic Bridge Foundation

Ross Hunter, Chair
Downtown Resource Council

Linda Henderson
Texas Historical Commission

Larry Olson
Chair, North Old Town Neighborhood Association (NONA)

Matt Synatschk
City of Georgetown Planning Department

David Ciambrone
Williamson County Historical Commission
Public meeting announcements and project contact cards were distributed to local business listed in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Businesses Visited on May 5, 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linda's Nails</td>
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<tr>
<td>T's Blues &amp; Tattoos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese Food</td>
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<td>Hair Express</td>
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<td>GTX Awards and Engraving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supreme Lending</td>
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<td>Regions Bank</td>
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<td>Texas State Law Cost Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hat Creek Burger Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott's Oyster Bar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hula Cowgirl Shaved Ice &amp; Ice Cream</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stanzeski's Cheese, Wine, &amp; Charcuterie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village Park Condos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Rivers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Elected Officials Letter and Mailing List
April 11, 2017

Dear Name:

The City of Georgetown, in cooperation with Texas Department of Transportation, is studying Austin Avenue from Valley Street to 3rd Street, including the two bridges crossing the North and South Forks of the San Gabriel River, for possible transportation improvements. Our team wanted to ensure your office was informed of the project and an upcoming public meeting.

The third public meeting is being held to share possible improvement alternatives, provide updates on the environmental compliance process, and collect feedback from the public. Possible alternatives being evaluated include a no-build option, build on new location (one-way pair of bridges), rehabilitation with pedestrian bridge, rehabilitation with widening, and full replacement options.

**An open house will be held on:**

Thursday, May 11, 2017 from 4 to 7 p.m.
The City of Georgetown GCAT Building
510 W. 9th St., Georgetown, TX 78626

Comments will be collected on this project for a period of 15 calendar days following the open house meeting. We are notifying the public of this meeting through letters, emails, social media, and advertisements in the paper. A copy of the public meeting notice is included for your reference.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact the City of Georgetown Project Manager, Nathaniel Waggoner at (512) 930-8171 or Nathaniel.Waggoner@georgetown.org.

For more information on the project: [http://austinave.georgetown.org](http://austinave.georgetown.org)

Sincerely,

David Morgan
City of Georgetown
City Manager
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Honorable John Carter</td>
<td>Texas Senate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Constable Vinnie Cherrone</td>
<td>Williamson County Constable, Precinct 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Honorable Ana Eby</td>
<td>City of Georgetown, District 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Honorable Keith Brainard</td>
<td>City of Georgetown, District 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Honorable Ty Gipson</td>
<td>City of Georgetown, District 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Honorable John Hesser</td>
<td>City of Georgetown, District 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Honorable Rachel Jonrowe</td>
<td>City of Georgetown, District 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Honorable Steve Fought</td>
<td>City of Georgetown, District 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Honorable Tommy Gonzalez</td>
<td>City of Georgetown, District 7</td>
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<td>The Honorable Larry Gonzales</td>
<td>Texas House of Representatives</td>
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<td>The Honorable Dan A. Gattis</td>
<td>City of Georgetown</td>
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<td>The Honorable Dale Ross</td>
<td>City of Georgetown</td>
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<td>The Honorable Terry Wison</td>
<td>Texas House of Representatives</td>
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<td>The Honorable Ted Cruz</td>
<td>US Senate</td>
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<td>The Honorable John Cornyn</td>
<td>US Senate</td>
<td>Chase Tower</td>
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<td>The Honorable Charles Schwertner</td>
<td>Texas Senate</td>
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<td>Superintendent Dr. Fred Brent</td>
<td>Georgetown ISD</td>
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<td>Sheriff Robert Chody</td>
<td>Williamson County Sheriff’s Office</td>
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</table>
Meeting notice signs posted at the North and South Forks of the San Gabriel River
## Newspaper Advertisements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Publication</th>
<th>Publish Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>El Mundo</td>
<td>April 27, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Williamson County Sun</td>
<td>April 30, 2017</td>
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</table>
"Queremos figurar como punta de cartel y llenar grandes escenarios"

La Alianza Nortea está una agrupación que ha prestado sus canciones a campañas publicitarias de McDonald's y Ford.

Nacido en Turquía (Chi- hauhua) pero nacido en Da- ris, La Alianza Nortea es una de las nuevas promesas de la música regional mexicana que con dedi- cación y trabajo se están ganando el gusto del público. Con cuatro discos en su cuota pero fructífera carrera musical, que inició en Fe- broso del 2007, esta joven agrupa- ción ya comenzó a concierto y a salto con el éxito de sus últi- mos trabajos. 'El amor no ol- vedó', que reciente salió al mercado el pasado 14 de abril, es un éxito en las emisoras estadounidenses. La canción es parte del disco 'Nuestro destino', cuyo material están promocionando actual- mente en toda la Unión Ameri- cana. Para conocerlo y saber de sus planes inmediatos, Marcos Soto y Germán Argámez, bajista y baterista de La Alianza Nortea, respectivamente, visitaron la redacción de El Mundo Newspaper y nos confesaron una amena entrevista.

¿Cuál fue la respuesta a este nuevo material discográfico?
- Marcos: Nosotros sentimos mucha satisfacción porque, de alguna manera, hemos hecho un negocio de oportunidad para conocer el video del sencillo 'El amor no olvidó' en YouTube y ya hemos más de 75,000 vistas.
- Germán: Yo siento que si lo que lo que ha sucedido en los primeros días de lanzamiento del disco es tremendo, y hoy, fueron parte de las campañas publicitarias una de México Do-

La Alianza Nortea es integrada por Gabriel Treviño en el sax; Germán Argámez en la batería; Marco Soto en el bajo eléctrico; Mike Rios en el acordeón; Isaac Ramírez en el bajo eléctrico y Javier Toranzo como la primera voz.

AUSTIN AVENUE PROYECTO DE Puentes

La ciudad de Georgetown, en colaboración con el Departamento de Transportes de Texas (TDOT), por sus siglas en inglés, está llevando a cabo un estudio para posibles mejoras a Austin Avenue, desde Valley Street hasta 3rd Street, incluyendo los dos puentes que cruzan el Río San Gabriel (norte y sur).

En la tercera reunión pública compartiremos posibles alternativas de mejoras, daremos actualizaciones sobre el proceso de cumplimiento ambiental, recogeremos comentarios del público.

Reunión Pública
El jueves 11 de mayo 4-7 p.m.
La Ciudad de Georgetown GCAT Building
510 W. 9th St., Georgetown, TX 78626

No habrá una presentación formal, los asistentes podrán ir y venir a su conveniencia. Los materiales de la reunión estarán disponibles en línea luego de la reunión, todos los comentarios deberán ser recibidos a más tardar el viernes 26 de mayo 2017 para ser incluidos en el resumen de la reunión pública.

Para Más Información
http://austinave.georgetown.org
(512) 930-8171
austinave@georgetown.org

La sesión informativa será en inglés, con un traductor al español. La ciudad de Georgetown está comprometida con el cumplimiento de la Ley de Accesibilidad para Discapacidades (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés).

Si tiene una discapacidad usted puede solicitar asistencia especial. Por favor contacte la Oficina del Secretario de la ciudad a (512) 930-3652, por lo menos tres días antes de la fecha programada para la reunión. Para más información, contacte el municipio en 113 East 8th Street.

Los usuarios de telefónos podrán llamar por Relay Texas a 711.

El estudio ambiental, consultas, y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales se aplicables a este proyecto están siendo o han sido llevados a cabo por TDOT en virtud de TxDOT y el TCEQ.
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF TRAVIS §

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared

Irma B. Portuondo
(Name of newspaper representative)

who being by me duly sworn,

Deposes and says that (s) he is the: Traffic Manager
(Title of newspaper representative)

Of the El Mundo Newspaper; that said newspaper is generally
(name of newspaper)
Circulated in Travis, County, Texas

That the ad for the following customer Concept Development & Planning public notice was published in said newspaper April 27, 2017.

Irma Portuondo
(Newsletter representative's signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 27 day of April, 2017 to certify which witness my hand and seal of office.

(Seal)

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Print or Type Name of Notary Public

Angela M. Angulo

My Commission Expires 7/1/17
Prom king and queen

Georgetown High School's Tara Drummond and Andrew Laroche were named Queen and King April 22.

The City of Georgetown, in cooperation with TxDOT, is studying Austin Avenue from Valley Street to 3rd Street, including the two bridges crossing the North and South Forts of the San Gabriel River, for possible transportation improvements. The third public meeting is being held to share possible improvements alternatives, provide updates on the environmental compliance process, and collect feedback from the public. The meeting is an open house format so attendees can come and go at their convenience.

Public Open House Meeting

Thursday, May 11
4 to 7 p.m.
The City of Georgetown GCAT Building
510 W. 9th St., Georgetown, TX 78626

Meeting materials will be available online following the meeting. Comments must be received by May 26, 2017 for inclusion in the meeting summary.

For more information:
http://austinavenue.georgetown.org
(512) 930-8171 or austinavenue@georgetown.org
The City of Georgetown, in cooperation with TxDOT, is studying Austin Avenue from Valley Street to 3rd Street, including the two bridges crossing the North and South Forks of the San Gabriel River, for possible transportation improvements. The third public meeting is being held to share possible improvement alternatives, provide updates on the environmental compliance process, and collect feedback from the public. The meeting is an open house format so attendees can come-and-go at their convenience.

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For more information:  
http://austinave.georgetown.org  
(512) 930-8171 or  
austinave@georgetown.org

The meeting will be conducted in English and a Spanish translator will be present. If you have communication or accommodation needs, please contact the City Secretary's Office at (512) 930-3652 at least three business days prior to the event.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

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**Affidavit of Publisher to Publication of Legal Notice**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS**  
**COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON**  
**IN THE MATTER OF**

**Concept Development & Planning LLC**  
**Notice of Public Meeting**  
**Austin Avenue Bridges Project**

The Williamson County Sun/Sunday Sun, newspapers of general circulation, have been continuously and regularly published for a period of not less than one year in the County of WILLIAMSON, Texas, preceding the date of the above-referenced notice, as provided in the Texas Probate Code for the services of citation or notice by publication. Said notice was published in said paper as follows:

First insertion: 30th day of April, 2017  
Second insertion: 10th day of May, 2017  
Third insertion: 10th day of May, 2017  
Fourth insertion: 10th day of May, 2017

[Signature]

Newspaper Representative

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 10th day of July, 2017.

[Signature]

Witness my hand and official seal.

[Signature]

Rosita Elsom, Notary Public  
My Commission Expires February 11, 2019
Emailed Notices
Austin Avenue Bridges Project Update

The City of Georgetown and the project team have been coordinating with the Texas Department of Transportation to develop technical reports, study possible improvement alternatives, and plan for the next phases of the Austin Avenue Bridges Project. Below are project updates and the next steps.
Public Meeting on May 11

The next public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 11. At this meeting, the project team will share possible improvement alternatives, provide updates on the environmental compliance process, and collect feedback from the public. Please save the date! If you are not able to attend, materials will be posted online after the meeting.

Public Meeting

Thursday, May 11 from 4 to 7 p.m.
Communication and Technology Building
510 W. Ninth Street
Georgetown, TX, 78626

Public meeting flyer in English and Spanish

Below are additional project updates.

Load Limits

The City conducted further forensic testing of the steel in the bridges. The analysis shows that the existing load rating may be adequate for most commercial vehicles and warrants further consideration. This information has been sent to TxDOT for their recommendations on next steps. The reports are being evaluated and updates will be shared when available.

Environmental Compliance

Our team is preparing Technical Reports in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act due to the federal funding component of the project. Findings will be incorporated into the Environmental Assessment which will be made available for public review upon approval from TxDOT and other agencies, after the next public meeting but prior to the anticipated public hearing.

Historic Resources

The Austin Avenue Bridges are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. We are following the required coordination process with TxDOT, the consulting parties, and the Texas Historical Commission and will update you with any new information as it becomes available. Additional information about historic resources and the Section 106 process will be available at the public meeting.

Project Webpage

The project website has been updated with the latest information. Go to austinave.georgetown.org.
For Additional Information

If you have any additional questions or concerns and would like to talk with someone about them, please contact Nat Waggoner with the City of Georgetown.

Nat Waggoner, AICP, PMP
Transportation Services Analyst
(W) 512.930.8171
nathaniel.waggoner@georgetown.org
www.hightail.com/u/NatWaggoner
www.georgetown.org
Public Meeting on May 11

This is a friendly reminder for the upcoming Austin Avenue Bridges Project public meeting. The meeting is an open house format, with no formal presentation, so come at your convenience. At this meeting, we will share possible improvement alternatives, provide updates on the environmental compliance process, and collect feedback from the public.

Public Meeting
Thursday, May 11, from 4 to 7 p.m.
Communication and Technology Building
510 W. Ninth St.
Georgetown, TX, 78626

Public meeting flyer in English and Spanish

We hope you are able to join us, but if you cannot make it, please be sure to visit the project website. All meeting materials will be posted by Friday, May 12, to austinave.georgetown.org.

For Additional Information

If you have any additional questions or concerns and would like to talk with someone about them, please contact Nat Waggoner with the City of Georgetown.

Nat Waggoner, AICP, PMP
Transportation Services Analyst
(W) 512.930.8171
nathaniel.waggoner@georgetown.org
www.hightail.com/u/NatWaggoner
www.georgetown.org
Good afternoon,

Thank you to everyone who attended the third public meeting for the Austin Avenue Bridges Project last night. We received great input from the community and look forward to sharing this soon.

Meeting Materials

The meeting materials are available on the project webpage, please visit to view the exhibits, alternatives, and handout. Visit the public meeting page.

Please Share Your Comments by May 26!
We are collecting input on the possible improvement alternatives. While comments are always welcome, input must be received or postmarked before **Friday, May 26, 2017**, to be included in the meeting report.

Click here to complete an Online Comment Form

Or send your comments via email or mail

**Email:** AustinAve@georgetown.org

**Mail:** Georgetown Utility Systems, C/O Nathaniel Waggoner, P.O. Box 409, Georgetown, TX 78627

Below are a few photos of the meeting on May 11, 2017. Please contact the project team with any questions or concerns and thank you for your interest in the Austin Avenue Bridges Project.

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**For Additional Information**

If you have any additional questions or concerns and would like to talk with someone about them, please contact Nat Waggoner with the City of Georgetown.

Nat Waggoner, AICP, PMP
Transportation Services Analyst
(512) 930-8171
nathaniel.waggoner@georgetown.org
www.hightail.com/u/NatWaggoner
www.georgetown.org
Good afternoon,

Thank you to everyone who has shared their comments and input on the Austin Avenue Bridges Project. This is a friendly reminder to share comments by Friday for inclusion in the meeting summary report. We will gather all comments and send a notice once the report is available online.

Share your input!

We are still collecting input on the possible improvement alternatives. While comments are welcome throughout the study, input must be received or postmarked before Friday, May 26, 2017, to be included in the meeting report.
The meeting materials are available on the project webpage, please visit to view the exhibits, alternatives, and handout. Visit the public meeting page.

Click here to complete an Online Comment Form

Or send your comments via email or mail

Email: AustinAve@georgetown.org

Mail: Georgetown Utility Systems, C/O Nathaniel Waggoner, P.O. Box 409, Georgetown, TX 78627

Thank you for your interest in the Austin Avenue Bridges Project.

Learn more about the project by visiting our webpage

To learn more about the project, click here to visit our webpage or follow the link below. Materials from previous meetings, information on potential improvement alternatives, and project information are available for review online.

Project Webpage: https://transportation.georgetown.org/austin-avenue-bridges/

For Additional Information

If you have any additional questions or concerns and would like to talk with someone about them, please contact Nat Waggoner with the City of Georgetown.

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Sign-in sheets
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Comments Received
Written Comment Cards
COMMENT FORM
May 11, 2017 Public Meeting

Name: Robert Smith

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Interested in the traffic

Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Interested in the traffic flow information regarding the construction

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

How are the estimated service life projections made. What is the expected projected traffic volume over the upcoming years?
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?


Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?


If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:


While comments are collected throughout the environmental study, to be included in the meeting report they must be received or postmarked by Friday, May 26, 2017. You may submit your written comments using one of the following methods:

- Mail: Georgetown Utility Systems, C/O Nathaniel Waggoner
  PO Box 409, Georgetown, TX 78627
- Email: AustinAve@georgetown.org
- Online comment form available at: AustinAve.Georgetown.org

For more information, please contact:
Nathaniel Waggoner
City of Georgetown Project Manager
Email: AustinAve@georgetown.org
Phone: (512) 930-8171
http://austinave.georgetown.com

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)):
Check each of the following boxes that apply to you:

☐ I am employed by TxDOT
☐ I do business with TxDOT
☐ I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting
Comment Form
May 11, 2017 Public Meeting

Name: Ken Steed

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
No, well done!

Are there any weaknesses to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
No, again well done.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?
No additional comments, keep 7A because of historical aspect and closure of E. I think widening the bridges is very important in addition to pedestrian access.

Bye, great cookies!
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?


Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?


If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:


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  PO Box 409, Georgetown, TX 78627
- Email: AustinAve@georgetown.org
- Online comment form available at: AustinAve.Georgetown.org

For more information, please contact:
Nathaniel Waggoner
City of Georgetown Project Manager
Email: AustinAve@georgetown.org
Phone: (512) 930-8171
http://austinave.georgetown.com

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May 11, 2017 Public Meeting

Name: J.B. Pace

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

No

Are there any weaknesses to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Don't know any.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I lived in Austin for many years and was a jogger on the town lake trail. I saw several people get hit by buses (mirrors) while they were walking or a side walk or the Lamar bridge. It is very important to make the walk way/wide or put the walk way under or beside the bridge roadway.

AUSTIN AVENUE BRIDGES PROJECT
Georgetown, Texas
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?


Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Start now showing people alternative travel ways when the bridge work starts. Start to educate the retired people that things change.

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Name: Vince DeLaCruz

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Safer bike/running trail & intersections.

Are there any weaknesses to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Laws that need to be fought about bridges that need to be replaced, and how it slows down growth and infrastructure.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Laws that protect bridges from being demolished because of old engineering technology that's been replaced with better engineering a few years later need to be fought. (We don't save old Apple computers) When we could reuse/save bridge or...
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?


Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?


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May 11, 2017 Public Meeting

Name: Walter Davies

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Are there any weaknesses to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

In my opinion full replacement is the most viable option. Any option other than rebuild leaves an 80 year old foundation (normal approach to end of life) is not as fully aesthetically pleasing, and does not offer the fullest use as a full replacement does. Negative impact to local business will be equal with any choice except no build.
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Is the historical environmental value of keeping historic bridge best choice for transportation need of major city artery?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Total replacement is the most viable option from every angle of consideration: cost, historic, environment.

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Name: Burke Grandjean

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Are there any weaknesses to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

None of the options addresses the main problems for vehicle—Williams Drive intersection and University Ave intersection. Improving vehicle flow on the bridges won't help the overall flow much.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Rehab with a pedestrian bridge (lot) seems the best choice. Addresses pedestrian mobility and safety issues. Vehicle issues (on bridges) are a lower priority, for reasons stated above.
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

No

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I would like to see the "potential trail connections" included in the final scope.

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Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

A strength of Alternative 7A is that retail establishments in downtown Georgetown would be minimally impacted. Alternative 8 would have a negligible impact on retail businesses in the city. Recovery after completion of construction would be short and extended.

Are there any weaknesses to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Alternative 8 would promote a new bridge in the historic and picturesque neighborhood, which helps characterize Georgetown. I do not believe we need another bridge similar to that at the fork crossing over the SC river.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Cost estimates appear to be unrealistic, particularly for Alternative 8. Further, it is difficult to imagine the difference in cost between 7A and 8 is only $3 million dollars.
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

I am not familiar enough with the environmental process to make a comment.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Yes, I believe the decision on the bridge should be a referendum item. Detailed debate and public discussion should occur—not just a TxDOT and/or city council decision.

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Name: John Malone

Address(optional): 

Phone: 

Organization: 

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?


Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?


Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

7A I'm in favor of this most of all. Rehabilitation & Widening Bridges. Then 6A Rehabo with Pedestrian Bridge's. 2A is a good choice for traffic if cuts down on what is there now and gives pedestrian
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

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Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

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The displays were good and clear. People available to address them were very helpful.

Are there any weaknesses to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Adding a designated left turn lane onto San Gabriel St/Blvd will make it obvious that it's a direct route to I-35. Right now not everyone knows that! The traffic goes too fast now — when it becomes a major intersection, the traffic on 2 lanes on San Gabriel will definitely increase in both numbers & speed.
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

__________________________________________________________________________

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Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

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Name: Dwight Richter

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Not really, although in my opinion, the historical value of the bridges might be emphasized a bit more.

Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I would like to commend all parties involved. I feel that every alternative possible has been presented and I have been impressed by how approachable all these folks have been. Every person involved that I spoke to has bent over backwards to answer my questions.
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

No, I appreciate the effort that has gone into this project and I am very satisfied that the folks involved have the community's best interest in mind.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I completely support the idea of rehabilitating it; it would be a shame in a town that takes such pride in its downtown to just restore these historic structures. That said I also feel that a pedestrian/bike bridge is an absolute necessity.

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Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

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Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

The turn lanes are needed, in the selected alternatives. The pedestrian bridge is a nice plus. The full replacement would be better. Impact the historic community feel. Alternative routes into downtown need to be discussed if presented.
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?


Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

A presentation would greatly help everyone attending understand the options. The Q & A around tables would be more effective. When a verbal presentation, financial funding needs to be discussed at the next public hearing as options get narrowed.

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Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

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Are there any weaknesses to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

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____________________________________________________________________________________

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I usually go for the cheapest option, but definitely

love the 10% price increase, it lasts longer. I like using

materials that last a long time. I really like the possibilities

of mixing bike/bike trail. Dog friendly?
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?


Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?


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Name: Ron Garland

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

No - the 5 provide great thoughts and hard work.

Are there any weaknesses to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

No weaknesses - but the need for turn lanes is critical. Also critical is how traffic narrows from 3 lanes to 2 lanes.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

No environmental concerns have been
really been studied.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Alternative DA would be best choice, all things considered.

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Online Comment Forms
Austin Ave. Bridges - Online Comment Form

Please use the fields below to share your input on the Austin Ave. Bridges Project.

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Name *

Dr. Timothy W. Fleming

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Arts and Culture Board

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Alternative 2A–Turning left at San Gabriel Village Blvd from either North or South would require dedicated left turn signals but would prohibit continuing straight in the left turn lanes. There will likely be bottlenecks when moving from six lanes to four lanes at the ends of the projects.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

1. without replacement of bearings, it seams like only a bandaid. 2A appears to be the alternative that would provide the best continuous service to the square business community during construction.,

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

I trust that care for any wildlife or endangered species would be considered.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

It would be nice to have some design features at both ends that would welcome visitors to the cultural district and historic town square.

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Please use the fields below to share your input on the Austin Ave. Bridges Project.

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Name *
Brad Allen

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization
Resident

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Would have liked to see an elevation rendering of the finished alternatives. Perhaps it's too soon for that.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

nb_allen@yahoo.com

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Name *

David R. Abbey

Address (optional)

Phone

Retired Traffic Engineer
Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

To provide adequate capacity and land use access there needs to be at least one through lane in each direction, so that left turn can be taken out of the through traffic flow.

Temporary widening using temporary piles, timber temporary bridge decking and asphalt overlay on one side can be used to supply adequate width to provide a minimum required width, while building sufficient permanent final construction to provide for the same three lanes plus pedestrian features plus clear zone to work area.

Not providing 3 lanes during construction will make it nearly impossible to avoid gridlock, as a single left turner per signal cycle will block all through vehicles for the duration of the cycle, or until all opposing through traffic has cleared, or another left turn arrives from the other direction and both can clear at the same time. Then traffic can flow until the next left turner arrives.

Even with this approach, traffic capacity will be significantly reduced, but as the existing roadway does not have left turn lanes at each end of the bridges, the existing capacity is already restricted during peak hours. Assuming there are existing turning movement traffic counts, existing levels of service can be measured, and any reduction in capacity can be calculated. Synchro is a good software program to optimize capacity by optimizing signal timings during construction.

There are probably local specialty consultants that could the work as a sub to the existing consultants. If not, there certainly are in the metroplex or Houston.

I do not currently have active professional registration in Texas, and am not looking for work, but if I could be of help informally, let me know.

Dave

Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

JJ

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

SCCA

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

no
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

no

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I prefer Option 8-Full replacement. We missed the opportunity at the turn of the century to replace the bridges when our population was less. I plan on living here for the rest of my life and don't want to attend this meeting again in 10 years.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

no

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Option 8- Full replacement is my choice. If we don't replace them now, we will have to replace them soon. In the future the amount to replace will be quite a bit more and more people will be inconvenienced. The smart decision is to replace.

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Name *

Fred Sellers

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Village Park Homeowners' Association

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Turn lane at San Gabriel Village Blvd intersection would lead to increased traffic on the boulevard, a negative for people living in Village Park Condominiums.

Wider lanes on the bridges seem unnecessary, as the road only leads into the downtown square (or onto 2nd Street).

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Name *

mark townsend

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?
please build option 2A

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Jeff Parker

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Place an actual dollar value on each alternative over minimum lifespan.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Alternative 1 does not address potential catastrophic failure, not does it make crystal clear one of the alternatives will have to be undertaken in the next 5 years. There is nothing indicating the bridges are already experiencing failures with chunks of concrete falling on a regular basis & being picked up by the city.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Of the 5 alternatives presented, we must look at each and it's financial impact over time. Full replacement will cost over the life of the bridge less than $210,000 per year. Conversion to 1-way or Rehab & Widen are both less than $437,000 per year over minimum life span of the repair. Rehab with Pedestrian Bridge is less than $350,000 per year. Pretty simple calculation. We do a full replacement which over the life of the bridges, gives us a significantly better return on our investment at $210,000 per year over the minimum lifespan.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Austin Ave. Bridges - Online Comment Form

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Name *

Bill Dryden

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Citizen, retired

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the presentation; I was out of town until late in the evening. However, here are my comments based upon the alternate Options shown:

1) Any alternative which does not provide dedicated left turn bays for all THREE signalized intersections are long term inefficient and increase the exposure to rear end crashes and produce unnecessary congestion based delay in traffic flow, thus eliminating the first 4 of the 5 options presented - Options 1; 2A; 6A and 7A - without need for further evaluation.

2) The "add lane" from EB San Gabriel Village Boulevard to SB Austin Avenue serves no useful long term purpose and casual observation of existing motorists reveals that much of the existing traffic comes to a full stop at the intersection without using the add lane feature. It should not be included with any further design or construction phasing, it is inefficient and is an unnecessary/wasted expense of both design and construction funds.

3) Option 8, Full Replacement, provides maximum operational safety and capacity for the long-term traffic demands on Austin Avenue into and out of the Downtown Business District and Old Town from the north. This Option provides a logical roadway cross section transition from the needs of the Downtown/Old Town area (4U) and the operational and safety needs of Austin Avenue north of and including 2nd Street (4U). By allowing SB traffic a protected LT at 2nd Street, more traffic can continue less restricted into the downtown business area.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

None
Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

None beyond those expressed above.

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Name *

Sam L Pfiester

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

self

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

6A should meet all criteria. You defined NEED and lane width to exclude it from meeting all criteria.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

The public should be informed of and involved in the definition of NEED. Your definition predisposes the conclusion to promote options 6A and 8.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

The environmental map was incorrect. Karsting covers the whole area, not just the area upriver from the bridges.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Option 6A is the best option.

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Name *

Kathy Sellers

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

President, Village Park Condos HOA
Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 6A. is described as not having "mobility improvements." However, if the feet gained from the elimination of the old pedestrian sidewalks were used to make the lanes wider, the problem would be solved. I confirmed this with the person who was at the table. In the column headed "Meeting Purpose and Need" it would then say, "Meets All Criteria" - and it would be by far the best option.

I repeat, 6A is the best option.

Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?
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Name *

Rebecca Pfiester

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Self

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

6A should meet all criteria. T

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

6A is the best option: least impact on downtown and best for improved mobility

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

6A should be approved

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Name *

Laurie Locke

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

n/a

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 6A is best option due to cost, lack of damage to downtown businesses, and esthetics.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Any option other than 6A presents a threat to downtown businesses, lack of appropriateness as far as size is concerned, and needless extra cost to carry out.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

We have made the mistake of tearing down historic buildings in the past because of haste or lack of vision. Please do not repeat these mistakes. Choose option 6A.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

no.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Ben Lake

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

The "Full Replacement" alternative seems to be the most cost effective option, as it has a 75-year life. I believe any alternative that does not fully address the purpose and need of the project is simply delaying the inevitable. Yes, there would undoubtedly be impacts to local businesses but the impact would be even great 30 years from now when traffic levels are even higher.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I appreciate the public outreach opportunities, and the many ways which I hear about these meetings (website, email, utility bill, etc.)

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Name *

Barbara Anthony

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

While expensive, it seems like there is not that much difference in cost between 12.7, 13.1, and 15.7 million. If any of those options are seriously considered, for the cost differences between them, it seems like the full replacement with the longest life is the best for the city in the long term, and that the differences in construction time are minimal for a multi-year project. The no build option seems like it would just result in perpetual discussions, and with building not even starting until 2019 at the earliest, that it would be better to make a decision soon for how to improve the bridges.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

As someone who drives those bridges multiple times each day, I still believe that the longer term goal needs to be considered. Thus, I think no build is not viable. That said, I think it is important to ensure that at least one lane in each direction is open for as many daylight hours as possible.

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

barbaraanthony@gmail.com
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Name *

Kathryn Heidemann

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

self
Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 6A is the only viable option that has been presented. This option will provide for long delayed maintenance investment to extend the life of the existing structures as set out in the engineering reviews that were presented. We certainly need to rehabilitate the bridges. I support widening the existing traveled ways to include the sidewalks and increasing mobility and safety of the traffic flow. That option, with a separate pedestrian bridge, would meet the necessary criteria for preserving the economic and historic vitality of our downtown.

Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Other options require too much destruction to the downtown economy.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Most proposals require federal funding and the corresponding NEPA process. Long and costly processes wherein the only benefit is added chances for objections to occur. There are no practical suggestions except 6A.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?
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Name *

Kathryn Heidemann

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

self
Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

The only viable option that I would choose would be Option 6A to rehab the existing bridges with only new construction for a pedestrian bridge. There certainly should be an investment made to maintain the structural integrity of the existing bridges, while protecting the historic qualities of the existing structures. Engineering reports have provided evidence that this practical solution is the one to be selected. It makes no sense to require the other alternatives and to risk the economic strength of our downtown. I support only Option 6A.

Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Most proposals require federal funding and the corresponding NEPA process. Long and costly processes wherein the only benefit is added chances for objections to occur. All except Option 6A are not practical suggestions.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?
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Name *

Jen Mauldin

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

The best alternative is 6A so that there is a replacement of the bridge is completed and a pedestrian walkway is also available.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

The other alternatives will cause a major disruption to the downtown economy.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

none

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Tom Crawford

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Sun City Citizen

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

No
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

No

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I recommend that the professional engineers determine the correct course of action that the City should take to assure long term safe passage across the spans.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

No, the regulations will cover all concerns.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

It is imperative that turn lanes are incorporated in any design plans. That would call for a five lane road from Morrow to 2nd Street.

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

TomCrawford@cib.net
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Name *

Bill Dryden

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Citizen - retired

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

One of the factors which should be paramount in finalizing the "solution" should be modelling the effects of the alternatives based upon each alternative's impact to future traffic patterns.

The City Georgetown and TxDOT have multiple projects in the pipeline north of the downtown area which all work together to form viable routes from west of I 35 crossing and paralleling I 35 which should be considered in the mix. Without the overall impact study, the chosen solution may not be what is best for the citizen users of not only these bridges, but of the traffic network as a whole.

These proposed projects include:
- Rivery Extension, from Williams Drive to Northwest Boulevard
- Northwest Boulevard crossing I 35, extending to Austin Avenue, with a re-aligned FM 971
- Proposed Northbound I 35 Frontage Road from Williams Drive to north of Northwest Boulevard
- Proposed complete reconstruction if the I 35/Williams Drive bridges and connection at Austin Avenue
- Williams Drive improvements between Rivery Drive and I 35
- SB I 35 Frontage Road improvements from Williams Drive to Rivery Boulevard.

Additionally, the City is studying the Williams Drive for corridor improvements which can significantly impact Austin Avenue as more efficient traffic flows result into both the I 35 and Austin Avenue corridors.

The bridges do not now, nor will they ever operate "in a vacuum;" They are part of a larger transportation network system which must be considered for the impact to the WHOLE system.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?
Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

I restate an [on-going and continual] objection to calling the bridges "historic." Being "eligible for historic designation" is NOT the same as being [actually] *designated* a "historic." Such mis-designation of what is HISTORIC vs COULD BE HISTORIC is clouding the ability of the local community to gain what is actually needed as a long-term solution and will probably wind up with the citizens being strapped with a less-than-desirable, interim solution which will cost significantly more in the future to resolve, both in actual "hard costs" as well as the on-going soft costs of additional congestion and delay and traffic crash potential resultant from not adequately addressing and correcting the problems which are facing the tax-paying citizens and users of the bridges.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Edward Valentine

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Alternative 2A (2 one way bridges) has the long term advantage of future repair/replace without closing access to downtown.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

My preference is definitely 2A

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Christopher Damon

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

self

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

was a very thorough articulation of the options
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

was a very thorough articulation of the options

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I appreciate the exhaustive exploration of all conceivable options. Having evaluated all the options, I am left to conclude than anything less than a proper full replacement -- Option 8 -- would be a disservice to Georgetown in general and our beloved downtown in particular. The reasons to do less than a full replacement seem rooted in political motivations that do not represent the highest and best interests of the community. The need to replace the bridge is not a political issue: it is an infrastructural issue. My family belongs to a small group of Georgetown families that have quite literally invested millions of dollars toward the rehabilitation and the revitalization of Downtown Georgetown. We know from daily experience that our downtown businesses live and die by ingress and egress. The Austin Avenue corridor is the principal conduit through which the Western portion of Georgetown gets to downtown: The cold fact is that that old bridge is a death trap and a congested nuisance that is only getting worse, and is now completely incongruous with the needs and realities of 21st Century Georgetown. The worse traffic gets there -- the more people who get killed there -- the more West Georgetown residents will avoid coming to the Square entirely. The construction of a new bridge will be disruptive in the short term, but a god-send in the long. If you love Downtown Georgetown, please get us state-of-the art infrastructure, so that we can continue to thrive now and for centuries to come.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Replacing decaying, existing infrastructure seems like the most environmentally non-controversial issue imaginable. This issue seems like a political contrivance to me.
Downtown Georgetown deserves to be served with thoughtful, meaningful and effective infrastructure. To compete with the strip malls, we need good roads, good sewers, a modern electrical grid, ample parking and safe, smart bridges to bring all manner of people -- in cars, in busses, on bicycles, on foot -- safely downtown and back. We made the right decision in the 1990's when we replaced the dangerous Highway 29 bridge over the South San Gabriel. Please don't skimp on our infrastructure now.

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Name *

Fred Sellers

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Consulting party, Section 106, NHPA. HOA board, Village Park Condominiums

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
I strongly recommend adoption of what has been labeled “Option 6A, Rehabilitation with Pedestrian Bridge,” at an estimated cost of $7 million.

This option has been said only to meet only “some criteria (no mobility improvements).” However, it does not make sense to spend an extra $5 million to $10 million to adopt either option 7A or option 8 in order to pursue the specified mobility improvements, which I understand means widening the driving lanes to 12 feet. There are several reasons for this:

• Current traffic already flows smoothly over the existing bridges—there is no need to widen the lanes.
• Austin Avenue is misclassified as a “principal arterial”. It should be designated as an urban arterial, which would end the pretense that the bridges should have 12-foot lanes.
• Even under option 6A the lanes could be widened to nearly 12 feet by removing the sidewalks and incorporating their width into the existing lanes.
• Austin Avenue is not a through highway—a principal arterial—as is University Avenue.
• Austin Avenue leads to the downtown courthouse square, whose lanes cannot be widened. There is no need for a super-wide thoroughfare approaching the square.
• Option 6A will be much less disruptive to the community than either option 7A or option 8 during construction.
• In addition to costing less, construction should take much less time under option 6A than under either option 7A or option 8.

Thanks for your efforts in bringing this project to a satisfactory conclusion.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

We have historically significant structures, which can and should be saved.
Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Michael Spano

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Yes, I find it difficult to comprehend that the cost, outside of Option 6A, are almost similar in price. I am thinking that the costs are far more than what is stated here and would anticipate that there will be cost overruns. Second issue is why was bridge maintenance passed from TXDoT to the City of Georgetown? There is a lot of information to look through and it may be buried in some document not apparent to me.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I think that we should look at options that are the least intrusive to traffic and does not require putting traffic/roads closer to the businesses on either side of the bridge.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

I would like to see a full environmental impact study in regards to water quality and any wildlife that may be potentially harmed posted for review. The environmental maps do not tell me anything. People go down to the southern portion of the river to play in the water so there should be safeguards for protecting water quality and safety from construction debris.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

My preference is 6A. This option seems to be less impactful to the businesses on both sides of the bridge. The cost for option 6A also is less and I still think that at the end of the day; adding or over expanding the bridges will result in cost overruns and traffic issues going to/from downtown.
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Name *

Lucy

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

great information collected
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

very thorough

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I think we should do choice 8-Full replacement. I've seen older things rehabbed and renovated and it usually ends up great, yet the cost to do it always seems to be higher than replacing the old with the new. I love the railings, and would like to see them reused. I believe with our growth and our traffic, we need to think of the future of our town and of life safety and do a full replacement of the bridges.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

no

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

How many other bridges are like this that haven't been replaced?

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Name *

Larry Olson

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

resident

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 6, with a dedicated pedestrian and bicycle bridge, would be the safest alternative. Option 6 is my favorite alternative. I oppose Options 7A and 8.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 7A would add an unneeded and costly dedicated center turn lane and also 12 foot lanes which would be reduced back down to 11 foot lanes at 2nd Street. I oppose Options 7A and 8.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Option 6A is the safest and most cost-effective alternative for Georgetown drivers, pedestrians and bicyclers. Option 6 is my favorite alternative. I oppose Options 7A and 8.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Option 6 is my favorite alternative and I oppose Options 7A and 8.

The City should immediately add dedicated north-south turn signals (not lanes) on Austin Ave at San Gabriel Village Blvd. and 2nd St, which would significantly increase the safety for these intersections? This is the same solution the City uses at the much busier Austin Ave/University and Austin Ave/Leander Rd intersections.

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Name *

Ed Olson

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 6, with a dedicated pedestrian and bicycle bridge, would be the safest alternative. Option 6 is my favorite alternative. I oppose Options 7A and 8.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 7A would add an unneeded and costly dedicated center turn lane and also 12 foot lanes which would be reduced back down to 11 foot lanes at 2nd Street. I oppose Options 7A and 8.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Option 6A is the safest and most cost-effective alternative for Georgetown drivers, pedestrians and bicyclers. Option 6 is my favorite alternative. I oppose Options 7A and 8.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Option 6 is my favorite alternative and I oppose Options 7A and 8.

The City should immediately add dedicated north-south turn signals (not lanes) on Austin Ave at San Gabriel Village Blvd. and 2nd St, which would significantly increase the safety for these intersections? This is the same solution the City uses at the much busier Austin Ave/University and Austin Ave/Leander Rd intersections.

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☐ I do business with TxDOT

☐ I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

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Austin Ave. Bridges - Online Comment Form

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Name *

Clark Lyda

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 6A is the safest and least costly option
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Any option other than 6A will result in time-consuming, embarrassing, and costly litigation and negative press coverage for the City and its consultants.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Option 6A is the best of the presented options.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Apparently

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Unfortunately staff has been trying to destroy and replace these safe, serviceable, and historic bridges for at least the last 20 years, resulting in the waste on ridiculous amounts of public money and man hours. Hopefully the City will once and for all make the only economically and legally justified decision which is to repair these bridges pursuant to option 6A.

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Name *

John Gordon

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Multiple
Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

First your durn form disappeared on me in the middle my typing.

6A has a combination of preservationist and taxpayer support - that is a potent political force.

Second, European cities have charm because they stay away from upgrading the old town areas. Georgetown will retain its charm by preserving the existing, do not upgrade and replace.

Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Ruth and I favor 6A

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Keep them open to protect downtown merchant's
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Name *
Larkin Tom

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

We should receive the full 12 options to make a judgment.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I endorse a pedestrian bridge preferably on both sides of the river.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

We need more transparency.

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I do business with TxDOT

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Name *

Jackie Camacho

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Baylor Scott & White Healthcare

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Very concerned that new construction would devastate the downtown business.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Knocking the Bridge down has a huge environmental impact.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

6A looks to be the most environmentally and fiscally friendly answer

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

jakicamacho50@gmail.com

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Name *

John C. Johnson, Jr.

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?
Option 6A is the most cost effective and safest option as well as respecting the historical integrity of the existing bridges and the old town community.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Victoria Stubbington

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I support option 6A

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

vstubbington@gmail.com

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Name *

Jonathan Dade

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Messiah Echad

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

The complete rebuild, $15MM and 75 year life span option, is best
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

The other options have less bridge life span, and higher opportunity costs

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

No

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

No

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

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Name *
Ekokobe Fonkem

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization
Baylor Scott and White

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
None
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

None

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

None

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

none

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I support 6A

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

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Name *

Leonard Van Gendt

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

The Downtown Masterplan calls for changes to be beneficial for pedestrian traffic. That can best and most safely be achieved by two pedestrian bridges, one on each side of the historic bridge, without closing off traffic to downtown. So option 6A+. 
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 7A with the added center lane is not necessary, expensive and does nothing to protect pedestrians.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Apparently some alternatives have been considered by the City but have been kept out of public view, creating a lack of transparency.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

What made the city decide to drop the option of a pedestrian bridge on the west side?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Who made the selections and what standards did people use for this selection?

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Name *

Larry Brundidge

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

This is a supplemental comment to my written comments at the meeting. Any proposed decision should face public scrutiny at a Georgetown governmental agency. Hearings at HARC would be a great format for citizens to express their opinions and concerns after thorough information exposure.

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Name *

Clare Easley

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 6A with pedestrian bridge is most appealing, safe, and least expensive. It respects concern of near businesses and ambiance of historic downtown
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

clareeasley@gmail.com

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Name *

Linda Scarbrough

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

The Williamson County Sun
I believe so. Technical language ("no mobility improvements") makes 6A sound more unattractive as an option than it is. To my mind, it is the most economic option and the one most likely to help create an economic engine in the Downtown Historic District. It does not widen the sidewalks, which are unsafe as they are, but it does create a new and separate pedestrian bridge, which will be the safest option for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists. This would be a huge EXPANSION of mobility, one that TXDoT has supported with bike paths, etc., for the last 15 years or so. It protects engineering history by saving and improving the original bridge structure. It opens a pathway to creating a wonderful gateway to downtown Georgetown's business and retail section, which could make Georgetown the leading retail magnet between Austin and ... well, a long way north. 6A is in keeping with Georgetown's citizen-driven 2000 Master Plan, which asked for a "walkable" downtown. Subsequent studies have recommended linking the Square and the river by making the area more pedestrian friendly. 6A could be the key to success. I do not support wider lanes; they will lead to faster traffic which is bad for downtown and unsafe for pedestrians. However, I do support either a small turning lane between the bridges (as at Morrow) and/or a light that allows a controlled left hand turn there. That is a dangerous intersection.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

My feeling that the way 7A is presented overstates its advantages. Wider lanes in an urban setting such as Austin Avenue from the San Gabriel River through downtown are counterproductive. They are, in fact, dangerous to walkers — I do not have the figures but have seen the shocking numbers in the increase in death rates when pedestrians are hit by vehicles traveling faster than 25 miles per hour. We should do everything in our power to SLOW traffic across the bridges, between the river and the Square, and through downtown. Better for business and for people. One of the unstated expenses of a longer, more extensive project than necessary such as 7A or (God forbid) 8 would be to kill many of downtown Georgetown's favorite eateries and shops. We have seen this happen recently in Salado, Texas, and on our own Square when the Courthouse was being restored. There was no restriction on entering downtown, but the wall around the Courthouse was so unwelcoming that people didn't want to come to the Square and we lost most of our small retail shops, especially restaurants. 6A could be the last chance for downtown Georgetown to recreate itself as a retail DESTINATION — and become the economic engine for all of the city. If we make it difficult for people to drive downtown, with an unnecessarily complex and expensive project such as 7A or 8, the Square will lose customers, stores will close, and downtown will flip to office space. The joy of having a downtown where we can all WANT TO meet and celebrate our neighborliness will be lost. And that would be a disaster for suburban Georgetown.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

No.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

No.
Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

The people of Georgetown, supported by the City of Georgetown and by Williamson County, have toiled hard for 35 years to support retailers and to create what we have today on and around the Courthouse Square Historic District and the extended downtown district to the San Gabriel River. It has not happened by accident. All building owners have contributed, as well as owners of retail businesses and two governments. We survived and came back after the economic collapse in our state in 1986. We survived and came back after the courthouse restoration set us back in unexpected ways. In 2000, the state, through TxDOT, wanted to widen the Austin Avenue bridges and Austin Avenue all the way through town. The city was horrified — Austin Avenue was precious to Georgetown citizens, and although some were tempted, most citizens said NO, and strongly, to what would have been a disastrous widening of Austin Avenue/Highway 81 through Georgetown, including the Square, simply to move more traffic faster. The City Council petitioned TXDoT to take over maintenance and control of Austin Avenue, and that occurred. Which is why the city has control now — and that is a wonderful thing. Now, as it was in 2000, it is important that city officials, representatives, and citizens understand that the San Gabriel River/Austin Avenue Bridges project must be understood as only one piece of the fabric of downtown Georgetown. The bridges must be made to work for the people who live and do business here. They cannot be thought about as a separate entity — their impact on Georgetown citizens is too great, for better or worse. 6A is the best way to accomplish that goal. In my view, 6A is not perfect, but it is by far the best option available for a reasonable price that will result in what we the people of Georgetown think most important: safety, walkability, and preserving and enhancing the beautiful downtown we have saved, rebuilt, and brought to economic stability.

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

linda@wilcosun.com
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Name *

Don Padfield

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Regardless of the option chosen, please insure that restrictions on Austin Ave traffic do NOT occur until after the Southwest bypass has been put in service. This will provide safer access to/from downtown by way of University Street.

Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Regardless of the option chosen, please insure that restrictions on Austin Ave traffic do NOT occur until after the Southwest bypass has been put in service. This will provide safer access to/from downtown by way of University Street.

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Name *

Mike Mersiosky

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Sonic Drive In

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

I like the idea of leaving the existing bridges in place.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

You did not cover the economic impact it would have on downtown and the square if the bridges were torn down and rebuilt. You would cripple the square. I would assume that over half the business on the square would go bankrupt if the bridges were under construction for two plus years.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Linda Austin

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

n/a

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 6A seems like the most prudent choice.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Options other than 6A seem like poor options for our city and our taxes.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Wish citizens had access to ALL the information in the first place.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

I'm not sure about it.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I don't understand why this became such a big deal after TXDOT said the bridges are safe.

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

(lindainoldtown@yahoo.com)

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Name *

Linda McCalla

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Downtown property owner

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

I drive this section of Austin Avenue daily going to my downtown office. I am very concerned about traffic in a replacement scenario. For 35 years I have been very involved in Georgetown's downtown revitalization and again am very concerned for the impact a construction project of this type will have on the downtown businesses if customers are discouraged by the difficulty of getting to them. As a regular user of the hike and bike trail I love the idea of a separate pedestrian bridge. Knowing that repair and regular maintenance will adequately address the issues with the existing bridges I am completely in favor of this less expensive option. My conclusion is that 6A is by far the best.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

It seems to me that there is a hidden agenda for full redesign and replacement of the bridges with little regard for their historic significance or the impact on those who will be most affected by such an expensive and disruptive project.

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Name *

Kerry Russell

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

none

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

6A is clearly the best of the options presented.
It was not made clear that there was never a safety problem with the bridges. The safety issue was raised by City staff based on a clearly flawed study by the outside engineering firm. Even the information in that study indicated there was no safety problem.

All options should have been presented at the last meeting.

The entire process was driven by City staff with no technical or practical justification. What a waste of taxpayer dollars. A simple initial decision to repair the bridges and add pedestrian walkways would have avoided most of the cost and controversy.

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

kerryrussell@usa.net
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Name *

Taylor Kidd

Address (optional)

Phone

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Yes. The pedestrian options are great strengths. Doing something to make these bridges more attractive
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

I am a fan of total replacement but worry that this is the biggest weakness. There are vocal community members against this option.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I prefer an option that repairs/replaces the bridges and adds pedestrian access

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

no

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Grace Pyka

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I love option 6A as it provides a safe pedestrian area that will become a highlight of the trail system in Georgetown. Very importantly, it preserves the historic bridges.

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Name *

Al Kauffman

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Detailed studies show that the bridges are sound and safe, new bearings and surface all that is needed, I do agree that adding on a walking/bike lane would be advisable.

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

apk500@sbcglobal.net

I am employed by TxDOT

I do business with TxDOT

I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting

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Austin Ave. Bridges - Online Comment Form

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Name *

John Chapman

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?
7 and 8 are Bad

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?
6A is by far the best

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Name *

Dale illig

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Individually and as President of the WD Kelley Foundation and owner of Law Office of Dale Illig

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 6A makes the most sense from a cost point of view, and being the least disruptive option. As the bridges have been deemed safe cost should be a major consideration. Option 6 is the least costly and it accomplishes the long deferred maintenance
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Adding a turn lane under option 7A doesn't solve the pedestrian problem and costs an enormous amount of money which the city doesn't have. Option 8 is not an option that should be considered.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Transparency by the city staff would have been nice but I have come not to expect that from city staff. They have their own agenda and some cases work against the public they represent. It is a trend that I see more and more. "staff thinks they know better"

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Transparency

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I am in favor of option 6A as the best and only sensible option. Don't like 7A and I really don't like option 8

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Name *

Margot Cummins

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

individual

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Apparently 7 alternatives were eliminated without public input?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Was consideration given to left hand turn signals at San Gabriel as alternative solution to flow at that intersection?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Was possibility of second pedestrian bridge on western side considered?

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Name *

Mary-Ellen Thomas

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

It seems the City continues to spend money for more and more studies which have the same results. Why is that? I fear the City wants to replace the bridges mainly because they can get federal funding for a replacement. I have concerns the reason we need so much maintenance now anyway is because the City has chosen to neglect the required maintenance on the bridges in the hope that they would deteriorate to the point that replacement would be necessary and federal funding rather than City funding could be used.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I support the repair/ side pedestrian path option.

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

maryellenbthomas@gmail.com
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Name *

Neta Stubblefield

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

None

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

No
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Negative impact to existing businesses in the downtown area of several of the alternatives.

I favor alternative 6a above the others.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

No

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

No

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I feel that it is important to minimize negative impact to the young businesses that have been established in the immediate years after the great recession of 2008.

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Name *

Rustin Winkstern

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Monument cafe

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Clarity on the safety and load rating of the bridges. They are safe and load limits need to be increased per TXDot. Also, the negative financial impact of the alternatives have not been quantified.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Favor 6.A not replacement only maintenance and pedestrian bridges to the side.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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I do business with TxDOT

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Name *

Lee Bain

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Attorney and homeowner

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

I think that previously, maybe still, there has been a bias toward replacement, which I think is a totally unwise use of taxpayer funds. The bridges, based on professional opinions, are not near their life expectancies and upkeep is what they need. Also, all alternatives were not presented to the public, only the referenced few. But, based upon what is still offered, I would go with 6a.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

The City has worked for years to develop the downtown and has been very successful in doing so. Doing more than what is needed on the bridges would be a catastrophe for not only business but also residents.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

leeb76@hotmail.com
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Name *

Julie A. Johnson

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Retired nonprofit CEO

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

the pedestrian bridge
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Not getting information on all 12 plans. Who decided on the 5 plans? When was the decision made?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Plan 6A is the clear choice. Why would Georgetown destroy the downtown in order to build a new bridge, didn't we all see Salado loose over 2/3 of the businesses there while the new bridge was built?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

No, I am sure we have already spent a fortune on various studies in order to just not pay for repairs to the bridge so we could use federal funds to build new bridges that are not needed.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

Why does the city refuse to allocate money to maintain the bridges. The city is responsible for maintenance of these historic bridges, the big reason for our growth is downtown, including the square and court house. Are we now going to throw that away just to not accept the responsibility of repair and upkeep?

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[Redacted]
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Name *

Jim Johnson

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Resident, retired

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Creating a separate pedestrian bridge is safer for pedestrians and drivers. It also enhances the Georgetown downtown effort to increase walking visitors.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

8 shouldn't even be considered. We do not need the expense of replacing bridges with a fifty or sixty year life expectancy.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I strongly recommend on restoration of current structure.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

restoration should create the least environmental impact. A separate pedestrian bridge will create less impact that widening existing structure or building new structure.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

It seems like a lot of decisions were made before the public was asked to participate.

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

johnson.jimmy@sbcglobal.net
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Name *

Patti Colbert

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Property owner near bridges

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Economic impact of downtown business on any bridge work.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Economic impact on downtown business.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?
Please consider economic impact of downtown before considering all or part closure of bridge traffic.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Janie Headrick

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Option 6A with the pedestrian bridge is a safe and most economical option. This option would allow for the deferred maintenance of the bridges to resume without road closures. It also allows for the preservation of these historic bridges.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

The other options are not viable. Option 7A is very costly and unnecessary and Option 8 is ridiculous.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Wish there had been more citizen involvement with additional meetings and information.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Environmental issues must be addressed and the city must comply.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

The City of Georgetown and its citizens have worked long and hard for our wonderful downtown square. We have a very beautiful, historic downtown with great businesses – this is what attracts many visitors, new businesses, etc. to our community. The least disruptive option (Option 6A) for the Austin Avenue bridges project needs to be considered first by City staff. I am hopeful that future information will be readily shared with the public and that my tax dollars will be spent wisely.

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

janie_headrick@yahoo.com
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Name *

Ann Seaman

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Yes. The safety and efficacy of Option 6. I would choose Option 6 and oppose 7A and 8.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Yes - again, 7A and 8 are not good options, because we don't need a center turn lane; we need left turn arrows. A center turn lane is for long stretches with many opportunities to turn left. We only have two left turn options on our bridges, total. A center lane is a waste of our money. And what is the point of adding one foot for a small stretch of roadway and then narrowing it back down when it gets to 2nd Street? We would be speeding traffic up a tiny bit, only to slow it right back down a few hundred yards down the path. I oppose 7A and 8.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

7A and 8 are costly, wasteful, and pointless options. 6A is the best option for dealing with our cosmopolitan traffic mix in downtown and on the bridges: bicycles, pedestrians, and cars.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Only that I hope no one would try to use environmental concerns to camouflage some non-environmental agenda.

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

I'm looking at the City's assumptions underlying some of the options. One of the assumptions appears to be that automobile and/or transportation technology won't change, and therefore we need to plan for the same loads and weights as in the previous century. I haven't seen any input or study of this concern. Therefore I'm unwilling to spend the money assuming a long event horizon when changes might make that unnecessary. At least not without impartial (e.g., not PR-informed) study.
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Name *

Bill Stubblefield

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Individual Georgetown Citizen

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?
The alternatives which have the least negative impact on existing businesses on and around the square should be considered first. The square has seen some innovative development since the collapse of 2008 which must be nurtured. Any plan which restricts traffic at this delicate "incubator" stage MUST be avoided.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?
I favor Plan 6A foremost among the alternatives.

If you would like to receive email updates about this project, please share your email below:

stubberoo@mac.com
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Name *

Judy Fabry

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

none

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

The differences between Option 6A and 7A, 6B and 7B, could have been better defined.
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

What does increased mobility mean?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

6A seems to be the best alternative. Replacing the bridges is totally unnecessary but a pedestrian walkway is very important.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Impacts on the resources?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Ranger Rick Williamson

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

GO GreenWorks (on Facebook)
Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

After dutifully seeking all public information available on every option and argument presented in 2016-thru-17 on this Project, including all support data presented by the City's consulting firms at various times in this alternatives process, I am convinced that OPTION 6A -- with only a pedestrian bridge on the East side of the existing Bridges -- is the safest and most economical option. It allows the Bridges to get the long-deferred maintenance they need without road closures and also fits the Downtown Master Plan for extending historic structures in ways that are most attractive to pedestrians. Expert testimony by officials involved in this process have divulged the fact that the actual Bridges themselves are SAFE AS IS, and ONLY in need of minor maintenance repairs (or "Rehabilitation", as it is referenced in Option 6A).

Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Other, more intrusive and costly construction options are simply unnecessary. Option 7A wastes time and money and STILL keeps pedestrians ON the Bridge Walkways, just inches from heavy automotive traffic. Option 8 should not even be on the list of Options, as it would SEVER the Downtown's life-blood thoroughfare artery for who knows how long, thereby purposely engineering the HEART of our City to DIE by intentional Design OVERKILL!

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

ANY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT BEYOND OPTION 6A will undeniably have devastating consequences to our precious Downtown environment, including the vibrant social and business life our City has spent decades to create and nurture. It is the living, beating Heart of Georgetown and MUST be PRESERVED at all costs!!

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

YES! "Reuse! Recycle! Restore!" These "3 R's" of our City's "ECOnomy" have always been the best standards of life and living on this planet. And it will forever always be so. Especially when Bridging a subject as Expansive (and potentially Expensive) as this Bridges Project!
Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

YES, again!! I want to applaud the City's efforts in educating and informing it's citizenry, which has culminated with this opportunity to provide Questionnaire comments for the public record on this Bridge Project decision. I remain hopeful that "responsible consequential thinking" will prevail in this decision process!

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Name *

Roy Peck

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

The current safety of the bridge has been brought into question. There is insufficient information to support any safety issue. Unless there is an engineering report (with data) by a company that does not have something to gain by calling the bridge unsafe, option 8 should be taken off the table.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

Robert F Michener

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Retired

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

I believe choice # 8, the full replace, is the best option
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

I believe that the bridges should connect to a straight line from the bridges to the east side I35 Williams Drive. I35 to Austin drive is too short so that a direct line from the western most bridge to Williams drive would solve a lot of problems. Additionally, Austin ave from the high school needs to be moved eastward to meet the straightened austin ave at about the Papa Johns pizza place. And for goodness sake, stop thinking 4 lanes and think 6/7 lanes.

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

I want to tell you again that all this sidewalk signalling is great but it is a waste of money until you make Williams Dr 7 lanes and put in some storm drainage. Sooner or later you are going to half to do this and the cost is only going to increase. However, I do approve of the sidewalks on I35.

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *
Walter Davies

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization
Homeowner

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

kelly bell

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Name *

David Schuler

Address (optional)

Phone

Organization

Are there any strengths to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?
Are there any weakness to the alternatives presented that were not stated/defined?

Do you have any additional comments on the alternatives presented?

Do you have any comments on the environmental process?

Do you have any other additional comments, concerns or questions about the Austin Ave. Bridges Project?

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Emailed Comments
My name is Walter B. Davies Jr. and I live at [redacted] where I am the property owner since 1985. Further, my property is adjacent to the South Fork San Gabriel river less than ½ mile upstream from the Austin Ave. bridges in question. My first comment is I am fed up with all of the bull being shoved down the throats of the citizens of Georgetown. As an example one of the options presented as late as the May 11th presentation was to completely rebuild the bridges, an option I favor in a lot of ways. As of today, May 21st, it is being reported in the Williamson County Sun, that option is off the table. So that tells me that presenting it was leading us, the citizens, into believing the option was real when it never was. Thank you City of Georgetown, TXDOT, and all the engineers who are raking in a whole lot of our money for their own gain for lying to us. Further, let's not leave out the federal government that says a 80 year old plain jane bridge qualifies as a “historic” bridge designation to the detriment of our community; or the fact that the environmental impact, including a cave spider and salamanders, can affect this bridge project.

As I have spent time in the presentations, online discussions (by name, not anomalous) many more details emerge about the forces at work to bring about not what a public consensus might want or what might be in the best interest of Georgetown, but what is starting to smell like (at least in my opinion) a highly politicized backroom business deal for someone's profit. That is my opinion to which I am entitled.

I would also like to comment on, and shoot down (in my opinion) the damage that would happen to downtown Georgetown business with the bridges being substantially remodeled or rebuilt argument put forth by various business owners. Shall I call this the Salado Apocalypse for want of a good name. The Sun talked about the business losses during the three years of I-35 construction. First of all Georgetown is not Salado, Georgetown's downtown business area is not solely dependent on one main traffic avenue, nor is it solely tourist oriented. Mr. Rusty Winkstern, who owns both Monument Café (now just open for lunch) and El Monumento (located at the southern terminus of the bridges) might have to close due to too limited traffic for too long. Does Mr. Winkstern control and drive what happens in Georgetown?
Worst case is the bridges close for 24-30 months (that is worse than any proposed option now given. Really worse case. Pity the poor folks trying to access downtown from the north side of Georgetown, what are they to have to endure to get where they are going? Well, how about ¼ mile before Austin Ave. and Williams drive they turn right, go south on the I-35 to University and enter the downtown area from the south end. Sorry Mr. Winkster and other Salado Apocalypse nay-sayers, but your argument just got flushed.

My thinking is that doing a full rebuild makes the best use of money spent now for the next 80-100 years. Consideration of all options now has me asking how sound and secure are the foundations and piers of the current bridges in terms of lasting another 100 years? That is the first, and most important question. Keep in mind that the South San Gabriel river floods up to the level of the road, say every 15 years or so. That is major threat to a bridge over time. Secondly, what are the current beams capable of handling and what can the handle in the future? Remember, this bridge is 1930’s technology, which is neither as good as modern technology or ancient Roman technology.

Finally who stands to profit from the various options and by how much? It is one thing to pay for a consultant study but when does their involvement and profit making end?

Walter B. Davies Jr.

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I live in the area where the 2 Austin Avenue Bridges are located. I love the proximity of downtown Georgetown to where I am living and love walking downtown Georgetown.

The bridges are absolutely beautiful and historical. I vote for 6A – Rehabilitation of the bridges with the construction of pedestrian bridges. I feel keeping the historical significance of the bridges is extremely important.

Cordially,

Victoria Anderson

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

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OPINION REGARDING SAFETY: These bridges are next to our signature park and to not include vehicular mobility improvements while providing more positive separation between pedestrians and vehicles would be uncontainable....improvements would facilitate ingress-egress and emergency response during major park events....so vehicular mobility includes Options 7A and 8.

A separate pedestrian bridge is never cost effective if you can widen a vehicular bridge and use its substructure resulting in cost savings....

7A appears to be the most cost effective choice as the existing bridge has plenty of remaining life (100 year lifespan is typical)...just needs a mid-life nip/tuck to go another 50 years, while adding a new bridge widening to address needed mobility improvements and pedestrian safety.

Option 8 is $3M more expensive and there appears to be an issue with removing the existing "historical" bridge...ask yourself how long would it take to arrive at community consensus regarding the new bridge aesthetic treatment? (Maybe the community wants a new bridge signature look and feel that compliments a Master Plan???)
Note: on the city council handout, both Options 7A and 8 require Park ROW purchase....any land required from a park will require a Federal 4f analysis....Option 8 requires FULL 4f analysis vs 7A requires minimal 4f evaluation - resulting in significant time savings of federal review and approval of environmental clearance.

So in summary, improving access/mobility/safety to the main community park is money well spent....spending a few less dollars to rehabilitate/widen the existing bridge vs demolishing and building a new one is thrifty and should easily correct the current needed bridge rehabilitation issue....freeing up the additional money to be spent elsewhere.....or spend the extra $3M (It will end up costing much more trust me!) and get a new bridge aesthetic look the community desires. Regardless, Georgetown is growing and needs the vehicular/ped/bike improvements to keep folks (children) safe - no brainer.

--
"One day you finally knew what you had to do, and began."
Mary Oliver

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Austin Avenue Bridges

2 messages

Stephen Benold!  
To:  
Sat, May 13, 2017 at 8:17 AM

I have not seen any convincing information to indicate that the current Austin Avenue bridges over the San Gabriel Rivers are structurally dangerous. The idea of completely replacing them reminds me a lot of 1966, when the county commissioners decided that the courthouse balustrades and friezes were dangerous and had them destroyed, only to find that they were not crumbling, and they actually had to use air hammers to bring them down! Complete replacement would also mean a terrific traffic jam on Austin Avenue for years as one bridge was taken down, replaced, and then the other. I do not see an imperative to widen the bridges, as there is never the backed up traffic like there is on University between the South San Gabriel River and I-35 every day at noon and 5PM. Finally, there is the cost involved with either replacement of the bridges or widening. After Albertson's, a fire dept. EMS takeover that is still costing a million dollars a year, and now the bus system that will never be financially sound, I think that the city has wasted enough money. I support position 6A.

Stephen Benold

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Nathaniel Waggoner  
To: Stephen Benold!  
CC: AustinAve  
Sun, May 14, 2017 at 8:10 PM

Stephen,

Thanks for your input, we will include it in the public input record. For information on the structural deficiencies of the bridges, please visit https://transportation.georgetown.org/files/2016/01/2016-01-12_Austin-Avenue-Bridge-Assessment_RPT.pdf

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Nat Waggoner

[Quoted text hidden]
I am in support of option 6A for the bridge work on Austin Avenue in Georgetown, TX.

Sincerely,
Stan Mauldin
The options are falsely restricted.

Sherwin Kahn

To: [Redacted]  

I don't understand why the options have been narrowed down to their current four. I think this is an injustice to the community. That being said currently only 6A makes any sense as an option.

Dr Sherwin Kahn

Sent from my iPad

Nathaniel Waggoner

To: Sherwin Kahn, Austin Ave

Dr. Kahn,

Thank you for your participation and comment. On the project website you can find the information presented at public meeting #3 on 5/11/2017 which includes information on how the alternatives were narrowed from 12-5:

https://georgetown.org/files/2017/05/Public-Meeting-Boards-FINAL.pdf

We will include your input in the project record.

Are you signed up to receive project updates?

If you have additional questions or concerns, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Nat Waggoner, AICP, PMP
Transportation Services Analyst

[Quoted text hidden]
My family and cycling friends support any of the options that include pedestrian and bicycle access.

Thank you,
Sharon Reed

Sent from my iPhone
Sara Goodman
To: [Redacted]

Would like to vote for option 6A
Sara Goodman

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My onions are as follows:
1. The 77 year old bridges need to be completely replaced.
2. The new bridges under structure need to be raised at least 6 feet higher than the current ones. Flood stage water has been seen lapping at the bottom of the old bridges in the past several years.
3. Pay for it by creating a special tax similar to what we taxpayers approved for new roads and street improvements.
4. Use the existing or modify the bus routes to help get people to the downtown area.
Make the daily, weekly or monthly bus passes affordable, but also add a voluntary fee increase designated for the bridges bonds or taxes. Similar to .adding a fee increase to our utility bills to help those who cannot pay their bills in full.
5. The new bridge needs to be structured for the future generations so that it is both pleasing to look at as well as functional to handle all traffic needs for the downtown.

Thank you.
Robert J. Whittaker, Jr
RE: Comments on Austin Ave Bridges

Nathaniel Waggoner

Thu, May 18, 2017 at 9:07 PM

Pete,

Thanks for your participation. We will be sure to log your comment into the project record.

Are you signed up for project updates?

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns,

Nat Waggoner


From: Nathaniel Waggoner
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 10:10 AM
To: Austin Ave
Subject: Comments on Austin Ave Bridges

Attached is my comment form - as a .pdf file. I'm very concerned we are short-changing pedestrians. With a pedestrian bridge on only one side pedestrians on the west side are forced to find a way to cross the very busy street.

As a professional civil engineer, I am very familiar with the complications of a project such as this on such a busy corridor - so I'm strongly in favor of saving the existing structures.

Pete Hackley PE

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